

MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION
UPPER PENINSULA ATHLETIC COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
Marquette, September 27, 2023
8:30 a.m. EST In-Person & Virtual

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mike Berutti, Iron River
Jim Bobula, Ontonagon (advisory)
David Florenski, Powers
Don Gustafson, St. Ignace (advisory)
Chris Hartman, Kingsford (advisory)
Dale Hongisto, Gladstone (advisory)

Paul Jacobson, Negaunee
Sean Jacques, Calumet
Jack Kumpula, Lake Linden
Alex Tiseo, Marquette

MHSAA STAFF

Cody Inglis
Andi Osters (Virtual)
Will McKoy (Virtual)
Ryan Wieferich (Virtual)
Tricia Wieferich (Virtual)

The meeting began at 8:30 a.m. Meeting materials were previewed. Committee members previewed the meeting agenda and previous meeting minutes. The committee met in person, with MHSAA staff joining via Zoom for specific discussion topics, including official selection.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Topics included a review of correspondence received, updates on the UP Athletic Committee elections, UP soccer season updates and how the MHSAA Constitution and by-laws dictate how and who can serve on the UP Athletic Committee. Additional general topics included volleyball warm-up times, and a preview of the MHSAA Update meeting presentation by Mark Uyl on October 20.

Discussions about various sports topics, including dates, venues, and specifics were detailed to the committee.

Bowling - 2024

Regionals: Feb. 23-24
Finals: March 1-2
D1 – Thunderbowl, Allen Park
D2- Century Bowl, Waterford
D3 – Jax 60, Jackson
D4 – Northway Lanes, Muskegon

Competitive Cheer - 2024

Districts: Feb. 16-17
Regionals: Feb. 24
Finals: March 1-2 Site Central Michigan University

Ice Hockey - 2024

Regionals: Feb. 19–28 – Div. 3 Kingsford HS & Hancock HS
Quarterfinals: March 2 – Div. 3 QF - Marquette HS @ Lakeview Arena
(This QF will be rotated between the Western UP and Marquette in future years.)
Semifinals: March 7-8 - USA Hockey Arena, Plymouth
Finals: March 9 - USA Hockey Arena, Plymouth

Wrestling - 2024

Individual:
Districts: Feb. 10
Regionals: Boys: Feb. 17 Girls: Feb. 18
Finals: March 1-2 - Ford Field, Detroit

Team:
Districts: Div. 2 & 4 – Feb. 7, Div. 1 & 3 – Feb. 8
Regionals: Feb. 14
Finals: Feb. 23-24 - Wings Event Center, Kalamazoo

Alpha Weigh-In: Oct. 23-Jan. 31

Skinfold Assessing reminders for Wrestling coaches and AD's – Coaches can't do skinfold assessments.

Gymnastics – 2024

Regionals: March 2
Finals: March 8-9 - Site: Rockford High School

Skiing - 2024

Regionals: Feb. 12-16 - Div.1 Marquette
Finals: Feb. 26
Div. 1 – Boyne Highlands & Harbor Springs
Div. 2 – Nubs Nob & Harbor Springs

Boys and Girls Swimming - 2024

Finals: February 17 - Marquette HS

Track & Field - 2024

Regionals: May 15, 16, 17 or 18
Finals: June 1 - Kingsford HS

UP Track Finals discussion:

- Chris Hartman of Kingsford detailed plans to help coaches gain access to their athletes while competing.
- Dual sport athletes in UP – Softball Districts/Track Finals – Discussion to ensure the number of dual sport athletes continues to allow participation in both sports for MHSAA tournaments. Could Thursday be a day to be allowed for UP Softball Districts – it will be raised with MHSAA staff.
- Track Standards – the UPAC desired to have the MHSAA Track and Field Committees look at UP-only Track Standards – will be an agenda item for those committees in the 2023-24 school year.

Boys & Girls Golf – 2024

Finals: May 29, 30, 31, or June 1 – Sites to be confirmed by the winter UPAC meeting, tentative sites and hosts:

D1 – Sweetgrass/Sage Run – hosted by Escanaba HS
D2 - George Young Recreational Complex – hosted by West Iron County HS
D3 – Highland or Escanaba Country Club – hosted by Powers North Central HS

Tennis - 2023-24

Finals Sites for Girls: October 4, 5, 6 or 7 (First year of a two-year rotation)
Div. 1 – Marquette HS
Div. 2 – Iron Mountain HS
Finals Sites for Boys: May 29-June 1
Div. 1 – Marquette HS
Div. 2 – Iron Mountain HS

UP Tennis Discussion:

- Alex Tiseo and Chris Hartman will chair a UP Tennis subcommittee to discuss Tennis and topics such as one division of UP Tennis, seeding, and using conference tournaments to determine seeds. Further discussion at future UPAC meetings.

Soccer - 2023-24

Districts: Oct. 11-21
Regionals: Oct. 24-28

Semifinals: Nov. 1
Finals: Nov. 4 - Grand Ledge HS

Future soccer districts involving UP teams will be a non-traditional draw where the top line hosts all games.

Cross Country – 2023

Finals: October 21, 2023
D1, D2 and D3 Gladstone HS @ The Farmhouse XC Course

(Second year of a two-year rotation – Munising will be asked to host for the 2024 and 2025 school years.)

Boys and Girls JH/MS Cross Country Regionals – 2023

Oct. 5, 2023 – Houghton HS @ Michigan Tech Ski Trails
Oct. 18, 2023 – St. Ignace HS @ Doc Holle's Silver Mt. Ski Area
Oct. 20, 2023 - Gladstone HS @ The Farmhouse XC Course

Volleyball – 2023

Officials' Selection Assignments were completed with MHSAA staff guidance.
Districts: Oct. 30-Nov. 4
Regionals: Nov. 7 & 9
Quarterfinals: Nov. 14
Semifinals: Nov. 16-17 - Kellogg Arena, Battle Creek
Finals: Nov. 18 - Kellogg Arena, Battle Creek

Football - 2023

Officials' Selection Assignments were completed with MHSAA staff guidance. UPAC will be used to help in selecting replacement officials.

11-Player – Finals Site Ford Field, Detroit

District 1st Rd: Oct. 27 or 28
District Finals: Nov. 3 or 4
Regionals: Nov. 10 or 11
Semifinals: Nov. 18
Finals: Saturday, Nov. 25 or Sunday, Nov. 26

8-Player – Finals Site NMU, Marquette

Regionals: Oct. 27 or 28
Regional Finals: Nov. 3 or 4
Semifinals: Nov. 11
Finals: Saturday, Nov. 18

Sean Jacques, Dale Hongisto, and Dave Florenski will help with the 8-player football finals on Saturday, including trophy presentations.

Upcoming UP Athletic Committee Meeting Dates –

- UP Athletic Committee and Boys BB Officials Selection In-person and Virtual Meeting – February 19, 2024 - Holiday Inn Express Marquette – 8:30 a.m.
- GBB Officials Selection Virtual Meeting – February 26, 2024 (MHSAA staff will facilitate)

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

There were no recommendations to the Representative Council.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO MHSAA STAFF

UP Softball Districts to be allowed to begin play on Thursday.