

MIAA Tournament Management Committee

Meeting Minutes –Virtual

August 27, 2024

1. Call to Order – 10:09 AM by Shaun Hart

Attendance – J. Brown, S. Burndrett, E. Dawley, M. Denise, D. Early, J. Forrest, S. Hart, C. Mastrangelo, J. Newhall, R. Newton, S. Paine, T. Tarpey, S. Bryant (liaison), J. Clark (MIAA), Steve Dubzinski (MIAA Soccer liaison), and media.

2. Approval of Minutes June 12, 2024

Motion to Approve (T. Tarpey/S. Paine) **Approved 11-0**

3. Alignments

Move forward with updated 2-year alignment cycle (2025-26 to 2026-27)

- Release date set for by September 1st
- Appeals due date October 1st
- Appeals heard and voted on during month of October
- Final Alignments with all approved appeals issued by November 1st

Jeff Newhall suggested that a note be included when alignments are released to notify schools that an appeal form is required for those wanting to “Opt Up”. This is not automatically done.

Sherry Bryant confirmed that the Alignment Committee is made up of a sport representative from each seasonal sport and 3-4 members of TMC. Also addressed that a mid-cycle appeal is allowed, however, is not intended for those wishing to appeal due to a missed deadline. An example of the scenario would be more like a major shift in enrollment, etc.

4. Soccer Committee – request for Tournament date change in format

Steve Dubzinski, MIAA Soccer Liaison requested the published date be changed from November 16th to November 23, 2024 for Soccer State Finals. The cutoff date is not being changed. This does not impact finals for any other Fall team sports.

Motion to Approve the change in date (R. Newton/S. Burndrett) **Approved 11-0-1**

5. Football Proposal – Shaun Hart gave an update on the Football proposed changes to the Fall 2025 season. Shaun requested the full proposal be sent to him so he can share with TMC members. The Football proposal will be reviewed, and the Football Sub-Committee members will be invited to attend a TMC meeting for discussion in September. A vote may be on the TMC agenda in October 2024, if possible.

Jim Forrest asked what the vote was from the full Football Committee on this proposal. Sherry reached out to Richard Pearson and reported the vote was 11-3-0.

6. **Calendarization** – Sherry reminded the committee that the association has a focus on calendarization. Initial efforts began with a regular scheduling of the Board of Directors meeting on the second Wednesday of meeting months. TMC meeting work will be scheduled with Board dates in mind and then sport committees aligning in that order as well. The Board also received on record the calendarization of Alignment deadlines, Schedule and Commitment process & dates, along with other important dates. These calendar efforts will be ongoing.

A new format approval process for the school year 2025-2026 will be implemented. Formats will be required to be submitted for TMC by March 1, 2025. These documents will be reviewed and then shared with the Board of Directors for approval in May. All formats will be posted prior to July 1 of each year.

Sherry has communicated this format schedule via email to executive staff.

Motion to Approve TMC Format Schedule (J. Newhall, S.Burndrett) Approved 11-0

7. **Other/Follow-up**

- Spring 2024 tournament directors will be invited to the September 25th meeting to share their feedback and input.
- Sherry followed up with executive staff regarding the hiring process for new Tournament Directors in an email following the meeting:

A TMC member will now join liaisons for the tournament director interview process. All requests for a TMC committee member should be directed to TMC Chair, Shaun Hart.

- Jim Clark presented the new MIAA website recently launched. Feedback and suggestions are welcomed regarding items the committee would like to see included on the TMC page.
- Scott Paine briefed the committee on an issue with assigning Ice Hockey officials in the Cape/Islands. The increased officials' fees is an issue (cannot pay updated rates) and most likely will affect assignments. Jeff Newhall recommended the Ice Hockey committee's Officials Representative should bring this issue up and offer some insight. Scott Paine asked Richard Pearson to include this on the next Ice Hockey committee agenda.
- John Brown discussed Hybrid sports – specifically Golf. This is a task for the Hybrid Sports Committee, which should be getting back to working on a hybrid/statewide model discussions.

8. **Next Meeting Dates: September 25, 2024 @ 10AM – In Person**
October 23, 2025 @ 10 AM
November 14, 2025 @ 10 AM

Meeting Adjourned @ 11:30 AM