

**MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, INC.**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

East Lansing, November 29, 2012

Members Present:

Jim Derocher, Negaunee  
Scott Grimes, Grand Haven  
Fred Smith, Buchanan  
Vic Michaels, Detroit  
Carmen Kennedy, St. Clair Shores

Staff Members Present:

Gina Mazzolini  
Tom Rashid  
Jack Roberts (Recorder)

Executive Committee Authority and Responsibility – The Executive Committee reviewed its authority under Article VII of the MHSAA Constitution and specifically its responsibility to consider each application for waiver of an eligibility requirement on its individual merits, determining if the regulation serves the purpose for which it was intended in each case or if the regulation works an undue hardship on any student who is the subject of a request for waiver. (These underlying criteria may not be restated for every subject of these minutes.)

The Executive Committee was reminded that it was the responsibility of each member school involved to provide sufficient factual information about the specific request for the Executive Committee to reach a decision without further investigation. If information is incomplete, contradictory or otherwise unclear or has been received too late to be studied completely, the Executive Committee may deny the request for waiver or delay action. Such requests may be resubmitted to the Executive Committee with additional information at a subsequent meeting or appealed to the full Representative Council.

It is possible that some of the information presented as facts to the Executive Committee by school personnel and others may be inaccurate. However, to avoid constant repetition in this report of phrases such as “it was alleged” or “it was reported,” no attempt is made in the introduction of each waiver request to distinguish between truth, allegation, hearsay, opinion, summary or conclusion. If any information provided to the Executive Committee is inaccurate, any decision of the Executive Committee to grant waiver of a regulation shall be null and void.

The Executive Committee is not authorized to approve waiver based on alleged or actual differences between schools based on “environment,” demographics, curriculum or extracurricular offerings. A determination of undue hardship is a matter addressed to the discretion of the Executive Committee within the educational philosophy and secondary role of voluntary extracurricular competitive athletics in the academic environment. The Executive Committee will avoid making exceptions that would create precedent that effectively changes a rule without Representative Council action or local board of education adoption, which would exceed Executive Committee authority. The contract the MHSAA has with member schools obligates the MHSAA to not change rules during the school year.

Students for whom waiver of a particular regulation is approved must be eligible in all other respects under all sections and interpretations of the regulations prior to their participation.

Adoption of these regulations, as well as policies, procedures and schedules of MHSAA tournaments, is a choice schools make locally when they consider their option of MHSAA membership. Consistent with rulings of the Attorney General and Michigan Supreme Court, schools are not bound by the decisions of the Executive Committee, but the association may limit participation in the post-season tournaments it sponsors to those schools which choose to apply rules and penalties as promulgated by the MHSAA and adopted by each member school’s board of education. The MHSAA exercises no independent authority over schools or students.

AuGres-Sims and Twining-Arenac-Eastern High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of boys and girls track & field to a cooperative program in girls volleyball and football started for the 2012-13 school year between these two schools. The combined enrollment of 199 students will continue placement of a team in the Division 4 tournament. AuGres-Sims sponsored track & field previously and will be the primary school. Support from the North Star League was submitted.

Battle Creek-Pennfield and Battle Creek-St. Philip Catholic Central High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in boys lacrosse between these two schools whose combined enrollment of 793 students will continue placement of a team in the Division 2 Boys Lacrosse Tournament. Pennfield sponsored the sport previously and will be the primary school. Support from the Southwest Michigan Lacrosse Conference was submitted.

DeWitt and Ovid-Elsie High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in girls lacrosse between these two schools whose combined enrollment of 1,477 students will continue placement of a team in the Division 2 Girls Lacrosse Tournament. DeWitt sponsored the sport previously and will be the primary school. Support from the Capital Area Activities Conference was submitted.

Hillsdale-Will Carleton Academy and North Adams-Jerome High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee tabled until not later than its Jan. 9, 2013 meeting a partially completed application for the addition of girls track & field to a cooperative program which already exists between these two schools in football. The combined enrollment of 225 students would continue placement of a team in the Division 4 Girls Track & Field Tournament. Will Carleton sponsored the sport previously and would be the primary school. Support from the South Central Athletic Association has been received, but resolutions of support from both boards and signatures from Will Carleton Academy are pending.

Suttons Bay, Lake Leelanau-St. Mary and Northport High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of Northport to a cooperative program in boys and girls track & field which exists between Suttons Bay and St. Mary. Leland left the program in May 2012. The new combined enrollment of 299 students will move the team from Division 3 to the Division 4 Track & Field Tournament. Suttons Bay will continue as the primary school. Support from the Northwest and Cherryland Conferences was submitted.

Addison High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11<sup>th</sup>-grade student whose mother has a troubled history and disappeared in the summer of 2012, causing the student to reside with a sister in the Addison School District, enrolling on Oct. 24, 2012. The student lived with her mother and attended Lansing-Eastern for the 9<sup>th</sup> grade before moving to her father in Kentucky in the fall of 2011. After one year, due to the father's instability, the student returned to live with her mother and registered to enroll over the summer at Addison before the mother disappeared.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Allegan High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 61 (public school of residence) was made on behalf of a 10<sup>th</sup>-grade student who moved from his aunt's home in Florida to his mother's home in the Bloomingdale School District (Exception 2). The student enrolled at Allegan High School on Nov. 7, 2012 because a stepbrother with whom he lives, a 12<sup>th</sup> grader, has been enrolled at Allegan since the 6<sup>th</sup> grade.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Bay City-Central High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 9<sup>th</sup>-grade student who began the 9<sup>th</sup> grade at Central High School, played football and then enrolled at Bay City-All Saints for seven school days from Nov. 13 to 27, 2012. The student reenrolled at Central High School on Nov. 28, 2012.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Byron Center High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11<sup>th</sup>-grade student who previously attended Grandville High School before enrolling at Byron Center to begin the 2012-13 school year. The student was the target of ridicule at the former school.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Coldwater High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11<sup>th</sup>-grade student whose father was unable to find a position in the Grand Rapids area and has accepted employment in Fort Wayne, Indiana. The father and student have moved to Coldwater and the student enrolled Nov. 5, 2012. The mother remains employed and residing in Grand Rapids. The student previously attended Ada-Forest Hills Eastern High School.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Escanaba High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 12<sup>th</sup>-grade student who moved with her family to Escanaba in the summer of 2012, residing with grandparents. In early August the family relocated to Gladstone. The student and two siblings enrolled in the Escanaba School District to begin the 2012-13 school year for more opportunities.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Flint-Kearsley High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10<sup>th</sup>-grade student who previously attended Burton-Bentley High School while living with her grandmother and has moved into the residence of her mother in the Kearsley School District, enrolling to begin the 2012-13 school year (Exception 2). The student participated in athletics at Bentley. The student's parents never married but the father, who is listed on the birth certificate, has not been in the student's life.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Iron Mountain High School (Regulation I, Section 9[C]) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 9<sup>th</sup>-grade student who began the school year at Norway High School and will be enrolling at Iron Mountain on Jan. 21, 2013. The student is a member of the cooperative hockey team between these two schools. The student's parents are divorced and the student will continue to live in Norway with his father. The mother lives near Iron Mountain High School and the change of schools would make visitation easier. Support from Norway High School was submitted.

The Executive Committee approved the request for immediate eligibility in ice hockey only through the remainder of the 2012-13 school year sports program.

Ithaca High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 9<sup>th</sup>-grade student who enrolled at St. Louis High School to begin the 2012-13 school year in anticipation of the mother's employment (which fell through) and subsequent residential change. Going through a divorce, the mother and student moved to another residence in Ithaca in March 2012 while the father remained in the family home in Ithaca. The divorce became final on Oct. 26, 2012. The student began the 9<sup>th</sup> grade by playing volleyball before school began for Ithaca and then enrolled at St. Louis High School on the first day of classes. The student did not participate in athletics at St. Louis. The student enrolled at Ithaca High School on Nov. 12.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Kingsford High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10<sup>th</sup>-grade student who fractured his pelvis while wrestling for Norway High School in the 2011-12 season and participated in two matches. The student enrolled at Kingsford to begin the 2012-13 school year. If immediate eligibility is not approved, the school requested eligibility at the subvarsity level where scores are not kept.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for either immediate or subvarsity eligibility.

Lansing-Sexton High School (Regulation I, Section 9[D]) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made to permit eligibility on the 91<sup>st</sup> school day of enrollment on behalf of an 11<sup>th</sup>-grade student who previously attended Okemos High School before enrolling at Sexton on Feb. 27, 2012.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver on the student's 91<sup>st</sup> school day of enrollment at Sexton High School starting Feb. 27, 2012.

Mancelona High School (Regulation I, Section 9[D]) – A request to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility on the 91<sup>st</sup> school day of enrollment was made on behalf of a 12<sup>th</sup>-grade student who previously attended North Central Academy before enrolling at Mancelona on Oct. 5, 2012.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver on the student's 91<sup>st</sup> school day of enrollment at Mancelona High School starting Oct. 5, 2012.

Mancelona High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 12<sup>th</sup>-grade student whose living conditions were such while in attendance at Kalkaska High School that the student moved to the residence of an uncle in the Bellaire School District and enrolled on Nov. 12, 2012. Bellaire High School would not enroll the student. The student had an older sibling who attended Mancelona and graduated in 2012.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Manchester High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 12<sup>th</sup>-grade student who attended Manchester High School and participated on its wrestling team as a 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grader. The student's father discontinued care of the student in the spring of 2012, causing the student to move to his mother and enroll at Detroit-Cass Technical High School. The mother was in and out of rehabilitation, so the student returned to live with friends in Manchester to begin the 2012-13 school year.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Manistee Catholic Central High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10<sup>th</sup>-grade student who previously attended Manistee High School and participated in athletics. The student enrolled at Manistee Catholic Central in September 2012 and will only play junior varsity sports.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Marine City High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 9<sup>th</sup>-grade student whose mother threatened to turn the student in to foster care if a family friend in Marine City would not take the student in. The student previously attended Dearborn-Edsel Ford High School and played 9<sup>th</sup> grade football. The student's father has not been in the student's life, and the mother was unable to support and care for the student. The student enrolled at Marine City on Oct. 15, 2012.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Mason High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 12<sup>th</sup>-grade student whose mother kicked the student out of the house last spring and who moved to the home of his father in Mason, enrolling on May 4, 2012. The student had previously been attending Dansville High School and had issues with his stepfather and transportation problems. An Educational Transfer Form was completed for this student on Jan. 4, 2010, when the student moved from Mason to Dansville as a 9<sup>th</sup> grader.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver to permit second use of the Educational Transfer Form under the same exception.

Mt. Clemens High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10<sup>th</sup>-grade student who previously attended Warren-DeLaSalle Collegiate and enrolled at Mt. Clemens to begin the 2012-13 school year due to financial reasons. The father lost his job and sole custody has been given to the grandmother who lives in Chesterfield Township.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Mt. Clemens High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11<sup>th</sup>-grade student who previously attended Macomb-Dakota and enrolled at Mt. Clemens to begin the 2012-13 school year due to educational needs.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Mt. Clemens High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10<sup>th</sup>-grade student who previously attended River Rouge and enrolled at Mt. Clemens to begin the 2012-13 school year due to transportation/attendance issues. The student's parents live in Macomb Township and work in Detroit. The commute affected the student's attendance and academics.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Newaygo High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11<sup>th</sup>-grade student who previously attended Fremont-Providence Christian and returned to Newaygo Schools because of religion curriculum changes at the former school. The student attended Newaygo Schools through the 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Niles High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 9<sup>th</sup>-grade student who lives in the Niles School District and attended Niles Schools through the 8<sup>th</sup> grade before enrolling at Buchanan to begin the 2012-13 school year where he participated in subvarsity football. The student reenrolled at Niles High School on Oct. 16, 2012. If full eligibility is not granted, the school requested eligibility on the 91<sup>st</sup> school day of enrollment.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Owosso High School (Regulation I, Section 9[D]) – A request was made on behalf of an 11<sup>th</sup>-grade student to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility on the 91<sup>st</sup> school day of enrollment. The student lives in the Owosso School District, previously attended Ovid-Elsie and changed schools for a new environment due to poor decisions with activities and friends outside of school time. The student enrolled at Owosso on March 14, 2012.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Pewamo-Westphalia High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 12<sup>th</sup>-grade student who began the 9<sup>th</sup> grade at Pewamo-Westphalia and lived with her grandmother in the Pewamo-Westphalia School District since February 2009 when the mother left the student and moved to an unknown location in Lansing. The father died in June 2006. Due to a strain on the grandmother, the student moved to the residence of an aunt over the summer of 2012 and enrolled at Lansing-Sexton High School to begin the 2012-13 school year. The student returned to the home of her grandmother and reenrolled at Pewamo-Westphalia on Nov. 7, 2012. The student lived all but four of her school age years with her grandmother.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Pontiac-Notre Dame Preparatory High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 61 (closest nonpublic school) was made on behalf of a 12<sup>th</sup>-grade student who attended Marist Catholic High School in Eugene, Oregon and moved with his family to Lake Orion. Clarkston-Everest Academy is the closest Catholic school, but Notre Dame Prep is a school conducted by the same religious order (Marist) as the student's previous school.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Saginaw-Heritage High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10<sup>th</sup>-grade student who underwent treatment for leukemia as an 8<sup>th</sup> grader and attended Saginaw-Nouvel Catholic Central for the 9<sup>th</sup> grade. The mother is on disability and unable to work. The illness and low income caused financial stress and the inability to afford tuition. The student enrolled at Heritage to begin the 2012-13 school year.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Saranac High School (Regulation I, Section 9[D]) – A request to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility on the 91<sup>st</sup> school day of enrollment was made on behalf of a 12<sup>th</sup>-grade student who previously attended Ionia before enrolling at Saranac on March 12, 2012.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver effective with the student's 91<sup>st</sup> school day of enrollment at Saranac starting March 12, 2012.

Stockbridge High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11<sup>th</sup>-grade student who attended Stockbridge Schools his entire career except for the start of the first semester of the 2012-13 school year when he enrolled at Webberville High School because the father's job had changed. The family intended to relocate their residence to Webberville, but the father recently found work back in Stockbridge, causing the student to reenroll at Stockbridge on Nov. 5, 2012.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Wayne Memorial High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 12<sup>th</sup>-grade student who was given an administrative transfer to attend another school of the same district, John Glenn High School, for the 9<sup>th</sup> grade. The student was receiving threats stemming from his cooperation with police in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade which led to the conviction of a drug dealer. The student continues to reside in the Wayne Memorial School District and participated in JV basketball in the 10<sup>th</sup> grade, but no sports in the 11<sup>th</sup> grade. This past year the individual that was making the threats was incarcerated and the student enrolled at his school of residence, Wayne Memorial, to begin the 2012-13 school year.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Ypsilanti-Arbor Preparatory High School (Regulation I, Section 9[B]) – A request to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility at the subvarsity level only was made on behalf of a 10<sup>th</sup>-grade student who previously attended North Farmington High School and participated in four subvarsity basketball games before being injured and sidelined for the remainder of the season. The student did not participate in a fall or spring sport in the 9<sup>th</sup> grade, and enrolled at Arbor Prep to begin the 2012-13 school year.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver, citing the specific requirement of Section 9(B) that there has been no previous participation in MHSAA served sports.

Subvarsity Waiver Requests Meeting All Conditions of Section 9(B) – The Executive Committee approved immediate eligibility at the subvarsity level for the following transferring 9<sup>th</sup>- or 10<sup>th</sup>-grade students (after entering 9<sup>th</sup> grade, before completing 10<sup>th</sup> grade) **who have not previously participated in an interscholastic scrimmage or contest in any MHSAA sport at the high school level** (whether MHSAA member schools or not) and who do not qualify for one of the 15 stated exceptions to the transfer regulation and have transferred for reasons having nothing to do with athletics, discipline or family finances and would not require Executive Committee evaluation or comparison of school demographics or curriculum:

Requesting High School	Grade	Former High School	Date of Enrollment	Length of Subvarsity Eligibility Status
Bloomfield Hills-Brother Rice	10	Utica-Marlow Jr	Aug. 27, 2012	Jan. 21, 2013
Bloomfield Hills-Brother Rice	10	Birmingham-Seaholm	Aug. 27, 2012	Jan. 21, 2013
Fenton	10	Hahnville, LA	Sept. 4, 2012	Jan. 21, 2013
Grand Rapids-Forest Hills Northern	10	Wheaton Warrenville South, IL	Oct. 2012	Remainder of 12-13 school year
Grosse Pointe North	10	Eastpointe-East Detroit	Sept. 4, 2012	Jan. 21, 2013

<b>Requesting High School</b>	<b>Grade</b>	<b>Former High School</b>	<b>Date of Enrollment</b>	<b>Length of Subvarsity Eligibility Status</b>
Mason	10	Lansing-Sexton	Sept. 4, 2012	Jan. 21, 2013
Muskegon—Reeths-Puffer	9	Milton, MA	Nov. 19, 2012	Remainder of 12-13 school year
Newaygo	9	Morley-Stanwood	Nov. 12, 2012	Remainder of 12-13 school year
Rapid River	9	Milwaukee, WI	Oct. 1, 2012	91 <sup>st</sup> school day of enrollment
Reading	9	Syracuse-Wawasee, IN	Sept. 26, 2012	Jan. 21, 2013
Ypsilanti-Arbor Preparatory	10	Ypsilanti-Lincoln	Sept. 4, 2012	Jan. 21, 2013
Ypsilanti-Willow Run	9	Ann Arbor Multicultural Academy	Sept. 5, 2012	Jan. 21, 2013

Kingsford High School (Regulation II, Section 6) – A request was made to waive the 600-mile round-trip travel limitation to allow a football game with Hopkins High School in Minnesota which is 338 miles from Kingsford. Hopkins is a much larger school which has indicated it would travel to Kingsford for the game in week three (Sept. 13-14, 2013). Kingsford has been unable to secure an opponent after several contacts.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver, citing the efforts made to seek an opponent and the fact that the game would not require Kingsford to travel.

Saginaw Valley High School Association (Regulation II, Section 10[C]) – A request to waive the soccer limitation on competition for participation in a multi-team tournament on a school day was made on behalf of this 15-team league of schools which all sponsor girls soccer. The limitation states that a student or team is allowed two multi-team tournaments per season with running clock halves of no more than 30 minutes. These events may be held on non-school days. The event is tentatively scheduled for 1 p.m. on a school day, May 17, 2013, and is the SVHSA League Tournament.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver, citing the specific purpose of the rule which is to minimize loss of classroom instructional time.

Midland-HH Dow High School (Regulation II, Section 11[H]) – On Nov. 7, 2012, the Executive Committee did not approve a request pursuant to Interpretation 236 to waive the three- (or four-) player rule for the 2012-13 school year on behalf of the boys and girls swimming coach who is retired from Dow Chemical. At the time of the original request, it was understood that the coach collects no compensation for coaching the Kronos Aquatics Club in Midland (it was thought all funds are kept in the program and used for entry fees to USS meets). Additional information has been submitted that the coach's sole income, beyond coaching for the school, is from the Aquatics Club. The program is open to the general public and includes approximately 20 participants ages 15-21. The program involves participants from six school districts including Dow (Bay City, East Lansing, Hemlock, Midland, Midland-Bullock Creek, Petoskey). Eight students from Dow High School are involved in the program. The coach formed this club to meet the requirement that students come from a club to enter US Swim meets in the summer. The coach operated the swim club within the three-player rule in years past but the program has grown to requiring his involvement after Aug. 1 and during the school year.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver for this coach in this sport for the 2012-13 school year.

Regulation III, Section 1(C) – Pursuant to 2012-13 *Handbook* Interpretation 261, the Executive Committee approved waiver of the enrollment regulation for the following junior high/middle schools to permit 6<sup>th</sup>-grade students to participate with and against 7<sup>th</sup> and/or 8<sup>th</sup> graders for the sports listed in the 2012-13 school year only (unless otherwise indicated below).

<b>Junior High/ Middle School</b>	<b>Sport(s)</b>	<b>High School Enrollment</b>	<b>Middle School Enrollment</b>
Rapid River	boys & girls track & field	115	33 7 <sup>th</sup> graders 22 8 <sup>th</sup> graders

Holly High School (Regulation V, Section 4[B]) – A request was made to waive the requirement of forfeiture of the Flint Metro League Boys Tennis Tournament which resulted when a student, who was withheld from competition previously due to a suspected concussion suffered in a high school soccer game, participated in the league tennis tournament. The student did not physically participate in a match but was entered in the draw and earned a point for his team without the required written clearance from an MD or DO. The team went on to win the league tournament.

The Holly High School athletic director and its co-head coaches of the boys tennis team met with the Executive Committee. They emphasized the school's commitment to student-athlete safety and the point that the student's health was never jeopardized because he never engaged in competition. They parsed the words of the concussion protocols published on page 106 of the *MHSAA Handbook*, noting that the student did not "return to competition," as well as the words of Regulation II, Section 1 which prohibits schools from entering a student in any contest who is not eligible under all regulations; and they asserted that the concussion protocols are outside of those regulations. They suggested that the concussion protocols cannot be applied in the same way to individual sports as team sports. They indicated the motive in allowing the student to be entered in the league meet was to give this senior captain and four-year team member the chance to compete when written clearance was received.

Putting aside the claims and counterclaims between league members about what could have been done and what should have been done, the core issue is that Holly High School wants the Executive Committee to interpret the phrase "return to competition" narrowly, ignoring that the student not only was entered in the meet but also advanced and scored in the meet.

The Executive Committee observed that the student's own messages on social media reported signs and symptoms of a concussion. The student had not been seen by an MD or DO regarding clearance to play at the time of the seeding meeting; and at no time before or during the meet in question was a written clearance produced for the student involved in this matter.

The Executive Committee observed that, on the morning of the meet, the student did not have the required written clearance and was in no position to obtain it as he was with the team at the meet, not with the doctor who could provide the clearance. There was at that time no possibility the student could participate, and he should have been withdrawn.

The Executive Committee noted that the student was entered into the tournament, was given the No. 1 seed in the No. 2 singles tournament brackets, advanced in the No. 2 singles bracket to the 2<sup>nd</sup> round, earned a team point by virtue of that advancement, then defaulted the semifinal match, subsequently was entered in the back draw before walking over for a default, and ultimately took 4<sup>th</sup> place in No. 2 singles.

The Executive Committee inquired into how the protocols would be applied in other individual sports which involved head-to-head competition before advancing in tournament brackets; and in the most similar sport – wrestling – forfeitures would apply as assessed in this case. A student who is entered, scores and advances in the tournament is a participant in that tournament. That student has returned to competition.

The Executive Committee determined that the concussion protocol applied, and the request to not require forfeiture of the meet by the team was not approved. As stated in Regulation V, Section 4(D), individual places and awards earned by team members are not vacated. Pursuant to Interpretation 296, the league may determine for itself the standing of schools within that league.

Next Meetings – The next meetings of the Executive Committee are scheduled for Wednesday, Jan. 9, 2013, at 8:30 a.m. in East Lansing; Wednesday, Feb. 20, 2013, at 8:30 a.m. in East Lansing; Thursday, March 21, 2013, at 1:30 p.m. in East Lansing; Wednesday, April 24, 2013, at 8:30 a.m. in East Lansing; Sunday, May 5, 2013, at 10:30 a.m. in Gaylord; and Wednesday, June 12, 2013, at 8:30 a.m. in East Lansing.