

MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

**ICE HOCKEY COMMITTEE**

East Lansing, May 21, 2008

**Members Present:**

Bob Bopp, Grosse Pointe (MHSICA)  
Kevin Langseth, Belmont  
Bob Dailey, Grand Rapids  
Eric Frederico, Gibraltar  
Joe Ford, Lansing  
Tom Hunt, East Lansing  
Cody Inglis, Suttons Bay  
Al Kranzo, Grand Rapids

Al Martus, Goodrich  
Brian Parsons, Grandville  
Pete Ryan, Saginaw (MIAAA)  
Ken Stephens (Allen Park)

**Members Absent:**

Mark Mattson, Marquette

**Staff Member:**

Randy Allen (Recorder)

The 2008 Ice Hockey Committee met in the MHSAA office building to review the MHSAA tournament series and select tournament sites, discuss and review correspondence, review playing rules changes, and discuss the status of high school hockey in MHSAA member schools. After introductions, Randy Allen reviewed the role and responsibility of the committee.

**REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL ACTION**

The committee was updated on 2008 Representative Council action relative to the recommendations of the 2007 Hockey Committee: A proposal to allow 22 players to dress for and play in a game was approved for the 2008-09 season. The Council did not approve local adoption of the 17 minute period, but approved a survey of schools regarding future use. A proposal to eliminate the requirement for all players to wear neck guards was not approved; therefore the neck guard requirement will continue as adopted in all MHSAA member school hockey games.

**TOURNAMENT PROCEDURES**

The committee reviewed the 2008 MHSAA Hockey Tournament. It was suggested that re-entry of spectators not be allowed at all MHSAA tournament games. All aspects of tournament procedures were discussed. A special emphasis on cost containment will be communicated to managers. Tentative 2008 tournament Pre-Regional groupings were shared with the committee. Hosts will be assigned on a rotation basis and communicated to host athletic directors before school adjourns in order to make facility reservations. Changes in co-op team status, new programs and opt-up decisions may create some adjustments in the groupings before being final. The draw for 2008 Semifinal pairings are as follows:

Division 1 - QF #3 vs. QF #1, QF #2 vs. QF #4

Division 2 - QF #7 vs. QF #5, QF #6 vs. QF #8

Division 3 - QF #9 vs. QF #11, QF #12 vs. QF #10

**MHSAA TOURNAMENT OVERTIME REGULATIONS**

The committee discussed several new game ending procedures in response to the many multiple overtime games experienced in the 2008 MHSAA tournament. Among the options discussed were limits to overtime length and number, using 4 on 4 or 3 on 3 periods, and a shoot-out format after a series of overtime periods. A motion was approved to use 4 regular overtime periods, followed by 4 on 4 periods to determine a winner at all levels of the MHSAA tournament. It was also approved that in any situations where lengthy overtime games or other circumstances create suspension, postponement or re-scheduling situations, decisions will be made by host tournament management and the MHSAA as needed.

## **PLAYING RULES**

The committee was updated on National Federation playing rules changes for the 2008-09 season. Most notable will be a requirement that all goaltenders will be required to wear a flapper style throat protector connected to the protective helmet/facemask. For the 2008-09 season points of emphasis will be the MHSAA requirement for all players to wear proper neck guards and high standards of enforcement for illegal contact.

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

Among general discussion items were a review of the increased game suspension penalties for coach and player DQ's implemented in 2007-08, officials responsibilities during player altercations, warm-up periods and standards of enforcement. A suggestion to have scrimmage DQ's and game misconduct penalties subject to the MHSAA game suspension penalties was discussed but not adopted. The committee was updated on the plans for online rules meetings for coaches and officials in 2008. Special emphasis will be placed on goaltender equipment and neck guard requirements and enforcement of illegal contact rules. There will be three on-site rules meetings conducted in conjunction with the online option. A meeting with arena managers will take place June 12 where several issues of game management, curfews, costs, alcohol sales and other subjects will be discussed by MHSAA representatives.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL**

1. Adopt new MHSAA Tournament overtime procedures as follows: In MHSAA Tournament games at all levels where the score is tied at the end of regulation play, four sudden-victory regular overtime periods of eight minutes in length will be played to determine a winner. If the game remains tied after the initial four overtime periods, additional eight minute sudden-victory overtime periods of 4 on 4 will be played until a winner is determined. Existing policies regarding rest periods and ice making will be followed as well as playing rule procedures regarding penalties. In tournament games where suspension and/or resumption of play, postponement or re-scheduling issues arise, decisions will be made on a case by case basis between the MHSAA and host tournament management. (12-0)
2. Require minimum warm-up periods of 10 minutes prior to the game and 8 minutes between periods. (12-0)