

Representative Assembly Process
Addition of a Sport to the list of MSHSL Sanctioned Sports

Submitted: 10/15/2021

Proposed Bylaw Amendments:

Bylaw 501.00 - Maximum Number of Contests

Bylaw 502.00 - Daily / Season Participation Limitations

Bylaw 520.00 - Volleyball, Girls becomes Bylaw 520 "Volleyball, Boys & Girls"

(Adding Boys' Volleyball to the list of available sports through the MSHSL.)

Proposal

This proposal requests that the MSHSL amend Bylaw 520 (Girls Volleyball) to include sanction for a Boys Volleyball season to commence in the Spring or Fall of 2023. The proposal directs the BOD's of the League, upon recommendation of the Administrative Regions and vote for sanction by the Representative Assembly, to work in collaboration with the League's Administrators to determine the best seasonal placement (Bylaw 502) for the sport, as well as possible recommendation for an amendment to Bylaw 501.

History

The proposal to sanction boys' volleyball as a spring sport was first brought forward in 2017. It failed to gain majority support in the Administrative Regions that year and again in 2018.

In 2019, after two years of education and development however, ten Regions did support the proposal in 2019 and it was scheduled for a final vote in the Representative Assembly in May of 2020. Because of Covid, that vote was delayed until May of 2021, and although the majority of delegates supported it, it failed to get to the required 2/3 majority by two votes.

With the majority of the Regions and the Delegate Assembly in support of the proposal, and sanction just two votes shy of a 2/3 majority, proponents asked the MSHSL for advice moving forward. In discussions over the summer of 2021, it became quite clear that school stakeholders were in agreement that the Boys had earned the right to play for their school, but that disagreement regarding the seasonal placement of the sport was the final obstacle in the way of sanction.

So, in searching for a fair solution, the proponents of sanction have altered the proposal to allow for the vote to be for sanction only, and if that can gain the support of the Regions and the Delegate Assembly, the Board of Directors would do the work of placing the sport in the best seasonal time frame.

Sanction Rationale

1. Boys high School Volleyball is affordable since space and equipment to play already exists in our schools. Volleyball in general is one of the least costly sports of all sports played in Minnesota high schools.

2. By far, the main reason for the overwhelming support among regions and the 2021 Delegate Assembly is the opportunity high school volleyball will provide to thousands of boys now and into the future.

Here are the significant numbers that led to support by the Majority of the 2020 Administrative Regions and by the Majority of the 2021 Representative Assembly:

MINNESOTA'S PROVEN GROWTH & PARTICIPATION

(Data Represents Only Spring Season Participation)

22 Schools / 38 Teams / 400+ Boys in 2018

49 Schools / 94 Teams / 800+ Boys in 2019

57 Schools / 105 Teams / 1400+ Boys in 2020

(Registered and began the season prior to Covid cancellation.)

41 Schools / 74 Teams / 700+ Boys in 2021

(Even with Covid Restrictions and Online School Only!)

At a time when social injustice, disparity, and disconnection has never been more in focus, boys volleyball provides students the opportunity to connect and compete with people that represent the diverse community, especially those minority groups, both ethnic and social, that have a desire to play this sport.

- Over 37% of participants represent different racial minority groups. This means slightly more than 1 of every 3 boys playing volleyball identifies himself with a racial minority group. Of this 37%, about 30% are Asian with Hmong being the largest ethnic group.
- If students of different ethnic social minority groups are included, the 37% increases significantly.
- 85% of current MN Boys playing high school volleyball are NOT PARTICIPATING in ANY other sanctioned spring sport.

Summary

This proposal is submitted with the understanding that not all member schools are obligated or will be able to offer Boys volleyball. This proposal supports a large number of students that want to play volleyball and offers a sanctioned activity that appeals to specific ethnic minority groups.

The participation and growth alone are strong reasons for sanction. The intent of this proposal is to confirm that the majority of Regions and Delegate Assembly members believe the boys have earned sanction. The intent in moving the Seasonal decision to the Board Of Directors is to allow collaboration by and input from AD's and other stakeholders, so that the placement of the season ensures success for Minnesota Boys High School Volleyball.

I support the above proposal to Bylaws as noted herein:

<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Sandra Setter-Larson</i> 8B4A9A99E2A14AF</p>	10/12/2021
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Sandra Setter-Larson	Athletic Director, Eagan High School
<p>DocuSigned by: <i>John Bizek</i> 2D86F96F1DC1494...</p>	10/8/2021
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John Bizek	Principal, Prior Lake High School
<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Sam Malone</i> F69B478CAB6D47E...</p>	10/8/2021
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Sam Malone	Athletic Director, Hmong Prep Academy High School
<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Matt Hanson</i> 6366A33E718C4A3...</p>	10/9/2021
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Matt Hanson	Athletic Director, Shakopee High School
<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Kathleen Jackson</i> B9FAAA8A4496424...</p>	10/11/2021
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Kathy Jackson	Athletic Director, St. Paul Harding High School
<p>DocuSigned by: <i>William Quan</i> CF3347F3E9E343D...</p>	10/11/2021
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Bill Quan	Athletic Director, Osseo High School
<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Michelle Yener</i> 2E0E4D5DB236488...</p>	10/9/2021
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Michelle Yener	North St. Paul-Maplewood-Oakdale School District 622 School Board Member
<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Russ Reetz</i> D1E9BD16E57D488...</p>	10/13/2021
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Russ Reetz	Athletic Director, Eden Prairie High School
<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Victor Vondracek</i> C25248659BC94AD...</p>	10/12/2021
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Victor Vondracek	Athletic Director, Twin Cities Academy High School
<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Tom Dasovich</i> 03E50AEBF3BF49C...</p>	10/9/2021
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Tom Dasovich	Athletic Director, Lakeville South High School
<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Broc Threinen</i> B466DEDA4202481...</p>	10/8/2021
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Broc Threinen	Athletic Director, Kasson-Mantorville High School
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Jeff Whitney	Athletic Director, Rochester Mayo High School
<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Ted Schultz</i> 76490755E59E41F</p>	10/8/2021
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Ted Schultz	Athletic Director, Minnetonka High School

I support the above proposal to Bylaws as noted herein:

DocuSigned by:
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