

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

March 25, 2015

INFORMATION

Minutes of the MPSSAA Postseason Wrestling Committee Meeting
March 24, 2015

Refer Questions: William G. Beattie, Committee Director, Director of Systemwide Athletics, Montgomery County Public Schools (301-279-3144)

Districts Represented: All Districts Represented except Districts 7 and 9

Also Present: Mr. John Davis, Coordinator of Athletics, Howard County
Mr. Mike Duffy, State Tournament Coordinator
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, 2015-16 Committee Director
Mr. Bruce Malinowski, Rules Interpreter, MPSSAA Wrestling
Mr. Ned Sparks, Executive Director, MPSSAA
Mr. Mike Sye, Coordinator of Athletics, Baltimore County
Mr. Andy Warner, MPSSAA Assistant Director

Materials Distributed:

1. Draft of Wrestling Section of Winter Tournament Bulletin
2. Regional Tournament Information Packet
 - Region Survey Results
 - Analysis of State Place Finishers – separate documents for 1A/2A and 3A/4A
 - Combined Analysis of State Place Winners
 - Ten-Year Summary of Region Seeds
3. Draft of Proposed Region Alignment for 2015-16
4. Draft of Interpretation to Break Three-Way Ties for Team Seeding
5. Draft of Interpretation of Double Headers as Two Matches but a Single Event

Minutes:

1. Committee members and others in attendance were introduced.
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, provided a brief summary of officiating at the 2015 state tournament. Mr. Gray expressed appreciation for presenting officials with medals commemorating the final championship event at Cole Field House.

4. Mr. Dave Dodson reviewed Hall-of-Fame candidates and Distinguished Service nominees for 2016. Guidelines were reviewed. The committee will vote on 2016 Hall-of-Fame and Distinguished Service nominees at the September committee meeting.
5. Dr. Beattie, MPSSAA Wrestling Committee Director, reviewed current operating procedures, including weight certification procedures and new guidelines and regulations added last year.
6. The 2015 state tournament was a success, despite the fact that the first day of the tournament was cancelled because of inclement weather. A revised schedule was developed, that included wrestling the consolation finals and finals on Monday evening. The 2015 state wrestling tournament was the last championship event that will ever be held in Cole Field House. Commemorative tickets were distributed to all attendees, wrestlers, and coaches, and commemorative medals were presented in a ceremony honoring former state champions who won championships at Cole (52 past champions were introduced).
7. Potential future sites for the state championship tournament were discussed, including the Showcase Arena in Upper Marlboro, and the Youth and Civic Center in Wicomico County. Both are submitting price proposals, and a decision should be made soon on the site of future state tournaments. Dr. Beattie observed that optimally the tournament will not be at a site that would potentially conflict with basketball.
8. Criteria for tie-breakers for qualifying for the region dual meet tournament were discussed. First, Dr. Beattie introduced language that specifies how ties are broken in situations involving more than two teams. Since the language would apply to multiple sports, all agreed that the language should be placed either in the beginning portion of all sport bulletins (fall, winter, and spring), or in the *Rules and Interpretations* section of the *MPSSAA Handbook*.

A second issue discussed regarding seeding criteria involved whether placement in the previous year's tournament should be included among tie breaking criteria. A workgroup was designated to meet and provide a recommendation on potential adjustments to the current criteria at the September preseason wrestling committee meeting. Workgroup members include Messrs.' Dave Dodson, Joe Dietrich, Bill Hyson, Jason Bursick, and Rob Pinsky.

9. The aforementioned workgroup will also develop criteria for a "sportsmanship award" to be presented at future state dual meet championships.
10. Language that had been previously discussed at the preseason meeting regarding "double headers" was discussed. The new language would allow schools to schedule "double duals", which would count as two separate matches, but as one event for the purposes of number of matches allowed per week. The committee unanimously endorsed the language, with the recommendation that the language be included in the *Rules and Interpretations* section of the *MPSSAA Handbook*.

11. The Winter Bulletin was reviewed, and a proposal for new region alignments were discussed. The committee unanimously recommended the proposed alignments, after moving Kent Island and Queen Anne's to the 1A/2A South Region (the original proposal had them in the East Region). The recommendation will be forwarded to the MPSSAA Classification Committee, and ultimately, voted upon at the spring, 2015 MPSSAA Board of Control Meeting.
12. A summary of the annual survey of region tournaments was distributed. Information included data on "25% rule" qualifiers, length and nature of seeding meetings, assistant referees, order of rounds, number of mats, etc.
13. 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 a nine-year analysis of the relationship between regional seeding and subsequent placement in the state tournament.
14. Dr. Beattie acknowledged that this was his last meeting as director of the MPSSAA Wrestling Committee, and expressed appreciation for the opportunity. Dr. Beattie served as director for 13 years.

WGB:ngm

Copies to:

Committee Members

Mr. Davis

Mr. Dodson

Mr. Duffy

Mr. Gray

Mr. Hyson

Mr. Layman

Mr. Malinowski

Mr. Sparks

Mr. Sye

Mr. Warner