

ORGANIZED 1946

MEMBER OF THE  
NATIONAL FEDERATION OF  
STATE HIGH SCHOOL  
ASSOCIATIONS



TELEPHONE: (410) 767-0376  
FAX: (410) 333-3111

R. ANDREW WARNER  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Maryland State Department of Education  
200 West Baltimore Street  
Baltimore, MD 21201

## MPSSAA Board of Control Minutes MPSSAA December 7, 2016

1. Mr. Kevin Hook called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. Mr. Andrew Warner reported 51 voting members were present which officially attained a quorum to conduct business for the association. Mr. Hook requested a motion to approve the minutes from April 6, 2016.

Dr. Andrew Roper motioned for approval and Mr. Mike Sye seconded. The minutes were unanimously accepted.

2. Mr. Warner reviewed the MPSSAA 2016 Spring Financial Report and the preliminary MPSSAA Fall Financial Report. He reported first on the 2016 spring financial report which included Baseball, Lacrosse, Softball, Tennis and Track and Field. These tournaments took place after the Spring Board of Control meeting in April 2016. A preliminary 2016 Fall financial report was given on Golf, Cross Country, Volleyball, Field Hockey, Soccer and Football tournaments. It was noted that not all expenses/reimbursements have been paid out and currently are outstanding.

No questions followed and Mr. John Davis motioned for approval and Mr. Eric Michael seconded. The reports were unanimously accepted.

### Old Business

#### A. Fall Tournaments

- **Golf** – Eric Michael presented that the 2016 MPSSAA Golf Championship was held at the University of Maryland Golf Course in College Park, MD. Tournament was a huge success due to the work of the committee, the golf course staff and the golf coaches from participating high schools. Thanks also were given to the MPSSAA staff, Andy, Donnee and Jason for their guidance leadership and support. There were 151 students who participated.  
Team Championships: 3A/4A Champion: Winston Churchill, 3A/4A Runner-Up: Walt Whitman. 1A/2A Champion: Marriott's Ridge, 1A/2A Runner-Up: Middletown.  
Individual Championships: Girl's Champion: Lena Capoccia, Winston Churchill.  
Boy's Champion: Nick Roberson, Bethesda-Chevy Chase.
- **Cross Country** –Mike Sye presented that the 2016 Cross Country Championships were held at Hereford High in Parkton, MD and were a success; acknowledgements were given

to MPSSAA staff, Morgan Lisby-M&D Timing, John Roemer-Hereford HS Site Director, Steve Smith-Head Official and Michael Kalisz-Hereford HS Athletic Director. There were 1,436 competitors which was up from last year. The champions were listed on the MPSSAA Cross County Committee Report.

- **Field Hockey** – Phyllis Hemmes was not in attendance, Jill Masterman gave the following report and thanked Phyllis for her hard work and organization for the state semifinals and finals. Acknowledgements were given to the Athletic Directors at Paint Branch and Broadneck High Schools, Melba and Milly for their help and the Washington College Field Hockey team and departing Head Coach Rachel Boyle. Winners of the 2016 Hockey Championships were: Class 4A-South River- 5<sup>th</sup>, Class 3A- Chesapeake (AA)-1<sup>st</sup>; Class 2A-Hereford-9<sup>th</sup>; Class 1A-Liberty-3<sup>rd</sup>; Sportsmanship-South River.
- **Soccer**. –Marianne Shultz stated the tournament was held at Loyola University. Congratulations to 2016 State Tournament Steve Malone Sportsmanship Awards – Walter Johnson (girls) and Urbana (boys). 2016 Soccer State Championships went to **Girls**: 1A-Sparrows Point (4<sup>th</sup> consecutive); 2A-River Hill; 3A-Urbana; 4A-Walter Johnson and **Boys**: 1A-Pikesville (1<sup>st</sup>); 2A-Middletown (2<sup>nd</sup> consecutive); 3A-Urbana and 4A-Walter Johnson. Special thanks to committee members for their tireless efforts to provide the very best for soccer in Maryland.
- **Volleyball** –Sybil Kessinger began by remembering Debbie Shacklock who passed away this fall for her outstanding contributions to the volleyball tournament. The 42<sup>nd</sup> annual State volleyball tournament was held at Ritchie Coliseum on the University of Maryland campus; with the help of the committee, they were able to host a 5 night event with great success. Highlights included a team that was making a first appearance at the tournament, a 5-set match which included a 31-29 set, and a great deal of team spirit and sportsmanship. Semifinal and Final results were listed on the volleyball report.
- **Football** – Mike Calhoun announced that the Football tournament begins tomorrow, December 8<sup>th</sup> at the Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium in Annapolis, MD. December 8: Damascus vs. Franklin at 7:00 PM. December 9: Quince Orchard vs. Wise at 7:30 pm. December 10: Walkersville v.s Elkton and Havre de Grace vs. Fort Hill at 3:30 pm and 7:00 pm. They are all excited to be at that venue and are looking forward to the event.

#### **B. Student Leadership Conference**

Michael Duffy stated that this year the conference was held August 3 at Gaithersburg High School. Mr. Duffy thanked Jason Woodward and the staff at Gaithersburg HS for hosting the event. The 2017 Student Leadership Conference will be held earlier in the year, June 10<sup>th</sup> at Howard High School. More information will be forthcoming at a later date.

#### **C. Marketing/Sponsorship XC/IT/TF/Lacrosse**

Jill Masterman gave the report on Marketing/Sponsorship stating that sponsorship helps offset the expenses of running tournaments such as the purchasing of game balls, tournament worker attire, etc. MPSSAA began working on the Lacrosse sponsorship last fall after the Harrow contract expired. Ms. Masterman stated difficulty in initially securing a Lacrosse sponsorship. Through contacts with other sport contracts, the MPSSAA was able to secure a deal with Warrior for a 5-year Lacrosse sponsorship contract. Brooks Running and the MPSSAA

extended their current contract for Cross Country and Indoor and Outdoor Track for the next 3 years.

**D. Coaches' Leadership Conference**

Earl Hawkins began by thanking the Athletic Director Heather Podosek and her staff at Paint Branch High School who did a fantastic job in hosting the conference. This year's conference will be held on Saturday, April 22, 2017 at North Point High School, thanks to the administration in Charles County. Information will be distributed as soon as possible regarding this event.

**New Business**

**A. MPSSAA Updates**

Andy Warner welcomed Cheryl Wells as the new Administrative Assistant and thanked Jill, Donnee and Jason for holding down many responsibilities until the office was fully staffed, just in time for the Fall sports season. He also updated the membership regarding a reorganization at the Maryland State Department of Education that affected the MPSSAA. The MPSSAA is now under the Office of the Deputy for School Effectiveness reporting directly to Dr. Sylvia Lawson.

The MPSSAA has experienced two legal challenges this year to the Maryland State Board of Education Regulations. First, thanks were given to Assistant Attorney General Elliott Schoen who has worked tirelessly with this office. The first injunction concerned a student who had participated in an all-star game last fall thinking that he was going to graduate from high school and therefore his eligibility completed in that sport. However, he returned to school this fall and wanted to compete which would be in violation of COMAR regulations. The judge ruled in favor of the MPSSAA and dismissed the case. The second legal challenge concerned the classification guidelines and an injunction to stop the seeding of girls' soccer championships. The injunction was denied however, the case is pending with a hearing date on Friday, December 9. The MPSSAA has filed a motion to dismiss based on the completion of soccer state tournament.

Mr. Warner reviewed a letter that was written to Renee Spence, Executive Director of PSSAM regarding her inquiry for the start date of interscholastic athletic programs, and the Executive Order 01.01.2016.13, amends Executive Order 01.01.2016.09 "*Starting the Public School Year After Labor Day*", in addition to two COMAR regulations which are relevant to the starting dates of the interscholastic athletic calendar, specifically the Fall season. The two regulations listed in 13A.06.03.01 and .03 when read together, provide direction for establishing the first allowable practice date and the first allowable play date. Based on this current regulation, the first allowable practice date in 2017 will be Wednesday, August 9, 2017 and the first allowable play date will be Friday, September 1, 2017.

**B. Classification Committee Report and Recommendations**

As mandated by COMAR .06.03.06 Classifications, this year is a classification year for setting forth classifications that will be used for the 2017-2019 school year. Mr. Warner presented the Guidelines for Classification and Regional Alignments as approved at the April 29, 2016 Board of Control meeting, school enrollment numbers, and regional alignments.

George Petrides, Baltimore City College Athletic Director stated that he had an issue with Baltimore City schools being separated from Baltimore County in 3A South when they are with Baltimore County in the other 3 classifications. Mr. Warner provided a detailed

explanation and asked for any recommendations to change the issues; none were given. Mr. Hook asked for a motion to accept; Brian Layman motioned to pass; it was seconded by Steve Lee. The motion passed: 42 for, 8 against and 1 abstention.

### **C. Winter Tournaments**

- **Basketball** –Lynette Mitzel provided the Board with a listing of upcoming Basketball tournaments for boys and girls on March 9-11, 2017. Boys at College Park, Girls at Towson University.
- **Indoor Track** –Joe Sargent stated that there were not a lot of changes and the State Championships will be on President’s Day, February 20, 2017 and the Tuesday after that, February 21, 2017. Seeding meetings at Milford Mill to occur on February 18, 2017; everything else is the same.
- **Swimming and Diving** –Earl Hawkins welcomed Elkton High School coming in to their first year of participation at the event. All other information follows the winter bulletin.
- **Wrestling** –Brian Layman reported that Dual Meet Wrestling State Championships will be held at North Point on February 11, 2017 and are excited to go back to Showplace Arena in Upper Marlboro on March 3-4, 2017 for the individual state wrestling tournament. All regions will be using the Track Wrestling program system to run tournaments.

### **D. Medical Advisory Committee Update**

Mr. Warner reported that the Medical Advisory Committee meets three times a year and is chaired by Dr. Yvette Rooks, Family Care Practitioner at the University of Maryland School of Medicine and head team physician for the University of Maryland Athletic Department. Dr. Rooks is also serving on the National Federation of Sports Medicine Advisory Committee (SMAC) in which she attended her first meeting this past September. The National Federation of High Schools put in a regulation requiring state associations to adopt pitching limitation policies by pitch count as compared to innings pitched. The Baseball bulletin has the recommendations from the Baseball Committee in it. The recommendation was approved and endorsed by the SMAC unanimously.

The Executive Council asked the SMAC to look at online care and prevention courses and provide any feedback on them. They were not supportive of them taking the place of the initial 15 hour course as detailed in the handbook; but believed they would serve very well as a refresher course. This will be looked at more closely at the January 2017 Executive Council and SMAC meeting.

Mr. Warner also reported on the RIO Study, a number of school systems have had Athletic Trainers register for this study; it’s a national study which can provide a little stipend for participants/schools for injury surveillance. This study meets all HIPPA regulations and national regulations as far as student confidentiality. Also, if there is enough participation from directors, the State will receive a medical advisory report for utilization by MPSSAA or the SMAC. If you are interested in participating in the study, please contact Andy. There were no questions.

### **E. Spring Tournaments Proposals**

- **Baseball** – Jason Woodward reported on a couple of changes. First he congratulated Bel Air HS, La Plata HS, Brunswick HS and Huntingtown HS and thanked the Baseball Committee for all of the hard work they had to do adjusting schedules. This year the State tournaments will be held as follows: Semifinals – May 23, 2017 1A McCurdy Field, 2A Harford Community College, 3A Joe Cannon Stadium and 4A Shirley Povich Field. Finals – May 26 and 27, 2017 at the Ripken Stadium. Jason reiterated the pitch count information Andy spoke of; the information is outlined in the Baseball bulletin. By February Jill Masterman will have it on the website and Jason Bursick will have a pitch count chart that can be used at the games.
- **Softball** –Lynn Pitonzo thanked all committee participants and congratulated winners of last year’s events. The 2017-18 State Tournaments will be held as follows: Bachman Softball Park, Glen Burnie for Semifinals and University of Maryland College Park-Softball Complex for Finals.
- **Lacrosse** –Ken Zorbach thanked the committee and regional directors for their participation. Stevenson University hosted the championship and they will be going back in 2017. He congratulated winners for last year and announced Sportsmanship Awards.
- **Tennis** – Jean Vanderpool, Athletics and Activities Manager at Centennial High School is the new State Tennis Committee Director but was unable to attend today; Mr. Warner gave the report. The State Tournament site has been changed to Wilde Lake Tennis Center in Columbia, MD, with new-refurbished courts.
- **Track & Field** – Beth Shook was not in attendance; Jason Bursick reported for her that 16,612 students actively participated at the Region meets last Spring; 2,132 moved on to State Championships. He thanked the officiating staff and Morgan State and announced the state team champions.

A motion was made for approval of the Spring Tournament Proposal reports; it was made by Michael Duffy and seconded by Stosh Schtierman; motion carried.

### **F. Vote for Approval**

Mr. Kevin Hook sought to adjourn the meeting and asked that anyone with a team that is playing in this weekend’s State Football Championships, please see Andy Warner for a parking pass.

The meeting was adjourned.