

SCOUT

Vol. 27, No. 5

Maryland Public Secondary Schools Athletic Association

Apr.-May 2011

MPSSAA News and Notes

Board of Control Update

The MPSSAA Board of Control held its annual spring meeting on April 15, 2011. The following are highlights from the meeting.

- * Approved the 2011 Fall Bulletins and 2011-12 Winter Bulletins.
- * Accepted the 2011 winter financial report and the 2011 spring sports' updates.
- * Updates on the Minds in Motion Scholarship, Student Leadership Conference, and recently approved State Legislation.
- * Semifinal pairings for the 2011-12 MPSSAA state tournaments were determined by draw. The semifinal pairings in the state tournament are as follows:



Maryland General Assembly Bills

The Maryland General Assembly passed three bills that pertain directly to interscholastic athletics. Two of the bills, House Bill 858 and Senate Bill 771, deal with concussion awareness and management. House Bill 364 requires the State Board of Education to provide a recommended minimum athletic eligibility for interscholastic athletic participation.

Maryland State Lacrosse Championships Presented by PNC

The MPSSAA is pleased to announce their partnership with PNC for the 2011 Maryland State Lacrosse Championships.

PNC will provide scholarships to all schools that reach the championship games of the MPSSAA. The Maryland State Lacrosse Championships presented by PNC will take place May 24th to 25th at UMBC.

For all the information regarding the Maryland State Lacrosse Championships presented by PNC, go to www.mpssaa.org and click on the boy's or girl's lacrosse pages.

Student Leadership Conference Set For August 9, 2011

The MPSSAA will be hosting the second MPSSAA Student-Athlete Leadership Conference on August 9, 2011 at New Town High School.

The Student-Athlete Leadership Conference is designed to develop student leadership skills that enhance sportsmanship, promote teamwork, time management, perspective, inclusion, healthy lifestyle and community service. These positive values have been well documented through research as benefits of participating in interscholastic athletics.

The structure of the conference provides student interaction through dynamic guest speakers and interactive workshops. Students will develop action plans and create their own solutions for enhancing sportsmanship, leadership and community involvement in their own school setting.

Students attending should plan to arrive at 8:00 a.m. to receive all registration materials. The first opening session will begin at 8:45.

For all the information on the conference and more, go to www.mpssaa.org and click on the student leadership page. The online registration form link is in the info center section.

SCOUT is published by the Maryland Public Secondary Schools Athletic Association for the staff and fans of Maryland high school athletics.

Dr. William Beattie, President
Edward F. Sparks, Executive Director

EXECUTIVE'S CORNER

Edward "Ned" Sparks

Executive Director, MPSSAA

It was the renowned American philosopher Yogi Berra who once said, "You can observe a lot by just watching." Here are some of my recent observations:

- Heading for their cars following an 8 year olds lacrosse game, I noticed that every parent was carrying their son's equipment.
- The most often cited reason when public figures suddenly alter their career path is "To spend more time with the family."
- The travel attire for the 2011 4A Boys Basketball Champions was khaki pants, blue blazer and ties.
- Defeated athletes storming from the competition area in an inconsolable rage.
- Seemingly healthy people using handicap parking passes.
- A contingent of basketball officials attending, in uniform, the funeral of a feisty coach.
- Students in the student cheering section at the girls basketball State tournament cleaning the mess left from the previous school.
- A proud young lady participating in a culminating unified sport activity wearing her school jacket with the sport "Bocce" stenciled on the coat.
- A significant majority of wrestling coaches wearing ties during the State Championship bouts.
- Children disputing the younger age that their parents provide when purchasing tickets.
- School teams lending help to community causes.
- Over the top prom preparations.
- Fans willing to be abusive as part of a group rather than when speaking alone.

The list goes on. As Yogi says, there is much to be learned by just paying attention. Advocating behavior means very little while living examples speaks volumes.

2011 Winter Wrap-Up

STATE CHAMPIONS

BASKETBALL

<i>Boys</i>	<i>Girls</i>
1A Dunbar (2 nd Consecutive)	1A Dunbar
2A Digital Harbor	2A Calvert
3A Milford Mill (2 nd Consecutive)	3A Frederick
4A North Point	4A Gaithersburg

INDOOR TRACK

<i>Boys</i>	<i>Girls</i>
1A Carver-B (2 nd Consecutive)	1A Western STES (2 nd Consecutive)
2A Century	2A Century (2 nd Consecutive)
3A Atholton	3A Damascus
4A DuVal	4A Northwest

SWIMMING

<i>Boys</i>	<i>Girls</i>
3A/2A/1A Fallston	3A/2A/1A Frederick (2 nd Consecutive)
4A/3A Severna Park (2 nd Consecutive)	4A/3A Urbana

WRESTLING DUAL MEET CHAMPIONSHIPS

2A-1A	Glenelg
4A-3A	La Plata

WRESTLING TOURNAMENT

2A-1A	Winters Mill
4A-3A	La Plata

SPORTSMANSHIP WINNERS

BOY'S BASKETBALL

JACK S. WILLARD SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD

Easton

GIRL'S BASKETBALL

MILDRED H. MURRAY SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD

Gaithersburg

Out-of-Season Teams Reminder

In an effort to be more precise regarding the role school coaches may play with non-school teams, the following list of activities are offered as examples of violations to the out-of-season practice rule.

Some of the characteristics of a school team that is practicing out of season under the guise of an out-of-school team would include...

- Holding more than one practice per day of competition.
- Holding practices that are not directly related to summer league schedule.
Example: Holding practice during the summer for leagues that are schedule to play in the fall.
- Using unused practice time after the last day of summer league competition.
- Grouping of practice for summer league to coincide with the start of fall school practice schedule.
Example: Saving unused practices for August 10, 11, 12 and 13th.
- Having the coach, not the league, create the schedule.
- Using school equipment, uniforms or supplies.
- Using the school name or related identification as an outside team moniker.
- Using school facilities for organizational activities, practice or games without following local procedures for non-school user groups.
- Assembling a team roster that is not open to anyone wishing to participate.
- Requiring (direct or implied) participation as a criterion for inclusion on the school team.
- Operating outside of an umbrella organization or formal league such as Parks and Rec. The umbrella organization or formal league is responsible for setting league rules and regulations, league procedures, registering teams and players, creating schedules and setting insurance requirements.
- Participating in a team camp with members of the school coaching staff (Violation of Camp Rule).

Don't gamble. It is much better to ask for permission than plead misunderstanding. Alleged violations brought by member schools or coaches will be investigated by the local superintendent or his/her designee. Those under investigation will be required to supply supporting data.

MPSSAA News and Notes

Eyewear Mandated For Field Hockey

High school field hockey players will be required to wear protective eyewear, effective with the 2011-12 season. The National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) Board of Directors, in its April 13 meeting in Indianapolis, voted to mandate the use of protective eyewear that meets the current American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) standard for field hockey.

Acting on a recommendation from the NFHS Sports Medicine Advisory Committee, the Board agreed that the potential risk of injury warranted the requirement of protective eyewear for the 64,000 student-athletes participating in high school field hockey.

NFHS field hockey rules previously allowed – but did not require – the wearing of eyewear that meets the current ASTM standard. Six NFHS-member state associations had previously passed more stringent rules and already mandate the use of protective eyewear.

The revised language to mandate protective eyewear will appear in the 2011-12 NFHS Field Hockey Rules Book.

NFHS Sport Rule Changes

The MPSSAA website, www.mpssaa.org, posts all rule change release from the NFHS. To view NFHS rule changes go to www.mpssaa.org and click on the sport you wish to see the latest rule changes.

MPSSAA and Allstate To Award Eight Scholar-Athletes at Luncheon

The MPSSAA is pleased to announce the fourth year of a scholarship opportunity for graduating high school athletes. The Minds in Motion Scholarship, sponsored by Allstate Insurance, will be awarded to four female and four male senior scholar athletes who attend a MPSSAA school and participate in MPSSAA recognized sports. The \$1000 scholarship will be awarded toward post secondary education for qualifying applicants and will be presented to the eight winners at a luncheon on June 1, 2011.

The MPSSAA is honored to have Allstate Insurance as a sponsor for the Minds in Motion Scholarship award.

Spring Draw Dates

The MPSSAA will conduct all spring draws via conference call with sport committee directors. Results for the draw will be available on www.mpssaa.org the day of the draw.

Spring 2011 Draw Dates

Boy's Lacrosse - May 9

Girl's Lacrosse - May 9

Softball - May 10

Baseball - May 11

MPSSAA Announces Partnership With Home Team Marketing

The MPSSAA is pleased to announce their partnership with Home Team Marketing (HTM). HTM will be the marketing representative for the MPSSAA and will work to develop relationships with corporate partners and to bring in additional funding sources for the association.

HTM works successfully with 17 other state associations and the addition of Maryland expands HTM's presence in the Mid-Atlantic Region. "We look forward to working with Home Team Marketing as we augment our marketing initiative. Home Team Marketing's experience with education-based athletics will no doubt bring valuable resources to our efforts to provide meaningful experiences for the student-athletes of Maryland", said Ned Sparks, Executive Director of MPSSAA.

"We are looking forward to a long, productive relationship with the MPSSAA" said Peter Fitzpatrick, President and Co-founder, Home Team Marketing. "They have raised the bar from a state association standpoint with their "Respect the Game" initiative, and with their commitment to giving the student-athletes in Maryland the best possible experience through their programs for member schools."

MPSSAA.ORG Is Your Home For State Championship Information

The MPSSAA website, www.mpssaa.org, has all the information you will need for the upcoming Spring state championships. This spring MPSSAA.org will feature:

- Live outdoor track results from the state championships.
- Box score results following all state final lacrosse, baseball and softball games.
- Updated brackets on the tennis state tournament.
- Online tickets to state tournament contests.

Be sure to follow the 2012 spring state tournaments at www.mpssaa.org.

Spring Coaches: What You Need To Know Come Region and State Tournament Time

As schools conclude the regular season and begin Region and State Tournament play, a number of items will be required by schools as they progress through the tournament to ensure a smooth operation of the state tournament. The following is a general chronological checklist for coaches and athletic administrators to use as they advance through the tournament.

Regular Season

- Review Tournament Bulletin:** Make sure you have reviewed your state tournament bulletin. If for some reason you do not have a bulletin you may find a copy on the MPSSAA website on your sport specific page. Most frequently asked questions can be answered in the bulletin.
- Contact Regional Director:** Make sure you are in contact with your regional director prior to the end of the regular season. It is the responsibility of the school to work with regional directors to accurately report schedules, results and records for the purpose of tournament seeding. Regional directors can be found in the tournament bulletin and on each sport page of mpssaa.org.
- Submit Final Regular Season Record:** At the conclusion of your final game prior to the draw date, contact your regional director with your record. Region directors must verify and submit to the state committee by the the draw the official records of each of their region's teams.

Regional Tournament

- Draw Day:** The MPSSAA will conduct all draws for the spring sports season via conference call with the each sport committee director. After the draw is complete it will be posted on the MPSSAA website. Schools should identify their respective matchup and plan accordingly to setup all necessary logistics for the regional games.

Spring 2011 Draw Dates

Boy's Lacrosse - May 9

Girl's Lacrosse - May 9

Softball - May 10

Baseball - May 11

- Reporting Scores:** At the conclusion of each regional game, coaches should call in scores to regional directors who will in turn report all regional scores to the MPSSAA. This will allow the MPSSAA to update brackets accordingly. Failure to report scores significantly hinders the ability of the MPSSAA to update brackets and provide athletic administrators the necessary time to schedule the logistics for the next round of contests.
- Regional Quarterfinal Round Champions Team Entry Form:** Schools that advance past the Regional Quarterfinals have an obligation to submit a **team photo** and **team entry form** to the MPSSAA. The deadline for these submissions is 4 p.m. the day following their quarterfinal win. Team entry forms and photos allow the MPSSAA to have all necessary information for the state tournament. Accuracy is ex-

tremely important as this information will be duplicated in the state playoff book and the state finals t-shirts.

Spring 2011 Team Entry Form Dates

Boy's Lacrosse - May 16

Girl's Lacrosse - May 16

Softball - May 17

Baseball - May 17

- Regional Final Champion:** Regional champions will be awarded a team plaque and individual certificates to members of the team. At the conclusion of the regional final game, schools should contact their regional director and submit the score of the regional final game and their season record, including all tournament games.

State Tournament

- Media Forms:** Schools competing at the state semifinals need to fill out and bring copies of the media form to the their state semifinal contest. Media forms are found on the respective sport pages of mpssaa.org. These forms are important to highlight school programs as media outlets who may not typically cover you during the season will be writing articles on your success. These forms will be provided to media at the state semifinals and finals.
- Playoff Magazine:** The MPSSAA official state playoff program magazine will be given to all state semifinal participants. Team photo, roster and school information for each state semifinal participating team will be highlighted in the book. All information is based upon the team entry form so accuracy and spelling is important.
- State Tournament:** Schools advancing to the state semifinals and finals should refer to the MPSSAA bulletin for state finals information. Each school will have an opportunity to compete for the state championship in their classification. Based on your seed (West-1, South-2, North-3 and East-4) and your opponent's seed will determine whether you are the designated home or away team for both your semifinal and final matchup. Be safe and bring both sets of uniforms. Schools should encourage their fan base to check the MPSSAA Fan Focus for event information and direct them to purchase state final tickets online to avoid lines at the gate the day of the event.

Student-Athlete Leadership Conference Information

The MPSAA Student-Athlete Leadership Conference will begin with registration at 8 a.m. on Tuesday, August 9, 2011. The first session begins at 8:45 a.m. so we advise all students to show up early and be ready for a great day.

Information Center

For the latest information on the Student-Athlete Leadership Conference, go to www.mpssaa.org and click on the Student Leadership Conf. tab on the left hand side. This page contains information on the day's events, a listing of participating schools, location, directions, and a video on the 2010 conference.

Date/Time

Tuesday, August 9, 2011 – 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Location

New Town High School
4931 New Town Blvd.
Owings Mills, MD 21117

Cost

FREE – There is no registration fee or any fees besides travel incurred by the students.

Transportation

Student transportation to and from the event will be the responsibility of participants. Please try to arrive by 8

a.m. to ensure registration runs smoothly and we start the conference promptly at 8:45 a.m.

Meals

Lunch will be provided.

Attire

Attire is casual however students will be interacting in sessions and moving around throughout the day. Students are recommended to wear shorts of proper length, t-shirt and tennis shoes.

Materials

Conference materials and handouts will be distributed at registration. Participants will also receive a gift and T-shirt to wear.

Who Can Attend

The conference is open to rising high school sophomores, juniors, and seniors who participate in interscholastic athletics at MPSSAA member schools.

Registration

Students wishing to attend the conference can register through mpssaa.org and clicking on the Student Leadership Conference page. <http://www.mpssaa.org/StudentLeadershipConference/index.asp>



Important Dates To Remember

First Day of Fall Practice: August 13, 2011
 First Play Date of Fall Season: September 2, 2011
 First Day of Winter Practice: November 15, 2011

First Play Date of Winter Season: December 5, 2011
 First Day of Spring Practice: March 1, 2012
 First Play Date of Spring Season: March 21, 2012

April 2011

APR 27Spring Sport Committee Meetings—Oregon Ridge Park9:30 a.m.

May 2011

MAY 9Boy's and Girl's Lacrosse DrawTBA
 MAY 10Softball DrawTBA
 MAY 11Baseball DrawTBA
 May 12**BOY'S AND GIRL'S LACROSSE** - Regional First RoundTBA
 May 12**SOFTBALL** - Regional First RoundTBA
 May 13**BASEBALL** - Regional First RoundTBA
 May 14**BOY'S AND GIRL'S LACROSSE** - Regional QuarterfinalsTBA
 May 16**BASEBALL** - Regional QuarterfinalsTBA
 May 16**SOFTBALL** - Regional QuarterfinalsTBA
 May 16**BOY'S AND GIRL'S LACROSSE** - Regional SemifinalsTBA
 May 16**BOY'S LACROSSE TEAM ENTRY FORMS DUE**4:00 p.m.
 May 16**GIRL'S LACROSSE TEAM ENTRY FORMS DUE**4:00 p.m.
 May 17**BASEBALL TEAM ENTRY FORMS DUE**4:00 p.m.
 May 17**SOFTBALL TEAM ENTRY FORMS DUE**4:00 p.m.
 May 18**BASEBALL** - Regional SemifinalsTBA
 May 18**SOFTBALL** - Regional SemifinalsTBA
 May 18**BOY'S AND GIRL'S LACROSSE** - Regional FinalsTBA
 May 18-21**BOY'S AND GIRL'S TRACK AND FIELD** - Regional MeetsTBA
 May 20**BASEBALL** - Regional FinalsTBA
 May 20**SOFTBALL** - Regional FinalsTBA
 May 20**BOY'S AND GIRL'S LACROSSE** - 4A/3A State Semifinals @ Arundel HSTBA
 May 20**BOY'S AND GIRL'S LACROSSE** - 3A/2A State Semifinals @ Annapolis HSTBA
 May 20**BOY'S AND GIRL'S LACROSSE** - 2A/1A State Semifinals @ Bel Air HSTBA
 May 21**BOY'S AND GIRL'S LACROSSE** - 4A/3A State Semifinals @ Arundel HSTBA
 May 21**BOY'S AND GIRL'S LACROSSE** - 3A/2A State Semifinals @ Annapolis HSTBA
 May 21**BOY'S AND GIRL'S LACROSSE** - 2A/1A State Semifinals @ Bel Air HSTBA
 May 21**TENNIS** - Tennis Regional Tournament Completion DeadlineTBA
 May 22Track and Field Committee Meeting - Westlake HS9:30 a.m.
 May 23**TENNIS** - entry deadline12:00 p.m.
 May 24Tennis Committee Meeting - Reservoir HS6:00 p.m.
 May 24**BASEBALL** - 4A State Semifinals @ University of Maryland4 and 7:00 p.m.
 May 24**BASEBALL** - 3A State Semifinals @ Joe Cannon Stadium4 and 7:00 p.m.
 May 24**BASEBALL** - 2A State Semifinals @ Montgomery College4 and 7:00 p.m.
 May 24**BASEBALL** - 1A State Semifinals @ McCurdy Field4 and 7:00 p.m.
 May 24**SOFTBALL** - 1A, 2A, 3A, 4A, State Semifinals @ Bachman Park4 and 7:00 p.m.
 May 24**BOY'S AND GIRL'S LACROSSE** - 4A/3A, 3A/2A, 2A/1A State Finals @ UMBC4, 6, 8:00 p.m.
 May 25**BOY'S AND GIRL'S LACROSSE** - 4A/3A, 3A/2A, 2A/1A State Finals @ UMBC4, 6, 8:00 p.m.
 May 26**TRACK AND FIELD** - 1A and 2A State Championships @ Morgan State4:00 p.m.
 May 27**TENNIS** - State Championships @ University of Maryland, College Park10:00 a.m.
 May 27**TRACK AND FIELD** - 3A and 4A State Championships @ Morgan State4:00 p.m.
 May 27**BASEBALL** - 4A State Championships @ Ripken Stadium7:30 p.m.
 May 28**TENNIS** - State Championships @ University of Maryland, College Park9:00 a.m.
 May 28**TRACK AND FIELD** - 1A, 2A, 3A and 4A State Championships @ Morgan State11:00 a.m.
 May 28**SOFTBALL** - 1A, 2A, 3A, 4A State Championships @ U. of Maryland11:00 a.m., 1:30, 4, 6:30 p.m.
 May 28**BASEBALL** - 1A, 2A, 3A State Championships @ Ripken Stadium1, 4, 7:00 p.m.



BLX

MORE FEEL

©2011 WILSON SPORTING GOODS CO. *TIA census (USA 2010), Yano census (Japan 2010), SMS census (Europe 2010)

**IT'S LIKE COUPLES THERAPY FOR YOU AND THE BALL.
INTRODUCING THE NEW BLADE™ BLX®. FEEL MORE.**

BLX® rackets are engineered with Basalt fibers for a perfect feel on every shot.

WANT MORE FEEL?

The following Wilson® Institutional Dealers specialize in the equipment needs of High School Athletics:

Downtown Athletic
199 Zan Road
Charlottesville, VA 22901
434 975-3696

Dixie Sporting Goods
2400 Westwood Avenue
Richmond, VA 23230
804 353-4943

Marlow Sports
7607 Penn Belt Drive
District Heights, MD 20747
301 568-1800

Sportswise
130 Main Street
Wise, VA 24293
276 328-3300

NUMBER 1 IN TENNIS*

Wilson®
MORE WIN.™