

ORGANIZED 1946



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

MEMBER OF THE
NATIONAL FEDERATION OF
STATE HIGH SCHOOL
ASSOCIATIONS

R. ANDREW WARNER
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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

MPSSAA Board of Control Minutes

MPSSAA

April 26, 2019

1. Ms. Dana Johnson, MPSSAA President, called the meeting to order. Mr. Andrew Warner welcomed everyone and reported that 52 of 58 voting members were present, qualifying for a quorum to conduct business for the association. Ms. Johnson requested a motion to approve the minutes from December 12, 2018. Mr. Michael Sye motioned for approval and Mr. Jason Gordon seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.
2. Mr. Warner presented the *MPSSAA 2019 Winter Financial Report* for the winter state championship sport season. He reviewed the preliminary 2019 winter financial reports for Indoor Track, Dual Wrestling, Swimming and Diving, Wrestling, Girls' Basketball, and Boys' Basketball. Mr. Warner noted, that the 2019 Financial Report numbers were preliminary as not all expenses and reimbursements have paid to date. Copies of the *MPSSAA 2019 Winter Financial Report* were provided to the Board of Control members.

No questions followed – Dr. Jeff Sullivan motioned for approval and Mr. Jason Gordon seconded the motion. The reports were unanimously accepted.

3. Ms. Johnson introduced Mr. Jared Harding from K12 Licensing to share information regarding licensing and brand protection best practices. Mr. Harding thanked the MPSSAA for the invitation to speak to the BOC members. He discussed the following:
 - K12 Licensing Programs for schools.
 - Brand development and rebranding, brand protection, revenue generation.
 - Counterfeit brands.
 - Colleges & Universities: cracking down on unauthorized usage of their brand by high schools.
 - Schools are encouraged to include a trademark licensing policy on school websites (see handout for example).
 - Merch by Amazon – schools can sell merchandise through Amazon with no financial risk (15% back to district).

Copies of the handouts (in folders) MPSSAA Licensing Overview were provided to the Board of Control Members. He encouraged the Board of Control members to reach out to him with any questions. Mr. Warner thanked Jared for speaking and noted that the MPSSAA receives money annually from K12 Licensing for distribution back to the schools.

Old Business

Spring Tournaments

- Baseball – Mr. Woodward presented the Baseball Committee Report. Tournament seeding will take place on May 7 and the playoffs will begin on May 9. The official state baseball is the Wilson A1010. One change to the state semifinals sites: 2A games will be played at Montgomery Blair HS, in Montgomery County due to a scheduling conflict at Harford Community College. 4A will be at Povich Field, 3A at Joe Cannon Stadium, and 1A at McCurdy Field. The 2019 MPSSAA Baseball Finals will be held at Ripken Stadium in Aberdeen, Maryland. Friday, May 24 – 4A at 7:30 p.m. and on Saturday, May 25 – 1A at 1:00 p.m., 2A at 4:00 p.m., 3A at 7:00 p.m.
- Lacrosse – Ms. Melba Williams presented the Boys’ and Girls’ Lacrosse Committee Report. Seeding will take place on May 6 and the playoffs will begin on May 8. The location and dates for the finals have changed. The 2019 MPSSAA Lacrosse Finals will be played at Paint Branch HS on Monday, May 20, Tuesday, May 21, and Wednesday, May 22, 2019, due to a scheduling conflict at Stevenson University. Coaches should remind players of the prom procedures for playoffs as outlined in the tournament bulletin. One correction: Melba’s email is newms@mac.com. A hard copy of the Lacrosse Committee Report was provided.
- Softball – Ms. Marianne Shultz presented the Softball Committee Report for Ms. Lynn Pitzono. Seeding will take place on May 7. She asked that schools get their win/loss records to their region chairperson. Coaches should remind players of the prom procedures for playoffs as outlined in the tournament bulletin. Semifinals will be at Bachman Park. All four 2019 MPSSAA Softball State championship games will be played at the University of Maryland on Saturday, May 25th. The schedule will be determined after the semifinals are completed. As a reminder, regional and state games will not be moved to accommodate banquets, senior trips, and/or other award ceremonies (only proms and graduations). The Orioles and Nationals will once again honor our state champions with on-field recognition and tickets to a game. Dates are not finalized yet. Also, the committee wanted to recognize Mariah Ripken for her contributions to the committee and welcome Ranelle Taylor as her replacement. A hard copy of the Softball Committee report was provided.
- Tennis – Ms. Jean Vanderpool presented the Tennis Committee Report. Reminder that this is the first spring with four classifications and there will be growing pains. Regions will be held across the state on May 16 and 18 intentionally, so that there will be a rain date. AP testing dates will be shared with region directors. Tournament directors will be asked to share information regarding regions with athletic directors as well as coaches. The 2019 MPSSAA State Tennis finals will be held on three dates at Wilde Lake HS on May 23–25. 1A/2A on May 23, 3A/4A on May 24, and on May 25 – state finals.
- Track and Field – Mr. Jason Bursick presented the Track & Field Committee Report for Ms. Beth Shook. Region meets begin May 14 and will be completed by May 18. The seeding meeting will take place May 19. The 2019 MPSSAA Track and Field State Finals will take place on May 23 – 1A/2A, May 24 – 3A/4A, and all classifications with the finals on May 25 at Morgan State University. Wheelchair entries due end of next week.

Initiatives Update

A. School Broadcast Program

Mr. Warner spoke with the Executive Council regarding the proposal at their April 25 meeting. This is a proposal from NFHS Network regarding the Pixellot cameras. This proposal is coming from the head of the NFHS Network and Play on Sports. A hard copy of the proposal was provided. One concern expressed by the Executive Council is that every school system receives the same deal.

In January, the Supervisors of Athletics had a summit. There will be a second summit on June 10. Mr. Warner is planning to invite one of the heads of the NFHS Network to the summit to answer questions. If you have questions, or are considering the cameras, please let Mr. Warner know.

B. Minds in Motion Scholarship

Ms. Jill Masterman announced that this was the 12th year of the Minds in Motion Scholarship. There was a record setting number of applications submitted – 663. District 1 had the most applicants with 144, followed by District 8, last year's champion, with 112. All of the applications are in the hands of the Scholar-Athlete Committee. The selection committees are now in the process of going through the applications for district winners and the three at-large winners. On Friday, May 3, the committee will meet to select the balance of the winners. Winners will be contacted at the conclusion of the meeting. Winners will be invited to attend the luncheon on Monday, May 30, at 12:00 p.m. at the M&T Bank Stadium, in the Ravens locker room. Mr. Omari Pearson will be the guest speaker. The MPSSAA will reach out to athletic directors for their help with providing items (uniforms, sports equipment) ahead of time to decorate lockers for students.

C. Student-Athlete Leadership Conference

Mr. Michael Duffy reported that the 9th Annual MPSSAA Student Leadership Conference will be held on Saturday, June 8, 2019, at Howard HS in Howard County. The keynote speaker is Mr. Craig Hilliard. Currently, registration is quite low – only 70 student-athletes have registered from 21 schools; the conference goal is 400 student-athletes. Registration will remain open and a reminder will be sent to schools.

New Business

A. Sponsorship Update

Ms. Jill Masterman presented an update on sponsorships. As a follow up to the December report on the Brine Soccer Ball, next fall is their final year, then in Fall 2020, the Wilson Veza will be the new state soccer ball for the next five years. Currently, working on basketball proposals, sample game balls have been provided to the state tournament committee members to evaluate and provide feedback. Spalding is the current game ball and they have provided two other options for the committee to consider. Maryland is one of only three states that is using the current ball. In addition, Baden and Wilson will be submitting contract proposals. A final decision will be made at the September Executive Council meeting. Coming up football, volleyball, and a new apparel contract. Sample items will be given to the football committee and volleyball committee for consideration. Decisions will be made at next winter's Executive Council meeting.

B. Sportsmanship Task Force Update

Mr. Kevin Kendro presented an update on the Sportsmanship Task Force. After the December Executive Council meeting the committee determined that more of an emphasis on sportsmanship was needed. They are looking at ways to revamp the program. The current committee members are: Mr. Kevin Kendro, Mr. John Davis, Mr. Earl Hawkins, Mr. Pat Saunderson, Mr. Dan Sageman, Mr. Sonny Joseph, Ms. Dana Johnson, and an official from the Howard County Basketball Board. They would like to add a coach, a student athlete, a parent, and/or booster club president to the committee. The committee reviewed the current sportsmanship initiatives: “Respect the Game” resources, state tournament sportsmanship awards, pre-contest public service announcements, and the Student-Athlete Leadership Conference. Preliminary ideas include: a statewide message and/or video which would focus on education and prevention, the NFHS sportsmanship class for coaches and/or student-athletes before season, the NFHS Positive Sport Parenting Class for parents. They are looking at other programs, like the Star Sportsmanship Program which provides curriculum (may be cost prohibitive). Also, the committee is considering reaching out to County Sport Zone to add something related to sportsmanship. Sportsmanship needs to be a statewide collaborative effort – with the focus on coaches.

C. Classification and Competition Task Force Report

Dr. Jeff Sullivan presented the recommendations of the Classification and Competition Task Force. For the past five years the task force has been working on behalf of the association with classifications, recommendations were endorsed in December. For the last 18 months, the task force has been working on competition. Started with a survey of the association and membership. The results of survey were used to craft the next steps moving forward. Two recommendations – the first would be to expand state tournaments sports and open tournaments and football to include the quarterfinal round. The second recommendation once we have the eight quarterfinalists; reseed according to MPSSAA current criteria, for open tournament sports by winning percentage, for football - playoff points. Task force feels that the recommendations represent the membership. As big as a change as this is kept systems and structures in place. For instance – finances will be conducted through local districts, officials for state quarterfinals will be assigned by the home school, and sites for state quarterfinals at higher seed. Transportation for state quarterfinals was a concern, a recommendation from the task force was to conduct state quarterfinal rounds on a Friday or Saturday. The fall and winter bulletins in the meeting packet reflect the changes recommended by the task force. Dr. Sullivan asked for any questions from the group and none were offered.

Fall Tournaments

- Cross Country – Mr. Michael Sye shared that there is new bulletin language – emphasis on the expectation that competitors who qualify from their region meet are expected to compete in state meet or be subject to misconduct detrimental to the tournament. He asked that this information be shared with schools. Hard copies of the Cross Country Bulletin were provided.
- Field Hockey – Ms. Phyllis Hemmes noted that with all of the new regions, there may be an issue with the region directors getting championship plaques to the sites of all of the

region finals. Share fall SAT dates with coaches to help avoid conflicts. Consider creating timelines for field use for fall games. Please share scores with region directors to keep standings up to date. Note: There are only 25 medals for the State Finals; if you have a larger group reach out to MPSSAA for information on how to order additional awards. Hard copies of the Field Hockey Committee Report, and the Field Hockey Bulletin were provided.

- Football – Mr. Mike Calhoun announced that the 2019 MPSSAA State Football Championships will be returning to the Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium in Annapolis this year on Friday, December 5, December 6, and December 7. Hard copies of the Football Bulletin were provided.
- Golf – Mr. Eric Michael announced that the 2019 MPSSAA State Golf Championship would be returning to the University of Maryland. He noted that the dates are a week later this year October 28–30, 2019. Thank you to Ms. Jill Masterman for a great job of highlighting all of the bulletin changes. He highlighted that students are responsible for their own score, and responsible for verifying their scores as a group. Language was added: cell phones are permitted to be used by competitors ONLY as a distance measuring device. Tournament committee and/or State Tournament Director to warn, penalize, or disqualify any violation of the listed actions by participants, coaches, or spectators prior to, during, or after each day of the State tournament. Mr. Michael reiterated that there are significant changes to golf rules for the 2019 fall season. A link to the USGA Rules and Interpretations and mobile rules app is on the MPSSAA website.
- Soccer – Ms. Marianne Shultz noted that there is a card in your packet with information regarding the MSADA vendors. She announced that Matt Roberts will be the new boys' committee chair. The committee offered their best wishes and thanks to Bob Sheffler on his retirement. The 2019 MPSSAA State Tournaments will be held at Loyola University again this year. The committee is looking at adjustments for the state semifinals and is still a work in progress. Information will be shared regarding the state semifinals once everything is confirmed. Hard copies of the Soccer Committee Report were provided.
- Volleyball – Ms. Jill Masterman provided the report for Sybil Kessinger. In reviewing last fall's tournament, parking was better but is still an issue. It was emphasized that getting the information to school athletic directors was critical. There is one big change – start times are rolling back to 5:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. (instead of 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.) Hard copies of the Volleyball Reports were provided.

Please make the following change on the *2019 Fall Bulletin Changes and Notes Under General Notes* – the first bullet should read: first practice date is August 14, the first play date for all sports is September 6 except golf. The first play date for golf is August 14.

Vote to Approve the Fall Tournaments

Before the vote, President Dana Johnson reminded everyone that the fall bulletins reflect the new tournament format changes. Mr. Steve Lee motioned to pull the football bulletin out for a separate vote. Mr. Jason Gordon seconded his motion. Football will be voted on separately.

A motion was made by Ms. Lynette Mitzel to accept all tournament proposals except football, and was seconded by Mr. David Byrd. Unanimous (51 to 0) Mr. Clayton Culp had to leave leaving only 51 voting members.

A motion was made by Mr. Michael Duffy to accept the football tournament proposal, and was seconded by Mr. Brian Ashby all in favor 47, opposed 4. (Mr. Clayton Culp had to leave early, leaving only 51 voting members)

Winter Tournaments

- Basketball – Ms. Lynette Mitzel reported that it was a great tournament. There were positive comments regarding shot clock. The new competition proposal won't really affect basketball. The only change is that the semifinals schedule will not be announced until the quarterfinals have been completed.
- Indoor Track – Mr. Jason Bursick reported for Mr. Clayton Culp. One change to the bulletin, the seeding meeting has been discontinued. Immediately following the meet, regional Directors should email Gerard Filosa (gerardfilosa06@gmail.com) with the results. State champions are listed on the Indoor Track State Tournament Summary. The Indoor/Outdoor committee is looking forward to the Outdoor State championship at Morgan State University. Hard copies of the Summary of the Indoor Track State Tournament were provided.
- Swimming & Diving – Mr. Kevin Kendro offered thanks to the MPSSAA staff, the state committee, and directors. State Champions and Sportsmanship Award winners were announced and are included on the Swimming and Diving Committee Report. Diving Championships February 21, Swimming Championships will be February 22. Swimmers and divers entered into regional tournament are expected to attend/be on deck at the state tournament. Hard copies of the Swimming & Diving Report were provided.
- Wrestling-- Mr. Brian Layman announced and congratulated the dual meet champions, and the sportsmanship award winners. Committee unanimously approved adding a girls' bracket to region and state tournaments. Every region will put forward the top two girls in each weight class into a single classification girls' tournament at The Show Place Arena.
Question – Do girls have the option to wrestle in the boys' tournament? Yes, but the decision must be made at regional tournament.
New bulletin wording– county/conference tournaments are not a precursor for females entered into the region tournament.

A motion was made by Mr. Michael Duffy to approve the 2019–20 winter tournaments and was seconded by Mr. Earl Hawkins. They were unanimously accepted.

Announcements:

- Ms. Marianne Shultz thanked the MPSSAA for helping everyone run smooth tournaments in spite of being short-handed in office staff. We appreciate all that you do.

- Mr. John Baugher announced that Dr. Dave Dolch, Supervisor of Athletics, Carroll County is retiring.
- Kevin Hook announced that Dr. Andrew Roper, Supervisor of Athletics, St. Mary's County is retiring after 25 years as of July 1.
- Mr. Warner made the following presentation. In 2015 the NFHS introduced a new award for Outstanding Service
 - 2015 Mr. Al Smith
 - 2016 Charlie Hudson
 - 2017 Millie Wilson
 - 2018 Clarence Johnson

The 2019 Award is presented to two individuals. Without these two, the MPSSAA probably wouldn't have girls' lacrosse. Melba Williams has been a teacher since 1965, and a teacher/coach for 31 years, the only committee chair for girls' lacrosse. She has been invaluable team member for the field hockey, volleyball, girls' basketball, and girls' lacrosse state championships. Phyllis Hemmes has been a teacher since 1969, active in MPSSAA since 1978, the field hockey committee chair for over 30 years, field hockey coach for 49 years, and an athletic director since 1983. In 1990 Phyllis & Melba got together with Mr. Ned Sparks put together the plan to bring Girls Lacrosse as a State Championship to the MPSSAA. The plaque reads "State Award for Outstanding Service the National Federation of High Schools in recognition and contribution in support of MPSSAA and high school athletics present this award to Melba Williams and Phyllis Hemmes.

Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Jason Gordon, and Mr. Tyrone Mills seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously accepted. At 1:17 p.m. the meeting adjourned.