

Michigan High School Athletic Association, Inc.
2017-18 BASKETBALL COMMITTEE MINUTES
December 6, 2017

Members Present:

Tim Baker, Constantine
Vernon Crump, Canton
Jeremy Denha, West Bloomfield
Mike Evoy, Detroit
Don Gustafson, St Ignace
Leroy Hackley, Muskegon
Lindsay Klemmer, Ann Arbor
Tim Merritt, Eaton Rapids
Rich Moffit, Grayling
Mike Mohn, Delton
Kevin Murphy, Livonia

Ramsey Nichols, Kalamazoo Adam
Stefanski, Mackinaw City Mike Williams,
Mt Morris
Christian Wilson, Gaylord
Dan Young, Westland
Tom Hursey, BCAM
Jesse Brink, Northview Trainer

Absent:

Lindsay Klemmer, Ann Arbor
Tim Merritt, Eaton Rapids

Recorder:

Nate Hampton, MHSAA

The meeting was called to order at 9:40 am. After the welcome and introductions, the committee reviewed its responsibility and relationship to the Representative Council.

In 2016 the committee had two recommendations to the Representative Council.

1. Recommend to Classification Committee that the Boys and Girls Basketball Tournament be conducted in four equal divisions (10-3, 3 abstentions) The MHSAA Representative Council approved
2. Adopt the KPI Flex Seeding Plan for determining District and Regional brackets and pairings, while maintaining geographical principals for the Boys and Girls Basketball Tournaments. (14-1) The MHSAA Representative Council did not approve.

Reaching Higher

MHSAA staff and Event Director, Rich Moffit, Grayling discussed in detail the reasons the Reaching Higher Event was suspended in 2017. Noting the ever-increasing challenges presented by the NCAA in complying with event certification requirements, coaching requirements and cost for volunteer coach registration. Discussions are ongoing to redefine the event as a non-NCAA Division I Event, which would eliminate the necessity for NCAA certification and volunteer coach's registration requirements and costs.

Reaching Higher 2018 will become a NCAA non-certified event on Tuesday, July 17, 2018 at Milford High School. Both the boys and girls activity will be held on the same day. Activities will again include athlete showcase, parent seminar on college recruiting and athlete information on NCAA academic requirements. A BCAM selection committee will conduct student participant selections in early March 2018.

Note: During the discussion, it was brought to the attention of the committee that the NCAA will allow for Division I Basketball coaches to attend scheduled High School scrimmages to evaluate student athletes. The scrimmage must be with High School teams and meet MHSAA Scrimmage requirement and regulations.

General Discussion

1. NFHS Basketball – The committee was able to review the NFHS survey tool and game statistics used by the NFHS basketball Committee when discussing suggested rules changes.

2. Hoopfest – Supported and cosponsored by the Lansing Sport Authority will again be presented at Jenison Field House on the weekend of the Boys Basketball Finals.
3. Tournament Basketball – Rawlings CompMich will return as the official MHSAA Tournament ball for the 2017-18 tournament. A Rawlings approved ball must be used in all MHSAA Tournament competition.
4. Middle School/Junior High Competition Limits – The committee discussed and agreed with the proposal to increase competition contests from 12-15, from two tournament days to four and was mildly supportive of Regional Basketball invitations..
5. MHSAA Participating School Tournament Information – The committee reviewed the current contest and participant information and supported MHSAA staff in the current participating team ticket purchase policy which limits each team to a maximum of 600 lower bowl seats.
6. Health and Safety – NFHS Injury Report Boys and Girls Basketball.
In 2015-16 Boys basketball had the 6th highest injury rate in the original 9 sports under study. Only Girls Volleyball, boys baseball and girls softball had lower injury rates. Injury rates for boys basketball have decreased over the past 11 years overall. In 2015-16 the most common injury overall was ankle sprain (33.7%) followed by concussion (17.2%).
Girls Basketball – After football and hockey, the next four sports to show the highest incidences of head injuries were girls sports – soccer followed by basketball. Girls basketball participants demonstrated significantly more concussions than males.
The committee also discussed ACL injuries in girls basketball players and several studies that are underway.
7. Top Shooters – The BCAM/MHSAA Top Shooter activity will be a part of both the Girls and Boys Finals.
8. Basketball Season Schedule 2018-19 – The committee reviewed several factors that threaten the March traditions of the MHSAA Basketball Finals held at the Breslin Center, Michigan State University that included facility availability, seating requirements and overall costs.
It has been determined that for the 2017-18 tournament, the girls Finals will be hosted by Calvin College, Van Noord Arena and the boys Finals will be held at MSU, Breslin Center. In 2018-19 because of MSU and NCAA schedules the MHSAA will switch the boys and girls starting dates. Boys will assume the girls previously scheduled start, tournament dates and the girls will assume the previously published boys start, and tournament dates.
2018-19 – Boys first practice date, Nov. 5, first contest date, Nov. 26. Girls first practice date, Nov. 12, first contest date, Dec.3.
9. Alba Schools communication – Request for the MHSAA to adopt eight classification champions in Boys and Girls Basketball. Following discussion, the committee took no action.
10. Required Practice – Required practice before the first contest. The committee discussed the current practice requirement of 21 days for Basketball with other sports having fewer days. The committee did not support suggestions for change.
11. Proposal for sport-specific transfer – After review and discussion, the committee as a whole generally supported the proposal.
12. BCAM – Executive Director, Tom Hursey expressed his and the organizations pleasure with the working relationship with the MHSAA on a number of matters including;
 - a. BOCCC – Basketball Officials and Coaches Communication Committee. This joint cooperation works to understand and create better communication between basketball coaches and officials.
 - b. Reaching Higher – Nationally there are only three state associations and their basketball coaches associations that cooperatively sponsor a showcase and information event.
 - c. Top Shooter – Presenting the Top 20 Free Throw Shooters and the Three Point Shooters in our state as designated by BCAM.
 - d. Presenting Miss and Mr. Basketball during the MHSAA Finals.
 - e. Reception for BCAM Members and officials during the MHSAA Boys Basketball Finals, typically over 400 attendees.

Recommendations to the Representative Council

1. Basketball Tournament Seeding – The committee favors seeding at the district level of the MHSAA Tournament and favors a speedy identification as to the method and protocols that will be required. (17-0)
2. Allow MHSAA Member Schools Head Coaches to use during competition the 28 foot coaching box that the NFHS Rules now allows by state association adoption. Currently MHSAA allows for a 14 foot coaches box. (17-0)