

MIAA Ice Hockey Committee
Wednesday, October 1, 2025 @ 10:00 AM

Minutes

1. Call to Order

- **Attendance:** Tim Brillo, Michele Denise, Lori Stattenfield, Chris O'Donnell, Bob Ware, Jack Owens, Carla Scuzzarella, Matt Serino, Mike Mead, Dan Shine, Mark Albright, John Brown, Scott Palladino, Billy O'Connell, Scott Paine, Mike Flaherty, Courtney Turner, Tim Hooton, Phil Napolitano, Jim Clark.
- **Conflict of interest**

2. Election of Officers

- Chair – Dan Shine (John Brown, 2nd by Tim Hooton) Approved 18-0
- Vice Chair - Bob Ware (Scott P, 2nd Mike F) Approved 18-0
- Secretary Mike Mead (Bob W, Scott P) Approved 18-0

3. [Minutes from May 6, 2025](#)

- Motion to Approve Minutes (Approved 18-0)

4. 2026 Ice Hockey Tournament ([Format](#))

- Bob Ware update
 - D1 Final 4 at Tsongas (Lowell) - great atmosphere
 - Challenges with teams traveling to Gallo (Bourne)
 - Has Bentley been considered?
 - Their rink has only 3 locker rooms, which is a challenge for hosting multiple games.
- College site visits, a priority for Phil and Jim
 - Met with Conte Forum (BC). Successfully meeting
 - Waiting for opportunities to visit other colleges.
 - Have used Harvard, BU, Holy Cross, Merrimack, so we do have relationships but are looking to expand those relationships.
 - Tim- challenge with hockey east schools is their tournaments conflict with our dates.
- Rink capacities
 - Conduct a survey to find accurate numbers to host at a particular rink (fire code concerns), along with number of locker rooms and parking limits.

5. NFHS Rule Changes

- 3 New NFHS Rules
 - Electronic devices cannot be used to communicate with on ice players. Goaltender cannot have audio device
 - Terminology - Linesperson (instead of linesman)
 - Puck on the twine of the net - the player can move the puck. Puck on top of the net - the player cannot move the puck, deemed unplayable.

- Clarification was requested regarding running time due to goal differential and whether penalty time stops on the whistle when the game clock continues to run.
 - Tim – Penalty time continues to run in situations where the game clock is running because of a goal differential.
 - Phil will include this reminder in preseason ice hockey communication.

6. **On ice safety and sportsmanship**

- Continue working to address inappropriate language on the ice by players and poor sportsmanship, both during play and among spectators in the stands.

7. **Association Business**

- Standardized Athletic Calendar
 - Consistent start & end dates (History of proposal shared by John B)
 - All Fall Athletes start on second Mondays before Labor Day
 - All Spring Sports end by the 3rd Sunday in June
 - All Winter Sports begin on the Tuesday after Thanksgiving.
 - Bracket releases occur during the week, not on the weekend.

- Standards for Number of Championship Divisions
 - Jim Clark/Dan Shine update - Threshold for 4 divisions was 200, hockey had 194 teams at one point. Ice hockey (boys) is down to 174 teams. It is possible that ice hockey is going from 4 divisions to 3 divisions (boys) in the next alignment cycle.

- Division 1A Component of the Statewide Tournament
 - Jim Clark update
 - A Subcommittee led by Bob Ware was created to investigate interest in the 1A tournament and will have a proposal at January meeting.
- Alignments
 - [2025-27 Alignments](#) (Boys)
 - [2025-27 Alignments](#) (Girls)

8. Coaches Input

- Mike F – Margin of Victory.
 - We are in process of gathering information, and plan to send out a poll to gather feedback, including if MOV restricts participation and pulling of the goalie based on MOV.
 - Looking to educate coaches on MOV as well.
 - October 9th is the next coaches meeting. Hoping for a large response to get the feedback and hopefully have an advisory vote by March.
 - Overall, coaches agree ranking system works. They like it. The tweak would be to improve participation.
 - Our goal is to see it lowered, not to eliminate it as we support the rankings system. Presently MOV is 3, considering 2.
 - Jim has shared rankings with MOV of 4, 3, 2 and 1. Hope to have something for committee at January meeting.
- Courtney – How can we get more people involved in the games. Sometimes you cant put the kids out there because you have to win by 3 goals.

9. Officials Input

- Tim Hooton update - first meeting in November
- 15 new varsity officials

10. Other

- Scoresheets are in the process of being mailed to each school.
 - i. Mike F- I use the electronic scoresheets. They are great.
 - ii. Dan- discussed using it for the postseason but couldn't get the equipment. Consider for the final two rounds?

Next Meetings: January 28, 2026 @ 10:00 am; *In-Person*
 May 6, 2026 @ 10:00 am; *In-Person*