

Office of the Chief Operating Officer  
Interscholastic High School Athletics  
MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
Rockville, Maryland

March 20, 2013

**INFORMATION**

Minutes of the MPSSAA Post-Season Wrestling Committee Meeting  
March 19, 2013

**Refer Questions:** <sup>W.B.</sup> William G. Beattie, Committee Director, Director of Systemwide Athletics, Montgomery County Public Schools (301-279-3144)

**Districts Represented:** All Districts Represented

**Also Present:** Mr. Mike Duffy, State Tournament Coordinator, Howard High School  
Mr. Dave Dodson, State Dual Meet Championship Coordinator  
Mr. Donnee Gray, MPSSAA Coordinator of Officials  
Mr. Bill Hyson, State Dual Meet Championship Coordinator  
Mr. Brian Layman, Specialist, Anne Arundel County  
Mr. Greg LeGrand, Coordinator of Athletics, Anne Arundel County  
Mr. Bruce Malinowski, Rules Interpreter, MPSSAA Wrestling  
Ms. Jill Masterman, MPSSAA, Program Specialist  
Mr. Jim Rodriguez, Supervisor of Athletics, Carroll County  
Mr. Ned Sparks, Executive Director, MPSSAA  
Mr. Mike Sye, Coordinator of Athletics, Baltimore County  
Mr. Andy Warner, MPSSAA Assistant Director

**Materials Distributed:**

1. Regional Seed Summaries for Each of Eight Region Tournaments
2. Regional Seed Summary (Combined)
3. Regional Seed Summary for 1A/2A and 3A/4A Classifications
4. Regional Tournament Survey Results 2013
5. Proposal – Change to Regional Point System
6. Proposal – MPSSAA Wrestling Restructure Plan
7. Draft: Wrestling Section of the *2013-14 MPSSAA Winter Bulletin*
8. Hall of Fame Nominees for 2014
9. Review of Officials' Ratings for State Tournament

**Minutes:**

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1. Committee member roll call; introduction of others in attendance.

2. Mr. Sparks, MPSSAA Executive Director, expressed appreciation to committee members for another successful season and state tournament.
3. Mr. Gray, MPSSAA Coordinator of Officials, shared officiating ratings for the 2013 state tournament. Mr. Gray indicated that all 14 officials assigned to the state wrestling tournament had satisfactory ratings. Mr. Gray expressed appreciation to region tournament directors for their cooperation.
4. Dr. Beattie, MPSSAA Wrestling Committee Director, reviewed current operating procedures, including weight certification procedures and new guidelines and regulations added last year.
5. The Team Weight Chart (TWC) was discussed. Currently, a wrestler may drop a maximum of one weight class after the seventh week of competition. Committee members voted (unanimously) to extend the last week to week nine. The TWC, and corresponding weight-management guidelines, will be adjusted accordingly.
6. Concern was expressed regarding the fourth and fifth tiebreakers for region tournament qualification (individual tournament). The concern focused on whether the tiebreakers placed excessive emphasis on the previous year's tournament result (since place finishes in the previous year's region and state tournaments are already factored into a wrestler's point total for the current year). Committee members voted unanimously (one abstention) to eliminate current tiebreaker criteria four and five.
7. Dr. Beattie provided data and a summary of the relationship between regional seeding and subsequent placement in the state tournament. The relationship between high regional seeds and subsequent placement in the state tournament is very powerful, and has remained consistent over several years. Also shared was an eight-year analysis of the relationship between regional seeding and subsequent placement in the state tournament.
8. Survey results of regional tournaments were reviewed. Among the eight region tournaments, results included:
  - "25-Percent Rule" Qualifiers – 93 qualified for regions, 5 for states, 3 placed in states
  - Mats – two regions used 3 mats, six regions used 6 mats
  - Reseeded Weights - 0, 1, 3, 4, 5, 8, 11, 12 Average – 5.5 Weight classes reseeded
  - Length of Seed Meeting – .75, 1, 1, 1, 1.5, 1.5, 2, 2.75 Average - 1.5 hours
  - Seeding – Very Contentious (0); Orderly, sometimes loud (3); Piece of Cake (5)
  - Friday Rounds – All 8 regions conducted only one round Friday (pigtails/quarterfinals)
  - Alternates – 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 1, 2, 4 Average – 1 per region
  - Thursday Cut-off for Alternates: 4 pm, 6 pm, 6 pm, 6 pm, 8 pm, 3-weigh-ins
9. The 2013 state tournament was a great success. Issues that arise are addressed in a timely and adequate manner.
10. Whether to assign a "permanent" location for the state dual meet tournament was discussed. There are many advantages to assigning a "permanent" location. In contrast, there are many

schools in the state that would be willing and able to accommodate a quality tournament. Most recently, Milford Mill has requested consideration as host of a future state dual meet tournament.

A commitment has been made to North Point High School to host the 2014 tournament. North Point has hosted the past two state dual meet tournaments, and all acknowledged the excellent job that North Point High School has done.

Mr. Dave Dodson, state dual meet coordinator, will work with Dr. Beattie in establishing criteria, guidelines and a process for schools to enter bids for hosting future state dual meet tournaments.

11. A proposal to adjust the number of points assessed for dual meet wins was introduced. There was no motion made regarding the proposal.
12. Whether to allow a region tournament to be conducted in one day was discussed (instead of the current requirement that all region tournaments be two-day affairs). There are important travel and expense benefits associated with operating one versus two day region tournaments. The committee voted unanimously (one abstention) to allow one-day region tournaments, providing they conform to some fundamental guidelines. A set of fundamental guidelines will be established.
13. Whether to invoke a standard deadline for adjustments to county/conference and region tournament brackets was discussed. The committee unanimously endorsed allowing county/conference and region tournaments to establish their own deadlines.
14. The Winter Bulletin will be adjusted to specify that double elimination in region tournaments begins after wrestlers qualify for the quarterfinals.
15. Dr. Beattie introduced a detailed proposal that would result in a substantial change to the current state tournament format, both dual meets and individual tournaments. The proposal is not intended for the upcoming season, but rather, for the 2014-15 season.

The three most significant aspects of the proposal would be 1) creating four state dual meet championships in four classifications (1A, 2A, 3A, 4A); 2) unifying the individual tournaments (1A-2A and 3A-4A) into one tournament, thereby determining one state champion per weight class; and 3) eliminating team scoring in the state individual tournament. Dr. Beattie included rationale for the proposal.

The proposal will be sent to committee members and to schools for discussion over the next year. Discussion ensued on how detailed the proposal sent to schools should be. Some committee members were concerned that some will take issue with implementation details, intended primarily to indicate examples of how the plan could be implemented, instead of focusing on the "larger picture".

16. 1A-2A and 3A-4A region alignments for 2013-14 were discussed. Committee members unanimously recommended an alignment plan for 3A-4A that was substantially the same as the previous two seasons (except Washington County schools would be placed into the North region,

and Wicomico and Worcester County schools would be placed into the South region). This would result in two regions with 24 schools, and two regions with 25 schools.

The 1A-2A alignment plan will also be substantially the same as the previous two seasons, except Queen Anne's and Talbot County schools will be shifted to the South region. The plan was unanimously endorsed (one abstention).

The recommended realignment will be forwarded to the MPSSAA Classification Committee.

17. Mr. Dave Dodson reviewed Hall-of-Fame candidates for 2014 and Distinguished Service nominees. Guidelines were reviewed. The committee will vote on 2014 Hall-of-Fame and Distinguished Service nominees at the September committee meeting.

WGB:ecr

Copies to:

Committee Members

Mr. Dodson

Mr. Duffy

Mr. Gray

Mr. Hyson

Mr. Layman

Mr. LeGrand

Mr. Malinowski

Mr. Sparks

Mr. Sye

Mr. Warner