

MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL MEETING

East Lansing, December 2, 2022

Members Present:

Eric Albright, Midland
Jay Alexander, Detroit
Brad Bush, Chelsea
Nicole Carter, Novi
Scott Grimes, Grand Haven
Kyle Guerrant, Lansing
Kris Isom, Adrian
Sean Jacques, Calumet
Jason Malloy, Westland
Mark Mattson, Traverse City
Jason Mensing, Westland
Vic Michaels, Detroit
Chris Miller, Gobles
Chris Riker, Portage
Meg Seng, Ann Arbor
Adam Stefanski, Boyne City
John Thompson, Brighton
Alex Tiseo, Marquette

Members Absent:

Judy Cox, Auburn

Also Present:

Chris Adams, Camden
Scott Eldridge, Lansing
Ashley Higginson, Lansing
Anna Rigby, Harbor Springs
Fred Smith, Bangor
Bill Zaagman, Lansing

Staff Members Present:

Tony Bihn
Jordan Cobb
Sam Davis
Andy Frushour
Dan Hutcheson
Cody Inglis
Geoff Kimmerly
Cole Malatinsky
Andi Osters
Jon Ross
Adam Ryder
Mark Uyl (Recorder)
Kathy Westdorp
Paige Winne

Accounts of Meetings – Motion by Chris Miller, supported by Jason Mensing, to approve the minutes of the Representative Council meeting of May 1-2, the Executive Committee meetings of May 1, June 15, Aug. 4, Aug. 23, Sept. 8, Sept. 29 and Nov. 2 and the Upper Peninsula Athletic Committee meeting of Sept. 28. Adopted.

REPORTS

Legislation – Bill Zaagman provided an update that included a variety of legislative issues, in particular Public Act 184 which impacts recently retired public-school employees. Discussion took place on possible responses to this law when the new legislative session begins in 2023. Mr. Zaagman also provided a recap of the recently completed state elections. Governmental Consultant Services, Inc. will continue to monitor all bills in the current and the upcoming session and will keep MHSAA staff and the Representative Council updated.

Litigation – Attorneys Scott Eldridge and Ashley Higginson reported to the Council that there is no active litigation involving the association. Mr. Eldridge provided an update on issues that included the ongoing process involving Upper Peninsula soccer schools and season.

Administration – Reports from MHSAA staff included highlights from the just-completed fall season and an update on member school issues. The fall AD In-Service meeting report was provided by Dan Hutcheson, followed by an update on student services by Andy Frushour. Kathy Westdorp reported on the highly successful and well-attended Women in Sports Lead-

ership Conference that was held in October. The Update Meeting survey results were presented, and this data will drive decisions and be shared with appropriate sport committees in 2022-23.

ONGOING BUSINESS

Financial Update and Audit Review – The Council reviewed the highly positive audit report produced by Maner Costerian for the 2021-22 fiscal year. Record revenue was reported in 21-22 with staff doing a solid job of keeping expenses in line with the budget. The MHSAA was able to report a significant profit which will allow further discussions with the Audit & Finance Committee regarding staffing, replenishment of savings and reserves, original NFHS Network school stipends, physical plant needs and possible approaches to new athletic director in-service and support.

NFHS Network – Jon Ross reported that Michigan (through Oct. 31, 2022) continues to be a top three state in the country in terms of NFHS Partner Schools, most Pixellots, and total events streamed to the Network. He also provided a report of the number of fall tournament events that were streamed to the network. A short highlight video was shown which summarized the great coverage of fall tournament events and Finals on the NFHS Network.

Relaunched MHSAA.com – Andy Frushour reported on the redesign and relaunch of the association’s website. Data was provided that highlighted the number of pageviews, sessions and users to the website. It was noted that the way visitors and fans view the website has changed drastically over the years with more users visiting the site on a mobile device. The percentage of mobile users is currently at 73.8% for the current school year.

Football – Staff led a discussion of Council members regarding football issues, scheduling and playoffs in light of the football survey data recently gathered from member school athletic directors and head varsity football coaches. This data will be shared with the Football Committee and Council discussion followed about possible regular season and postseason approaches. There are several issues and challenges currently being discussed within the football community. Following the Football Committee meeting in January of 2023, an ad-hoc committee of individuals representing the staff, Representative Council, MIAAA and MHSFCA will be convened for further discussion with a report being provided to the Council in March of 2023.

NEW BUSINESS

Boys Lacrosse – Motion by Chris Riker, supported by Kris Isom, to approve the Boys Lacrosse proposal for the 2023 spring season.

Allow students to participate in no more than five quarters in a day. For multi-team tournaments, if two school teams are at the same event, allow participation in no more halves or quarters than what is being played by the school’s highest team level that day. (Multi-team tournament example: if the varsity team is playing three 30-minute half games for a total of six halves, a player playing both JV and Varsity on the same day can play in six TOTAL halves that day.) Adopted.

Girls Lacrosse – Motion by Vic Michaels, supported by Chris Miller, to approve the Girls Lacrosse proposal for the 2023 spring season.

At the Regional level, separate the top two teams and place them on opposite sides of the bracket. This will be determined by the MHSAA's MPR computer formula. The other spots will be conducted by random draw and published by the MHSAA prior to the start of the Regional tournament. Adopted.

Name, Image and Likeness Presentation – A presentation was provided by Bill Carter of Student-Athlete Insights that provided background, context and updates from the NIL space from various levels around the nation. The content provided gave Council members and staff a better understanding of various NIL issues, challenges and approaches.

Sports Medicine Advisory Committee – Motion by Adam Stefanski, supported by Alex Tiseo, to approve the SMAC proposal for Alpine Ski for the 2022-23 season. It should be noted that this proposal was also supported by the Ski Committee.

Adopt the MHSAA Competition and Practice Guidelines for Cold Weather specific to Alpine Skiing recommended by the Ski Committee. This includes a windchill chart as well as cold standards for ambient temperature. Adopted.

Travel Rule Discussion – In preparation for staff *Handbook* discussions in December and January, Council members provided input and direction on three different approaches to competition, travel and sanctioning. This feedback was in response to data provided from the Big Ten states footprint regarding regular contests and travel rules in light of feedback received from this fall's Update Meeting survey results.

Women in Sports Leadership Award – There were six candidates for the Women in Sports Leadership Award. These were presented to the Representative Council for a vote. The name(s) of the recipient(s) will be released at an appropriate time and the recipient(s) will be honored at a later date.

Charles E. Forsythe Award – There were five candidates for the Charles E. Forsythe Award presented to the Representative Council for a ballot vote. The name(s) of the recipient(s) will be released at an appropriate time and the recipient will be honored during the Boys Basketball Final Tournament on March 25, 2023.

Meeting Expenses – Expenses for this meeting were approved at the specified hotel rate for accommodations, the IRS-specified meal allowance and a 40¢ per mile mileage allowance round-trip.

Future Meetings – Regularly scheduled meetings of the Council are March 24, 2023 (MHSAA headquarters), May 7-8, 2023 (Gaylord) and December 1, 2023 (MHSAA headquarters).

The meeting was adjourned.