

MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

Bowling Committee Meeting Minutes

East Lansing, March 24, 2010

Members Present:

Tim Bauer, Bay City
Karl Bosman, Trenton
Josh Collopy, Howell
Rick Dodick, Bay City
Rudy Godefroidt, Hemlock
Sue Hutchings, Marshall
Judy Jaeger, Livonia (MHSBCA)
Bill Johnson (Finals Manager)

Vicki Kowalski, Farmington
Bob Lomonaco, Grand Rapids
Mike Roach, Battle Creek
Mike Sarandrea, Taylor
Randy Shank, Sterling Heights (BCAM)
Mel Wolf, Jackson (Finals Manager)

Staff Member Present:

Randy Allen (recorder)

The MHSAA Bowling Committee met at the MHSAA to review policies and procedures for boys and girls bowling. Agenda items were compiled from correspondence, staff, committee members and the Michigan HS Bowling Coaches Association.

MHSAA BOWLING UPDATE

It was shared with the committee that a main concern for continued success of interscholastic bowling competition is the need for better coordination of regular season events by coaches and conference leaders. Specific areas of concern are spectator conduct, sportsmanship of bowlers, bowling center management providing an appropriate environment, coaches cooperation with each other and monitoring of both spectator and bowler conduct. MHSAA competition rules such as dress code, use of cell phones, substitutions, etc. must be better enforced and school athletic directors must be more involved in programs and competitions for better compliance. It was suggested that host schools should be required to mark off a specific bowlers area and spectator area at the bowling center to keep parents and spectators separate from bowlers.

The committee heard an update on an initiative by the MHSAA and Coaches Association for a fall coaches clinic that would include the MHSAA Coaches Advancement program in addition to bowling industry sponsorship with several seminars on coaching, equipment, conditions, etc. that may accommodate as many as 60 attendees. Late October is the target for such a clinic.

TOURNAMENT REVIEW

All aspects of the MHSAA tournament were reviewed with several suggestions for changing the amount of bowling and format at the Regional and Final considered. Although a single day Regional plan for both team and individual qualifying to be conducted together was discussed, the committee was opposed to such a change citing difficulty securing bowling centers for an entire day and concern for the high amount of bowling in one day.

The expansion to four Divisions in the MHSAA Tournament using 24 Regional Centers showed improved continuity of operations with some standardization still needed which will be reflected in future Manager's Manuals. In reviewing the Finals format, it was agreed the Team Finals competition would be adjusted in the afternoon match game round to make the day shorter with an earlier conclusion. A proposal was approved to change the Team Finals Match game round to be two Baker games and one regular game which will reduce the day by over an hour. No change was recommended for the singles Finals format. The time schedule for both the Team and Individual Finals was deemed satisfactory.

General satisfaction was expressed with the choice of lane oil patterns for the 2010 Regional and Final tournament. A proposal was made to continue use of the Kegel "Middle Road" pattern for the 2011 Regional and Finals tournaments. Locations for the Regional and Finals tournaments in 2011 were discussed with several centers suggested as possible new host locations.

Much discussion took place regarding the on-going problem of spectators at MHSAA Tournaments being able to view the competition when bowlers and coaches are standing in the bowling area during the event. It is also a problem at some regular season events. Requiring bowlers and coaches to be seated was determined to be impractical. Better seating availability at Regional events and more cooperation at the Finals between spectators, bowlers and coaches must be emphasized to reduce problems and conflicts.

REGULAR SEASON POLICIES & PROCEDURES

The required regular season dual meet format was reviewed with no changes suggested. It will continue to be a two Baker game, two regular game, 30-point format. The question of bowling unopposed and matching scores when meets are cancelled due to weather or other conflicts was raised. The committee clarified and unanimously supported that bowling unopposed is not to be allowed and that meets are either re-scheduled or forfeited when schools are unable to attend their scheduled competition.

Other issues dealing with limits on team "chants" and spectator cheering and league & conference authority in determining rules were discussed. Several areas of the Bowling Coaches Manual and Competition Guide will be expanded and strengthened to deal with these problem areas, reflecting committee support for the MHSAA suggested language. The committee supports having additional in person rules meetings in 2010-11 to supplement the on-line offerings to bring more emphasis to a variety of subjects for coaches who in many cases are parents, new and in most cases non-faculty coaches.

Start dates for the MHSAA Bowling season were discussed. Although there was some interest in a longer period for practice and tryouts, it was agreed that the existing start date for practice and first contest are satisfactory. There was no support for moving the MHSAA Bowling season earlier or later than its current position on the school calendar.

The committee agreed that continued emphasis should be placed on coaches and proprietors to have more communication, coordination and involvement with school administration in all aspects of school bowling programs.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

1. Continue to use the Kegel "Middle Road" lane condition for the 2011 MHSAA Tournament pattern at the Regional and Finals bowling centers. (10-0)
2. Change the Finals Team Match Game afternoon format to two Baker games and one regular game for the Quarterfinal, Semifinal and Final matches, reducing the match game time by over an hour for an earlier conclusion and shorter day. (10-0)