

MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

BOYS LACROSSE COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

East Lansing, May 11, 2016 9:30 am

Committee Members Present

Sue Calvo, Swartz Creek (MIAAA)
Jim Carl, Ann Arbor Gabriel Richard
(Coaches Assoc.)

Rick DeBlasio, East Grand Rapids (Advisory)
Steve Edgerly, (Official) Charlotte
Dan Hutcheson, Howell
Mike Jolly, Warren De-LaSalle (Advisory)
Yevgeniy Gevorkyan, Caledonia
Mark Lardieri, Forest Hills Northern
Brian Parsons, Grandville
Jack Robenalt, Ann Arbor Skyline

Don Roda, L'Anse Creuse
Mike Roy, Vicksburg
Pat Watson, West Bloomfield

Members Absent

Andrew Tibbits, DeWitt
Brian Gordon, Novi
Jeremy Napier, Belleville

Staff Members Present

Cole Malatinsky
Tom Rashid (Recorder)

PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES AND REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL ACTION

The agenda and minutes of the May 7, 2015 and Oct. 15, 2015 meetings were presented in advance. On May 2, 2015 the Representative Council approved the lacrosse committee recommendation from the Oct. 2015 meeting to increase the number of regionals in each division from four to eight and set a quarter final game. There will be 6-8 teams in a region in 2017 as opposed to the 12-16 in previous years. The Council did not approve the recommendation to start and end the tournament one week later. The first round will start on Thurs. May 18, 2017 – two Thursdays before Memorial Day – which is one game date alter than in 2016. The finals will remain on the 2nd Saturday of June. More study is needed to determine if the tournament will be moved in future years. Most every team sponsoring lacrosse should anticipate a first round game at a home site on May 18-20, 22, 2017. All other rounds of the tournament through the quarterfinals are at the reginal host sites.

2016 TOURNAMENT AND PAIRINGS

A committee member from the opposite division was assigned in advance to preliminarily seed each region and share their work with other members. The Monday prior to the meeting, MHSAA Staff sent an Excel spread sheet with updated scores and lax power rankings to the 8 coaches doing preliminary seeding. The preliminary recommendations of each committee member were submitted to the full committee which finalized the brackets based on the criteria. The late season Regional alignments for Division 1, Regions 1-4 and Division 2, Regions 5-8 were set based upon the pre-determined criteria from #1 seed to #16 seed depending on the number of teams in each Region. The committee then looked at the matchups and made changes to two games seeded between 9 and 16 to reduce travel. The pairings were posted on MHSAA.com the afternoon of the meeting, are final and not subject to appeal. The 2016 Semifinal pairings determined by the committee are: Division 1- Region 1 at 2 and Region 4 at 3; Division 2 – Region 8 at 7 and Region 6 at 5.

A history of semifinal and final sites and contests since the start of the MHSAA tournament was provided. Potential semifinal sites were submitted for games on Wed. June 8, 2016: Birmingham Seaholm, Forest Hills Eastern, Grandville, Holt, Howell Parker, Grosse Pointe South, Novi-CC. The policy was reviewed that while not preferred, a host may also be a home team in the semifinal round. It was pointed out that while turf fields are preferred, geography and field locations may not permit all games to be on turf especially when a mid-way point is sought for west vs. east semifinals. The committee emphasized their strong preference for turf fields at the semifinal level and that teams not play at its own field in a semifinal. Staff will make every effort to accommodate this preference.

The 2016 MHSAA Final doubleheader will be at Howell Parker Middle School on Saturday, June 11, 2016 - Div. 1 at 4:30 pm; Div. 2 at 2 pm. The girls lacrosse finals will be at the opposite game times at neighboring Brighton High School.

Continued:

2017 TOURNAMENT

In anticipation of the Representative Council's action in May 2016, a subcommittee of eight members met in February 2016 to study and develop criteria for the proposed eight regional tournament format. The full lacrosse committee was provided the seeding criteria and procedures and made no changes for 2016-17. A calendar of the 2017 tournament dates and these slightly revised procedures and criteria were posted on the MHSAA boys lacrosse page.

OFFICIALS

Again in 2016, boys lacrosse officials must be members in good standing of an approved local officials association to work the MHSAA tournament. Since 2014, three officials are assigned to all rounds of the MHSAA Tournament; a fourth CBO is assigned at the semifinal and final games. Committee members were presented a list of 164 MHSAA registered officials. Of this number, 95 were members in good standing of an approved local officials association and had completed a rules meeting. Recommendations from Lacrosse Officials Associations and MHSAA registered assigners and officials' schedules for most of the current season were also received. MHSAA Staff prepared recommendations for assignments based, in part, on officials who had accumulated sufficient numbers of ratings and had three or more years of MHSAA registration. The committee reviewed assignments subject to MHSAA Staff implementation for tournament games from Regional Semifinal through MHSAA Finals. MHSAA Staff will assign selected officials and replacements to specific games. Officials for the Pre-Regional games and first round at the home site will be the responsibility of the home school, which will be the top team on the bracket.

As of April 11, 2016, a total of 296 boys lacrosse officials had registered with the MHSAA for the 2015-16 school year; a decrease of 11 officials; (307 officials in 2015). The shortage of lacrosse officials remains a concern. Using three officials has also stretched the available pool of officials. Coaches and ADs are urged evaluate the environment that lacrosse officials function in and to communicate with staff, students and especially parents. All teams have a role in retaining official and recruiting new officials.

2016-17 LACROSSE PLANNING AND PREPARATION

The number of teams, schools and cooperative agreements since 2006-07 was reviewed. In 2015-16 there were 118 teams among 141 schools (20 cooperative programs-59 teams in Div., 1, 59 teams in Div. 2). The classification splits for 2016-17 are as follows Division 1 - 1,601 students and above, Div.2 – 1,600 students and below. It was noted that moving up to Division 1 were Walled Lake Northern, and Rochester Adams. Moving down to Division 2 were Ann Arbor Huron and Harrison Township-L'Anse Creuse Adding teams for the first time in 2017 are *Holly (Ortonville-Brandon) and Byron Center which added lacrosse after the division list was compiled.

In preparation for the October 2016 meeting, returning members were asked to consider the MHSAA middle school limits on competition in boys lacrosse. Should the multi team tournament allowance increase to three dates (currently two), the allowed minutes increase from 150 to 160 running time minutes and the number of days of competition increase from 12 to 14?

2016-17 MEETING DATES

Thurs. Oct. 13, 2016 and Wed. May 10, 2017

There were no recommendations to the Representative Council.