MIAA Tournament Management Committee
Meeting Minutes
January 16, 2018

I. Call to order – 10:00 am by Jim O’Leary, Chair

II. Committee members present: Sherry Bryant, David Keir, James O’Leary, David Reid, Edward Maguire, Mary Ryan, Dan Buron, Shaun Hart, Dave Lezenski, Johanna DiCarlo, Desi Vega, Dwayne Early, Pam Gould, Mike Lucas, John Brown, Jared Shannon, Scott Amand, Mike Devoll, Kara Dupre representing Bryan Lombardi.

III. Minutes – A Motion was made by Pam Gould and seconded by Dave Reid to accept the minutes of the October 17, 2017 meeting. Unanimous.

IV. BOD Charge – Jim O’Leary posed the question as to what part of the Charge should we think about presenting at the MIAA Annual Meeting. He suggested that we look at the piece as to how Tournament Officials are assigned. This seemingly is a pretty simple thing to accomplish. Need to ask all Sport Committees to ensure that this is very clear in their formats. This is a question that many often ask and if it is clear in the format then we have a simple answer.

Chairman O’Leary also believes that the membership in general does not know that the TMC has been given some additional responsibilities/power over what the Sport Committees need to do within their individual formats. This might be a topic to be discussed at the Annual Meeting as well.

There are also some questions as to who is the driving force within each sport committee as to how things work. For example when it comes to things like how officials are assigned or how seeding is done is it the Sport Committee? The Tournament Directors? There is a feeling this needs to be more transparent to all involved.

Another question brought up was should we have a true State Tournament in all sports? Should all Sections be using some form of a power rating/Walker system for seeding? There are issues of how many games a team has to play to get to a sectional final.

V. Budget Discussion – a motion was made by Mary Ryan and seconded by Dave Lezenski to take up #5 on the agenda. Sherry Bryant reviewed the Financial Report from the Fall 2017 Tournaments. The bottom line is that Revenue is down significantly. The Association needs to take a long look at expenses across all tournaments as well as look into ways of increasing the seriously declining revenues. There are some revenues and expenses that have not been posted and the overall net income will only be slightly down from last Fall. John Brown asked about the parking fees from Cross Country meet and Sherry explained they had not been posted yet.
Some questions asked are should we be looking at and possibly increasing the stipends for Tournament Personnel? The Committee should review the Fee Structure at the next meeting and then recommend possible increases.

VI. Other - Proposed changes to Start/End dates – Dave Reid made a proposal many months ago that has not been acted upon yet. These proposed changes would not need a rule change just agreement of each sport committee. The proposal on the table is just a starting point for the discussion. He requests that this be part of the agenda at the March meeting.

David Keir also asked about the new rule in the Track Format about electronic scoring for the 100 and 200 events. This is supposed to go into effect for the 2019 season. Can leagues appeal or get a waiver? Not sure of the answer but it looks like this will be a reality as we go forward so some provisions will need to be made including possibly hiring folks to do the electronic scoring if they want their athletes to be able to qualify.

Michael Devoll would like the MIAA to give information about where to purchase the official tournament ball in each sport – when the announcements come out about this to include where a school can purchase them.

Sherry Bryant wanted to be sure all knew about the Blue Ribbon Task Force organized by the Board of Directors to look at gender issues across the Association. There are 4 TMC members on the Committee – Pam Gould, Johanna DiCarlo, Mary Ryan and David Keir. Sherry is also the MIAA Liason.

VII. Back to BOD Charge discussion – a lengthy discussion was held about Sectional Semi-Final and Final sites as to whether they should be pre-determined or truly Neutral sites. The question remains what is really a pre-determined site? Can a team play on their own site if it is pre-determined?

Shawn Hart made a motion which was seconded by John Brown that sectional semi-final and final sites can be played at pre-determined sites as long as they meet the tournament standard for quality. This also means that a team may play on their home field/site if the site has been pre-determined and meets the quality standard. All games prior to this level are to be played at the site of the higher seed. The vote was unanimous 15-0.

John Brown made a motion which was seconded by Dave Reid that state semi-final and final sites should be played at pre-determined sites and if possible be as geographically beneficial/advantageous to the sections playing in these games. This also means that a team may play on their home field/site if the site has been pre-determined and meets the quality standard. The vote was passed 12-2 with one abstention.
VIII. Next meeting will be held March 20, 2018

IX. Motion to adjourn at 1:05 p.m. made by Desi Vega and seconded by Mike Lucas. Unanimous

Minutes submitted by: David Keir