Board of Control Update

The MPSSAA Board of Control held its annual spring meeting on April 26, 2013. The following are highlights from the meeting.

* Approved the 2013 Fall Bulletins and 2013-14 Winter Bulletins.
* Accepted the 2013 winter financial report and the 2013 spring sports’ updates.
* Updates on the Minds in Motion Scholarship, Student Leadership Conference, and recently approved State Legislation.
* Updated membership on the timeline for potential COMAR revisions.
* Announced the First Practice Date as August 14, 2013.
* Established the seedings for the 2013-14 state tournaments as well as the concept of designing a 24-year rotation.

2013-14 Seeds Announced

Semifinal pairings for the 2013-14 MPSSAA state tournaments were determined by draw at the April 26, 2013, meeting of the Board of Control. The semifinal pairings in the state tournament are as follows:

No. 1 South          No. 2 West
No. 4 North          Championship Game
No. 3 East

The MPSSAA Executive Council also voted to establish a 24-year cycle beginning with the 2013-14 matchups. The above pairings will be Year One of a 24-year rotation. The complete rotation can be found on page 3.

Fall Starting Date

On Tuesday, April 23rd the Maryland State Board of Education approved moving the first day of Fall practice to Wednesday, August 14, 2013. The three additional practice days were requested by the MPSSAA in order to compensate for lost practice time due to heat acclimatization restrictions. All other projected regular season and playoff dates remain as scheduled. A sample calendar can be found on page 4 of this newsletter. Heat Acclimatization guidelines can be found on the Health and Safety page of MPSSAA.org.

COMAR Revisions Update

On Tuesday, April 23rd the Maryland State Board of Education agreed to consider proposed comprehensive revisions to the athletic regulations at their July meeting. The current rules and regulations remain intact until official notification of a change.

Spring Draw Dates and Brackets

The MPSSAA will conduct all spring draws via conference call with sport committee directors. Results for the draw will be available on www.mpssaa.org the day of the draw.

Spring 2013 Draw Dates

- Boy’s Lacrosse - May 6
- Girl’s Lacrosse - May 6
- Softball - May 7
- Baseball - May 8

County Sports Zone (CSZ) will be assisting the MPSSAA with the collection and posting of region and state game results. State tournament brackets can be found through the MPSSAA website. A list of contacts for reporting results via phone, text or email of state tournament contests can be found on page 5 of this newsletter.
Non-School Teams

There are some significant MPSSAA bylaw amendments and interpretation adjustments that are under consideration. With changes of this nature, rumor and speculation always precedes the facts. In an effort to help folks from getting too far ahead of reality, below are some explanations of the changes to interpretations made at the December 6, 2012 Board of Control meeting regarding non-school teams and team camps.

While the regulation prohibiting school teams from attending a camp remains in place, those restrictions do not extend to non-school teams. The key words are non-school teams. That means that a team attending a camp along with a member of a school coaching staff must be able to clearly demonstrate that there is no school affiliation what-so-ever. That includes but is not limited to funding, organizational meetings, uniforms, equipment, etc.

The following language was adopted by the Board of Control and should serve as a directive for those coaches wishing to be associated with non-school teams beginning after the last 2013 spring state championship game.

Any paid or volunteer coach at a member school may coach a non-school team provided the team has no direct affiliation with the school. When coaching non-school teams, including returning school players on non-school teams, the following criteria shall be observed:

- The non-school team may not use a name directly connected with the school.
- The non-school team may not use school uniforms, equipment or funds.
- The non-school team may not use school facilities except as allowed by local school system guidelines.
- The non-school team must meet local school system standards of a non-school team.
- The number of returning school players on the non-school team is limited according to the following timeframe.

1. From the start of the fall sports season as defined in Regulation .03, to the last state championship game of the spring season, the outside teams roster does not exceed 80% of the returning players of what would constitute a starting lineup in that sport OR a modified version thereof. i.e., 7-on-7 football, 3-on-3 basketball, indoor soccer, indoor lacrosse, etc.

2. From the last state championship game of the spring season to the first day of fall practice, the outside team roster is unrestricted on the number of returning players.

Student-Athlete Leadership Conference Information

The MPSAA Student-Athlete Leadership Conference sponsored by the Allstate Foundation will begin with registration at 8 a.m. on Thursday, August 8, 2013. The first session begins at 8:45 a.m. so we advise all students to arrive early and be ready for a great day.

Information Center
For the latest information on the Student-Athlete Leadership Conference, go to www.mpssaa.org and click on the Student Leadership Conf. tab on the left hand side. This page contains information on the day’s events, a listing of participating schools, location, and directions.

Date/Time
Thursday, August 8, 2013 – 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Location
Laurel High School
8000 Cherry Lane
Laurel, MD 20707

Who Can Attend
The conference is open to rising high school sophomores, juniors, and seniors who participate in interscholastic athletics at MPSSAA member schools. Those who have attended a previous conference are not eligible to attend.

Initial registration allot each school two (preferably one male and one female) representatives. Schools may also register alternates with their two delegates and those alternates will be accepted after May 10 based on space availability. The capacity of the conference is 400 student-athletes. Last year’s conference was at capacity.

Cost
FREE – There is no registration fee. The conference is put on as a service of the MPSSAA and conference sponsors.

Transportation
Student transportation to and from the event will be the responsibility of participants. Please try to arrive by 8 a.m. to ensure registration runs smoothly and begin the conference promptly at 8:45 a.m.

Meals
Lunch will be provided by the MPSSAA.

Attire
Students should wear shorts of proper length, t-shirt and tennis shoes.

Materials
Conference materials and handouts will be distributed at registration. Participants will also receive a gift and t-shirt.

Registration
Students wishing to attend the conference must register through their Athletic Director. Athletic Directors will be provided a consent form to have signed and will register their school’s representatives at mpssaa.org and clicking on the Student Leadership Conference page.
## MPSSAA 24-year Semifinal Seeding Cycle

The MPSSAA Executive Council approved establishing a 24-year semifinal seeding cycle based on the 2013-14 pairings as established at the April 26, 2013 Board of Control meeting. The pairings below ensure over any four-year cycle each region will be seeded one through four once, each region will play the other regions four times during a 12-year cycle and semifinal pairings and seeds will not be repeated in consecutive years. While rescheduling so far into the future is at best speculative, the cycle below provides direction into the foreseeable future.

### - OFFICIAL ROTATION FOR STATE SEMI-FINAL PAIRINGS, 2013 - 2037 -

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SCHOOL YEAR</th>
<th>#1 SEED vs. #4 SEED</th>
<th>#2 SEED vs. #3 SEED</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013-14</td>
<td>South ..... North</td>
<td>West ..... East</td>
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<tr>
<td>2014-15</td>
<td>North ..... East</td>
<td>South ..... West</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015-16</td>
<td>East ..... West</td>
<td>North ..... South</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016-17</td>
<td>West ..... South</td>
<td>East ..... North</td>
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<td>2017-18</td>
<td>North ..... West</td>
<td>South ..... East</td>
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<td>2018-19</td>
<td>South ..... North</td>
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<td>2019-20</td>
<td>East ..... South</td>
<td>West ..... North</td>
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<td>2020-21</td>
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<td>2021-22</td>
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<td>2022-23</td>
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<td>2023-24</td>
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<td>2025-26</td>
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<td>2026-27</td>
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<td>North ..... East</td>
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<td>2027-28</td>
<td>North ..... South</td>
<td>East ..... West</td>
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<td>2028-29</td>
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<td>West ..... South</td>
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<td>2029-30</td>
<td>South ..... East</td>
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<td>2030-31</td>
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<td>2031-32</td>
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<td>2036-37</td>
<td>East ..... South</td>
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<td>SUNDAY</td>
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<td>Rest Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday Practice is prohibited per MPSSAA Regulations</td>
<td>Sunday Practice is prohibited per MPSSAA Regulations</td>
<td>Sunday Practice is prohibited per MPSSAA Regulations</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Heat Acclimatization Day 5</strong>&lt;br&gt;Single Practice Day</td>
<td><strong>Heat Acclimatization Day 6</strong>&lt;br&gt;No Equipment Restrictions</td>
<td><strong>Heat Acclimatization Day 7</strong>&lt;br&gt;First Allowable Double Practice and Full Contact Practice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equipment Restrictions&lt;br&gt;FB - Helmets and Shoulder Pads&lt;br&gt;FH - Goalie Helmet, Chest Protector and Kickers Only (No leg guards)</td>
<td>No Equipment Restrictions</td>
<td>First Allowable Double Practice and Full Contact Practice</td>
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<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rest Day</td>
<td>Rest Day</td>
<td>Rest Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday Practice is prohibited per MPSSAA Regulations</td>
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<td>Sunday Practice is prohibited per MPSSAA Regulations</td>
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<td><strong>Heat Acclimatization Day 11</strong>&lt;br&gt;Single/Double Practice Day (Double practice days must be followed by a single practice day)</td>
<td><strong>Heat Acclimatization Day 12</strong>&lt;br&gt;Single/Double Practice Day (Double practice days must be followed by a single practice day)</td>
<td><strong>Heat Acclimatization Day 13</strong>&lt;br&gt;Single/Double Practice Day (Double practice days must be followed by a single practice day)</td>
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</table>

**Note:** The above suggested calendar is based off the National Athletic Trainers Association (NATA) Preseason Heat-Acclimatization Guidelines for Secondary School Athletics and the Maryland State Department of Education’s Model Policy for Preseason Practice Heat Acclimatization Guidelines for Student Athletes (the entire model policy can be found on the “Health and Safety” page of www.mpssaa.org). The suggested guidelines for local consideration are intended to provide direction to school teams for the acclimatization of student-athletes during preseason practice period required prior to the first play date. Each local school system is required to have their own policy for heat acclimatization and schools should check with their respective local school system regarding the specifics of their local policy.
REPORTING REGION TOURNAMENT GAME RESULTS
Spring, 2013

County Sports Zone (CSZ) will be assisting the MPSSAA with the collection and posting of region and state game results. This information will be posted in the usual brackets that we will be linking to on their website. Please use the following contacts to text or email any game results that you receive to the person listed below for your sport and classification.

Boys’ & Girls’ Lacrosse
Class 2A/1A: Lori Schlesinger - Cell: 732-406-8313; Email: Lmonkey716@aol.com
Class 3A/2A: Gordon Waldman - Cell: 443-220-1885; Email: gordonwaldman@gmail.com
Class 4A/3A: Wayne Countryman - Cell: 443-858-6890; Email: Wayne.Countryman@gmail.com

Baseball & Softball
Class 1A: Liz Gildea - Cell: 443-812-8843; Email: ElizabethMGildea@gmail.com
Class 2A: Ed Waldman - Cell: 443-756-7601; Email: Ed@CountySportsZone.com
Class 3A: Janna Cadigan - Cell: 443-864-7965; Email: Janna@CountySportsZone.com
Class 4A: Rob Terry - Cell: 301-906-0111; Email: robertjterry@gmail.com

Please also continue to send any game results that you receive to Milly Wilson, as you have done in the past. Her contact info is as follows: Phone 410-828-SCOR (-7263); email: mlwilson2@verizon.net
As schools conclude the regular season and begin Region and State Tournament play, a number of items will be required by schools as they progress through the tournament to ensure a smooth operation of the state tournament. The following is a general chronological checklist for coaches and athletic administrators to use as they advance through the tournament.

**Regular Season**

- **Review Tournament Bulletin:** Make sure you have reviewed your state tournament bulletin. If for some reason you do not have a bulletin you may find a copy on the MPSSAA website on your sport specific page. Most frequently asked questions can be answered in the bulletin.

- **Contact Regional Director:** Make sure you are in contact with your regional director prior to the end of the regular season. It is the responsibility of the school to work with regional directors to accurately report schedules, results and records for the purpose of tournament seeding. Regional directors can be found in the tournament bulletin and on each sport page of mpssaa.org.

- **Submit Final Regular Season Record:** At the conclusion of your final game prior to the draw date, contact your regional director with your record. Region directors must verify and submit to the state committee by the 12th the official records of each of their region’s teams.

**Regional Tournament**

- **Draw Day:** The MPSSAA will conduct all draws for the spring sports season via conference call with the each sport committee director. After the draw is complete it will be posted on the MPSSAA website. Schools should identify their respective matchup and plan accordingly to setup all necessary logistics for the regional games.

**Spring 2013 Draw Dates**

- **Boy’s Lacrosse** - May 6
- **Girl’s Lacrosse** - May 6
- **Softball** - May 7
- **Baseball** - May 8

- **Reporting Scores:** At the conclusion of each regional game, coaches should call in scores using the contact information on page five. This will allow the MPSSAA to update brackets accordingly. Failure to report scores significantly hinders the ability of the MPSSAA to update brackets and provide athletic administrators the necessary time to schedule the logistics for the next round of contests.

- **Regional Quarterfinal Round Champions Team Entry Form:** Schools that advance past the Regional Quarterfinals have an obligation to submit a team photo and team entry form to the MPSSAA. The deadline for these submissions is 4 p.m. the day following their quarterfinal win. Team entry forms and photos allow the MPSSAA to have all necessary information for the state tournament. Accuracy is extremely important as this information will be duplicated in the state playoff book and the state finals t-shirts.

**Spring 2013 Team Entry Form Dates**

- **Boy’s Lacrosse** - May 13
- **Girl’s Lacrosse** - May 13
- **Softball** - May 14
- **Baseball** - May 14

- **Regional Final Champion:** Regional champions will be awarded a team plaque and individual certificates to members of the team. At the conclusion of the regional final game, schools should contact their regional director and submit the score of the regional final game and their season record, including all tournament games.

**State Tournament**

- **Media Forms:** Schools competing at the state semifinals need to fill out and bring copies of the media form to the their state semifinal contest. Media forms are found on the respective sport pages of mpssaa.org. These forms are important to highlight school programs as media outlets who may not typically cover you during the season will be writing articles on your success. These forms will be provided to media at the state semifinals and finals.

- **Playoff Magazine:** The MPSSAA official state playoff program magazine will be given to all state semifinal participants. Team photo, roster and school information for each state semifinal participating team will be highlighted in the book. All information is based upon the team entry form so accuracy and spelling is important.

- **State Tournament:** Schools advancing to the state semifinals and finals should refer to the MPSSAA bulletin for state finals information. Each school will have an opportunity to compete for the state championship in their classification. Based on your seed (South-1, West-2, North-3 and East-4) and your opponent’s seed will determine whether you are the designated home or away team for both your semifinal and final matchup. Be safe and bring both sets of uniforms. Schools should encourage their fans to check the MPSSAA Fan Focus for event information and direct them to purchase state final tickets online to avoid lines at the gate the day of the event.
May 2013

May 6 .................Boy’s and Girl’s Lacrosse Draw ..................................................................................................TBA
May 7 .................Softball Draw ..................................................................................................................TBA
May 8 .................Baseball Draw ................................................................................................................TBA
May 8 .................BOY’S AND GIRL’S LACROSSE - Regional First Round ..................................................TBA
May 9 .................SOFTBALL - Regional First Round ................................................................................TBA
May 10 ..............BASEBALL - Regional First Round ..................................................................................TBA
May 10 .................BOY’S AND GIRL’S LACROSSE - Regional Quarterfinals ..............................................TBA
May 13 .................BASEBALL - Regional Quarterfinals .................................................................................TBA
May 13 .................SOFTBALL - Regional Quarterfinals ..............................................................................TBA
May 13 .................BOY’S AND GIRL’S LACROSSE - Regional Semifinals .....................................................TBA
May 13 .................BOY’S LACROSSE TEAM ENTRY FORMS DUE .................................................................4:00 p.m.
May 13 .................GIRL’S LACROSSE TEAM ENTRY FORMS DUE ............................................................4:00 p.m.
May 14 .................BASEBALL TEAM ENTRY FORMS DUE ............................................................................4:00 p.m.
May 14 .................SOFTBALL TEAM ENTRY FORMS DUE ..........................................................................4:00 p.m.
May 15 .................BASEBALL - Regional Semifinals .....................................................................................TBA
May 15 .................SOFTBALL - Regional Semifinals ...................................................................................TBA
May 15 .................BOY’S AND GIRL’S LACROSSE - Regional Finals ...........................................................TBA
May 15-18 ............BOY’S AND GIRL’S TRACK AND FIELD - Regional Meets ..............................................TBA
May 17 .................BASEBALL - Regional Finals .............................................................................................TBA
May 17 .................SOFTBALL - Regional Finals ..........................................................................................TBA
May 17-18 ............BOY’S AND GIRL’S LACROSSE - 4A/3A State Semifinals @ Franklin HS ........................TBA
May 17-18 ............BOY’S AND GIRL’S LACROSSE - 3A/2A State Semifinals @ Annapolis HS .....................TBA
May 17-18 ............BOY’S AND GIRL’S LACROSSE - 2A/1A State Semifinals @ Bel Air HS ......................TBA
May 18 .................TENNIS - Tennis Regional Tournament Completion Deadline ............................................TBA
May 19 .................Track and Field Committee Meeting - Westlake HS ...........................................................9:30 a.m.
May 20 .................TENNIS - entry deadline ..................................................................................................12:00 p.m.
May 21 .................Tennis Committee Meeting - Howard HS ......................................................................6:00 p.m.
May 21 .................BASEBALL - 4A State Semifinals @ University of Maryland ..............................................4 and 7:00 p.m.
May 21 .................BASEBALL - 3A State Semifinals @ Joe Cannon Stadium ..................................................4 and 7:00 p.m.
May 21 .................BASEBALL - 2A State Semifinals @ Montgomery Blair HS ..............................................4 and 7:00 p.m.
May 21 .................BASEBALL - 1A State Semifinals @ McCurdy Field .............................................................4 and 7:00 p.m.
May 21 .................SOFTBALL - 1A, 2A, 3A, 4A, State Semifinals @ Bachman Park ....................................4 and 7:00 p.m.
May 21 .................BOY’S AND GIRL’S LACROSSE - 4A/3A, 3A/2A, 2A/1A State Finals @ UMBC ..............4, 6, 8:00 p.m.
May 22 .................BOY’S AND GIRL’S LACROSSE - 4A/3A, 3A/2A, 2A/1A State Finals @ UMBC ..............4, 6, 8:00 p.m.
May 23 .................TRACK AND FIELD - 1A and 2A State Championships @ Morgan State ....................4:00 p.m.
May 24 .................TENNIS - State Championships @ University of Maryland, College Park .........................10:00 a.m.
May 24 .................TRACK AND FIELD - 3A and 4A State Championships @ Morgan State ....................4:00 p.m.
May 24 .................BASEBALL - 4A State Championships @ Ripken Stadium ................................................7:30 p.m.
May 24 .................SOFTBALL - 1A, 2A, 3A, 4A State Championships @ U. of Maryland ...............................TBA
May 25 .................TENNIS - State Championships @ University of Maryland, College Park .........................9:00 a.m.
May 25 .................TRACK AND FIELD - 1A, 2A, 3A and 4A State Championships @ Morgan State ............11:00 a.m.
May 25 .................SOFTBALL - 1A, 2A, 3A, 4A State Championships @ U. of Maryland ...............................TBA
May 25 .................BASEBALL - 1A, 2A, 3A State Championships @ Ripken Stadium .....................................1, 4, 7:00 p.m.