



### **Minutes of the MIAA T&F Committee, January 8, 2026**

1. Call to Order: 10:08 AM
2. Approval of Minutes: unanimous motion of Brian/Tanner 14-0
3. Cross-Country Tournament Reviews:
  - a. Tom Stewart: Northfield Mtn. – Northfield did not charge a fee, meet went well, good weather, good performances. Issues Raised by coaches – bib return policy, course not good for spectators, tough for athletes.
  - b. Pete McAuliffe: Devens – great cooperation from the Devens staff, much help with setup, several food trucks were on site, DJ’s at start & finish. Issues: one injury on the course, too many people brought dogs to the championship weekend. The Committee thanked Jeff & Pete for their hard work.
  - c. Live Results were not provided at all sites, in some cases the usual providers were not available, will be addressed for next fall.
  - d. Late entry issue – a school petitioned the courts for late entry into the meet, MIAA held firm, members of the committee put affidavits together and appeared at the judicial hearing. The MIAA will appeal so as not to establish a precedent. Keith thanked the committee members who participated in the hearing and asked folks to remind their district schools that they are the MIAA – it is a membership organization – and not to run to court whenever a ruling goes against them.
  - e. Keith mentioned the alignment issues which have been raised about some granted appeals, and he will discuss with TMC whether such appeals are reviewed when circumstances change, and when such reviews might take place. Some discussion followed, with input from Scott.
4. The 2026 XC Tournament Format was reviewed in detail. Biggest change was to put the awards ceremonies 45 minutes after the conclusion of a division’s race rather than one hour. Motion to approve format by Pete/Amanda passed 14-0-0.
5. Cross-Country Alignment subcommittee update: the proposal will be presented at the TMC Meeting on Tuesday, January 20 @ 10:00 AM. The documents to be presented to the TMC were shared with the committee and discussed. Most of the discussion was on the question of 3 sites for week 1 versus 2 (3 seemed to be the preferred option) and the size of the various races.
6. Indoor Tournament Update: Zoom meetings to be held on 1/26, 1/27, 1/28 @ 7 PM. Same information to be provided at each meeting.

## 7. Outdoor Track Schedule & Qualifying Standards

- a. John presented a proposal to calculate standards from the Performance List rather than the meet results, in order to take into account the performances from the full season rather than just a single meet. Take the 24<sup>th</sup> entry from the 2025 performance list for individual running events, the 18<sup>th</sup> for field events and relays, and 12<sup>th</sup> for pole vault. In each case the entry number is 75% of the desired number of competitors for that event. If a standard chosen this way from high jump or pole vault resulted in more than the desired number of competitors in the previous year, raised the standard to the next height. On motion Scott/Tanner, passed 14-0-0.
- b. A discussion on the opening heights in the high jump and pole vault was held. No conclusion was reached; the question will be revisited at the March meeting. The opening height question is tied together with the number of entries; a solution should involve both.

## 8. Officials Topics

- a. Pete pointed out that throwing safety is an NFHS point of emphasis this year. The NFHS statement should be posted on T&F page. Some editorial discussion was held as to whether the words “must” or “should” were more appropriate in the description of safety procedures. Tanner and Pete will work on the updating of the old (2009-ish) safety manual formerly created by the committee, with the goal of posting on both the MIAA & MSTCA websites.
- b. The GOC has updated MIAA officials’ fees for 2026 to be equivalent to a regular season fee-and-half. Pete proposed linking these two permanently so they stay the same in the future. Motion (I missed who): approved unanimously, 14-0-0. M

## 9. Other topics

- a. Tanner mentioned his idea to add additional throwing events to our program in outdoor track.
- b. Keith asked us to consider whether we add an additional cross-country team to the championship meet if one of the qualifiers opts out next year to attend the Nike Nationals qualifier. We will revisit in March.

Adjournment: 12:14 PM