MIAA Tournament Management Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
November 20, 2018

Call to order

1. Committee Members Present – Sherry Bryant, Jim O’Leary, Dave Lezenski, Johanna DiCarlo, John Brown, Shaun Hart, Mary Ryan, Kara Sheridan, Jared Shannon, Dan Buron, Dwayne Early, Jeff Newhall

2. Approval of Minutes – October 16, 2018 – unanimously approved

3. Rules Change Proposals – review/action – see attached

4. Sub-Committee report/Recommendations

   - An alignment and seeding proposal document unanimously support by the sub-committee (9-0) was presented to the full committee.

   ALIGNMENT PROPOSAL
   Section 1 Divisional Alignment and Placement was accepted by committee
   Section 2 Standards for number of Divisions
   This particular segment of the proposal garnered the most discussion. Jim O’Leary did highlight for committee members where some sports might fall within these parameters.
   Jim also did highlight for members the fact the sports falling close to cutoff numbers might warrant an appeal by a sport committee (ex: field hockey)
   Also noted that once sport is placed in one of these divisional categories it would remain in that structure for the four year alignment cycle.
   Document to be updated for 0-50 team category (gymnastics will not be listed) and emerging sports

   Section 3 Appeals was presented, discussed and acceptable to the committee
   Section 4 Alignment Committee was presented, discussed and acceptable to the committee
   MOTION AND SECOND - Accept the alignment proposal - Approved unanimously 11-0

   SEEDING PROPOSAL
   Jim O’Leary provided an overview to the committee of the process utilized by the sub-committee to determine recommendation for a consistent seeding methodology for all team sports.

   The group determined that seeding by winning percentage was not the best solution to put forth to the membership.
The sub-committee then vetted the Walker system, MIAA Lacrosse seeding methodology, MIAA football rating system, RPI and MaxPreps proprietary and non-proprietary options.

The sub-committee unanimously recommended the MaxPreps proprietary system noting the depth the formula provides, technology support and that neutrality of third party and pure “math” vs subjectivity would best meet goals.

Committee members inquired as to cost? Answer ZERO

Who would enter scores and how to ensure timeliness were discussed by the full group. All agreed that regardless of system selected we will need to require of membership more timely reporting of scores. It was decided such a process/communication would be revisited at a future date.

Committee wanted to be sure all team sports could indeed be served by the Max Preps system.

Sherry did indicate that during the presentation by the MaxPreps representative this was discussed. Initial response seemed to indicate only Rugby may be a question but Sherry will re-confirm with the vendor.

MOTION AND SECOND To Recommend all team sports are seeded by MaxPreps rating system beginning in Fall of 2019 --Approved 10-1

5. Discussion: John Brown did indicate that as a member of the ice hockey committee he wanted to highlight that the just accepted alignment proposal may not work for hockey. He shared with the committee the fact that current ice hockey alignments are highly subjective and a great deal of individual consideration is given to strength of programs.

It was thought that this could be proactively mentioned in presentation to indicate TMC’s awareness of such nuances and that Ice Hockey ...like all sport committees…would be welcome to present to TMC recommendations/proposals specific to Ice Hockey alignments

6. Fall debriefing – Challenges in implantation of some of the new policies was noted by committee members and liaison. Committee agreed that tournament directors/liaisons that did not follow policies should be addressed. Committee did agree to stay the course but to revisit the Tie-breaking procedures (specifically number of wins) and Pre-determined site policy (including new/more “accurate” term to replace “pre-determined”) at a future meeting.

7. Committee discussed importance of representatives informing their constituents. Additional communication timelines and methods were discussed and will be revisited at future meeting

8. Meeting adjourned.