

## **2025-26 MHSAA UPPER PENINSULA ATHLETIC COMMITTEE MINUTES**

Wednesday, September 24, 2025, 8:30 a.m. – held in Marquette and via Zoom

### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Mike Berutti, Iron River  
Jim Bobula, Ontonagon (advisory)  
Rob Fay, Houghton  
Vince Gross, Whitefish Township  
Don Gustafson, St. Ignace (advisory)  
Chris Hartman, Kingsford  
Paul Jacobson, Negaunee

Jack Kumpula, Lake Linden  
Sam Larson, Menominee

### **MHSAA STAFF**

Cody Inglis  
Andi Osters  
Will McKoy  
Jeff Spedoske

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

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

General topics included correspondence received, updates on the UP Athletic Committee elections, UP soccer updates, MHSAA tournament updates, the five divisions task force report, UP involvement in LP tournaments, UP cross country and track & field discussions, and UP dual-sport athletic conflicts. Additional topics included a preview of the MHSAA Update meeting presentation on October 17.

Much discussion occurred surrounding a request from Manistique HS to change the current qualification procedure for UP Track & Field Finals. This request was reviewed, and the UPAC would like to continue studying this matter, gathering data, and identifying the best path forward for all UP track & field programs. Information will be collected in the coming months, and findings will be presented on February 23, 2026. At that time, the UPAC will review the data and determine the next steps, including if a change could be considered for the 2026 UP Track & Field season.

A request was made to have the UPAC review site selection for baseball and softball assignments at the February 2026 meeting.

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

### **WINTER SPORTS:**

#### **Bowling - 2025-2026**

Regionals: Feb. 18-21  
Finals: Feb. 27-28  
D1 - Thunderbowl, Allen Park  
D2 - Century Bowl, Waterford  
D3 - Jax 60, Jackson  
D4 - Skore Lanes, Taylor

#### **Competitive Cheer - 2025-2026**

Districts: Feb. 20-21  
Regionals: Feb. 28  
Finals: March 6-7 - CMU McGuirk Arena

### Ice Hockey - 2025-2026

All Nine UP ice hockey teams are in Division 3 for the 2025-26 school year.

Regionals: Feb. 16–25 - Div. 3 - TBD

Quarterfinals: Feb. 28 - Div. 3 - Negaunee @ NMU Berry Events Center

Semifinals: March 5-6 - USA Hockey Arena, Plymouth

Finals: March 7 - USA Hockey Arena, Plymouth

### Wrestling - 2025-2026

#### Wrestling - Individual

Districts: Boys - Feb. 14, Girls - Feb. 15

Regionals: Boys - Feb. 21, Girls - Feb. 22

Finals: March 6-7 - Ford Field, Detroit

#### Wrestling - Team

Districts: Div. 1 & 3 - Feb. 11

Div. 2 & 4 - Feb. 12

Regionals: Feb. 18

Finals: Feb. 27-28 - Wings Event Center, Kalamazoo

Alpha Weigh-In: Oct. 20 - Jan. 31

### Gymnastics - 2025-2026

Regionals: Feb. 28

Finals: March 6-7 - Highland Milford HS

### Skiing – 2025-2026

Regionals: Feb. 9-13

Finals: Feb. 23

Div. 1 - Boyne Mt. - Boyne Falls

Div. 2 - Schuss Mt. - Bellaire

### Boys and Girls Swimming - 2025-2026

Finals: Feb. 21 - Marquette HS

## **SPRING SPORTS:**

### Track & Field - 2026

Regionals: May 13, 14, 15, or 16

Finals: May 31 - Site: Kingsford

### Golf - 2026

Boys and Girls Finals: May 27-30 - Sites: MHSAA staff will reach out to Escanaba to host D1, Painesdale-Jeffers to host D2, and Powers-North Central to host D3

## **SPRING & FALL SPORTS:**

### Tennis - 2026

Girls Finals: Oct. 1-4

Div. 1 - Ishpeming Westwood HS

Div. 2 - Iron Mt. @ Kingsford HS

Boys Finals: May 27-30

Div. 1 - Ishpeming Westwood HS

Div. 2 - Iron Mt. @ Kingsford HS

### Soccer - 2025-26

Boys Districts: Oct. 8-10, 13-18

Boys Regionals: Oct. 21-25

Boys Semifinals: Oct. 29

Boys Finals: Nov. 1 - Grand Ledge HS

Girls Districts: May 20-22, May 26-30

Girls Regionals: June 2-6

Girls Semifinals: June 9-10

Girls Finals: June 12-13 - Site: TBD

Any UP team in a tournament will be a non-traditional district with no host named, where the higher-seeded team hosts.

## **FALL SPORTS:**

### **Cross Country - 2025**

Finals: Oct. 18 - Munising HS, Pictured Rocks Golf Course

### **Boys and Girls UP JH/MS Cross Country Regionals -**

Oct. 14 - Hancock HS, Hancock Driving Park/Maasto Hiihto Nordic Ski Trails

Oct. 15 - St. Ignace HS, Doc Holle's Silver Mt. Ski Area

Oct. 17 - Munising HS, Pictured Rocks Golf Course

### **Volleyball - 2025**

Officials Selection Assignments were completed with MHSAA staff guidance. UPAC will help select replacement officials.

Districts: Nov. 3-8

Regionals: Nov. 11 & 13

Quarterfinals: Nov. 18

Semifinals: Nov. 20-21 - Kellogg Arena, Battle Creek

Finals: Nov. 22 - Kellogg Arena, Battle Creek

### **Football - 2025**

#### **11-Player:**

District 1<sup>st</sup> Rd: Oct. 31 & Nov. 1

District Finals: Nov. 7 or 8

Regionals: Nov. 14 or 15

Semifinals: Nov. 22

Finals: Fri., Nov. 28 or Sun., Nov. 30 - Ford Field, Detroit

#### **8-Player:**

Regional Semifinals: Oct. 31 & Nov. 1

Regional Finals: Nov. 7 or 8

Semifinals: Nov. 15

Finals: Sat., Nov. 22 - NMU Superior Dome, Marquette

Officials' assignments were completed with MHSAA staff guidance. UPAC will help select replacement officials.

8-player trophy presentation will be done by Vince Gross from Paradise - Whitefish Township Schools

### **Next meeting dates:**

Winter UPAC Meeting and BBB Officials selection – Feb. 16, 2026 - Marquette

GBB Officials Selection and review BA & SB Official Selections - Zoom Only Meeting - Feb. 23, 2026

Spring UPAC Meeting - April 23, 2025 - Marquette

UP AD In-service meeting - April 24, 2025 – Marquette

## **RECOMMENDATIONS TO MHSAA STAFF**

UP Athletic Committee site selection involvement for baseball and softball District hosts and assignments to be done in February.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL**

None.