

MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

ICE HOCKEY COMMITTEE MINUTES

East Lansing, May 20, 2009

Members Present:

Dan Barry, Grosse Pointe (MHSOCA)
Randy Campana, Pontiac
Curt Ellis, Novi
Jim Garafalo, Allen Park
Tom Hunt, East Lansing
Jim Murray, Portage
Brian Parsons, Grandville
Pete Ryan, Saginaw (MIAAA)
Sean Zaborowski, St. Clair Shores

Members Absent:

Steve Baker, Gaylord
Todd Bell, East Kentwood
Vic Michaels, Detroit

Staff Member:

Randy Allen (Recorder)

The 2009 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 2009 Representative Council action which approved 10 minutes as the minimum time for pre-game warm-ups and a minimum of 8 minutes for the between period intermission length. Also approved was a local league and conference option to use 17 minute periods for the regular season only. It was agreed that all local decisions to adopt 17 minute periods be done prior to the season and clearly communicated to all school officials and rinks, and that the committee will review the experiences of leagues and conferences in future meetings.

TOURNAMENT PROCEDURES

The committee reviewed the 2009 MHSAA Hockey Tournament. It was suggested to clarify several procedures in the 2010 Managers Manual including requirements to start a game with fresh ice, allowing managers to conduct all home team coin flips in advance, specifying that quarterfinal single games start no earlier than 6:30 p.m. and no later than 7:30 p.m. and that managers should publish start times as "drop the puck" times and give participating schools a complete time schedule for arrival and warm-ups.

Financial policies and tournament costs were discussed. It was agreed that all tournament host schools submit ice rental costs to the MHSAA for approval and that bookings be kept to a maximum of 2-1/2 hours. Special emphasis will be made through printed materials to give host schools guidance in keeping all costs lower. It was reported that MHSAA hockey tournament officials' fees will increase by \$10 in 2010.

The committee reviewed existing policies regarding tournament games on Olympic ice and reinforced the policy that does not allow use of Olympic ice after the Pre-Regional round. A draw was conducted for the 2010 Semifinal pairings as follows:

Division 1 - QF #2 vs. QF #1, QF #3 vs. QF #4
Division 2 - QF #6 vs. QF #5, QF #8 vs. QF #7
Division 3 - QF #12 vs. QF #10, QF #9 vs. QF #11

Time schedules for the Semifinals and Finals were discussed. It was agreed that the Division 2 Thursday schedule should be changed to conduct games one-half hour earlier at 5:30 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. in order to increase attendance for the second game and have travel taking place at an earlier hour. The Friday time schedule will be reviewed next year after an experience with the earlier Thursday start times.

Concern was raised regarding ice rinks that have licenses to sell alcoholic beverages, including many that host MHSAA Tournament games. It was agreed that the MHSAA will inform potential host schools that rinks will be required to suspend alcohol sales during MHSAA Tournament games. Rinks that

cannot accommodate such a request will not receive consideration for MHSAA Tournament games and that the policy will be communicated to rinks in advance of confirmation of tournament sites.

MHSAA TOURNAMENT OVERTIME REGULATIONS

The committee reviewed the overtime procedures implemented for 2009. No tournament games advanced past the 4th regular sudden death overtime period and into the 4-on-4 overtime period in 2009. It was agreed that if the 4th overtime period ends with a 5-on-3 advantage, a two man advantage will remain until one penalty expires before 4 on 4 becomes full strength and this interpretation will be added to the tournament overtime policy. Consideration for a local league/conference regular season overtime procedure involving shoot-outs after a short sudden death period was discussed. It was decided to consider such a recommendation at a future meeting when more detail is presented, and to ask the MHSAA Executive Committee for a possible experiment during 2009-2010 by the Kensington Lakes Conference.

PLAYING RULES

The committee was updated on National Federation playing rules changes for the 2009-2010 season with the most significant dealing with standardizing face off spots and changing the face off spot after a penalty. It was reported that the National Federation rules committee continues to discuss making neck guards required equipment as they are in Michigan and are close to doing so. Coaches and players will be reminded again in rules meetings about the Michigan requirement for neck guards and to be more vigilant with players' compliance or be subject to penalty. Use of video replay for goals at the Semifinal and Finals was discussed. There will not be consideration until National playing rules allow for video replay and specify protocols and procedures.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Among general discussion items was a proposal for using 4-man officiating crews for certain levels of the MHSAA tournament. The MHSAA, ice hockey committee and officials association leadership will continue discussion for possible future recommendations. The committee was updated on the initial year of on-line rules meetings for coaches and officials. It is likely that with the success of on-line meetings there will be a maximum of two in-person meetings for the coming season. It was agreed that the hiring of officials for Pre-Regional and Regional games by local managers needs more clarification on use of assignors, participating school input and hiring criteria which will be reflected in the Managers Manual.

An update of new out-of-season coaching restrictions was shared with the committee including an explanation of the 4 player rule, open gyms, and the new standard date for the start of summer rules. It was also clarified that the summer allowance of 15 days for coaches to coach students in competition ends on August 1.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

1. Allow leagues and conferences to adopt the MHSAA tournament overtime procedure for regular season games with the 4 on 4 periods beginning after four regular overtime periods or after two regular overtime periods. Such requests must be in writing and approved by the MHSAA. (8-0)