

Michigan High School Athletic Association, Inc.
CROSS COUNTRY/TRACK AND FIELD REGULATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
January 24, 2012, 9:30 a.m.

Members Present:

Bob Acre, DeWitt
Chris Ceresa, Milford
Lew Clingman, ATOM
Amy Coughlin, Waterford
Ted Duckett, Kalamazoo
Rudy Godfroidt, Hemlock
Jerry Haggerty, Hamilton
Cody Inglis, Traverse City
Ryan McMahon, Milan
Mike Messner, Constantine

Tim Simpson, Lansing
Jim Sperling, Adrian
Fred Smith, Buchanan
Jim Sutton, Kentwood
Megan Thayer, Pontiac
Mike Unger, Westland
Thomas Wicher, Detroit
Dan Wytko, Portage

Members Absent:

Antie Hardy, New Haven
Steve Linn, Harbor Beach – MITCA
Greg Russick, Grand Haven

MHSAA Staff Present:

Nate Hampton
Mark Uyl

The committee met for the purpose of reviewing specific National Federation sport rules and MHSAA tournament policies, and interpretations that are applicable to Track and Field and Cross Country during the regular season and the MHSAA post season tournament. The following is a review of items discussed by the committee as well as recommendations to staff for inclusion in tournament information and recommendations that will advance for Representative Council consideration.

Following the welcome, introductions, statement of committee purpose and the committee relationship to the Representative Council, the committee discussed the following:

2011 Committee Minutes and Recommendations

Cross Country Discussion:

2012 Final Site – Michigan Speedway
MHSAA Cross Country Regional Dates – October 26-27, 2012
Review of 2011 Cross Country post season tournament
Cross Country Regional and Site Assignments
Timing
Online Rules Meeting

The committee discussed at length the potential for reformatting regional school assignments and opportunities for teams to advance from Regionals to Finals.

Track and Field 2012 Final Sites:

Division 1: East Kentwood HS
Division 2: Grand Rapids Houseman Field
Division 3: Comstock Park HS
Division 4: Jenison HS

The committee reviewed the work of the Regional Site Assignment Committee, the work of the Standards Committee and also reviewed the Final meet time schedule for the respective Final sites.

2012 National Federation Rules and Editorial Changes:

3-4-2 The referee's authority begins upon arrival at the meet site and concludes 30 minutes after the last event results have been announced or made official. The referee retains clerical authority over the contest through the completion of any reports, including those imposing disqualification that are responsive to actions occurring while the referee has jurisdiction. State associations may intercede in the event of unusual incidents after the referee's jurisdiction has ended or in the event that contest is terminated prior to the conclusion of regulation play.

4-3-1b(8), 4-3-1c(7), 9-6-1b(7), 9-6-1c(7) new NOTE 2 A visible garment worn under the uniform top and/or bottom displaying contrasting/different color stitching to the single, solid color of the undergarment and which functions as the actual seam for the undergarment's construction is legal.

4-3-3 PEN For the first violation, the competitor shall be required to remove the jewelry before further competition and be issued a warning that a subsequent violation shall result in a disqualification from the event. The referee shall be notified of the violation by the observing meet official and he/she shall notify the coach of the offending school of the competitor's violation and the warning.

5-7-3 The starting command for individual races, or opening relay legs of 800 meters or more outdoors and 600 meters or more indoors shall be to instruct all competitors to take a position three meters behind the starting line or dashed arc behind the line. With the command "On your marks" all competitors will step to the starting line without delay. When all competitors are steady, the starter shall fire the starting device.

7-4-10, 7-5-17 When the number of entries dictates, the games committee may assign competitors to flights of no less than five competitors for preliminary competition or may conduct the event in continuous flights. In continuing flights, the first five competitors as determined by the games committee constitute a flight. As a competitor clears the bar, passes at turn at the height or is eliminated, the next competitor in order will be moved up so that the number of competitors in the active flight will be constant.

7-5-2 The vaulting pole may be of any material and of any length and diameter. It may have a binding of layers of adhesive tape of uniform thickness on the grip end. However, the plant end of the pole may be protected by layers of tape, PVC, sponge rubber or other suitable material to protect the pole when placed in the planting box.

7-5-25, 7-5-29 new i No person shall be allowed to touch the vaulting pole except the pole may be caught by an assigned official, designated pole catcher or the competitor, when circumstances warrant, but never to prevent the pole from dislodging the crossbar which would result in a foul.

9-1-1 The cross country run shall be a course 2500 to 5000 meters (1.5 to 3.1 miles) in length as determined by the meet director or games committee. Measurements shall be along the shortest possible route a runner may take

9-3-3, 9-6-2 Computerized transponders may be used to record the finish of a runner in cross country. A bib transponder or two transponders per runner, one attached to each shoe must be used. When transponders are used, the official order of finish for the runners is that recorded by the transponder, torso for bib transponder and foot for chips

National Federation Points of Emphasis

1. Starter positions
2. Exchange zones
3. Jewelry and uniforms

4. Safety around landing systems
5. Throwing event safety

MHSAA Points of Emphasis

Only registered officials may referee or start cross country or track and field competitions.

Discussion Items

1. 2012 Track and Field additional qualifier standards to Regional and from Regionals to Finals.
2. Participating School Tournament Information
3. MHSAA Protocol for concussion management
4. Out of Season 3-4 player clarification
5. Regional Entry Times must be entered as handheld times rounded to the highest tenth (.0) or the FAT equivalent adjusted by subtracting -.4 and rounding to the highest tenth. (same as last year)
6. Head coaches required to complete Health and Safety Online Meeting – It was the general thought of the committee that a required online meeting for Head Coaches was appropriate, given the serious medical/health concerns in all levels of sport.
7. MHSAA Member Schools required to compete in at least half it's scheduled competition dates against MHSAA Member Schools in order to compete in the post season tournament. The committee in general did not see that this was an issue in Track and Field or in Cross Country.
8. NFHS Rule 5.7.3 Mechanic for starting command and step up to the start line from a distance of 3 meters.
The step-up mechanic will not be used during the MHSAA Regional or Finals Post Season Tournament. The desired use of alley starts as opposed to waterfall starts would cause unnecessary complications.
Game committees for regular season events may use the Step-Up mechanic if desirable.
9. Division 2 Finals – Houseman Field – The committee accepted the proposed time schedule for all Final competitions. The Division 2 Finals schedule will allow for boys and girls discus to go simultaneously starting at 9:30 am and concluding at approximately noon. This effort will then open the outer fields for public parking for spectators and teams arriving for the afternoon Finals. 19-0

Recommendations to MHSAA Staff

1. Track - Continue regular season and post season tournament modification for Rule 4.3.3 – Jewelry
Regular Season: A first violation will result in an individual warning. A subsequent violation anytime in the meet will result in disqualification.
MHSAA Post Season Tournament: All athletes and coaches will be issued a written and verbal jewelry warning prior to the start of competition. Should an athlete wear jewelry during competition, immediate disqualification from that event will occur. 19-0
2. Cross Country – MHSAA Staff to meet with MITCA to explore the possibilities of adapting our current Post Season Tournament to include At Large Positions to advance from Regionals to Finals. 19-0

Recommendation to the Representative Council

Allow Regional Tournament hosts to hire an additional referee to assist with Field and Track issues. (Cost would be \$65 x 40 Regionals = \$2600, not including mileage) 19-0