

UPPER PENINSULA ATHLETIC COMMITTEE
Escanaba April 24, 2019

Members Present

Mike Berutti, Iron River
Jon Beckman, Ishpeming
Don Gustafson, St Ignace
Jack Kumpula, Lake Linden-Hubbell
Nick Nolde, Escanaba
Rick Pepin, Rapid River
Al Unger, Kingsford

Staff Member

Nate Hampton, Recorder

Member Absent

Sean Jacques, Calumet

COMMITTEE RESPONSIBILITIES

The role of the Upper Peninsula Athletic Committee is to assist in the planning for Upper Peninsula schools to participate in either the MHSAA Upper Peninsula or the statewide postseason tournament.

Mr. Don Gustafson chaired the meeting. Following the welcome and review of meeting materials, the following business was conducted.

ENROLLMENT LISTINGS FOR UPPER PENINSULA SCHOOLS

The committee reviewed the classifications and changes in classifications of UP schools. Of special note was Munising moving from division 4 to Division 3 in boys basketball but will remain in Division 4 for girls basketball.

RECOMMENDED TOURNAMENT HOSTS FOR 2019-20

Pending review of both the MHSAA staff and respective Site Selection Committees, the UP Committee made the following recommendations:

Cross Country UP Finals

Gladstone High School will host all divisions, on Oct. 19, 2019.

Swim and Dive UP Finals

Marquette will host all divisions, on Feb. 15, 2020.

Boys & Girls Tennis UP Finals

Girls Oct. 2-5, 2019

Boys May 27-30, 2019

Division 1 – Negaunee

Division 2 – Iron Mountain

Golf UP Finals

May 29 or 30, 2019

Division 1 – Escanaba

Division 2 – Iron River West Iron County

Division 3 – Rock Mid-Peninsula

Volleyball

DIVISION 1

District 1 Pre-determined Draw

Non-Traditional Draw

DIVISION 2

District 33 Menominee

Non-Traditional Draw

DIVISION 3

District 65 Ironwood-Luther L Wright

With some forward thinking and especially if the strength of schedule format is approved, it may seem feasible for the West Pac league to incorporate Kingsford, Gladstone and Menominee while Escanaba and Marquette could become scheduling partners with the Big North Conference.

These transitions will have to overcome concerns of strength of program (Menominee) and travel distances to Escanaba and Marquette.

There is also the possibility that the Wisconsin League will offer contests to Kingsford HS.

Additional Discussion Items

1. Internet Conference Exploration – The committee discussed the potential of video-conference opportunities given developing technologies. The committee will explore such possibilities in future meetings.
2. Basketball Four Quarter Proposal
The committee reviewed a request that would allow students in grades 9-12 to participate on multiple teams on any given day (to play on both the JV and varsity basketball teams on the same day), however, being limited to no more than four total quarters in one day. The committee suggest that further discussion is warranted and recommended that this topic to be placed on the Basketball Regulation Committees agenda.
3. The committee reaffirms that for all Upper Peninsula basketball Districts will utilize the established non-traditional format unless all schools assigned to a specific District agree to the traditional format.

Recommendations to the MHSAA Executive Committee - None

Recommendations to the MHSAA Representative Council - None

The next Upper Peninsula Committee Meeting will be held on September 25, 2019 in Escanaba.