

2025 MHSAA UPPER PENINSULA ATHLETIC COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Monday, February 17, 2025, 8:30 a.m. – held in Marquette and via Zoom

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mike Berutti, Iron River (Virtual)
Vince Gross, Whitefish Township (Virtual)
Don Gustafson, St. Ignace (Advisory) (Virtual)
Chris Hartman, Kingsford
Dale Hongisto, Gladstone (Advisory)
Paul Jacobson, Negaunee
Sean Jacques, Calumet

Jack Kumpula, Lake Linden
Sam Larson, Menominee

MHSAA STAFF

Cody Inglis
Will McKoy (Virtual)
Jeff Spedoske (Virtual)
Andi Osters (Virtual)

The Upper Peninsula Athletic Committee (UPAC) met in person with multiple MHSAA staff joining virtually for specific discussion topics and official selection with meeting materials provided. A review of the December 2024 Representative Council minutes and the September 2024 UPAC minutes was completed.

The UPAC discussed potential changes to the committee, including the addition of multiple advisory members to address geographic gaps in UP representation. The committee also provided a preview of the fall 2025 election cycle for both UPAC and the Representative Council. Additionally, the committee reviewed *MHSAA Handbook* sections that govern UPAC operations.

Correspondence was shared, including an UP football official recommendation, UP Tennis date discussion, and UP basketball assigning correspondence. UP involvement in LP MHSAA tournaments continues to be a standing committee agenda topic for the UPAC and there was no shortage of discussion, especially for XC and Track & Field. Correspondence was shared including discussion by the UP XC coaches' association and their desire to look at unique ways to involve UP teams and individual runners in LP tournaments. The UPAC would like MHSAA staff to share what a tournament involving UP schools would look like in XC and Track with Regional maps, lists, and calendars so that more information can be shared with schools and others regarding this topic. This will be done at the 2025 spring UPAC meeting.

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

SKI FINALS

Monday, February 24, 2025

D1 – Nubs Nob, Harbor Springs, hosted by TC West HS

D2 – Boyne Highlands, Harbor Springs, hosted by Clare HS

ICE HOCKEY

Division 3 Region 17: Hosted by Houghton HS (Painsdale-Jeffers, Calumet, Hancock, Houghton) Advances to D3-QF 9 on March 1, 1 p.m. at Lakeview Arena, Marquette, hosted by Ishpeming Westwood HS.

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

Semifinals & Finals will be played at USA Hockey Arena in Plymouth on March 6-8

SWIMMING & DIVING FINALS

Saturday, Feb. 15 – Marquette Senior HS pool - A review of the 2025 UP meet was completed. MHSAA Swim & Dive Director, Andi Osters joined the meeting to update the group on the UP

Swim & Dive Finals traditionally hosted by Marquette HS and the potential challenges that may occur in the 2026 season. Marquette HS has long hosted this event because of their pool, location and meet administration with no issues. Next year there is a potential scheduling conflict with Marquette HS. Alternative plans were discussed, including the potential use of Houghton HS or Northern Michigan University. Moving UP swim dates is not an option currently. MHSAA staff will work with Marquette HS to get a firm answer relating to their pool availability for 2026.

BASKETBALL REGIONALS

BASKETBALL	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Boys-DIV 2-3	R17 F Sault Ste Marie R17 SF Marquette R17 SF Gaylord	R9 SF Munising R17 F Manistique R17 SF Marquette	R9 SF Manistique R17 F Sault Ste. Marie R17 SF Marquette
Boys-DIV 4	R25 Negaunee	R25 F Negaunee R25 SF Houghton R25 SF Kingsford 26 F Sault Ste. Marie R25SF Manistique	R25 F Negaunee R25 SF Houghton R25 SF Kingsford R26 F Cheboygan R26 SF Sault Ste. Marie
Girls-DIV 2-3	R17 F Sault Ste. Marie R17 SF Escanaba/Gaylord	R9 SF Manistique R17 F St. Ignace R17 SF Escanaba	R9 SF Sault Ste. Marie R17 F St. Ignace R17 SF Escanaba
Girls-DIV 4	R25 F Marquette R25 SF Houghton R25 SF Kingsford	25 F Marquette 25 SF Houghton 25 SF Kingsford 26 SF Brimley	R25 F Marquette R25 SF Sault Ste. Marie 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

Boys Basketball Official Selections, Monday, Feb 17, 2025 - 9:00 a.m. EST

Girls Basketball Officials Selections, Monday, Feb. 24, 2025 – 8:30 a.m. EST

BOYS BASKETBALL	2021	2022	2023	2024
Final	Dale Hongisto	Rob Fay	Adam Karki	Steve Nordstrom
Semifinals	Rob Fay	Adam Karki	Steve Nordstrom	Mike Amarose
GIRLS BASKETBALL				
Final	Gregory Rubick	Charlie Morrison	Jeff Simpson	Barry James
Semifinals	Charlie Morrison	Jeff Simpson	Barry James	Joseph Strong

2025 – Boys Basketball officials – Semifinal – Randy Rovelsky, Kevin Patana

2025 – Boys Basketball officials – Final - Mike Amarose

TRACK & FIELD REGIONALS

Site selection for UP Track and 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 assignments on MHSAA.com.

UP Regionals site selection – May 14, 15, 16, or 17, 2025

D1 – Escanaba HS and Houghton HS

D2 – West Iron County HS and Pickford HS

D3 – St. Ignace HS, Rapid River HS, Lake Linden Hubbell HS and Baraga HS

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

2025 TRACK & FIELD FINALS

May 31, 2025, Hosted by Kingsford HS

2025 JH/MS TRACK & FIELD REGIONALS

Discussion about JH/MS Regional sites in the UP—JH/MS Regional hosts were selected, including Houghton HS, Gwinn HS and St. Ignace HS.

GOLF FINALS

The 2025 UP Finals are to be held between May 27 and May 31, 2025. The UPAC confirmed sites and school hosts, and MHSAA will confirm dates with the host schools.

D1 – Escanaba HS – Sweetgrass/Sage Run

D2 – Norway HS – Oak Crest Golf Club

D3 – Powers North Central HS – Highland Golf course

TENNIS FINALS

May 28 – May 31 – Confirmed sites in 2025 for boys and girls

2025-26

D1 – Girls Tennis – Ishpeming Westwood HS

D2 – Girls Tennis – Iron Mountain HS @ Kingsford

D1 – Boys Tennis – Ishpeming Westwood HS

D2 – Boys Tennis – Iron Mountain HS @ Kingsford

SPORT	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Girls Tennis	D1 – Kingsford D2 – Westwood	D1 – Marquette D2 – Kingsford	D1 – Escanaba D2 – Iron Mountain
Boys Tennis	D1 – Kingsford D2 – Westwood	D1 – Marquette D2 – Kingsford	D1 – Escanaba D2 – Iron Mountain

CROSS COUNTRY FINALS

2025 UP Cross Country Finals Discussion and Site Selection:

Munising was selected to host in 2025 @ Pictured Rocks Golf Club on 10/18/25. The second year of a two-year hosting cycle.

JH/MS MHSAA Cross Country Regionals: Sites were selected for 2025: Calumet HS, St. Ignace HS and Munising HS

BASEBALL/SOFTBALL

A review of 2025 selected hosts and sites was completed. The UPAC discussed baseball and softball site selection for future tournaments again, and the desire is to have the fall meeting determine UP sites for these two sports going forward. MHSAA staff will work to provide the UPAC with potential host sites so that the UPAC can help in this process.

SPRING UP ATHLETIC COMMITTEE DATE

Thursday, April 24, 2025, 8:30 a.m. EST – Marquette HS, Holiday Inn; Marquette

UP ATHLETIC DIRECTOR IN-SERVICE

Friday, April 25, 9:30 a.m. EST – Holiday Inn; Marquette