

2024 MHSAA UPPER PENINSULA ATHLETIC COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Monday, February 19, 2024, 8:30 a.m. – held in Marquette and via Zoom

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mike Berutti, Iron River
Vince Gross, Whitefish Twp.
Paul Jacobson, Negaunee
Sean Jacques, Calumet
Jack Kumpula, Lake Linden
Sam Larson, Menominee
Alex Tiseo, Marquette

ADVISORY

Jim Bobola, Ontonagon
Dave Florenski, Powers
Don Gustafson, St. Ignace
Chris Hartman, Kingsford
Dale Hongisto, Gladstone

MHSAA STAFF

Cody Inglis (Recorder)
Will McKoy
Ryan Wieferich

The meeting began with a welcome and introduction of Sam Larson, Menominee HS Athletic Director, and Vince Gross, Whitefish Twp. Superintendent, as the newest Upper Peninsula Athletic Committee members. The committee met in person with a guest and some MHSAA staff joining virtually for specific discussion topics and official selection with meeting materials provided.

A review of the December 2023 Representative Council minutes and the September 2023 UPAC minutes was completed. MHSAA Representative Council and UPAC member Sean Jacques of Calumet was publicly recognized for his recent 2024 MHSAA Forsythe Award.

The UPAC was apprised of changes to the committee, including several advisory members, to fill geographic gaps in UP representation on the UPAC. *MHSAA Handbook* policy regarding the procedures and process of the UPAC was reviewed.

Correspondence was shared, including a letter and MHSAA response to the UP Ice Hockey Quarterfinal location placement at Lakeview Arena in Marquette. Discussion regarding placement of the Quarterfinal locations in the UP, given the geography, rink availability, and host assignments. Continued discussion of the placement of the D3 Ice Hockey Quarterfinal will take place, including discussion of NMU and the Berry Events Center in Marquette as a neutral site or changing locations to Houghton and Sault Ste. Marie in the future.

The UP Girls Soccer update on schools with teams and non-traditional draw procedures was shared with the UPAC.

A UP Tennis update was provided to the UPAC, including the number of teams sponsoring the sport and seeding at the Finals. Finals locations will again be hosted by Marquette - D1 and Iron Mountain - D2.

UP Track & Field discussion on UP Track standards for UP Track Regionals and qualification to UP Track Finals. The Track & Field Standards Committee will continue looking at UP Track results for future implementation of standards. Wheelchair events in UP Track & Field will be continued in the 100m, 200m, 400m and Shot Put.

An update to the potential use of Thursday, Friday, or Saturday for Baseball and Softball District Semifinals and Finals was provided with the Representative Council voting on this decision in May 2024. The UPAC and UP schools have long asked for this option to help with multiple sports athletes in the spring.

SKI FINALS

Monday, February 26, 2024

- D1 – Boyne Highlands, Harbor Springs, hosted by Clarkston HS
- D2 – Nubs Nob, Harbor Springs, hosted by Harbor Springs HS

BASKETBALL REGIONALS

BASKETBALL	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Boys-DIV 2-3	17 F Sault Ste Marie 17 SF Escanaba/TCC	17 F Sault Ste Marie 17 SF Marquette/Gaylord	R9 SF Munising R17 F Manistique R17 SF Marquette
Boys-DIV 4	25 Negaunee	25 F Negaunee 25 SF Houghton/Kingsford 26 F St Ignace 26 SF Manistique/Pellston	R25 F Negaunee R25 SF Houghton R25 SF Kingsford R26 F Sault Ste Marie R26 SF Manistique
Girls-DIV 2-3	17 F St Ignace 17 SF Marquette/Glen Lake	17 F Sault Ste Marie 17 SF Escanaba/Gaylord	R9 SF Manistique R17 F St Ignace R17 SF Escanaba
Girls-DIV 4	25 Kingsford	25 F Marquette 26 SF Houghton/Kingsford	R25 F Marquette R25 SF Houghton R25 SF Kingsford R26 SF Brimley

BASKETBALL QUARTERFINALS

Division 4 #13 Boys – Gladstone

Division 4 #13 Girls – Gladstone

SELECTION OF UP BOYS & GIRLS BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT OFFICIALS

Selection of UP Boys Basketball Official, Monday, Feb 19, 2024 - 9:00 a.m. EST via Zoom

Selection of UP Girls Basketball Officials, Monday, Feb. 26, 2024 – 9:30 a.m. EST via Zoom

BOYS BASKETBALL	2019	2021	2022	2023
Final	Anthony Immel	Dale Hongisto	Rob Fay	Adam Karki
Semifinals	Adam Bergman	Rob Fay	Adam Karki	Steve Nordstrom
GIRLS BASKETBALL				
Final	Anthony Hakola	Greg Rubick	Charlie Morrison	Jeff Simpson
Semifinals	Gregory Rubick	Charlie Morrison (game not played)	Jeff Simpson	Barry James

ICE HOCKEY

Division 3 Region 17: Hosted by Hancock (Painsdale-Jeffers, Calumet, Hancock, Houghton)

Advances to D3-QF 9 on March 2, 1 p.m. at Lakeview Arena, Marquette, hosted by Marquette.

Division 3 Region 18: Hosted by Kingsford (Escanaba, Kingsford, Manistique, Marquette, Negaunee, Sault. Ste. Marie) Advances to D3 – QF 9 on March 2, 1 p.m. at Lakeview Arena, Marquette, hosted by Marquette.

Semis & Finals Tournament: will be played at USA Hockey Arena in Plymouth on March 7-9

SWIMMING & DIVING FINALS

Saturday, Feb. 17 – Marquette Senior HS Pool - A review of the 2023 UP Finals - February 17-18 at Marquette High School was provided by Alex Tiseo, Marquette HS AD and host. The UPAC discussed cut times at the request of several UP Swim coaches who desire to fill heats and ensure a viable UP Finals experience.

TRACK & FIELD REGIONALS

Site selection for UP Track & Field Regional sites was conducted with the following schools selected to host. The MHSAA will confirm sites and dates with selected host schools and publish Regional alignments on MHSAA.com.

UP Regionals site selection – May 16, 17, or 18, 2024 (The host school may request a waiver to use Wednesday, May 15, when a timer is unavailable for other tournament dates).

D1 – Gladstone and Negaunee

D2 – Ishpeming and Munising

D3 – St. Ignace, Rapid River, Lake Linden-Hubbell, Felch-North Dickinson

Host schools will select approved MHSAA officials and timing companies of their choosing.

2024 UP TRACK & FIELD FINALS

June 1, 2024, Hosted by Kingsford High School

2024 UP JH/MS TRACK & FIELD REGIONALS

Discussion about JH/MS Regional sites in the UP – JH/MS Regionals hosts were selected, including Ishpeming Westwood, Calumet, and St. Ignace.

GOLF FINALS

The 2024 UP Finals are to be held between May 29 and June 1, 2024. The UPAC confirmed sites and school hosts, and MHSAA will confirm dates with the host schools.

D1 – Marquette HS – Marquette Country Club and Northern Michigan Univ. Golf Course

D2 – Iron River – West Iron County HS – George Young Recreational Complex

D3 – Powers – North Central HS – Highland Golf course

TENNIS FINALS

May 29 or June 1 – Confirmed sites in 2024 for boys and will work on fall dates at the spring UPAC meeting.

SPORT	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Girls Tennis	D1 – Kingsford D2 - Westwood	D1 – Kingsford D2 – Westwood	D1 – Marquette D2 – Iron Mountain
Boys Tennis	D1 – Kingsford D2 - Westwood	D1 - Kingsford D2 – Westwood	D1 – Marquette D2 – Iron Mountain

UP CROSS COUNTRY FINALS

The UPAC would like schools interested in hosting to submit a race plan, course map, and other information, which will be shared at the spring UPAC, where a decision will be made about site selection for 2024.

JH/MS MHSAA CROSS COUNTRY REGIONALS

The spring UPAC meeting will determine sites, hosts, and race locations.

SPRING UP ATHLETIC COMMITTEE DATE

April 18, 2024, 8:30 a.m. EST – Marquette, Holiday Inn Marquette

UP ATHLETIC DIRECTOR IN-SERVICE

Friday, April 19, 9:30 a.m. EST – Holiday Inn Marquette

Alex Tiseo, Marquette HS AD, will help the MHSAA coordinate these meetings at the Holiday Inn Marquette.