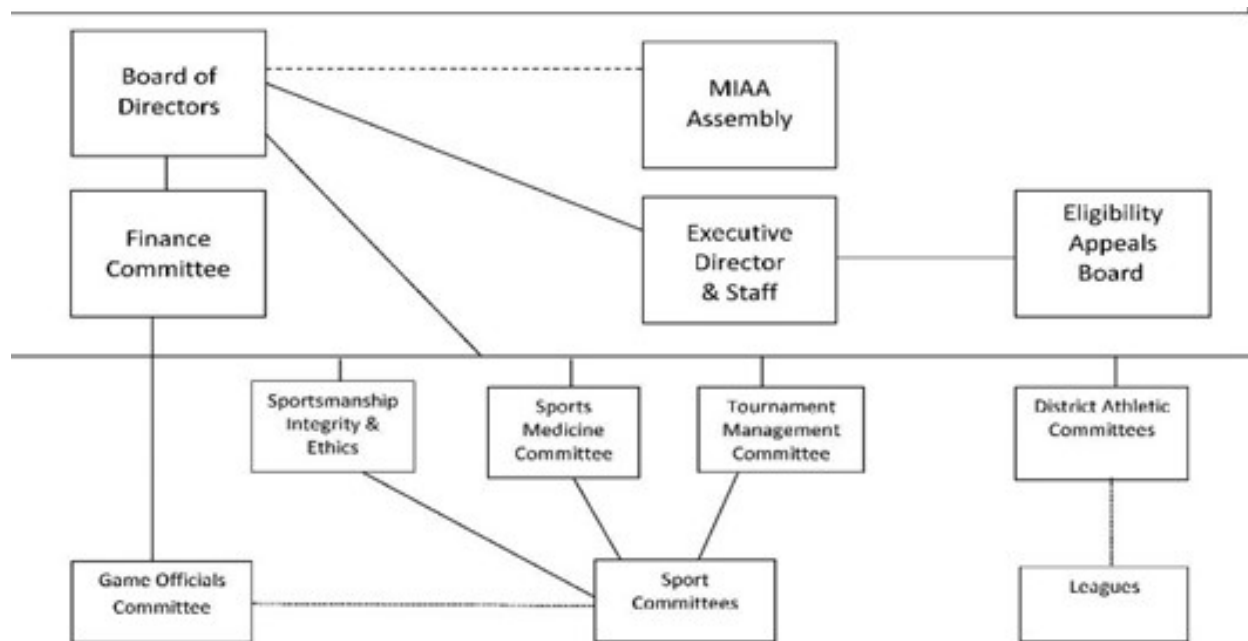




The MIAA provides a platform for over 550 volunteer members to voice concerns related to interscholastic athletics by providing representative opportunities to address issues collectively, promoting open dialogue and collaboration throughout the State.

- The MIAA is comprised of 382 member schools.
- Athletic leagues house the majority of member schools.
- Each athletic league exists within a District Athletic Committee (DAC) that represents nine (9) geographical regions of the Commonwealth.
- The DACs directly appoint a school administrator and athletic director to each MIAA Committee.
- Additionally, one superintendent, one school committee member, as well as one or two coaches, and an enrolled game official shall comprise the representation of each committee.

Beginning in March 2025, the membership was introduced to **What's Next - Initiatives to "Make it Even Better."** First presented before the MIAA Board of Directors, then to attendees of the 50th MSSADA Conference, and again on April 2, 2025 at the MIAA 46th Annual Meeting, it was reiterated that these ideas are a result of input received from members. We will take a measured approach to each of these potential initiatives, and none of these ideas would be implemented before Fall 2026. It is imperative that the membership are integral in vetting each of these potential decisions in accordance with the Organizational Structure that exists in the Association.



Our Association consists of both **Power Ranked Sports** and **Hybrid Sports**. We will be analyzing these sports by the number of school-sponsored teams in each as they relate to the total membership of the Association. Many states utilize objective criterion based on a specific number (or percentage) of schools offering a particular sport in relation to the total number of member schools in an Association. Instead of using the current rule change process, should the Board of Directors develop an **Objective Process to Adopt and/or Remove a Sport?**

Many sports and activities are conducted at an individual school level and are at a “School-Sponsored Status.” Should we determine a quantifiable process that allows a sport to attain the level of “Championship Status” based on a fixed number or percentage of membership participation? Conversely, could that same quantifiable process be utilized to remove a sport from “Championship Status” due to the lack of school-sponsored teams relative to the total membership of the Association?

The Tournament Management Committee (TMC) has approved **Standards for Number of Championship Divisions**, and is in the process of determining adherence by analyzing the number of school-sponsored teams in each sport. If it is determined that an objective number of school-sponsored teams in a sport meets the criteria for Championship Status, that sport must be in alignment with the Standards for Number of Championship Divisions.

A number of athletic directors have put together a proposal for a **Standardized Annual Calendar for Interscholastic Athletics**. Does the membership want to initially set clear start and end dates for an interscholastic school year?

- **START DATE**- The second Monday that precedes Labor Day in August
- **END DATE**- No later than the third Saturday in June

Following that decision, Sports Committees, Leagues, DACs, and the TMC will provide input into the following areas regarding this proposal. This will be thoroughly vetted throughout the Association and would not be implemented until Fall 2026 at a minimum.

- 1st Contest
- Cutoff Date(s)
- Bracket Release Date(s)
- Tournament Dates
- State Finals
- Superbowls - The second Saturday after Thanksgiving

It is written that after July 1, 2025, the MIAA may **Establish a Division 1A component of the Statewide Tournament** in any sport if specified criteria are met to bring competitive equity to all divisions. Examples of guardrails that can serve as specified criteria are as follows:

- A sport committee that chooses to conduct a Division 1A tournament shall conduct the tournament for both genders
- The objective criteria utilized to determine the annual Division 1A field is the same power ranking system (power ranked sports) for scheduling and seeding (Margin of Victory).
- The road to a championship in the statewide tournament is a minimum of 5 games.
- Every attempt should be made that the venues utilized would be the same or similar for both Divisional and the Division 1A championships.

In addition to hearing the “What’s Next” potential initiatives, the following **Rule Clarifications** have been addressed by the Board of Directors:

- Rule 34.7 Overscheduling
- Rule 59 Student Eligibility. Rule 87 Student Eligibility Waiver – the Process

Programmatic Initiatives that we will continue to expand and enhance:

- Education Based Athletic Programming
- Addressing Hate in School Sports
- Underage Sports Gambling and its Impact on Youth
- Supporting the Mental Health of Student-Athletes
- RefReps – Intro to Sports Officiating
- Standards for Quality Educational Athletic Programs

To reiterate, we will utilize the representative opportunities to address the potential initiatives outlined above, promoting open dialogue and collaboration in accordance with the Organizational Structure that exists in the Association.

