I. **Call to order** – 9:40 am by Jim O’Leary – meeting taken over by Margaret Conaty, Chair at 9:46 am.

II. **Committee members present:** Margaret Conaty, Sherry Bryant, David Keir, James O’Leary, David Reid, Edward Maguire, Tasso Filledes, Mary Ryan, Dan Buron, Nairi Melkonian, Shaun Hart, Jared Shannon, Dave Lezenski


**MIAA Staff** – Dick Baker, Phil Napolitano, Peter Smith, Rich Reilly, Jim Paters, Rachael Woo, Carolyn Bohmiller

III. **Minutes** – Motion made by Mary Ryan and seconded by Tasso Filledes to accept the minutes of the April 26, 2017 meeting. Unanimous.

IV. **Winter Financial Review** – Sherry Bryant reviewed the Financial Report from Winter Tournaments. The bottom line is that Revenue is down and Expenses are fairly stable. There is a need to examine why Revenue is down and steps to increase Revenue.

V. **Plan for Meeting with Sport Committee Reps** – Sherry has Powerpoint presentation to introduce the Charge from the BOD and what steps we are taking to try and meet that charge and to inform them of what kind of information we are seeking from them. We will also share Mary Ryan’s spreadsheet of the different categories (Sections, # of schools participating, seeding process, tie-breaker process, communication) of info we are seeking that is currently in practice in each sport.

- Questions to consider – Should there be consistency across all sports? Team Sports vs. Individual Sports? Districts?

VI. **Welcome** – Margaret and Sherry welcomed all Sport Committee Representatives and everyone introduced themselves. Sherry reviewed the Charge from the BOD.

The committee has been charged by the Board of Directors to commence a comprehensive tournament protocol analysis including but not limited to a review and recommendation of the following:

- **MIAA Governance document section on Sport Committee Jurisdiction.**
- **Do sport committee procedures need to be consistent?**
- **Seeding committee responsibilities/procedures**
  - Tie breaking procedure in seedings – consistent sport to sport or otherwise
  - Accessing seedings before official
  - Process of communication by seeding committee(s)
    - Telephone, Twitter, Email
  - Official Seeding postings – timing
- **Deadlines and fines**
- **Alignment process and criteria requirements**

Sherry also presented the Chart as to how all Sport Committee’s handle all of the above things.

Discussion was held among the group about many issues raised. Johanna DiCarlo shared her concern that Girls Lacrosse does seeding differently in each section and feels it should be standard across the Sections. She also stated that many of the Tournament Directors and Coaches on the Committee (both Boys and Girls) are controlling the decision making about how seeding will be done. They use a Power Ranking (Lax-Power) as part of the system. She would be in favor of the TMC having more of a say or providing direction or structure as to how each sport committee will do seeding of the tournaments. She believes this is necessary to standardize the way things are done. She does not favor using just winning percentage to seed tournaments.

David Keir asked for clarification that many decisions are being driven by coaches and Tournament Directors rather than the AD’s and Principal’s on the Committee? They have a huge influence on the way things are done in seeding.

Question – Who is really driving decision making on each Sport Committee?

Bob Keuther, Chair of the Soccer Committee said some sections use the Walker and others straight winning percentage. He would find it very difficult to do Walker Ratings in Eastern Mass because of the inaccurate information that is on the website especially around proper records of each team.

Question – How do we hold schools responsible for providing accurate information through the MIAA website?

Other Questions that came up –
- **Should we look at the number of schools in each section?**
- **Should they be more balanced?**
- **Should there be an inclusive State Tournament and eliminate Sectionals?**

There was some continued discussion about seeding.
Jim Peters remarked that if there is a movement to fully implement the Walker System or other Rating System that we be cognizant of the additional responsibilities each Tournament Director would have. What would we have to do to assist the TD’s? Is there a need for more time between the cut-off date and the seeding meetings?

Margaret asked for each Sport Committee representative the following:

Do you believe or want the TMC to have more oversight of each Sport Committee in regards to the procedures each uses for the categories being discussed?

Yes votes = 10 No votes = 0 Abstain = 2

All in attendance believe there should be more oversight, but not all Sport Committee’s necessarily have to do things the same way.

Jim Peters also remarked that inconsistency is not always bad and agrees that the TMC needs to have more jurisdiction over Tournament Formats and really look at all of them.

Sherry outlined for all the timeline that the TMC is working under and the possibility of having a sub-committee do work over the summer and she will ensure that Sport Committee chairs will be kept in the loop as the process continues. She Thanked all of the Representatives for coming and sharing with everyone.

VII. Next Steps –

Do we look at the composition of the TMC?

When formats are presented should there be a representative from the Sport Committee present?

There was continued discussion by all about many of the things that came up in the meeting.

VIII. Next meeting will be held Wednesday June 7, 2017 - Work will be done on the language of responsibilities of TMC in Blue Book needs to be modified.

IX. Motion to adjourn 12:20 pm.

Minutes submitted by: David Keir