



## **TEAM WRESTLING FINALS SEEDING COMMITTEE MINUTES**

February 16, 2014

In May of 2008, the MHSAA Representative Council passed the following seeding policy for the Team Finals in Battle Creek. In May of 2010, it was revised to allow more than four teams to be seeded based on the discretion of the committee.

“For the Team Final tournament, seed the top teams in each division and draw the remaining teams into the bracket (if any teams remain unseeded) for the Quarterfinal round of wrestling. This will be done by a seeding committee that will identify the top teams in each division. Each team will submit a required team season summary form (record, opponents, scores, etc) and the committee will assess each team. In resolving issues, the seeding will be based on the following criteria:

- 1) Head-to-head competition; if tied, the most recent winner prevails.
- 2) Record against common opponents.
- 3) A team with an exceptional record vs. acknowledged strong opposition.
- 4) Majority decision of the seeding committee.

If a coach or athletic director is on the seeding committee and their team advances to the Quarterfinal round, that coach or athletic director would be replaced on the committee for that year.”

The 2014 seeding committee met via conference call at 9:00 am on February 16. This year’s committee members included the following individuals:

Jay Sosinski, White Pigeon  
Shawn Murray, Sterling Heights  
Chris Codden, Manistee  
Karen Leinaar, Bear Lake  
Mike Garvey, Kalamazoo  
Russ McKenzie, Madison Hts.  
Mike Goggins, Hastings  
Tom Flynn, Birmingham  
Martin Landes, Zeeland  
Steve Babbitt, Blissfield  
Kevin Dean, Edwardsburg  
Brian Byars, DeWitt  
Chris Dunham, Battle Creek  
Jim Smart, Manton

All committee members had received the dual-by-dual data for all Team Finalists in advance of the conference call, and discussion took place using the published criteria in seeding the teams in each division. This year, the committee seeded all four divisions 1-8; no teams were drawn into the bracket. As the conversations took place, it was clear that the committee again looked favorably upon those teams that wrestled a quality schedule against acknowledged strong opposition. When there was no head to head competition or common opponents, and the schools being considered for seeds also had similar strength of schedule, the committee discussed other known data prior to making the final seeding determination through a vote of the committee members.

Pairings for the 2014 Team Finals were posted at MHSAA.com by 1:00 pm on Sunday, February 17.