



Minutes of the MIAA Track and Cross-Country Committee, January 9, 2025

1. Call to Order: 10:05 AM
2. Welcome & Attendance: 13 voting members present
3. [Minutes of Previous Meeting](#) – November 21, 2024: Approved 12-0
4. 2024 Cross Country Tournament Review
 1. Division 2 Waves and Championships: Pete reported excellent cooperation and support from the staff at Devens both weeks. It was a huge advantage to set up once and leave the equipment in place for the second meet. Additional portable toilets were provided this year at lower cost than 2023. The atmosphere at the State Championships was excellent, with the addition of food trucks, two DJs, and a stage for the awards ceremony. One school missed their race because they showed up for the wrong wave. Some schools showed up at Fort Devens and had to be redirected to the course site, additional signs will be placed next year to avoid this.
 2. Division 1: Great work by the Northfield staff. There will be a new manager at Northfield next fall who will work with us. Everything went smoothly, parking situation managed well by the Northfield staff, awards behind the building were well received.
 3. Kevin raised two issues from western Mass coaches: (1) the \$10 parking fee at Wrentham, and (2) inability to view the hill at Devens pre-race. Pete responded that the hill was only closed after races had begun.
5. Indoor Track Tournament Update
 1. Dates were reviewed and Zoom meeting dates were revealed.
 2. It was decided to use the new, elevated long jump runway and run boys' and girls' long jump simultaneously. Girls will use the elevated runway. Long jump will begin at the start of the mile (5:15). The format will be revised, emails will be sent to all schools, and this will be discussed on the Zoom calls.
 3. The Para event decision of the TMC was reviewed.
 4. Pete Rittenburg reviewed the weight implement handle issue. There are concerns that many implements will fail certification due to either (1) having the old larger handle or (2) not meeting the minimum weight if the newer, smaller handle is swapped in to an

older implement. No obvious solution was forthcoming, the implements will be certified by a Trackmaster at the meet and we will see what happens.

6. [2025 Outdoor Track Format](#)

1. Para events were added to the format under the same rules and terms as for indoor track. The events will be 100 meters, 400 meters, shot put, and discus. Vote: 13-0.
2. The Committee voted 13-0 to swap divisions from Thursday-Saturday to Friday-Sunday and vice versa each year. Rotation of venues (if any) was left to the discretion of the Tournament Directors.
3. The format was revised to make clear that the high jump and pole vault bars will not be held for an excused athlete.
4. A discussion was held as to whether to prohibit runbacks in the high jump, as they are currently prohibited by NFHS rule in the long jump and pole vault. The experience at Merrimack College in spring 2024 was cited, where the HJ and PV runways are in close proximity. It was agreed to reconsider this issue for indoor 2025-26 after discussion with MSTCA as to whether they would also agree to this rule.
5. The format was approved by a vote of 13-0.

7. Outdoor Track Tournament

- Venues: 2025 sites will be Westfield State, Merrimack College, and Tufts University
- Tournament Directors: Tom Stewart, Pete McAuliffe/Steve Nugent, Rick Kates

8. Cut-Off Date Discussion: 2025-26 cutoff dates are 11/3/25 for cross-country, 2/8/26 for indoor track, and 5/24/26 for outdoor track.

9. Officials Topics:

1. nomination process for officials' and coaches' position on the Committee was discussed.
2. The officials' fee increased proposed by the T&F/CC Committee will be before GOC on 1/15. The process for setting officials' fees is changing and some details of that process remain unclear.

10. Coaches' Topics: no coaches' topics were brought to the floor

11. Outdoor Track Alignment 2026-27: John Monz presented a proposed alignment which is very close to the current one, a few schools change divisions due to changes in their CEM enrollment, but the number of teams in each division is roughly the same. The alignment was approved on a 13-0 vote.

12. Other:

1. Scott raised the issue of using Wrentham as a site for the cross-country state championships. It was agreed that this ties in with the proposed 4 division cross-country proposal and will be discussed together with that proposal at a future meeting.
2. Kevin raised question from Longmeadow about school involvement with athletes participating in the various track and cross-country "nationals." MIAA policy was restated: as these meets are USATF meets and not NFHS meets, schools cannot finance participation, athletes should not wear school uniforms, coaches should not coach.

13. The meeting was adjourned at 11:35 AM

Upcoming Meeting Dates

- Wednesday, March 5, 2025 @ 10:00am
- Thursday, May 8, 2025 @ 10:00am