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**MPSSAA Board of Control Minutes  
MPSSAA  
December 12, 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 April 26, 2019. Mr. OShay Watson motioned for approval and Mr. Michael Duffy seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.
2. Mr. Warner reviewed the MPSSAA 2019 Preliminary Fall Financial Report (copies provided). He started by noting that this fall was the first year that the changes regarding the tournament structure as well as the classification structure were implemented. He briefly explained the changes to the tournament structure and reseeding at quarterfinal rounds. He indicated that the finance committee would have to watch how the changes in the state tournament structure affect the attendance at the tournaments. The MPSSAA has 17 years (2003 – present) of state tournament gross attendance numbers (regions, semis, and finals) to use as a benchmark/ comparison when doing their annual fall financial analysis. While reporting for each sport, he noted how each sport compared to the 17-year data. Fall was \$50,000 under the budgeted income. Mr. Warner reiterated that the fall 2019 Financial Report numbers were very preliminary as not all expenses and reimbursements have been paid. No questions regarding the fall financial report followed – however, there was a request for the Spring 2019 financial report. Mr. Bryan Ashby motioned for approval and Mr. Eric Michael seconded. The reports were unanimously accepted.

## **Old Business**

### **A. Fall Tournaments**

- **Golf** – Mr. Eric Michael presented the Golf Committee Report (copies provided). The 2019 MPSSAA Golf Championship was once again held at the University of Maryland Golf Course in College Park, Maryland. He noted that it was a “weird year” as rain caused a one day of matches to be postponed. The tournament committee would like to thank the University of Maryland Golf Course’s Head Golf Pro, Jeff Maynor and his staff for their flexibility. A special thanks was extended to Jon Browne who handles the scoring, and to Phelps Prescott, state site director, for directing the tournament and securing USGA officials for the event. Thanks were also given to the MPSSAA staff for their guidance, leadership, and support. 169 student-athletes participated in the 2019 MPSSAA Golf championship. Team and Individual Champions were announced and are included in the Golf Committee’s report. 2020 dates were announced and are also included on the Golf Committee Report.
- **Cross Country** – Mr. Mike Sye presented the Cross Country Committee Report (copies provided). The 2020 Cross Country Championships were held at Hereford High in Parkton,

Maryland. Thanks were given to the MPSSAA office – Jill, Andy, Jason & Ken. 1847 student-athletes participated in the 2019 MPSSAA Cross Country Championship, numbers were a bit down from last year (-46). Team champions were announced, and are included along with the finalists on the MPSSAA Cross Country Committee Report along with the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of sportsmanship award winners. Thank you to the Hereford community,

- **Field Hockey** – Phyllis Hemmes presented the following Field Hockey Report (copies provided). Semifinal and finals games were very competitive this year. Thanks were given to the athletic directors and their staffs at Paint Branch & Broadneck high schools for hosting the state semi-finals, to the Washington College athletic department for preparing the site, and to the MPSSAA staff for their leadership and support. Thanks were given to Melba and Ginger Kincaid for helping at Paint Branch. More information on the tournament can be found on the MPSSAA website – thanks to Jill for the wonderful article. Champions were announced and are included on the MPSSAA Field Hockey Committee Report, along with the sportsmanship award winners. 2020 dates were announced, and are also included on the committee report.
- **Soccer** – Ms. Marianne Shultz presented the Boys' and Girls' Soccer Committee Report (copies provided). Thank you to Loyola for their hospitality. Thanks were given to the MPSSAA office for their help and support. The 2019 Soccer Championship Tournaments were held at Loyola University for the sixth year. It was noted that the state semifinal and finals match-ups were great due to the reseeding. Matt Roberts presented the boys' sportsmanship award to Mountain Ridge and the girls sportsmanship award to Severna Park. Thanks were given to the following schools for hosting semi-finals: Linganore, Northeast, Gaithersburg, and Montgomery Blair high schools. The new official ball for the state tournament next year is the Wilson Veza Match. Currently, there are no rule changes for next year, but are in the process of submitting information to the NFHS. Champions were announced and are included on the Soccer Committee Report, along with the sportsmanship award winners. 2020 dates were announced and are also included on the report.
- **Volleyball** – Ms. Sybil Kessinger presented the Volleyball Committee Report (copies provided). The 45<sup>th</sup> annual State volleyball tournament was held at Ritchie Coliseum on the University of Maryland campus. The tournament committee hosted four nights of semifinal games and a full day of state finals. The state semis and finals were great due to the reseeding. Thank you to Melba Williams for all of her help with finances. A special thanks was given to Lawrence Moody and the wonderful staff at the University of Maryland. Thank you to the MPSSAA staff and to Ed Tucholski, state rules interpreter, for their guidance and leadership. The 2020 dates were announced and are included on the Volleyball Committee Report. Champions and finalists were announced, and are also available on the Volleyball Committee Report, along with the sportsmanship award winners.
- **Football** – Mr. Mike Calhoun presented the Football Committee Report. The MPSSAA Football Tournament was held at Navy Marine Corps Memorial Stadium in Annapolis, Maryland for the fourth year. Appreciation was expressed to the Naval Academy for their support and cooperation. Thanks were given to the many workers and volunteers who gave their time. Ryan Hines presented the John H. Cox Sportsmanship to Northwest HS. Champions and finalists were announced. A special thanks was given to Ryan Hines, site chairman, and his crew, who ensured that the event ran smoothly. NFHS football rules questionnaire is out. Please encourage coaches to complete the survey.

## **B. Student Leadership Conference**

Mr. Michael Duffy presented the Student Leadership Conference report. The 10<sup>th</sup> annual Student Athlete Leadership Conference was held June 8, 2019, at Howard High School. Of the 370 students that preregistered for the conference – there were 91 no shows and 10 walk-ins for a total of 289 student-athletes that attended the conference from across the state. The planned date for 2020 is Saturday, June 13<sup>th</sup>. Upcoming meeting is Thursday, January 16<sup>th</sup> at Reservoir HS.

## **C. Marketing/Sponsorship**

Ms. Jill Masterman presented the report on Marketing/Sponsorship. Marketing and sponsorships become more important when attendance is down – it's another revenue source for the MPSSAA. Jill thanked everyone who is liking and retweeting sponsorship posts. Following up on contracts

- Wilson tennis renewed over the summer for spring season– no apparel, but will supply balls.
- The apparel contract is up for renewal. Six vendors will present to executive council this winter – the new apparel contract will start in the fall of 2020.
- This spring will begin the renewal process for football and volleyball for fall 2021.
- Field Hockey is on a year to year contract, this spring Jill will be working on Longstreth to renew.

Tied in with sponsorship and marketing is the support from All State Foundation for student leadership conference, and Minds in Motion Scholarship Program. Information will be coming out the beginning of March, looking at the Thursday after Memorial Day. Thank you to the scholar athlete committee.

## **New Business**

### **A. MPSSAA updates:**

- In September, the MPSSAA hired Mr. Ken Kazmarek, former athletic director of Broadneck High School, as the new coordinator of officials. Mr. Warner welcomed Mr. Kazmarek to the MPSSAA Office. Officials related questions should be directed to Ken. Mr. Warner acknowledged the work that Jason, Jill, and Ken do on half behalf of the association.
- In January, the MPSSAA will turn 74 years of age. 2020-21 will be the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the MPSSAA. The 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Task force is led by Mr. Michael Duffy. Ideas for celebrating include: a contest for students to design 75<sup>th</sup> annual logo, sport committees to come up with something to acknowledge the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary, an interactive slide show to include the history of MPSSAA and showcase life and achievements of the MPSSAA. Thursday, January 9, 2021 will be the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary, a celebratory event will be held on Saturday, January 11<sup>th</sup>. If you have any historical information on the MPSSAA, please share it with Mr. Warner.
- One of the highlights of the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary will be a roll out of a year of Sportsmanship Initiatives. The Sportsmanship Task force is led by Mr. Kevin Kendro. The task force would like to introduce different sportsmanship initiatives throughout the year beginning with a coach video this summer. Other ideas: State Championship Sportsmanship Banners, 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary medals for student-athletes. Please send any ideas regarding sportsmanship initiatives to Mr. Kendro.
- Background Checks for High School Officials – Right now, there are challenges as recent national and state laws regarding who can have contact with students. New information on types of background checks, school systems get full background FBI check. Many

officials are getting multiple background checks. Recently Mr. Warner met with members of the executive council and legal representation from local school systems, and the attorney general's office about ways to centralize a background check system for all high school officials where one background check would be available to all school systems through a memo of understanding. The MPSSAA would like to have something in place for the 2020–21 school year. This would require superintendents to amend master agreement regarding officials background. More information will be presented at the January Executive Council Winter Retreat.

- Strategic Plan – the last time one was done was in 2006-2011 comprehensive survey. Changes: the COMAR as it related to the fall start date, changes to out of season practice, changes to emergency coach regulation to be able to retain emergency coaches. Survey will be shared with supervisors in January. Survey will be sent out in the spring. Please make sure that it is shared with all stakeholders. Any questions? Mr. Michael “Regarding the wrestling proposal, does this open up the doors to several other sports with similar language?”
- Mr. Warner moved forward with election of officers The nominating committee recommended: president-elect Mr. Duffy as president in June 2020 and Mr. Michael Sye, as the next president-elect of association. Ms. Lynette Mitzel motioned for approval of the nominating committee's recommendations, Mr. Clayton Culp seconded the motion. The motion was unanimous.

## B. Proposed Bylaws

Mr. Kendro made a motion to postpone the proposed bylaw changes based on Mr. Warner's concerns and to better align with the next MPSSAA's next two-year cycle until the December 2020 Board of Control meeting. Mr. Bill Keswick seconded the motion. 32 members were in favor, 6 abstained, 13 opposed the motion. The motioned passed and bylaws proposals will be tabled until December 2020 Board of Control.

## C. Winter Tournaments

- **Basketball** – Ms. Lynette Mitzel provided information from the Basketball Committee. The state championship semifinals and finals for **both** boys and girls will be March 12–14, 2020. Boys will be at the Xfinity Center at College Park, girls will be at the SECU Arena at Towson University. The seeding meeting will be February 25<sup>th</sup>.
- **Indoor Track** – Mr. Clayton Culp provided information from the Indoor Track Committee. Mr. Culp thanked Beth Shook, his co-chair of the indoor and outdoor track committees. He noted there are minor updates to the indoor track bulletin. One thing of note, indoor and outdoor no longer an in person seeding meeting results will be collected from region meets. If any concerns regarding region meet, please forward to your region director. Due to the capacity at the PG Sportsplex, wristbands will be issued again to athletes and certified coaches to enter via the back entrance at the PG Sportsplex. The State Championships will held be on February 17, 2020 (1A/2A) and February 18, 2020 (3A/4A) at the Prince Georges Sportsplex.
- **Swimming and Diving** – Mr. Kevin Kendro provided information from the Swimming and Diving Committee. The 2020 State Meets will be held at the University of Maryland, in the Eppley Recreation Center at the University of Maryland.
  - Diving – Friday, February 21<sup>st</sup> at 5 p.m.
  - Swimming – Saturday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>
    - ⇒ 4A/3A at 9:30 a.m.
    - ⇒ 3a/2a at 3 p.m.

He noted that the University of Maryland Basketball team has a game on the 21<sup>st</sup>, so parking may be an issue.

Continued Points of emphasis:

- Competitors that are entered into, compete in, and qualify from their region meet are expected to participate in their State Championship Meet or be subject to “misconduct detrimental to the tournament” and its’ penalties as found in the MPSSAA Handbook.
- The swimming diving committee is in the early stages of looking into a proposal of a prelims/finals type of meet.
- **Wrestling** – Mr. Brian Layman provided information from the Wrestling Committee. The state dual meet tournament will be held at North Point High School again this year. The Individual State Championship will be held at the Showplace Arena in Upper Marlboro for the fourth year on March 5-7, 2020. New this year there will be a female only division, the top two girls from each region will qualify for one classification at the state meet. Mr. Warner asked for clarification regarding the use of the team weight chart (TWC) for female wrestlers. The USA wrestling weight classes for women were added to the TWC. Two categories of weights on the certification – coed and female. Female wrestlers do not have to participate in the county tournament in order to enter the region tournament (it is not a precursor to the regional tournament).

## **B. Spring Tournaments Proposals**

- **Baseball** – Mr. Jason Woodward provided information from the Baseball Committee. The four semifinal sites are McCurdy Field – 1A, Regency Stadium 2A, Joe Cannon Stadium 3A and Shirley Povich Field – 4A. Big issue for this year – the NOCSAE stamp is required for baseballs. He announced and congratulated the 2018 state champions, and the sportsmanship award winner. The 2020 State Tournament will be at Cal Ripken Stadium in Aberdeen.
- **Softball** – Ms. Lynn Pitonzo was not in attendance. Ms. Marianne Schultz provided the Softball Committee Report (copies provided). The state semifinals will be held at Bachman Park in Glen Burnie on May 19, 2020. Last play date May 6<sup>th</sup>, first round of regionals begin May 7<sup>th</sup>. Reminder to please get prom and graduation dates in before regionals begin. Finals will be held at the University of Maryland on Friday, May 22 and Saturday, May 23, 2020 (schedule to be determined upon completion of the semifinals). Reminder: SB12 red stitch ball is the ball for this season.
- **Lacrosse** – Mr. Ken Zorbach and Melba Williams provided the Lacrosse Committee Reports (copies provided). Mr. Zorbach thanked to the ADs at Gaithersburg, Mt. Hebron, Northeast and Havre de Grace for hosting the semifinals last year. Appreciation was expressed to the MPSSAA staff for their support and help during the tournament. Thank you to the assistant athletic director, at Paint Branch HS, Bryan Walker for being a great host after losing Stevenson University. Appreciation was expressed to the administrators who came to the championship games to support their teams. The 2019 state champions were announced, along with and the sportsmanship award winners.

Dates for next year were provided along with the sites for the state 2020 semifinals. There will be a change made to the bulletin – page 18 says “*region final games scheduled for Friday, May 11...*” it should say “*semifinal games scheduled for May 8<sup>th</sup> can be May 7<sup>th</sup> if all parties agree.*” 2020 state finals will be held at Loyola on May 19, 20, and 21, 2020. The US Lacrosse convention will be January 10–12, 2020, in Philadelphia, PA. Rules changes were provided. The biggest change for boys’ lacrosse is the self-start that other sports have – the game will be faster.

Girls Lacrosse: The girls' rules interpreter works for US lacrosse in official's education, she and will be doing a Webinar for officials (coaches invited, as well). Information to follow.

- **Tennis** – Ms. Jean Vanderpool provided the Tennis Committee Report (copies provided). Thank you to Andy, Jill, and Jason. The 2019 tennis tournament was completely restructured last year. The 2019 tournament was the first to have winners in 1a, 2A, 3A, and 4A, and to crown team champions in each classification. The committee liked the format of the tournament and only made one minor change number of points in quarterfinals. For the fourth year in a row the State Tournament site will be Wilde Lake Tennis Center in Columbia, Maryland on May 21, 22, 23.
- **Track & Field** – Ms. Beth Shook was not in attendance. Mr. Clayton Culp provided the track and field committee report (copies provided). Point of emphasis: in general information section in the Bulletin, letter F, “*Officials do a disservice to the sport and competitors when they set aside rules that apply to illegal uniforms...*” If you can help or have any influence, please enforce during the regular season, and then enforce them at state championships. State Championships - May 21-23 Morgan State University.

#### C. Vote for Approval

Mr. Micheal Duffy motioned for approval of the Spring Tournament Proposal reports; Mr. Bill Keswick seconded the motion. The motion was unanimous.

#### D. Other Business

- The National Conference (NIAAA) will be held at the Gaylord, National Harbor – from December 13–16. Mr. Brad Criss, from Charles County is running for the NIAAA board of directors, please encourage your people to vote for him.
- Ms. Tiffany Byrd asked if state football game times could be discussed, or if the question needed to wait for the football committee meeting in March 2020. Mr. Warner spoke to the question as it relates to the state tournament. One of the reasons the MPSSAA has said 7:00 p.m. is because football brings in 25% of the revenue that the MPSSAA budgets on an annual basis. The time is set so as many spectators as possible can get to games. Share your thoughts and comments with your representative to share at the March committee meeting.
- Don't forget to pick-up your Spring rules books. Invoices to follow.
- One sport director, Mike Calhoun, will be stepping down. Over the years, he's been through three changes to the football tournament structure. He retired last year, and stayed this year to see this year through. Thank you to Mike on behalf of the association.

Ms. Dana Johnson sought to adjourn the meeting – Mr. Earl Hawkins motioned for adjournment, Mr. Mike Sye seconded the motion. The motion was unanimous.

The meeting was adjourned.