

UPPER PENINSULA ATHLETIC COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Marquette, April 23, 2026, 8:30 a.m. EST (In-Person & Virtual)

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mike Berutti, Iron River
Rob Fay, Houghton
Vince Gross, Whitefish Twp.
Don Gustafson, St. Ignace (Advisory)
Chris Hartman, Kingsford
Sean Jacques, Calumet

Jack Kumpula, Lake Linden
Sam Larson, Menominee
Jake Skewis, Negaunee (Advisory)

MHSAA STAFF:

Cody Inglis
Will McKoy (virtual)
Andrea Osters (virtual)
Tricia Wieferich (virtual)

At 8:30 a.m., a welcome and preview of the committee agenda started the meeting. The committee met in person, with MHSAA staff joining virtually to discuss various agenda items. 2025-26 UP Athletic Committee meeting minutes, as well as Representative Council minutes, were reviewed.

Tournament Hosts for 2026-27

Pending review of the MHSAA staff and respective Site Selection Committees, the UPAC made the following recommendations and confirmed spring, fall, and winter 2026 and 2027 MHSAA UP tournament sites. Sites are tentative and can be moved for a variety of factors, including matchups, geography, and site availability. The UPAC discussed the scheduling of MHSAA tournaments, neutral site games, and game changes. The philosophy is that travel between schools should be strongly considered when scheduling and moving games. MHSAA staff will work to quickly identify the potential changes and matchups that could occur and communicate with hosts and the schools involved.

2025-26 Boys and Girls UP Track and Field Finals

Kingsford HS – May 30, 2026

2025-26 Boys and Girls UP Track Regionals

Div. 1 - Regional #41 Kingsford HS - May 13, 2026
Div. 1 - Regional #42 Manistique HS - May 13, 2026
Div. 2 - Regional #43 Gwinn HS - May 14, 2026
Div. 2 - Regional #44 Bark River- Harris HS - May 15, 2026
Div. 3 - Regional #45 St. Ignace HS - May 15, 2026
Div. 3 - Regional #46 Rapid River HS - May 13, 2026
Div. 3 - Regional #47 Ishpeming HS - May 13, 2026
Div. 3 - Regional #48 Lake Linden- Hubbell HS - May 14, 2026

2025-26 Boys and Girls UP JH/MS Track Regionals

Teams will be assigned to each of the three Regionals by geography, and each host athletic director will share information with the competing schools.

Calumet HS - May 27, 2026
Ishpeming HS - May 27, 2026
Rudyard HS - May 27, 2026

2025-26 Boys UP Tennis Finals_

Division 1 Ishpeming Westwood HS – May 27, 2026
Division 2 Iron Mountain HS @ Kingsford HS – May 27, 2026

2026-27 Girls UP Tennis Finals

Division 1 Girls - Negaunee HS – September 30, 2026

Division 2 Girls - Ishpeming HS – October 1, 2026

2025-26 Boys and Girls UP Golf Finals

Division 1 Girls - Escanaba HS, Sage Run Golf Club, Bark River - May 27, 2026

Division 1 Boys - Escanaba HS, Sweetgrass Golf Club, Harris - May 27, 2026

Division 2 Painesdale- Jeffers HS - Portage Lake Golf Club, Houghton – May 27, 2026

Division 3 Lake Linden-Hubbell HS, Lac Vieux Desert Golf Club, Watersmeet – May 27, 2026

2026-27 Boys and Girls UP Cross Country Finals

All Divisions - Houghton HS @ Michigan Tech Nordic Ski Trails – October 24, 2026

2026-27 Boys and Girls UP JH/MS Cross Country Regionals

Houghton HS, Michigan Tech Nordic Ski Trails – October 23, 2026

Marquette HS, TBD

St. Ignace HS, Doc Holle’s Ski – October 21, 2026

2026-27 Boys and Girls Swim/Dive UP Finals

All Divisions - Marquette HS – February 20, 2027

2026-27 UP GIRLS Volleyball, Non-Traditional (unless all teams agree to traditional)

DISTRICTS (November 2-3, 5-7, 2026)

DIVISION 1:

District 1 Gaylord HS

DIVISION 2:

District 33 Escanaba HS

District 34 Sault Ste Marie HS

DIVISION 3:

District 65 Painesdale-Jeffers HS

District 66 Menominee HS

DIVISION 4:

District 97 Ewen-Trout Creek HS

District 98 Baraga HS

District 99 Felch-North Dickinson HS

District 100 Ishpeming HS

District 101 St Ignace HS

District 102 Brimley HS

Regionals: Non-Traditional (November 10 & 12, 2026)

DIVISION 2: RSF #9 (UP-D33 vs LP D34) Manistique HS

RF #9 Grayling HS

DIVISION 3: RSF #17 (UP-D65 vs LP-D66) Gwinn HS

RF #17 Gwinn HS

RF #17 Manistique HS

DIVISION 4: R #25 – Traditional – Ishpeming Westwood HS

RSF #26 (UP-D101 vs UP-D102) Cedarville HS

RF #26 Pellston HS

Quarterfinal: (November 17, 2026)

DIVISION 4: #13 (UP-R25 vs UP-R26) Manistique HS

2026-27 UP Boys and Girls Basketball, Non-Traditional (unless all teams agree to traditional)

DISTRICTS

BOYS (February 22,24,26, 2027)

GIRLS (March 1,3,5, 2027)

DIVISION 1:

District 1 LP LP

DIVISION 2:

District 33 Negaunee HS Houghton HS

DIVISION 3:

District 65 Painesdale-Jeffers HS Iton River-West Iron Co HS
District 66 Gwinn HS Gwinn HS

DIVISION 4:

District 97 Wakefield-Marenisco HS Ontonagon HS
District 98 L'Anse HS L'Anse HS
District 99 Powers-North Central HS Felch-North Dickinson HS
District 100 Munising HS Rock-Mid Peninsula HS
District 101 Brimley HS Rudyard HS
District 102 Cedarville HS (not DeTour site) St Ignace HS

REGIONALS: Non-Traditional

BOYS (March 2,4, 2027)

Division 1 #1 RSF (UP-D1 VS LP D2) LP
RF LP

Division 2 #9 RSF (UP-D33 vs LP-D34) Newberry HS
RF LP-Gaylord HS

Division 3 #17 RSF (UP-65 vs UP-D66) Kingsford HS
RF Manistique HS

Division 4 #25 Traditional – Negaunee HS

Division 4 #26 RSF (UP-D101 vs UP-D102) Sault Ste Marie HS
RF LP- Indian River-Inland Lakes HS

GIRLS (March 9,10, 2027)

Division 1 #1 RSF (UP-D1 vs LP D2) LP
RF LP

Division 2 #9 RSF (UP-D33 vs LP-D34) Newberry HS
RF LP-Gaylord HS

Division 3 #17 RSF (UP-65 vs UP-D66) Negaunee HS
RF Manistique HS

Division 4 #25 Traditional – Kingsford HS

Division 4 #26 RSF (UP-D101 vs UP-D102) Brimley HS
RF LP- St Ignace HS

QUARTERFINALS

Division 4 Boys #13 - Gladstone HS (UP-R25 vs UP-R26) – March 9, 2027

Division 4 Girls #13 - Gladstone HS (UP-R25 vs UP-R26) – March 16, 2027

Discussion Items:

1. CAP classes in the UP were discussed, and host schools will be confirmed by MHSAA staff.
2. The committee discussed the UPAC's composition and future, including the fall elections, what positions will be filled, and what advisory positions will be needed for the fall. The UPAC determined that the current advisory members would be asked to serve again for the 2026-27 school year. Geographic and divisional coverage of the UP is critical to a successful UPAC, with site and official selection among its primary duties.
3. The committee reviewed correspondence on several topics, such as UP's involvement in LP MHSAA tournaments, Track and Field Regional standards and divisions alignment, Hockey QF site for 2026-27, and UP Golf seasons.
4. Two topics that will continue to be discussed in future UPAC meetings include Track & Field divisions in the UP, along with Hockey QF site selection.
5. A preview of the next day's UP AD In-service and the event's timing was discussed.
6. The next Upper Peninsula Committee Meeting will be held on September 23, 2026, in Marquette at the Holiday Inn at 8:30 a.m. EST. Future UP Athletic Committee meeting dates will be February 15, 2027, February 22, 2027(Virtual), and April 22, 2027. The April 22, 2027, UPAC meeting will be held at 1 p.m. with a UPAC dinner meeting to follow. The UP AD Inservice meeting will be held on Friday, April 23, 2027, at 9:30 a.m. at the Holiday Inn - Marquette.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

