

UPPER PENINSULA ATHLETIC COMMITTEE
Escanaba, September 30, 2014

Members Present

Mike Berutti, Iron River
Gary Brayak, Rock-Mid Peninsula
James Derocher, Negaunee
Chris Hartman, Iron Mountain
Matthew Houle, Gladstone
Jeff Markham, Baraga
Al Unger, Kingsford
David Duncan, Cedarville (Geographical Representative)

Staff Member

Nate Hampton

The meeting began at 8:30 a.m. with Mr. Jim Derocher as Chair. After the welcome and review of meeting materials, the following business was conducted.

Discussion

The committee discussed the following:

- Carney-Nadeau Opt Up to Class C in Boys Basketball only. Moved from district 126 to district 95 hosted by Iron Mountain.
- The Proposed amendment to the MHSAA Constitution – Article 11 with the recommendation that member schools vote in the affirmative and ballots must be returned to the MHSAA by Oct. 21, 2014.
- Baseball/Softball Districts – the committee was informed by Ms. Andi Osters, Sport Director for Softball via telephone, of the growing concern for the imbalance of UP softball teams vs baseball teams and the formation of districts in the UP and the Northern Lower Peninsula. It was suggested that should committee members or other member schools have suggestions to contact Andi Osters.
- Upper Peninsula Golf – Committee member Gary Brayak, Rock-Mid Peninsula and longtime host to the Division 3 tournament prepared a handout for the committee, demonstrating the number of boys and girls golfers in division 3. Discussion centered on whether or not a recommendation was warranted to create a fourth division for Boys and Girls UP Golf Finals. Given the number of students involved in the current division 3 format two sites are required for the single day event, while the Divisions 1 and 2 Boys and Girls Tournament was conducted at one site for each division.

It was reported that it is anticipated that D1 will have 90 golfers from 9 schools, D2 will have 80 golfers from 8 schools and D3 will have 81 boys and 90 girls from 24 schools, at two different sites (1 site boys, 1 site girls).

Given the two site approach for Division 3 these are the concerns;

1. Finding two appropriate golf courses in close proximity
 2. Most Division 3 schools have one coach for both genders (coaches must go between two sites).
 3. Finding quality management for two sites.
 4. Given the two site set up, most schools are not interested in offering to host.
- The committee also discussed the current season alignment for UP Golf with both genders competing in the Spring. Several member schools have shared questions on the possibility of changing the season from Spring to Fall. In general, the committee discussed a history of the current season positioning. The committee did not recommend a change from the current format.

Committee Recommendations to MHSAA staff and the Representative Council

Create four equal divisions in Boys and Girls UP Golf by placing the current 41 schools into four equal divisions of approximately 10 schools. (7-1 in favor)

Competitive Cheer

Districts – Feb. 20 or 21, 2015

Regionals – Feb. 28, 2015

Finals – DeltaPlex, Grand Rapids, March 6- 7, 2015

Cross Country

UP Finals – Saturday, Oct. 18, 2014 at Marquette

Order of competition:

Boys Division 1, 2 & 3

Girls Division 1, 2 & 3

Golf

UP Boys and Girls Finals – May 27-30, 2015

Division 1 Boys/Girls - Kingsford

Division 2 Boys/Girls – Ishpeming Westwood

Division 3 Boys/Girls – Rock Mid-Peninsula (2 sites)

Gymnastics

Three UP schools participate– Marquette, Escanaba and Negaunee

Regionals – Sites TBD – March 7, 2015

Finals – Rockford HS – March 13-14, 2015

Hockey

Regionals – Hancock – March 2-7, 2015

Quarterfinals – March 10-11, 2015

Semifinals – March 12-13, 2015 – Compuware Arena, Canton

Finals – Divisions 1, 2 and 3 – March 14, 2015 – Compuware Arena, Canton

Skiing

Regionals – Feb. 9-13, 2015

Finals – Feb., 23, 2015

Sites TBD

Swimming

UP Boys and Girls Finals – Feb. 21, 2015 – Marquette

Tennis

UP Finals – Girls – Oct. 1-4, 2014

Division 1 – Kingsford

Division 2 – Ishpeming Westwood

UP Finals – Boys – May 27-30, 2015

Division 1 – Kingsford

Division 2 – Ishpeming Westwood

Track and Field

UP Regionals – May 13, 14 or 15, 2015

UP Finals – May 30, 2015 - Kingsford

Wrestling

Individual Wrestling
Districts – Feb. 14, 2015
Regionals – Feb. 21, 2015
Finals – March 5-7, 2015

Note: Alpha Weigh-in, Oct. 10, 2014 – Jan. 30, 2015

Team Wrestling

Districts
Divisions 1 and 3 – Feb. 11, 2015
Divisions 2 and 4 – Feb. 12, 2015
Regionals – Feb. 18, 2015
Finals – Feb. 27-28, 2015 – Kellogg Arena, Battle Creek

Volleyball

Districts – Nov. 3-5, 6 and 7 or 8, 2014
Regionals – Nov. 11 and 13, 2014
Quarterfinals – Nov. 18, 2014
Semifinals – Nov. 20-21, 2014 – Kellogg Arena, Battle Creek
Finals – Nov. 22, 2014 – Kellogg Arena, Battle Creek

The committee recommended invitations to be extended to 12 approved officials for the assignment to the MHSAA Post Season Tournament.

Football

The committee recommended invitations to approved Football officials in the following levels of the 2014 MHSAA Football Postseason Tournament.

Ten crews for the First Round of the 11-Player Tournament.
Four crews for the First Round of the 8-Player Tournament.
Five crews for the Second Round of the 11-Player Tournament.
Two crews for the Second Round of the 8-Player Tournament.
Three crews for the Third Round of the 11-Player Tournament.
Eight individuals for the Semifinal Round of the 8-Player Tournament.
Eight individuals for the Semifinal Round of the 11-Player Tournament.
Two individuals (Referee and Umpire) for the Finals of the 8-Player Tournament.
Three individuals (BJ, FJ and LJ) for the Finals of the 11-Player Tournament.

11-Player

Pre-Districts – Oct. 31 or Nov. 1, 2014
Districts – Nov. 7 or 8, 2014
Regionals – Nov. 14 or 15, 2014
Semifinals – Nov. 22, 2014
Finals – Nov. 28 & 29, 2014 – Ford Field, Detroit

8-Player

Regional Semifinals – Oct. 31 or Nov. 1, 2014
Regional Finals – Nov. 7 or 8, 2014
Semifinals – Nov. 15, 2014
Finals – Nov. 21, 2014 – Greenville HS

Presentation

At the conclusion of the meeting Mr. Al Unger presented Mr. Derocher with a plaque, thanking him for his service to the committee and to all Michigan student athletes. Mr. Derochers service will be missed.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Upper Peninsula Athletic Committee is scheduled for Sunday afternoon, Jan. 11 and Mon., January 12, 2015 in Escanaba.