MINUTES

1. Call to Order
   a. Attendance/Introductions
      Courtney Albin, Mike Denise, Johanna DiCarlo, Brian McCann, Michele Tontodonato, Steve Cudworth,
      Amelia Braun, Kathy Ostberg, Christal Murphy, Eileen Flaherty, Paula Chausse, Ann Trytko, Donn Friedman
   b. Conflict of Interest
   c. MIAA Governance

2. Election of Officers
   Chair = Paula Chausse (motion by Eileen, 2nd by Johanna)
   Vice Chair = Eileen Flaherty (motion by Paula, 2nd by Johanna)
   Secretary = Amelia Braun (motion and 2nd by Johanna)

3. Minutes of May 4, 2017 meeting
   Review of minutes asked for by Paula. Discussion occurred about the paperwork associated with the MIAA Coach and Official of the Year. There is a desire to better publicize the awards, especially the Coach of the Year. Nathan Bonneau stopped in to discuss how the nomination information is disseminated to ADs and other interested parties. The nomination packet and information is posted on the MIAA website. The date for submission of nominations is Friday, March 30th.

   Motion to accept the minutes made by Johanna, 2nd by Eileen. Minutes accepted.

4. Girls Coaches Association Report
   • Report given by Association President, Steve Cudworth
   • Senior Superbowl is on 2/4 at O'Leary's Gymnastics at 9 am (thank you Tim O'Leary)
   • State Individuals is on 2/19 at Tewksbury High School (thank you to Jess Wilkey)
   • The Association now has its own insurance coverage for coaches and athletes
   • The Association will give 2 $500 Scholarships to Senior Athletes. Seniors must send a recommendation and essay explaining how High School Gymnastics has impacted their lives to the Association by 12/22

5. Boys Coaches Report
   • Rich Ellis – not present, Association is meeting in November and will report after.

   • Given by Kathy Ostberg
   • This is the second and last year of the current NFHS rules. A new book with updated rules will come out for 2018-2020 and Kathy will attend an in-house rules clinic in Indiana regarding the new rules
   • On 10/8 a Rules Review was held at the MIAA for officials and coaches. Held in conjunction with the Coaches' Association Meeting
   • At the May meeting, Kathy would like to pick a date for the rules meeting next fall
• There was discussion about ways to get the West involved in both the rules reviews as well as courses for new officials. Due to how few officials there are in the west, Eileen described some concerns voiced by coaches about consistency of scores and variety of officials. Kathy and Eileen will work to brainstorm ways to draw the west in and bring course opportunities to the west to generate more officials.

7. Boys Officials Report
   • No report given

8. Bag Tags
   • Bag Tags are given to the athletes who qualify to tournament as a token of their achievement. In gymnastics, the bag tags are given at the Sectionals level...in other sports it’s at the State final tournament
   • Steve brought up the idea of varying the token as many of the same teams qualify to tournament and therefore athletes end up receiving multiple bag tags. Ann will explore the idea of other tokens, such as pins.
   • The bag tags have already been confirmed for this season
   • Officials who officiate a tournament contest will receive a coin to commemorate their achievement as a tournament official.

9. 2018 Boys Tournament Update
   • States Thursday 2/8 6:30pm Braintree...has been at Newton North for 2-3 years, but have no bleachers, had to bring in chairs
   • Believes the community will support the Thursday event b/c no other/very few contests are happening
   • Has the equipment

    • Moving date of cut off to 2/5 - motion carries

11. 2017 Western Sectional Girls Tournament Update
    • Tournament director not present. Westfield HS hosting 11/11 at 3pm.
    • Discussion of assigning officials...Tournament Director should be involved...additional job to assign for the tournament as opposed to assigning for the season.
    • Coaches would love to see other officials because they are seeing the same routines throughout the season and there are score fluctuations...The west can reach outside of the usual officials for tournament.
    • Consistency is an issue all over...the tournament should iron things out.
    • Could seek out other judges for regular season as well
    • Software for scoring - any of the clubs have it...Roots, Daggets

12. 2018 Girls Winter Sectionals Tournament Update
    • 2/24 at Algonquin Regional HS
    • State Equipment truck has been secured
    • New venue for this event
13. Breakfast of Champions
   - Captains, Coach and AD of State qualifiers...expectation, want all to come,
   - 2/26...early in the morning at MIAA...Monday after vacation
   - Brian McCann expressed concern about the very quick turn around to get the students there, get a
     bus, plan
   - last year we had 7 of 8 teams attend
   - can we move off site? Wednesday 2/28 at ARHS or SHS?

14. 2018 Girls Winter State Championship Tournament Update
   - 3/3 at Shrewsbury HS
   - Partnered with USAG Level 5 States to utilize equipment
   - New venue for this tournament

15. 2018 Format (Winter Boys and Girls - final approval needed)
    [http://miaa.net/gen/miaa_generated_bin/documents/basic_module/Gymnastics_Format_201718_DRAFT.pdf](http://miaa.net/gen/miaa_generated_bin/documents/basic_module/Gymnastics_Format_201718_DRAFT.pdf)
   - Format approval - boys states is now 2/8
   - New England Tournament - 3/10 at Pinkerton Academy in NH
   - Update Breakfast of Champions
     - Mike Denise expressed concerns voiced by members of the Baystate Conference about the difficult
       time they have with the way the tournament process is
     - Baystate Conference teams feel they have a tough time qualifying for the Sectional tournament
       despite having competitive league
     - Concerns were expressed about co-op teams
     - Co-ops are district committee decisions and it is their responsibility to “police them”
     - Bay state is in a tough section with 2 co-op teams that are strong (MADS, MHM).
     - Not trying to destroy teams, and some teams would not exist if not for co-op status (BRWB) but with
       some of the teams the tail is wagging the dog
     - The committee would like to send correspondence to the district committees to not just rubber stamp
       the co-ops for gymnastics...it’s not a high profile sport...and there is very little insight into the
       intricacies of gymnastics.
     - Ideas to explore break up leagues?...automatic league champion? how close are the scores for
       tournament? split state in half? movement to the fall - North, South, Central and West? How many
       people that got into Sectionals were League Champs?
     - More data will be collected

16. Student Contest Disqualifications – (Handout)
   - No disqualifications for gymnastics

17. Sportsmanship/Wellness Initiatives
   a. Wellness Summit
   b. Sportsmanship Summit
   c. Team Sportsmanship Awards

18. MIAA Gymnastics Sports
19. Gymnastics Season Moving to the Fall. How do we proceed from here?
   - ADs want to stay in winter.
   - Individual leagues can petition for a waiver if they want to move.
   - No official movement recommended by this committee at this time

20. Group Rates for Gymnastics Clubs at the Tournaments
   - Increasing tournament attendance with group rates...go through TMC.
   - Kathy willing to work with the clubs...incentive of charging less is not super important.
   - Generate a poster to advertise. People available to go to States b/c not a lot of USA events.
   - Ann will talk to tech people to get a poster together....get to clubs and parents.

21. Other
   - Paula shared information about Safe Sport to the committee which is a USOC course and certification required by USA Gymnastics of its professional members.
   - The course details appropriate behaviors and things to avoid. It allows for an awareness for all about the conduct of coaches with athletes.
   - It’s a free course
   - Paula also reminded the committee that it will be required by law to have an AED on site.

22. Old Business

23. New Business
   - Donn Friedman from the New England Council attended.
   - There are now yearly sport committee meetings at the New England level
   - Securing sites for the events has been a challenge
   - MA, NH and CT seem to be on a 3 year hosting rotation
   - Qualifications of athletes to New England’s was discusses

24. Next Meeting
    Thursday May 3, 2018 10:00am
    - Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Johanna