



TEAM WRESTLING FINALS SEEDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

March 1, 2009

In May of 2008, the MHSAA Representative Council passed the following seeding policy for the Team Finals in Battle Creek:

“For the Team Final tournament, seed the top four teams in each division and draw the remaining four teams into the bracket for the Quarterfinal round of wrestling. This would be done by a seeding committee that will identify the top four teams in each division and will be seeded 1-4. Each team would submit a required team season summary form (record, opponents, scores, etc) and the committee would assess each team. In resolving issues, the seeding would be based on the following criteria:

- 1) Head-to-head competition; if tied, the most recent winner prevails.
- 2) Record against common opponents.
- 3) A team with an exceptional record vs. acknowledged strong opposition.
- 4) Majority decision of the seeding committee.

If a coach or athletic director is on the seeding committee and their team advances to the Quarterfinal round, that coach or athletic director would be replaced on the committee for that year.”

The 2009 seeding committee met via conference call at 11:00 am on March 1. This year’s committee members included the following:

Shawn Murray, WR Coach at Sterling Heights HS
James Richardson, WR Coach at Grand Haven HS
Tom Flynn, AD at Groves HS
Brian Martel, WR Coach at Mason HS
Ray Arthur, WR Coach at Petoskey HS
Bryan Boughton, WR Coach at Sturgis HS
Pete Beck, AD at Hillsdale HS
Russ Mackenzie, AD & WR Coach at Madison Heights Lamphere HS
Pat Lamb, AD & WR Coach at Rogers City HS
Dennis Paquette, WR Coach at Bangor HS
Jason Perrin, WR Coach at Montrose HS

All committee members had received the dual-by-dual season results for all 32 Team Finalists in advance of the conference call, and discussion took place using the published criteria in seeding the top four teams in each division 1-4. As the conversations took place, it was clear that the committee looked favorably upon those teams that wrestled a quality schedule against acknowledged strong opposition. When there was no head to head competition or common opponents, and the schools being considered for remaining seeds also had similar strength of schedule, the committee discussed other known data (e.g. number of Final qualifiers) prior to making the final seeding determination through a vote of the committee members.

The four unseeded schools in each division were then drawn into each bracket by a blind draw conducted by MHSAA staff and seeding committee member Brian Martel of Mason, who was present in the MHSAA office during the seeding conference call.

Pairings for the 2009 Team Finals will be aired on MHSAA.tv at 6:00 pm on Sunday, March 1, and will then be posted on the MHSAA website at 6:30 pm.