

MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

Bowling Committee Meeting Minutes

East Lansing, March 25, 2015

9:30 a.m.

Members Present

Deb Alexander, Flint (MHSBCA)
Greg Ambrose, Westland
Eric Bottrall, Caledonia
Rich Dodick, Bay City
Eddie Greenleaf, Chelsea
Greg Gumtow, Clarkston (Finals Manager)
Dave Kowalski, Bay City
Dallas Lintner, Owosso
Troy Lynch, Auburn

Jason Mellema, Westphalia
Eric Painter, Flat Rock
Robert Ploof, Flint
Randy Shank, Sterling Hts. (Proprietor)
Vance Stratton, Niles
Sheri Yanik, Pontiac

Staff Members

Cody Inglis (recorder)

The MHSAA Bowling Committee met at the MHSAA office to review policies and procedures for boys and girls bowling. Agenda items included correspondence received, staff input and items from the Michigan HS Bowling Coaches Association.

TOURNAMENT REVIEW

The committee reviewed MHSAA Tournament policies and procedures in both the Regional and Finals venues. This included format, time schedules, venue location, sportsmanship, fee payments, entry materials deadlines and school divisions.

The new clarifying language that was developed last year for the Bowling Coaches Manual and Tournament Managers Manual to address issues was discussed. The new language cleared up some ambiguity and the language made more clear the maximum # of bowlers in each pair, lane rotation, school entry deadlines for rosters, eligibility and lineage payments, consistent and tougher uniform and dress code restrictions and sportsmanship issues as related to crowding the approach of opposing bowlers.

New clarifying language this upcoming year (2015-16) will focus upon who receives awards for team and individual competition in the regional round of play, the entry process for coaches and the coaching privileges policy, especially in the MHSAA championship.

Regional and Final Tournament formats were reviewed; discussion centered on changing the number of bowlers that can represent a school in both team and individual rounds at regionals. Adding an additional bowler for schools in the individual round of play and taking away one at the team level would even the bowlers on both rosters at seven. This would require at least a yearlong study by the coaches association and MHSAA staff. The committee supported this study and research through the Michigan High School Bowling Coaches Association membership. A proposal was adopted to allow the higher seeded team and singles player throughout the finals team and singles portion the choice of lanes in the pair. The consensus of the committee indicated that after several games of qualifying that this was an earned option for those higher seeded teams and singles players. Use of this process was approved for the 2016 finals tournament.

During the 2015 school year, there has been discussion on adjusting the oil pattern to a different Kegel Challenge oil pattern. A subcommittee of proprietors, coaches and MHSAA staff has worked to set up a customized pattern for the MHSAA with the Kegel Corporation that can be readily available to all "houses" that host an MHSAA regional or final. After much discussion as to which oil pattern would best fit the needs of the MHSAA and high school bowling, the committee voted to approve the use

of the “Allen Pattern” for use in the 2016 season for MHSAA tournament play. This lane condition is an official Kegel pattern and links to the specifics of the condition will be put on the MHSAA website for houses and proprietors to follow in setting up tournament conditions. If there are issues with the Allen pattern being put down correctly because of equipment issues, then the Middle of the Road Kegel Challenge series pattern will be used. Tournament management will indicate the lane conditions in communication with schools and coaches.

The committee was updated on plans for Regional and Final sites for 2016. Additionally a review of the live scoring website that is used at the Division 1 finals was done with plans to adapt its use at all four finals venues in 2016. This enhancement will allow spectators and coaches to follow along with the “live” scores as they happen and are entered.

GENERAL DISCUSSION TOPICS/UPDATES

Regular season issues were discussed including calendar and contest format. Season and tournament dates were reviewed, along with timelines for the state finals, with no changes recommended. The out of season coaching regulations, amateur status regulations and the new alcohol and tobacco policy were also reviewed by the committee. Two handed bowler requirements were reviewed and the committee will await the USBC ruling moving forward for governance of high school bowling. Bowling ball language and appropriateness of some equipment was reviewed and discussed and the committee agreed that this issue is best served by local school decision as to the appropriateness of the equipment being used. Some clarifying language will be put into MHSAA materials for the 2016 season.

The committee was updated on MHSAA CAP requirement starting in 2016-17 for all newly hired coaches and the impacts that this will have on the bowling programs in the state of Michigan. The Limited Team Membership rule restricting outside events during the school season was also analyzed by the committee. The committee also discussed the new ticket prices and suggested a study of a two day pass be considered by MHSAA staff as further ticket prices are discussed in the future.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

No proposals from the committee.