

MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, INC.
BOYS LACROSSE COMMITTEE MEETING
East Lansing, January 20, 2011 9:30 am

Members Present

Lorin Cartwright, Ann Arbor Pioneer
Bob Dowd, Troy-Athens High School
Greg Durham, Northville
Aaron Frank, Birmingham Seaholm
Shawn Grady, Okemos (Coaches Association)
Steve Hubbell, (Official) Detroit-Finney
Mike Jolly, Warren De-LaSalle (Advisory)
Mike Costello, Ann Arbor Greenhills
Scott Robertson, East Grand Rapids (MIAAA)

Chris Sizemore, Portage Central
Mike Van Antwerp, Holt
Mark Woodson, Romulus

Member Absent:

Rick DeBlasio, East Grand Rapids (Advisory)

Staff Member

Tom Rashid (Recorder)
Tom Minter

INTRODUCTION

All material was emailed to the committee several weeks prior to the meeting. The introduction included reference to the minutes of the 2010 committee meetings, information on officials assignments and training, statistics on participating schools, cooperative programs and tournament structure (brackets). The multiple functions of the committee were reviewed (sport policy, tournament bracketing and officials selection). The committee will meet a second time on May 12, 2011.

BOYS LACROSSE COACHES ASSOCIATION

An estimate for a permanent hall of fame display similar to other sports in the MHSAA building has been secured. Snow hampered the Coaches Clinic held Dec. 5, 2010. All presentations were by Michigan coaches. The Coaches Association requested that the MHSAA email all boys lacrosse schools encouraging membership in the coaches association. It was also suggested that at their summer meeting (day after MHSAA Finals) time be devoted to an explanation of the seeding process.

OFFICIALS

It was noted that an MHSAA member school athletic director is also a veteran boys lacrosse official who served on the Mich Loa Board in 2010 and is now serving on this committee for 2011. Requirements and procedures for tournament assignments were reviewed and will be the same as the previous year with the staff presenting recommendations and the committee finalizing on May 12, 2011. Officials must be MHSAA registered for three years, complete an online rules meeting and submit a schedule by May 4, 2011 if interested in working the tournament.

PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS

It was reported that 95 teams representing 113 schools will participate in the 2010-11 boys lacrosse tournament and include 16 cooperative agreements. Forty-six teams in Division 1, 49 teams in Division 2. Six new teams were added in 2010-11: Div. 1-*Midland (HH Dow) ,*Vicksburg (Hackett CC, Three Rivers); Div 2- Battle Creek-Pennfield, Caledonia, Chelsea and DeWitt High Schools.

TOURNAMENT REVIEW

The Committee reviewed the existing dates, brackets and structure of the tournament and made no recommendations for change from the previous year. The future growth of lacrosse and possibility of expanding to a District or Quarterfinal round or three Divisions was discussed. A proposal from a committee member was distributed adding a third division basing classifications on history of lacrosse sponsorship. No action was taken to change the current classification by enrollment.

ONLINE RULES MEETING

The online rules meetings will run from Feb. 1 – midnight April 5, 2011. Some NFHS rule changes and points of emphasis were reviewed, especially the new non-releasable penalty for body checks to or near the head which is intended to eliminate high hits and any body contact to the neck and head. Suggestions were solicited for other points of emphasis. One face-to-face rules meeting will take place on Feb. 24, 2011 at Birmingham Seaholm (6pm) in conjunction with the local officials association.

2010-11 REGIONAL ASSIGNMENTS & TOURNAMENT

The Committee reviewed correspondence received from member schools in 2010. It was determined that the seeding criteria should not be ranked numerically but bulleted as all factors apply equally in the committee's decision. The committee approved the preliminary recommendations for seeding and geographic alignments for 2011 regionals. The top eight teams in each Division were determined, two seeded teams were placed in each region and all region alignments were finalized. On May 12, 2011 the committee will meet a second time to place teams on the bracket based upon games played on or prior to Mon., May 9, 2011 and determine semifinal pairings. Potential Regional and Semifinal sites were reviewed and will be finalized by staff. The MHSAA Finals will be at Birmingham Seaholm High School on Sat. June 11, 2011 with Division 1 at 2 pm and Division 2 at 4:30 pm.

CONTINUE TO REQUIRE DOCTOR APPROVAL FOR CASTS

The Committee concurred with the MHSAA Executive Committee's Jan. 13, 2011 action to continue the requirement that an MD or a DO written authorization be required to permit a player to wear a legally padded cast. This is consistent with football and soccer which continued this authorization even though the NFHS rules did not continue this provision.

PHYSICAL CARD

A draft of a larger MHSAA physical card including more medial history questions was presented to the committee by Tom Minter of the MHSAA Staff. No action was taken or substantial objections to the form and content presented.

PROHIBIT SCRIMMAGES AFTER LAST GAME

This proposal was discussed relative to lacrosse and all sports. Spring sports, which end in the summer, are less impacted as the three player rule ends on the Monday after Memorial Day. Comments included favorable remarks that postseason scrimmages should be prohibited; regulate football if this is a football only issue, some postseason alumni scrimmages may be discontinued and would this possibly drive students towards non-school sports. No action followed discussion.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

None.