



MIAA Field Hockey Committee

Meeting Minutes

April 13, 2021

1. Meeting called to order at 10:04 am by Chairman Mary Ryan

Committee Members (District # or board position)

Present: Mary Lou Thimas (Member-At-Large), Sherry Bryant (MIAA FH Liaison), Patti Provost (2), Mary Ryan (North TD), Patti Rowe (Officials' rep), Katherine Hennessey (MASC), Robert Marchewka (1), Jennifer Gouvin (1), John Parisi (5), Steve Martin (4), Diane Lussier (West TD), Anne Palumbo (3), Jenn Hammel (8), Kathleen Burke (9), Annette DiMascio (South and State TD), Susan Charochak (MASS), David Uminski (3), Mary O'Connor (9), John O'Neil (Coaches Rep), Kelley St. Coeur (7), Elizabeth York (2)

Regrets: Scott Palladino (8)

Not present: John Doldorian (Central TD), Grace Cunningham (6), Gary Brown (7), Ryan Murphy (4)

Guests: Jan Martin (MIAA FH Admin Support), Danny Ventura (Boston Herald), Brandon Chase (Boston Globe)

2. Minutes of December 17, 2020 meeting – Thimas, 2nd Martin - 10-0-4

3. Alignment Appeal Process

The Process:

- Sport Committees develop alignment modifications to become effective for the next alignment cycle
- Sport Committee Chairs will present alignment proposals to the Tournament Management Committee (TMC)
- Alignment proposals will be voted on by the TMC

Appeals

- Alignment proposals are released
- Schools may send an appeal request form to the MIAA Office
- The MIAA TMC Liaison will receive all appeal request forms
 - If the request is to move up a division(s), the request will be granted by the MIAA TMC Liaison
 - If the request is to move down a division(s), the request will be reviewed by the MIAA TMC Liaison, TMC Chair, and Sport Committee Chair. The request will be approved or denied based on the divisional appeal criteria set forth by the TMC
 - If an appeal request form is denied, schools may make an in person appeal to the appeal committee

Appeal Committee

- The appeal committee will hear in-person appeals that were initially rejected based on the alignment criteria. All alignment committee decisions will be final.
- Members of the committees (fall/winter/spring) will include:
 - One (1) preselected Chair from the TMC
 - Three (3) TMC members - regional representation from across the state
 - One (1) representative from each sport committee that is being discussed

4. Statewide Tournament

- Teams average margin of victory + the average of opponents rating = overall rating --- FH 3 goals. Top 32 teams and teams with .500 record will qualify
Sample alignment from 2019 season available
- Tournament Format. Changes:
 - C. 3.** Officials assigned to the state final games will be officials who have not seen those teams during the tournament.
 - E 6 a** Socks: remove “or light” (can only be white)
 - F. 2.** Regulation Playing Time: The game shall consist of four quarters of 15 minutes and an interval of two minutes between quarters one and two and between quarters three and four. There shall be a halftime between quarters two and three of no more than 10 minutes after which the teams shall change ends of the field.
 - F 4 a 2** Neutral site: The captain of the team with the higher seed will call the toss.
 - F 4 b** remove

5. Boys Field Hockey: The proposal the FH committee put forward in 2020 for Boys FH has received good support from the reviewing bodies. Will be discussed on May 6 at the Board of Directors Meeting. USFH is also in support to move forward.

6. Coaches Ed Camp: John O’Neil and Mary Ryan introduced the idea of offering an Ed Camp for coaches and officials where the participants drive the topics and the discussion. John provided examples of topics and information on other Ed Camps he has participated in. The committee thought it is a great idea. Looking to August. More information will be forthcoming

7. Other

- We are bidding farewell to 2 of our long standing committee members: Patti Provost and Dave Uminski. We thank them for their unwavering support and years to the FH committee and wish them the very best.
- The Blue Ribbon will meet 4/14/21
- NFHS and MA celebrating 50 years of Title IX. Looking to recognize trail blazers .Moments of magnitude, first women AD, Women’s officials’ boards, etc. Still in the planning stage.

8. Next Meeting Date: Fall 2021

9. Adjournment 11:40. Thimas, 2nd Provost - unanimous

Respectfully Submitted,

Patti Rowe

FH Committee Secretary