



Minnesota State High School League
2100 Freeway Boulevard
Brooklyn Center, MN 55430

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING Thursday, April 6, 2023

The meeting of the Board of Directors of the Minnesota State High School League convened at the League Office in Brooklyn Center, Minnesota. President Stein called the meeting to order at 9:39 a.m. All current members of the Board of Directors were present except Julie Anderson, Casey Indra, Ceil McDonald, May Thao-Schuck and Astein Osei. All members of the League Executive Staff were present.

Others attending all or portions of the meeting included:

Kevin Beck, MSHSL Legal Counsel, *Kelly & Lemmons, P.A.*
Sean and Kelly Deering
Amanda Johnson, Executive Assistant, *MSHSL*
Jim Paulsen, *Star Tribune*

Reflection by Denarvise Thornton

Pledge of Allegiance

Motion by Heier and second by Timm to approve the meeting agenda and consent agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

Minutes Approved

Motion by Engebretson and second by Guthmueller to approve the minutes of the February 2, 2023, Board of Directors Meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Board of Directors Members' Reports and Comments

Members shared observations and appreciation for everyone involved in the operation of winter tournaments.

Legislative Report Received

Executive Director Martens shared updates from the State Legislature supplied by League Lobbyist Roger Aronson. Educational funding is a primary focus of proposed legislation. He also reported on a legislature that is very busy and committed to finishing the session by the required date.

Legal Counsel's Report Received

Legal Counsel Kevin Beck reported there are no pending or threatened legal actions.

Executive Director's Report Received

The Executive Director's Report was shared and received. The report included the following:

- MSHSL Foundation B1 and B2 Grant approvals took place by the Foundation Board. Over \$900,000 was sent back to member schools through the Foundation Grants.
- The DEIB Committee is reviewing and working on a revised draft of the *Board Position Statement: A Code of Commitment to be Multi-Cultural, Gender-Fair, and Disability Aware (inclusive)*.
- The Sports Medicine Advisory continues to ensure that student health and safety remain at the forefront of students and their participation in activities and athletics.
- The Adoption of Programs Task Force is currently reviewing and working on a draft of a Presenting Partner Policy. The final draft is intended to be ready for the June 6 meeting.
- The Principals Advisory Committee continues to meet four times a year. Their recent meeting included a number of topics, including review of the winter advisory proposals and providing feedback for the Board to consider at the June meeting.

- League Staff provided a recap of winter recognitions and state tournaments. Despite weather challenges, all tournaments were held, and attendance at winter state tournaments increased by six percent from 2022.
- The League hosted their sponsorship partner, Playfly High School Sports Properties, for their annual staff meeting.
- League Executive Staff members attended and presented multiple times at the MnlAAA State Conference in St. Cloud. Sessions were held in technology, contest management, League basics and the status of the League.

Executive Committee Report Received

The Executive Committee Report from the April 5, 2023, meeting was received and included updates on the following:

February 21

- Two eligibility cases were reviewed and in both cases the decisions of the Eligibility Committee were upheld.
- Approved an additional game waiver to opponents of the Duluth Marshall boys and girls lacrosse teams during the 2023 regular season.
- Approved the DEIB contribution of \$10,000 from Playfly Sports Properties to be directed to the Together We Make A Difference Statewide Conference.

March 17

- Reviewed and approved the classification appeals recommended by the ADs Advisory Committee for the 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 school years.
- Approved Hastings Wrestling, Hibbing Boys Basketball, and Hibbing Girls Basketball to compete in the class in which they competed last year.
- Approved the cost of a celebratory dinner and additional lodging for Dave Stead and Bill Webb, selected to the NFHS Hall of Fame and Rebecca Meyer Larson, NFHS Citation winner.
- Approved a financial donation of \$3,500 to support the 2023 NASO Summit. The donation includes free registration for three attendees from Minnesota.

April 5

- Approved Wilmar Wrestling to compete in the class in which they competed last year.
- Reviewed a report from Forbes Solutions on the Together We Make a Difference initiative. League Staff continue to work on a plan to release a student-generated Code of Behavior and a Board of Directors Position Statement.
- Directed League staff to present a revised draft of the Activity Advisory Proposal Process Policy, including the requirements of each proposal.
- Reviewed the proposed amendments for the Representative Assembly to be held on May 9.

Motion by Lilleberg and second by Heier to approve dates and sites for Spring 2023, which include the following:

- Visual Arts State Festival is Saturday, May 13, at the Perpich Center for the Arts in Golden Valley.
- Chanhassen High School is the host site for the Adapted Softball State Tournament.
- White Bear Lake High School is a host site for the Lacrosse State Tournament with Stillwater Area High School remaining the other host site for the event.

The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Rocheleau and second by Revenig to approve policy language as presented (Appendix A) allowing for five-inning doubleheaders in softball and baseball for Spring 2023. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Peschel and second by Tauer to approve the Executive Committee Report as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

ITEMS REQUIRING ACTION

2023-2024 Tournament Calendar

Motion by Lilleberg and second by Heier to approve the State Tournament Calendar (Appendix B) for the 2023-2024 school year. The motion passed unanimously.

2023-2024 Meeting Dates

The calendar of Meeting Dates for the 2023-2024 school year includes board meetings, workshops, Area Meetings, and the Representative Assembly Meeting.

Motion by Smokrovich and second by Rocheleau to approve the Meeting Dates (Appendix C) for the 2023-2024 school year.

The motion passed unanimously.

Competitive Section Placements 2023-2024 and 2024-2025

Motion by Timm and second by Peschel to approve the Competitive Section Placements for the 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 school years. The motion passed unanimously.

GENERAL DISCUSSION ITEMS

Basketball Shot Clock Rule Adoption

League Staff presented draft language in preparation for the implementation of the basketball shot clock for the 2023-2024 season that was previously approved by the Board of Directors. Included is language on the conditions which require the reset of the clock and an adjustment to the closely guarded rule in the frontcourt. Approval of the policy language will be an action item at the June Board of Directors meeting.

Winter Activity Advisory Proposals

League Staff shared information and updates on the Winter Activity Advisory Proposals as they've been proposed through the advisory committee process.

Basketball:

- Seed the Boys and Girls Basketball State Tournament teams #1 through #8 for all classes.

Dance:

- Implement a specific order of competition at the preliminary round of the State Tournament which schedules the highest finishing teams at section competition to perform in the last four teams in their class.

Debate:

- Update the qualification methods for Lincoln-Douglas, Public Forum and Policy Debate to match the format used by Congressional Debate.
- Setting a consistent number of state qualifiers at 24 in all four events.

Nordic Skiing:

- Include medals for team alternates.
- Increase the number of individuals qualifying for the State Meet from each section to be qualifying teams plus the six highest finishers.
- Create a state tournament schedule with the order of events that creates greater consistency.
- Modify the use of alternate skiers at the State Meet to allow a skier from the sprint relay to fill an empty slot in the pursuit or vice versa with an alternate skier filling the open slot in the lineup.
- Modify the current tie-breaking criteria by removing the current first determining factor of combining the times of the fastest two finishers in the pursuit event.

Wrestling

- On a two-year trial basis, creating an option for 13 weight classes for team competition and 14 weights for individual competition.
- Add a half-day of competition to the current three-day format for the State Wrestling Meet.

Together We Make a Difference

League Staff shared an update from Forbes Solutions on next steps with the Together We Make A Difference initiative. The League's partners, MSBA, MASSP, AMSD, MnIAAA and the MSHSCA, remained committed to the continuation of the initiative. Work continues with the League's Student Advisory Leadership Team to complete the student generated Code of Behavior.

Representative Assembly

The annual meeting of the League's Representative Assembly will be held on May 9, 9 am, at the Minneapolis Marriott Northwest in Brooklyn Park. League Staff shared an update on the Representative Assembly amendment proposals that will be considered on May 9. The first proposal provides for new bylaws designed specifically for Adapted Athletics, separate from the existing bylaws and fully supported by the MAAA. The second proposal adopts Boys Volleyball as an interscholastic activity for the 2024-2025 school year.

Membership Dues Discussion

League Staff reviewed the process by which the League determines membership dues and discussed financial information that is considered in the setting of dues. This will be an Action Item at the August Board meeting as the fiscal year ends on July 31.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Eligibility Committee

The Eligibility Committee report included updated data on the number of cases and outcomes and was approved as presented.

Audit/Finance Committee

The Audit/Finance report included updates on the following items:

- Reviewed the January 2023 and February 2023 financial statements as presented.

Motion by Smokrovich and second by Heier to approve the January and February 2023 Financial Statements as presented (Appendix D). The motion passed unanimously.

Marketing and Communications Committee

The Marketing and Communications report provided updates from League Staff on the following items:

- Media management and partnerships, including the upcoming Media Forum on May 17, the League's online credentialing platform, and possible revisions to the 2023-2024 Media Policy Manual.
- Social media engagement and the coverage of member schools.
- Marketing and sponsorship updates that included sponsor fulfillments at state tournaments. New corporate partners include Davanni's and Prairie Farms.
- Technology updates that included statistics and analytics on digital state tournament souvenir programs, website page views, social media followers and additional ongoing projects.

Education and Leadership Committee

The Education and Leadership report provided updates from League Staff on the following items:

- The League's Student Advisory Leadership Team (SALT) includes nine students participating in the program for the 2022-2023 school year. Applications for the 2023-2024 school year will open soon with new members included in the June work session.
- League Staff shared that 644 coaches from member schools have taken the Head Coaches Course since August.
- The League's Officials Advisory Committee will meet in two weeks. The group is looking to add a Fine Arts representative.
- Registration for officials opens in May with the same fee structure utilized in the 2022-2023 school year.
- Minnesota is working to finalize its position as host of the National Association of Sports Officials Summit in 2027.

INFORMATION ITEMS

- Board Officer Candidates for 2023-2024 were introduced with ballots being sent out following the May Board Workshop.

- The election of Board Officers will take place prior to the June 6 Board Meeting with results shared at the Board Meeting.
- The next Board Workshop is Wednesday, May 3, 2023, at 2 pm.
- The next Board Meeting is Tuesday, June 6, 2023 9:30 am.
- NFHS Summer Meeting is June 28-July 2, 2023, in Seattle, Washington.

Assignment of New Member Schools

1. Apple Hill Home School – 1A
2. Araoz Home School – 1A
3. Deerwood Academy (Johnson Home School) – 1A
4. Franze Home School – 4A
5. Heartland Christian Academy – 8A
6. Heritage Home School Academy – 1A
7. Klassen Family Home School – 4A
8. McNamara Home School – 4A
9. Roberts Home School – 1A
10. Rochester STEM Academy – 1A
11. Sacred Heart of Jesus Home School - 4A
12. Silseth Home School – 2A

Dissolutions of Cooperative Sponsorships

2022-2023

1. Avail Academy/Knutsen Academy - Track and Field, Girls
2. Climax/Fisher/Sacred Heart - Baseball
3. Climax/Fisher/Sacred Heart - Softball, Girls
4. Climax/Fisher/Sacred Heart - Track and Field, Boys
5. Climax/Fisher/Sacred Heart - Track and Field, Girls
6. Heritage Christian Academy/Maranatha Christian Academy/Mayer Lutheran/PACT Charter/Spectrum/Providence Academy/West Lutheran - Lacrosse, Boys
7. Immanuel Lutheran/Mankato Loyola - Baseball
8. Liberty Classical Academy/Schleusener Home School - Track and Field, Girls
9. New Life Academy/Nova Classical Academy - Softball, Girls
10. St. Cloud Apollo/St. Cloud Christian School - Track and Field, Boys
11. St. Cloud Apollo/St. Cloud Christian School - Track and Field, Girls

2023-2024

1. Anoka/PACT - Football
2. Becker/Big Lake/Spectrum/Princeton - Hockey, Girls
3. BOLD/Renville County West - Softball, Girls
4. Columbia Heights/Hmong College Prep Academy - Football
5. DeLaSalle/Hiawatha Collegiate - Football
6. Detroit Lakes/Perham - Hockey, Girls
7. Eagle Ridge Academy/Groves Academy/International School of MN - Track and Field, Boys
8. Eagle Ridge Academy/Groves Academy/International School of MN - Track and Field, Girls
9. Minnehaha Academy/Totino-Grace - Wrestling

Cooperative Sponsorships

2022-2023

1. Avail Academy/Bock Home School/Doolittle Academy/Knutsen Academy/Spirit Formed Academy/Timber River Academy - Track and Field, Girls
2. Avail Academy/Bock Home School/Doolittle Home School/Knutsen Home School/Spirit Formed Academy/Timber River Academy - Track and Field, Girls
3. Bloomington Kennedy/United Christian Academy - Lacrosse, Girls
4. Brooklyn Center/Exploration - Track and Field, Boys
5. Brooklyn Center/Exploration - Track and Field, Girls
6. Butterfield-Odin United/Martin County West - Track and Field, Boys
7. Butterfield-Odin United/Martin County West - Track and Field, Girls
8. Cambridge Christian School/Good Shepherd Lutheran - Baseball
9. Chesterton of the St. Croix Valley/Liberty Classical Academy/Schleusener Home School - Track and Field, Girls
10. Climax/DNA Home School/Fisher/Sacred Heart - Track and Field, Boys
11. Climax/DNA Home School/Fisher/Sacred Heart - Track and Field, Girls
12. Climax/DNA Homeschool/Fisher/Riverside Christian Academy/Sacred Heart - Baseball
13. Climax/Fisher/Riverside Christian Academy/Sacred Heart - Softball, Girls
14. Cornerstone Christian (Ontario)/International Falls - Softball, Girls
15. Cornerstone Christian (Ontario)/International Falls - Track and Field, Boys
16. Cornerstone Christian (Ontario)/International Falls - Track and Field, Girls
17. Cotter/Hope Lutheran - Tennis, Boys
18. Cotter/Hope Lutheran/Meinke Home School/Riverway Learning Community - Track and Field, Boys
19. Cotter/Hope Lutheran/MTA Academy (Peratt Home School)/Riverway Learning Community - Track and Field, Girls
20. Cotter/Hope Lutheran/Riverway Learning Community - Baseball
21. Cotter/Hope Lutheran/Riverway Learning Community - Softball
22. Ely/Northeast Range - Baseball
23. Eveleth-Gilbert/Virginia - Softball, Girls
24. Fairmont/Martin Luther - Tennis, Boys
25. Franze Home School/PACT Charter - Softball, Girls
26. Gentry Academy/Mounds Park Academy - Golf, Girls
27. Grace Academy/Immanuel Lutheran/Mankato Loyola - Baseball
28. Greenway/Nashwauk-Keewatin - Softball, Girls
29. Heritage Christian Academy/Legacy Christian Academy/Maranatha Christian Academy/PACT Charter/Spectrum/Providence Academy/West Lutheran - Lacrosse, Boys
30. Hope Academy/Minnehaha Academy - Track and Field, Girls
31. Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton/Waseca - Adapted Bowling, ASD
32. La Crescent Montessori and STEM School/La Crescent-Hokah - Baseball
33. La Crescent Montessori and STEM School/La Crescent-Hokah - Golf, Boys
34. La Crescent Montessori and STEM School/La Crescent-Hokah - Golf, Girls
35. La Crescent Montessori and STEM School/La Crescent-Hokah - Softball
36. La Crescent Montessori and STEM School/La Crescent-Hokah - Track and Field, Boys
37. La Crescent Montessori and STEM School/La Crescent-Hokah - Track and Field, Girls
38. Liberty Classical Academy/Kanowitz Academy/Montag Academy - Track and Field, Boys
39. Liberty Classical Academy/Pedro Home School - Golf, Boys

40. Liberty Classical Academy/St. Paul Washington Magnet School - Tennis, Boys
41. Mahtomedi/Stillwater - Adapted Softball, CI
42. Mound Westonka/Watertown-Mayer - Lacrosse, Boys
43. St. Paul Central/St. Paul Como Park/St. Paul Harding/St. Paul Highland Park/St. Paul Humboldt/St. Paul Johnson/St. Paul Washington Tech./Two Rivers - Lacrosse, Boys
44. St. Paul Central/St. Paul Como Park/St. Paul Harding/St. Paul Highland Park/St. Paul Humboldt/St. Paul Johnson/St. Paul Washington Tech./Two Rivers - Lacrosse, Girls

2023-2024

1. Becker/Big Lake/Princeton - Hockey, Girls
2. Chesterton Academy of the Twin Cities/Eagle Ridge Academy/Groves Academy/International School of MN/United Christian Academy - Track and Field, Boys
3. Chesterton Academy of the Twin Cities/Eagle Ridge Academy/Groves Academy/International School of MN/United Christian Academy - Track and Field, Girls
4. Detroit Lakes/Frazee/New York Mills/Park Rapids/Perham/Wadena-Deer Creek - Hockey, Girls
5. Exploration/Hiwatha Collegiate/High School for Recording Arts/Venture Academy - Football
6. Fairmont/Martin Luther - Tennis, Girls
7. Gentry Academy/Mounds Park Academy - Soccer, Boys
8. Lakes International Language Academy/North Lakes/PACT - Football
9. LeSueur-Henderson/St. Peter - Adapted Bowling, ASD
10. LeSueur-Henderson/St. Peter - Adapted Bowling, PI

Ejections - Violation of the Coaches Code of Ethics

1. Bill Moore, Hockey, Boys, Park Rapids Area High School
2. Brad Podiak, Hockey, Girls, Wayzata High School
3. Brian Noyes, Basketball, Girls, St. Clair High School
4. Chris Gamst, Hockey, Boys, Moose Lake High School
5. Donald Groce, Basketball, Boys, Minneapolis Roosevelt High School
6. Head Coach, Basketball, Boys, Bloomington Kennedy High School
7. Jamil Jackson, Basketball, Boys, Minneapolis Patrick Henry High School
8. JV Head Coach, Basketball, Boys, Rochester John Marshall
9. Steve Henry, Hockey, Boys, White Bear Lake Area High School
10. Todd Gutterman, Hockey, Girls, Champlin Park High School

There being no further business, motion by Lilleberg and second by Heier to adjourn the meeting at 1:39 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.



Executive Director