

CAAC ATHLETIC DIRECTOR MEETING MINUTES

February 21, 2018 – MHSAA Office, East Lansing

Schools present: Charlotte, Dewitt, East Lansing, Eaton Rapids, Fowlerville, Grand Ledge, Haslett, Holt, Ionia, Jackson, Lansing Catholic, Lansing Eastern, Lansing Everett, Lansing Sexton, Mason, Okemos, Portland, St. Johns, Waverly, Williamston.

President Chris Ervin of St. Johns called the meeting to order and chaired the discussions. January meeting minutes were approved. Commissioner Randy Allen reviewed the agenda.

Old business items were reviewed as follows:

A summary was given of the recent CAAC swim coaches meeting regarding division alignment and other topics. The coaches discussed several alignment options but recommended the current Blue/Red school division assignments remain in place. Coaches also agreed that host schools for division final meets can determine format based on facility issues, but a Friday-Saturday format is preferred.

Significant discussion was held regarding a request from Mason HS to consider the application of MHSAA Interpretation #299 regarding three swim meets that were ordered forfeited by the MHSAA when swimmers exceeded the 4-event limit while participating in more than 4 exhibition/non-scoring races. MHSAA Interpretation #299 allows a conference to acknowledge the forfeits, but still determine their division or league champion under certain circumstances. As the participation that exceeded the event limits was in exhibition/non-scoring events only in all cases, a motion was made to apply Interpretation #299 and recognize Mason as Red Division champions if their performance in the upcoming division meet so merited. Without specific voting procedures in place for such a circumstance, it was agreed that all schools sponsoring swimming should vote on the motion and a ¾ majority vote (10 in favor) would be required for the motion to be passed. Subsequently, the motion was approved by a 10-3 margin on a roll-call vote.

An update on potential conference member schools was given. It was reported that after much internal discussion, Mt. Pleasant has elected to remain in their current league, although there was much interest and positive response to overtures from the CAAC. Other potential member schools will be pursued pending the outcome of their current conference status.

With the hockey season drawing to a close, thoughts were shared on the future of CAAC school programs and possible re-alignment of co-ops pending enrollment updates and school interest surveys. With the departure of Jackson in 2018-19, it is hoped that the league can maintain six viable programs and perhaps seven if efforts from coaches, schools, rinks and youth leadership can be coordinated. A possible meeting with coaches and AD's to address these issues will be pursued.

Sam Davis of the MHSAA appeared before the group with information on the LWOA determining a new assigner for CAAC wrestling competition. Several candidates are being considered, with input from the league sought when the field narrows.

Mark Uyl of the MHSAA reported to the group that negotiations are on-going with Arbiter regarding pricing for their school scheduling software. It is hoped that a discount will be agreed to for MHSAA member schools interested in their product but there is no final agreement at this date.

Other topics reviewed were crossover scheduling (more to be discussed at the spring scheduling meeting); confirmation of spring Girls Soccer Cup dates as May 15, 17, 21-22; baseball/softball assigner Ken Sudall to be at the March 21 meeting to review policies for officials assigning; and reports on the conference bowling tournament and Senior Scholar Athlete Awards preparation and procedures.

New Business Items were reviewed as follows:

Cross Country dates for all divisions were reviewed. It was requested by the person handling timing systems for league jamborees that the first Blue Division date be adjusted so all dates can be covered. The Red Division will decide on the date for their third event at the March 21 meeting.

Several items from the recent MHSAA League & Conference meeting were reviewed and discussed. Schools were encouraged to communicate their opinions on new transfer rules, seeding and football playoff proposals directly to the MHSAA and/or their Council representatives. Of particular interest to the CAAC was a soccer coach committee recommendation to move the first round of the boys soccer district to the preceding week. Such a move would likely necessitate changes to the dates or format of the current CAAC Boys Soccer Cup schedule. MIAAA position statements on several of the topics from the league meeting were distributed with more discussion planned for the upcoming MIAAA Conference in Traverse City.

A question was raised concerning procedures on the sharing of basketball video in the HUDL system. It was agreed the policy should be the same as football and game sheets will be updated and reflect such.

An update was given on plans for the upcoming MIAAA Conference in Traverse City and league attendee social events. A report on plans for the Summer Cam-Mid event was also shared.

Policies for selection of Competitive Cheer All-Conference athletes were discussed. Some differences between the divisions were noted, with standardization planned for 2018-19. A request from cheer coaches to adjust competition dates in cooperation with neighboring leagues to better utilize and diversify assigning of available officials was discussed but no action taken pending further research on the topic.

Other new business topics discussed were concerns about summer 7 on 7 football safety, confirmation of spring boys & girls lacrosse tournament dates and future duties and status of the league commissioner.

Next Meeting - Wednesday, March 21, 9 a.m. - MHSAA Office East Lansing