

Maryland Public Secondary Schools Athletic Association  
(MPSSAA)  
Baltimore, MD

Minutes of the MPSSAA Executive Council Meeting  
April 26, 2018

Refer Questions: R. Andrew Warner, Executive Director, 410-767-0376

Districts Represented: Kevin Kendro (District 1), Jeff Sullivan (District 2), Earl Hawkins (District 3), Andrew Roper (District 4), Clayton Culp for John Davis (District 5), Michael Sye (District 6), Debbie Basler (District 7), David Byrd (District 8), Tiffany Byrd (District 9)

Also Present: Kevin Hook, President, MPSSAA  
Kim Dolch, Past President, MPSSAA  
Dana Johnson, President Elect, MPSSAA  
R. Andrew Warner, Executive Director, MPSSAA  
Jason Bursick, Assistant Director, MPSSAA  
Donnee Gray, MPSSAA  
Jill Masterman, MPSSAA  
Lynette Mitzel, Supervisor, Baltimore County (secretary)  
Kathy Green, Specialist, Montgomery County

Excused: Patrick Saunderson, Principal's Association Representative

Materials Distributed:

1. Minutes from the February 2018 Executive Council Meeting
2. Verification of Minimum Certified Wrestling Weight
3. Tennis Classification Expansion Proposal
4. 2018 Fall Bulletin Changes and Notes
5. 2018-2019 Winter Bulletin Changes and Notes
6. MPSSAA Appeals Committee Hearing Procedures
7. Boys and Girls State Basketball Ticket Sales 2015-2018
8. Medical Clearance for Student-Athletes Suspected Head Injury
9. Classification Committee Guidelines for Classification and Regional Alignments
10. Conduct detrimental to tournament language proposal
11. Non-Game/Forfeit Language
12. Classification Taskforce Survey Results Summary
13. Ball Agreement proposals
14. Current and Proposed Budgets

1. The meeting was called to order at 1:00pm by President Kevin Hook.
2. A motion was made by Dr. Roper, with a second by Mr. Sye, to approve the minutes from the February 2018 meeting. That vote was unanimous. (12-0)
3. Mr. Warner provided the council updates on legislation for this year. There were three bills pertaining to concussion language, all focusing on youth sports and high school facilities. A home school bill arose,

but it stayed in committee. At this time, no new bills passed pertaining to the MPSSAA. Mr. Sullivan recommended the MPSSAA send out letters of information to all supervisors so everybody can present the information to their constituents and be on the same page if required to make a recommendation from their LEA.

4. Mr. Warner provided the council an update on the recent meetings he attended for the NFHS medical advisory and legal committees. The NFHS has a new Executive Director, Dr. Karissa Niehoff, who will assume duties on July 1<sup>st</sup>. There is new information out in regards to re-engaging concussed student athletes after only a few days. There has been evidence of students who sit out for too long becoming depressed and withdrawn. There is a new concussion form to be used to document a head injury.
5. Mr. Warner informed the group of the medical advisory committee updates, which focused primarily on the new concussion form, wrestling weight certification personnel, and the care and prevention refresher course. A licensed health care provider is now able to sign off on wrestling weight certifications. There has not been much progress with the care and prevention refresher course. Members of the executive council who have worked with the web based company Safe Schools will look into their product and how it could potentially be implemented for this course.
6. Ms. Masterman informed the members of the council she will begin the process to request soccer ball contract proposals this summer
7. Mr. Warner furnished an updated on the tennis committee's desire to expand the classifications to four. The regions would be utilized for the 16 line bracket in each of the five categories played. The top two in each region would advance to compete at the state championship. Team points would be awarded for each round won and a state champion would be crowned after the final day of play. The tennis committee hopes to have the proposal finalized for the winter Board of Control meeting.
8. Ms. Masterman reviewed the significant fall and winter bulletin changes with the representatives. In the fall sports, cross country added language for a time limit on runners who score; field hockey changed the tie breaker from penalty strokes to 1 v 1; uniforms for soccer have changed to home wearing dark and visitors wearing white; golf added language to cover pace of play. For winter sports, boys basketball will now use a 30 second shot clock and for the 2019 state tournament, the girls will be held a week later due to other events at SECU Arena; indoor track will allow athletes who make state qualifying time in preliminaries automatically advance to region meet finals; swimming added language to prohibit a swimmer from qualifying at region and then not attending state meet; wrestling added language to enable brackets to be reseeded if region qualifiers withdraw.
9. There was discussion about outside participation as it relates to swimming and the state meet. Many swimmers are competing in region and then not swimming at the state finals. Many members feel a note should be added to state if an athlete starts the tournament series, that athletes must finish it. Mr. Warner will discuss with Elliott Schoen and bring something back to the council at the September meeting.
10. Mr. Warner reviewed meeting details he had with NFHS Network about Pixellot cameras being installed at schools willing to host state semifinals for five years. At this time, the 2018-2019 sites are already confirmed, so this would not take place until at least 2019-2020 school year. Mr. Hawkins made a motion to allow Mr. Warner to select the sites once applications have come in from school systems wishing to host. Mr. Byrd second the motion and the committee voted 12-0 to allow Mr. Warner to make the selection.

11. Mr. Sullivan distributed an appeals committee document for the council to review. Typically the chairperson position is rotated each time the committee meets. There is potential for months to go by without a hearing, in which case, the next chairperson may not know how to proceed. Mr. Sullivan's document outlines the procedure as discussed by the appeals committee.
12. Mr. Warner notified the committee of the recent vote taken by the finance committee to research new options for the boys state basketball semifinal and final site since the cost at University of Maryland's Xfinity Center has been steadily increasing each year. Mr. Warner will begin that process in the near future.
13. Ms. Masterman updated the council on the Minds in Motion scholarship program. At the conclusion of the application process, 641 student athletes had applied, which was the most in history. The luncheon will take place May 31<sup>st</sup> at M&T Bank Stadium. Josh Carroll, the Maryland Teacher of the year, and a coach from South River, will be the keynote speaker. A student athlete who graduated from Bethesda Chevy Chase last year and won the award will also speak.
14. Mr. Bursick gave the council an update on the student leadership conference to be held June 9<sup>th</sup> at Howard HS. At this time, 346 students representing 81 schools and 8 districts have been registered. Craig Hiller will be the guest speaker.
15. Mr. Hawkins reported the coaches conference, to be held in conjunction with the student leadership conference, will not take place this year. The committee will meet in the fall to discuss how to proceed on finding a date convenient to more coaches.
16. Ms. Masterman provided the constituents an update on the softball and field hockey contract proposals. At this time Longstreth has not come forth with a proposal, however, Penn Monto has reached out to provide the official game ball for the championship. Longstreth hasn't officially said they will not be the sponsor after 2018, and therefore the committee would like to not take action on Penn Monto at this time. Wilson and Dudley are the two softball contract proposals. Dudley has been the state softball for a considerable amount of time, and the state committee unanimously chose the red stitch ball. Mr. Sullivan motioned to select the Dudley red stitch ball, followed by Mr. Culp's second. The executive council voted 12-0 in favor of the motion.
17. Mr. Warner appraised the committee on the medical advisory committee proposal for an updated concussion form. They felt there was not enough communication between when the head injury occurred and when the licensed health care provider actually saw the student. The new form is more comprehensive and should assist schools and health care providers. Mr. Byrd made a motion to approve the new form. Ms. Byrd second the motion and the council approved it 12-0.
18. Mr. Warner reviewed the 2018 budget and the 2019 budget, which was approved by the finance committee last week, with the group. With spring sports not in the books as of yet, the budget was only \$36,000 away from being met in the income column. There was a new line item put in to reimburse district representative's trip to the NFHS Summer Meeting. Since this year's coaches conference was cancelled, Mr. Culp made a motion to use the money set aside for that conference for district representative to use at this summer's meeting. Mr. Byrd second the motion and it passed unanimously. Some extra money was built into sports expenses, and sponsorship money increased, which is reflected in the 2019 budget. Mr. Hawkins motioned to approve the budget. Mr. Byrd second the motion. The council voted 12-0 in favor.
19. Mr. Warner reviewed the new classification guidelines based on proposed changes to COMAR 13A.06.03.06. These guidelines will be in place for the new classifications cycle, which begins with

- collection of enrollment numbers in the fall of 2018. Mr. Byrd made a motion to accept the document, with a second from Mr. Culp. The 12-0 vote passed the proposal.
20. Mr. Warner brought forth language to clarify conduct detrimental to the tournament. After the council reviewed the language, it was voted 12-0 to accept. Dr. Roper made the motion; Mr. Culp second.
  21. Mr. Warner presented the group with non-game/forfeiture language, which has been a topic of discussion at several recent meetings. After review and discussion, Mr. Sye suggested leaving the language as it is, but to hold schools accountable for the current language. No action will be taken.
  22. Mr. Sullivan shared the classification taskforce survey results with the council. The observation taken at this time was to educate the membership on the process of classifying, how the classification committee operates, and why things are done the way they are.
  23. Mr. Warner informed the group the next meeting will take place on September 5<sup>th</sup>, at which time, a new President will be on board – Ms. Dana Johnson. He thanked Ms. Dolch for her years of service and thanked Mr. Hook for his term as President.
  24. Dr. Roper motioned for adjournment of the meeting. Mr. Hawkins second the motion. All were in favor, therefore the meeting concluded.