

MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION
Bowling Committee Meeting Minutes
East Lansing, March 28, 2012

Members Present

Deb Alexander, Flint (MHSBCA)
Greg Gumtow, Clarkston (Finals Manager)
Dave Derocher, Reese
Rick Dodick, Bay City
Judy Jaeger, Livonia
Bill Johnson, Kalamazoo (Finals Manager)
Keith Krueger, Hemlock
Jason Mellema, Pewamo-Westphalia
Tracy Long, New Lothrop (Finals Manager)

Eric Painter, Flat Rock
Kim Rawski, L'Anse Creuse
Mike Roach, Battle Creek
Ann Roznowski, Bay City
Dan Scott (MASSP)
Randy Shank, Sterling Heights (BCAM)
Deb Van Kuiken, Holly (MIAAAA)

Staff Member

Randy Allen (recorder)

The MHSAA Bowling Committee met at the MHSAA office to review policies and procedures for boys and girls bowling. Agenda items were compiled from correspondence, staff, committee members and the Michigan HS Bowling Coaches Association.

TOURNAMENT REVIEW

The committee reviewed MHSAA Tournament policies and procedures. It was suggested to emphasize the limits of coaching privileges, more clearly define the bowlers competition area, restrict the use of ball cleaning fabrics that are "pre-soaked" with liquid cleaners during competition, allow cleaning of equipment resulting from machine/belt damage, and to require that schools list the school designated coaches on the entry roster form. Weather policies were reviewed in light of the 2012 tournament experience as well as the successful use of Sunday for one of the state Finals rounds when a facility suffered a power outage. Start times for Regionals and Finals time schedules were discussed, no changes recommended.

It was agreed that the equipment limit in the bowlers competition area be limited to two bowling balls and no roller bags. All other equipment must be kept in the paddock area. A third piece of equipment in the bowlers competition area will be allowed in the match game round of the Finals singles event. A proposal from a school coach to allow the higher seed to always have choice of starting lane in the match game rounds of the Finals was discussed with a motion made to allow the change only for the match game singles event at the Finals.

A lengthy discussion took place regarding the MHSAA dress code and the question of allowing the wearing of "yoga" pants for participants. Citing restrictions on such apparel by some member schools and the overall appropriateness of wearing them in bowling competition, it was agreed that "yoga" pants/spandex pants will not be allowed to be worn in MHSAA regular season and tournament competition and be added to the restricted list in the dress code language.

The committee was also updated on the process used to identify Regional and Final tournament host schools and facilities, and that schools are encouraged to inform the MHSAA of their interest in hosting to bring new schools and bowling centers into the rotation.

The substitution rule was reviewed with no changes suggested. Correspondence suggesting a change in the MHSAA tournament lane condition to a modified "house" pattern was shared with the committee. After discussing several options, the committee was unanimous in its preference to maintain the Kegel "Middle Road" pattern for the MHSAA Tournament in 2013.

GENERAL DISCUSSION TOPICS/UPDATES

The committee discussed the merits of a change in the starting and ending dates of the MHSAA bowling season. Current calendar season start dates and MHSAA Tournament dates were agreed to be satisfactory although an annual review will take place if membership feedback warrants. The committee proposal from 2011 regarding a change in out of season coaching restrictions that was not approved by the Representative Council was reviewed. The committee approved a motion to have a modified version of the proposal limited to school bowling coaches only advanced again to the Council. The recommendation would apply only to bowling coaches given the unique nature of out of season youth programs in non-school facilities where the "under one roof" standard is very limiting. Use of school dates of competition was also discussed with no further restrictions or changes suggested.

An update was shared with the committee on the efforts made by the MHSAA, state and national bowling leaders to bring scholarships programs into compliance with MHSAA

regulations. Changes have been made to meet scholarship and amateur status requirements, with continued efforts taken to strengthen the programs and raise the academic standards in the revised criteria. Compliance issues will be part of the May Council agenda.

It was agreed that in-person coaches meetings be held each fall in addition to on-line rules meetings to continue to emphasize and explain compliance with MHSAA regulations, tournament procedures and the need for schools, coaches and proprietors to work together for success and growth of school based programs. The Bowling Coaches Association will continue to sponsor CAP programs for school coaches each year to raise the level of coaching abilities in school programs. The committee was also updated on applicable MHSAA regulations as it relates to girls participating on boys teams during the regular season and the MHSAA tournament, specifically that a school must sponsor a girls program with a minimum of four school meets during the season in order for girls to participate in the MHSAA girls tournament, and that a student is allowed one tournament season during the school year. These regulations and requirements will be emphasized in fall coaches rules meetings.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

#1. Adjust the MHSAA out of season coaching restrictions (three or four player rule) in Regulation II, Section 11(H) to allow a school bowling coach during out of season youth programs to coach a maximum of three students from his/her school when other students from his/her school may be in the facility. No other school coaches may give instruction to other students at the same time in the same facility. Such coaching may involve a maximum of three students in grades 7-12 during the entire session. (14-0)

#2. In the match game round of the Finals singles event, allow the higher seed to choose starting lane for both games prior to the start of the match. (10-4)