

MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

Bowling Committee Meeting Minutes

East Lansing, March 25, 2009

Members Present:

Dale Bannister, East Jackson
Harry Burkey, GP Woods (MHSBCA)
Rick Dodick, Bay City
Josh Callopy, Howell
Rudy Godefroidt, Hemlock
Janet Greaves, Waterford
Sue Hutchings, Marshall
Vicki Kowalski, Farmington
Judy Jaeger, Livonia (Advisory)
Jason Mellema, Ravenna
Jim Pellarito, Wyoming

Mike Roach, Battle Creek
Nancy Simon, Romeo
Randy Shank, Sterling Heights (Advisory)
Mel Wolf, Jackson (Advisory)

Members Absent:

Mike Schlimme, Traverse City
Jim Salzwedel, Wyoming

Staff Member Present:

Randy Allen (recorder)

The MHSAA Bowling Committee met at the MHSAA to review policies and procedures for boys and girls bowling. Agenda items were compiled from correspondence, staff, committee members and the Michigan Interscholastic Bowling Coaches Association.

MHSAA BOWLING UPDATE

The committee heard a status report on MHSAA sponsored bowling as an interscholastic sport in MHSAA member schools through its first six years. There has been much success in the initial years, but concerns exist regarding compliance and support of MHSAA regulations governing non-school competition and out of season coaching, coaches association cooperation, bowling center cooperation in managing appropriate competition environments and school costs, USBC national events that may be in conflict with MHSAA regulations and overall levels of support for school sports values and principles by coaches and proprietors. The committee acknowledged the issues raised and fully supported continued MHSAA sponsorship. Coaches association leadership and bowling center management will work with the MHSAA to improve all aspects of compliance and cooperation.

TOURNAMENT REVIEW

All aspects of the MHSAA tournament were reviewed with most discussion centering on lane oil patterns. Informal survey data from coaches and other feedback was shared with the committee. Although some coaches supported a regular league or "house" condition the committee supported continued use of the Kegel Navigation Challenge series of lane oil patterns. It was agreed that a more challenging tournament condition is appropriate. However, the committee adopted the "Middle Road" pattern for use in 2010 which is less difficult than the previous year's condition. The MHSAA will work with proprietors and the Kegel company to make the pattern as consistent as possible for all tournament locations.

A request to increase the number of singles entries in the MHSAA tournament from 5 to 6 was approved and can be accommodated without difficulty with the four divisional structure and smaller Regionals in the 2010 tournament. A proposal to change the Finals singles match play format to a two games, total pins format was approved as such a change will save considerable time. Tiebreakers, team format, coaching privileges, lane rotations, spectator coordination and general policies were also reviewed with minor clarifications suggested.

The committee was updated on the change to a four division tournament structure for the 2010 MHSAA Tournament. The new classifications will be posted on the MHSAA Web site. Each division will have six Regionals with the top 10 individuals and top three teams advancing to the Finals. The change will keep each Regional smaller and more manageable with less travel in most cases. The MHSAA will identify the fourth Finals host center and management team and work with proprietors to secure the additional three centers needed for the 24 total Regional locations.

REGULAR SEASON POLICIES & PROCEDURES

Several clarifications to regular season policies and procedures were recommended, including adult league participation, roster submission, individual competition limits, same day practice at competition sites, formats, substitution rules, meet limitations and amateur status rules

as they relate to scholarships. The committee was updated on MHSAA dialogue with USBC national youth leaders to clarify and strengthen policies regarding scholarship events. It was agreed that all issues relating to proprietor fees and costs for regular season practice and meets remain a matter for schools and bowling center ownership and not MHSAA involvement. The season dates and bowling calendar were discussed. There was no support to move the MHSAA bowling season to an earlier or later position on the calendar, although an earlier start of the initial practice day was supported to allow for additional days for tryouts prior to the first meet given the Thanksgiving Day observance by schools and families.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

1. Continue use of the Kegel Challenge Series lane oil patterns for the MHSAA Tournament. Adopt the "Middle Road" pattern for the 2010 Regional and Finals tournament. (13-0)
2. Allow six singles entries per school per gender for the 2010 MHSAA tournament. (13-0)
3. Change to a two game, total pins format for the singles match play in the MHSAA Finals Tournament in 2010. (13-0)
4. Move the first allowed practice date from Thursday to Monday (two Mondays prior to Thanksgiving) to allow more time to conduct tryouts and team selection before Thanksgiving. (13-0)