

MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, INC.
SWIMMING & DIVING COMMITTEE MINUTES
East Lansing, February 7, 2017

Members Present:

Jock Ambrose, Kentwood
Jason Black, Brighton
Kirk Evenson, Saline (MIAAA)
Darin Ferguson, Haslett
Tom Flynn, Birmingham
Brad Huttenga, Ann Arbor
Michael McHugh, Dexter (MISCA)
Peter Ryan, Saginaw
Andrea Murphy, Plainwell
John Pearson, Romeo
Eric Talsma, Hamilton
Michael Venos, Bloomfield Hills

Members Absent:

Rob Brownell, Battle Creek

MHSAA Staff:

Andi Osters (recorder)

The 2016-17 MHSAA Swimming & Diving Committee met on Feb. 7, 2017 at the MHSAA office in East Lansing. The meeting began with a review of the MHSAA decision making process and charge of the Swimming & Diving Committee. Agenda items were compiled from correspondence, staff, committee members and the coaches' association.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

DIVING QUALIFICATION

Citing low numbers of divers at several Diving Qualification Meets in years' past, the committee heard a proposal from MISCA pertaining to diving qualification, wherein the number of regular-season wins required to qualify for said meet would be reduced from five wins to four. According to data provided by MISCA, the reduction would result in the addition of 30-40 divers across all nine regions, creating additional opportunities for participation in the MHSAA Tournament. It is anticipated that the proposal will increase the length of some diving meets by approximately 15 minutes.

PACE OF MHSAA FINALS MEETS

The committee had a lengthy discussion regarding the MHSAA Swimming & Diving Finals, specific to the pace of preliminary rounds. There was consensus that a standard be developed for the desired length of meet, and communicated to both Finals Meet Managers and Finals officials.

SELECTION OF SITES

All members of the committee participated in the selection of sites for both the MHSAA Finals and the nine Diving Qualification Meets to be held in 2017-18. It was suggested that a rotation be identified, along with a set of expectations for host venues.

UPPER PENINSULA FINALS

The committee requested the Upper Peninsula Athletic Committee discuss the limitation of entries per team (currently three) to expand participation opportunities for individual swimmers, by considering non-scoring qualification entries.

DISCUSSION ITEMS – NO ACTION

1. Diving Qualification – invitational vs. dual meet scoring
2. CleanEntries system
3. Inclusion of para-athletes in championship events
4. Consideration times (“A and B cuts”), size of state meets
5. Allowance for diving alternates after the Qualification Meet

DIVING QUALIFICATION SITES for 2017-18

Division 1

R1 – Ann Arbor Huron
R2 – L’Anse Creuse North
R3 – Zeeland West

Division 2

R4 – Grosse Pointe South
R5 – Fenton
R6 – GR Northview

Division 3

R7 – Cranbrook
R8 – DeWitt
R9 – EGR

PROJECTED FINAL SITES for 2017-18

Division 1 – Eastern Michigan University
Division 2 – Holland Aquatic Center
Division 3 – Saginaw Valley State University

RECOMMENDATIONS TO MHSAA STAFF

1. Improve pre-meet communication with Finals Meet Managers, Finals Officials, and participating teams. Include directive to submit entries early.
2. Include information regarding proper protocol for team abbreviations and meet-naming in 2017-18 Rules Meeting.
3. Post Diving Qualification Meet start times on website.
4. Emphasize swim suit coverage to coaches.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

1. Reduce the amount of regular-season wins required by a diver to qualify for the Diving Qualification Meet from five to four. The portion of the requirement with amended language will read:

“In order to qualify for the Diving Qualification Meet a diver must have placed ahead of all divers from opposing schools in actual varsity competition in at least ~~five~~ four meets.” (12-0)