

## Email to Member Schools - January 21, 2011

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Dear Member School Leaders,

Rather than passively post the following, I thought it was important enough to be actively brought to your attention.

During its January meeting, the MIAA Board of Directors voted, on the recommendation of the MIAA Sports Medicine Committee, to require Athletic Directors and Athletic Trainers to be certified in the online Concussion Training Course that is required of your Coaches. This additional safeguard becomes effective with the start of this Spring Season (i.e. March 21).

Additionally, the Board wishes to draw to your attention that the current “Concussion Law” requires *annual* compliance with respect to the online Concussion Course. The consensus of the Board was that this annual requirement is unnecessary, and adds significantly to the responsibilities already placed on Athletic Directors and others who have assumed local responsibility for implementing the recent law. As a result, the Board will seek legislative relief from this annual requirement, after concluding that a multi-year certification will also achieve the current law’s goals. A four-year “recertification” cycle would assure that parents, for example, would be introduced to the online Concussion Course when their children initially entered a four-year member high school, and would not be required to do so again, prior to graduation.

On another matter, and only because I am communicating on the above subject, I take this opportunity to mention that the Board affirmed that home school student access to an MIAA member school athletic program is limited to the traditional comprehensive high school within the district in which the student resides. In multi comprehensive high school districts, the home school student access is limited to the school pre-determined by that district’s protocol or process as adopted by that school committee.

Following the Board’s Finance/Personnel Committee meeting, the Licensing Resource Group (LRG) was directed to distribute royalty

checks to member schools in amounts that include *both* the member school royalty and the Association royalty. LRG, in partnership with the National Federation, has executed agreements with a number of national chain stores that sell local school apparel. The agreement provides a specific royalty to those schools, their State Association, and the National Federation. Combining the MIAA and the school shares will result in checks totaling about \$8,000 being sent to approximately 75 MIAA schools. Hopefully, this LRG initiative will lead to larger royalties affecting more Association schools in the future.

Thank you for ALL you do to support your Association,

Dick Neal