

MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, INC.
SWIMMING & DIVING COMMITTEE MINUTES

East Lansing, February 6, 2020

Members Present:

Steve Baker, Grand Ledge
Mike Bakker, Fenton (MIAAA)
Jeff Dassance, Eaton Rapids
Ben Farkas, Holland
Brian Foust, Plymouth
Erik Johnson, Houghton (remote)
Brad Jones, Fenton (MISCA)
Paul Mahar, Kalamazoo
Mark McGreevy, Clarkston
Michael McHugh, Dexter
Maureen Murrett, Ann Arbor
Chris Riker, Portage
Tim Ritsema, Jenison

Members Absent:

Michael Venos, Bloomfield Hills

Guests Present:

Rich Kieft, MATS

MHSAA Staff:

Andi Osters (Recorder)

The 2019-20 MHSAA Swimming & Diving Committee met in the John E. "Jack" Roberts MHSAA building on Feb. 6, 2020, to review topics involving swimming and diving and MHSAA Championships. The meeting began with a review of the MHSAA decision making process and charge of the Swimming & Diving Committee. Agenda items were compiled from correspondence, staff, committee members and the coaches association.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

MHSAA FINAL MEET ADMINISTRATION

The committee discussed the success of D2 and D3 Girls Final meets held in the fall of 2019 at Oakland University. MISCA provided personnel on-deck at the event to observe and assist in the overall administration of the meets. The committee agreed that a designated non-coaching representative was beneficial and should continue for Boys meets this March, and at future meets in both boys and girls seasons.

OFFICIALS RECRUITMENT

Committee members expressed an interest in providing a benefit or discount to registered high school coaches interested in becoming registered MHSAA swim officials in the opposite season than they coach, e.g. a girls coach officiating for the boys season. This benefit could be extended to other sports with two separate seasons, like soccer. There was some sentiment among committee members that the late fee for MHSAA registration presents an additional financial hurdle for coaches who wish to become registered officials.

"STATE MEET" CAPS

Many high school teams provide swimmers who meet qualification times with a cap that commemorates the achievement. The cap often refers to "State Team" and is prohibited by NFHS Playing Rule 3-3-3. The committee proposed that a season-long accommodation be afforded for both regular-season and Finals competition to allow "State Team" to be printed on caps.

DIVING QUALIFICATION

The committee reviewed several proposals comprised by a Diving Task Force in the summer of 2019, all pertaining to regional qualification meets. Currently, 12 divers advance from each of the nine regional Diving Qualification Meets, which places 36 divers in the Finals in each division. Qualification Meets are comprised of varying numbers of competitors who enter based upon regular-season performance. Citing large discrepancies in the number of participants from region-to-region within each division, the committee advanced a proposal that would determine an equal proportion of qualifiers from each region. Qualification Meet tournament managers would be notified of their number of qualifiers prior to the event. [Divide the number of qualifiers that advance to Finals (36) by the total number of divers who enter Regionals in each division. Apply this percentage to each Regional to determine number of slots that advance.]

DISCUSSION ITEMS – NO ACTION

1. Paralympic Exhibition Heats at MHSAA Final Meets
2. 4-Player Rule: high school coaches as non-school coaches
3. MHSAA Final Meet venues
4. 2018-19 MHSAA Head Injury Reports for Swimming & Diving (Boys & Girls)

RECOMMENDATIONS TO MHSAA STAFF

1. Require host schools to hire two (2) swim officials if diving competition is to be held concurrently with swim events, rather than before or after.
2. Continue to solicit recommendations for Finals Meet officials from coaches and MISCA.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

1. Allow an exception to NFHS Swimming & Diving Rule 3-3-3 that would permit swimmers to wear caps that say "State Team" for both regular season and post season competition. (13-0)
2. Divide the number of qualifiers that advance to Finals (36) by the total number of divers who enter Regionals in each division. Apply this percentage to each Regional to determine number of slots that advance. (13-0)