



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

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Thursday, November 30, 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 Smokrovich called the meeting to order at 9:36 a.m. All current members of the Board of Directors were present except Dave Rocheleau and Mark Gitch. All members of the League's Executive Staff were present except Laura Mackenthun.

Others attending all or portions of the meeting included:

Roger Aronson, MSHSL Lobbyist/Special Projects Counsel
Kevin Beck, MSHSL Legal Counsel, *Kelly & Lemmons, P.A.*
Amanda Johnson, Executive Assistant, *MSHSL*
Greg Juba, *Soccer Coaches Association Liaison*

Reflection by Brent Schimek

Pledge of Allegiance

Motion by Peschel and second by Engebretson to approve the meeting agenda and consent agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

Minutes Approved

Motion by Timm and second by McDonald to approve the minutes of the October 5, 2023, Board of Directors Meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Individual Addressing the Board of Directors

No individuals were present to address the board on agenda items.

Board of Directors Members' Reports and Comments

Board members reported on their experiences at state tournament events. They expressed appreciation to teams, coaches, officials, venues and staff for their contributions in making these events happen.

Special recognition of outstanding sportsmanship demonstrated by many student-athletes throughout the fall season and especially noticed in the state championships.

Legislative Report Received

League Lobbyist Roger Aronson shared updates from the State Legislature. The 2024 Legislative Session is scheduled to begin on Monday, February 12.

Legal Counsel's Report Received

League Counsel Kevin Beck reported progress and next steps on two pending cases.

Executive Director's Report Received

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

- Introduced new Board of Directors members Joe Fittante (Governor Appointee) and Jed Helwig (Regions 3AA-4AA).
- League Staff shared reviews of fall state tournament events and thanked venues for their excellent work in hosting these important events.

- League Staff shared a Sports Medicine Advisory Committee update. Topics shared included pregame event planning meetings, emergency action plans at state tournaments, protective equipment for student-athletes and the focus on Anyone Can Save a Life.
- Shared an MSHSL Foundation Update: Form A submissions --- 295 schools; Form B submissions --- 150 applications (schools, conferences and regions) with awards determined on December 12, 2023.
- League staff shared information regarding a recent meeting with three potential new member schools. The meeting provided schools with essential information on the benefits and the requirements of what it means to be a member school. The meeting also provided the opportunity for schools to ask questions.
- The League is in the final stages of signing a premier financial sponsor. When the partnership is finalized, an announcement will be made.
- The implementation of the basketball shot clock continues to go well for the great majority of member schools and resources have been provided to member schools to assist with the management of the shot clock at their events.
- Upcoming professional development opportunities for League Staff:
 - 11-State Meeting, Chicago – December 1-4
 - NIAAA National AD's Conference, Orlando – December 14-18
 - NFHS Winter Meeting, San Francisco – January 2-6, 2024
 - NFHS Let's Connect, Chicago – January 4-5, 2024

Executive Committee Report Received

The Executive Committee Report from the November 29, 2023, meeting was received and included updates on the following:

- Reviewed items that will be action by the full board including the tabled proposals on basketball and dance, FIS Alpine Skiing Rules adjustments.
- Addressed potential calendar conflicts with projected state tournament event dates in 2024-2025.
- Denied an appeal of the placement recommendation that Lester Prairie be placed into the Tomahawk Valley Conference and advanced the MSHSL Conference Placement Committee's recommendation to the Board of Directors for approval.
- Discussed the potential implementation steps and timeline of bringing all ninth-grade participation under the governance of the Minnesota State High School League.
- Approved an additional game waiver for teams that compete against Cloquet/Carlton/Esko in Boys Lacrosse.
- Approved the expense for the annual Employee Recognition Luncheon on Dec. 21, 2023.
- The Executive Committee is recommending one item below for full board approval:

Wrestling – Daily Maximum Limits

Motion by Tauer and second by Lilleberg to approve an adjustment to the wrestling maximum daily limit from five to six matches per day to align with the NFHS rule as presented (Appendix A). This adoption approval is effective this current wrestling season. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Corneille and second by O'Donnell to approve the Executive Committee Report. The motion passed unanimously.

ITEMS REQUIRING ACTION

Belief Statement – Regional Representation

Motion by Revenig and second by Peschel to approve an MSHSL Belief Statement that solidifies a commitment to regional representation at state tournament events as presented (Appendix B). The motion passed unanimously.

Tabled Proposals

Motion by Schimek and second by Corneille to deny recently tabled Winter Advisory Committee proposals for girls and boys basketball and dance team as presented (Appendix C). With the recent approval of a Team State Tournament Seeding Policy on Oct. 5, 2023, those proposals can be re-submitted this season for potential implementation in the 2024-2025 school year. The motion passed by a voice vote 18-1.

Alpine Skiing FIS Rule Change

Motion by McDonald and second by Helwig to approve a rule change to continue allowing a participant the opportunity to finish their run if they have fallen or missed a gate as presented (Appendix D). The FIS Alpine Skiing Federation recently made a rule change that prohibits this opportunity. The motion passed unanimously.

Conference Placement

Motion by Fairbanks and second by Timm to approve a recommendation by the MSHSL Conference Placement Committee to place Central High School of Norwood Young America into the Wright County Conference beginning with the 2024-2025 school year as presented (Appendix E). The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Cornell and second by Peterson to approve a recommendation by the MSHSL Conference Placement Committee to place Lester Prairie in the Tomahawk Valley Conference beginning with the 2024-2025 school year as presented (Appendix F). The motion passed unanimously.

GENERAL DISCUSSION ITEMS

Together in Partnership Student Statewide Conference

League Staff shared that final preparations are underway for the MSHSL Together in Partnership Student Statewide Conference to be held on Wednesday, December 6, at the St. Paul RiverCentre. The leadership of MSHSL Student Advisory and Leadership Team, the schedule of the day, the keynote speakers and the desired outcomes of the event were shared. Board Members were encouraged to attend the Statewide Conference.

Fall Activity Advisory Proposals

League staff provided information on the current Fall Activity Advisory Committee proposals that will be acted on at the February Board of Directors Meeting as presented (Appendix G):

- **Football:** The Football Advisory Committee is seeking a seeding process that includes Classes Nine-Player through AAAAAA. This process would seed teams one through four north and one through four south in two geographic halves of Minnesota for the state quarterfinals and then cross bracket the higher and lower seed remaining from each half for the semifinals. Currently, the State Tournament Quarterfinals are not seeded but played in a rotation of section champion matchups.
- **Soccer:** The Soccer Advisory Committee is seeking to adjust the process for a suspended game during the postseason, by stating that a contest be continued from the point of suspension. The current Minnesota modification regarding suspended games states that if less than one-half of the game has been played or if the game is tied at any point in the contest, the game will be replayed from the start.
- **Girls Tennis:** The Girls Tennis Advisory Committee is seeking to expand to a third enrollment classification. If approved, implementation would be for the 2025-2026 school year following the established competitive section placement schedule. The proposal also seeks to divide the teams into three equal classes by team enrollment, which is allowed under the MSHSL classification policy. Currently, girls tennis is a two-class activity and the classes are defined as the lowest 64 teams by enrollment in Class A and the rest in Class AA.
- **Girls Volleyball:** The Volleyball Advisory Committee is seeking to seed the state tournament one through eight for all classes beginning in the 2024-2025 school year. Currently, the State Tournament Quarterfinals are seeded one through five with a random draw for seeds six, seven, and eight for all four classes.

Representative Assembly Proposals

League staff provided information on the current Representative Assembly proposals. These proposals will be presented to the 16 administrative regions for review and voting to determine if the proposals will advance to the Representative Assembly. A minimum of nine administrative regions must vote in favor of each proposal to advance to the Representative Assembly on Tuesday, May 7, 2024.

- **Bylaw 208.02 Gymnastics ---** This proposal seeks to provide an opportunity for school gymnastics coaches to coach their student participants during the school year, outside of the defined season. The proposal includes limits of three practices each week with no more than six hours of practice total in a week. Currently, during the school year, prior to and following the high school sports season, coaches shall not influence or direct a

student to participate as a member of a team or as an individual competitor in a non-school league, camp, clinic, or to take private or group instruction or lessons. A student who has been a member of a high school team (B-squad, junior varsity or varsity) may not receive coaching, training or private lessons from a salaried or non-salaried member of the school's sophomore, B-squad, junior varsity or varsity coaching staff in that sport.

- Bylaw 522.07 Dance Team --- This proposal seeks to move tryouts for dance from the current spring tryout period to the first part of the approved winter season. If approved, the spring window for dance team tryouts would be eliminated and it would create consistency with other League activities. Currently, in the sport of dance, coaches may have contact with students for preparation, tryouts, and team selection following the state competition and prior to June 15. This tryout and selection period shall not exceed one week.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Eligibility Committee

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

Audit/Finance Committee

The Audit/Finance report included updates on the following:

- The committee shared that fall paid attendance showed an increase of more than 32,000 during state tournament events.
- The Cross Country State Meet had an attendance of more than 9,500 in its return to Les Bolstad University of Minnesota Golf Course. This is the first time that Cross Country has been a ticketed event.

Motion by McDonald and second by Lilleberg to approve the September 2023 and October 2023 Financial Statements as presented (Appendix H). The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Schimek and second by Peterson to approve the Audit Finance Committee Report as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Marketing and Communications Committee

The Marketing and Communications report included updates on the following items:

- Updates on discussions and explorations with the League's credentialing vendor with the creation of access passes.
- The League's Hall of Fame Class of 2024 has been announced and the promotion of that class and the induction ceremony on April 14, 2024, will continue.
- Updates and statistics on Social Media engagement were shared.
- Updates were shared regarding corporate sponsorships, including onsite engagement with the Minnesota State Troopers and Prairie Farms. Midwest Dairy is the new sponsor of the Triple A recognition program.
- Update on Signature Concepts apparel sales for the fall. Signature Concepts has an increase in revenue this fall compared to last year. Committee members were complimentary of the quality of the apparel.

Education and Leadership Committee

The Education and Leadership report included updates on the following items:

- The committee received updates on the "Together in Partnership" statewide event on Wednesday, Dec. 6 at the St. Paul RiverCentre.
- With the implementation of the shot clock in girls and boys basketball, training and informational resources have been made available to member schools.
- League Behavior Expectations Tool Kits are available to member school administrators on their dashboards in a digital format. These tool kits will promote the student-generated behavior expectations.

INFORMATION ITEMS

- Emphasized the importance of board members attendance at our state tournaments. Shared Constitution Language which states that at least one member of the Board of Directors shall be present at all state championship contests.
- Next Board of Directors Meeting: Thursday, February 1, 2024

Assignment of New Member Schools

1. Berge Home School – 6A
2. DeWitt Home School – 4A
3. Eagle Lake Home School – 4A
4. Kuhn Home School – 7A
5. Larson Home School – 6A
6. Lychman Home School – 4A
7. Raven Academy (Home School) – 4A
8. Rooted and Grounded Home School – 6A
9. Rysdam Academy (Home School) – 5A
10. Schwab Home School – 5A
11. Westphal Home School – 5A

Dissolutions of Cooperative Sponsorships

1. Alexandria/Brandon-Evansville/Chokio-Alberta/Fergus Falls/Minnewaska/Morris Area/West Central/Wheaton - Alpine Skiing, Boys
2. Alexandria/Brandon-Evansville/Chokio-Alberta/Fergus Falls/Minnewaska/Morris Area/West Central/Wheaton - Alpine Skiing, Boys
3. Apple Valley/Rosemount - Alpine Skiing, Boys
4. Avail Academy/Bock Home School/Spirit Formed Academy - Basketball, Boys
5. Bethlehem Academy/Faribault - Baseball
6. Bethlehem Academy/Faribault - Dance, High Kick
7. Bethlehem Academy/Faribault - Dance, Jazz
8. Bethlehem Academy/Faribault - Gymnastics, Girls
9. Bethlehem Academy/Faribault - Hockey, Boys
10. Bethlehem Academy/Faribault - Swimming and Diving, Boys
11. Bethlehem Academy/Faribault - Tennis, Boys
12. Bethlehem Academy/Faribault - Track and Field, Boys
13. Bethlehem Academy/Faribault - Track and Field, Girls
14. Bethlehem Academy/Faribault - Wrestling
15. Blackduck/Cass Lake-Bena/Kelliher - Wrestling
16. Brooklyn Center/Concordia Academy/Parnassus Prep - Wrestling
17. Concordia Academy/Heritage Christian Academy/Legacy Christian Academy/PACT Charter School/Providence Academy/RiverTree School/West Lutheran - Hockey, Boys
18. Cook County/Silver Bay/Two Harbors - Nordic Ski Racing, Boys
19. Cook County/Silver Bay/Two Harbors - Nordic Ski Racing, Girls
20. Corley Christian Academy/In Omnia Paratus Academy/Meadow Lake Woods Academy/United Christian Academy/Welch Academy - Basketball, Girls
21. Detroit Lakes/Hawley/Lake Park-Audubon/Moorhead - Alpine Skiing, Boys
22. Detroit Lakes/Hawley/Lake Park-Audubon/Moorhead - Alpine Skiing, Boys

23. Eden Valley-Watkins/Rocori/St. Cloud Apollo/St. Cloud Cathedral/St. Cloud Tech High School/Sartell/Sauk Rapids-Rice High School/Sartell - Alpine Skiing, Girls
24. Elk River/Maple Grove/Maranatha Christian Academy/Osseo/Park Center/Rogers/Totino-Grace - Alpine Skiing, Girls
25. Elk River/Maple Grove/Maranatha Christian Academy/Osseo/Park Center/Rogers/Totino-Grace - Alpine Skiing, Boys
26. Great River School/New Life Academy/St. Croix Lutheran/St. Croix Prep Academy/Twin Cities Academy/Woodbury - Hockey, Girls
27. St. Cloud Apollo/St. Cloud Cathedral/St. Cloud Tech - Gymnastics, Girls

Cooperative Sponsorships

1. Academy of Holy Angels/Richfield - Lacrosse, Girls
2. Academy of the Lynx/Avail Academy/Bock Home School/Eagle Lake Home School/Johnson Home School/Spirit Formed Academy - Basketball, Boys
3. Alexandria/Brandon-Evansville/Chokio-Alberta/Fergus Falls/Kerkhoven-Murdock-Sunburg/Minnewaska/Morris Area/West Central/Wheaton - Alpine Skiing, Girls
4. Alexandria/Brandon-Evansville/Chokio-Alberta/Fergus Falls/Kerkhoven-Murdock-Sunburg/Minnewaska/Morris Area/West Central/Wheaton - Alpine Skiing, Girls
5. Austin/Blooming Prairie/Pacelli - Hockey, Girls
6. Avail Academy/Bock Home School/Doolittle Academy/Johnson Home School/Kuhn Academy/Lychman Academy/Raven Academy/Spirit Formed Academy/ - Basketball, Girls
7. B O L D/Willmar - Hockey, Girls
8. Berge Home School/Hillcrest Lutheran Academy - Basketball, Boys
9. Bethlehem Academy/Faribault/Randolph - Hockey, Boys
10. Bethlehem Academy/Faribault/Shattuck-St. Mary's - Baseball
11. Bethlehem Academy/Faribault/Shattuck-St. Mary's - Dance, High Kick
12. Bethlehem Academy/Faribault/Shattuck-St. Mary's - Dance, Jazz
13. Bethlehem Academy/Faribault/Shattuck-St. Mary's - Gymnastics. Girls
14. Bethlehem Academy/Faribault/Shattuck-St. Mary's - Swimming and Diving, Boys
15. Bethlehem Academy/Faribault/Shattuck-St. Mary's - Tennis, Boys
16. Bethlehem Academy/Faribault/Shattuck-St. Mary's - Track and Field, Boys
17. Bethlehem Academy/Faribault/Shattuck-St. Mary's - Track and Field, Girls
18. Bethlehem Academy/Faribault/Shattuck-St. Mary's - Wrestling
19. Blackduck/Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig/Cass Lake-Bena/Kelliher - Wrestling
20. Braham/Rysdam Academy - Baseball
21. Braham/Rysdam Academy - Basketball, Boys
22. Braham/Rysdam Academy - Basketball, Girls
23. Braham/Rysdam Academy - Clay Target
24. Braham/Rysdam Academy - Softball
25. Brooklyn Center/Concordia Academy/Hand In Hand/Parnassus Prep - Wrestling
26. Central/Waconia - Hockey, Girls
27. Chesterton Academy of the Twin Cities/International School of MN (The) - Basketball, Girls
28. Concordia Academy/Roseville Area - Hockey, Boys
29. Corley Christian Academy/In Omnia Paratus Academy/Meadow Lake Woods Academy/Schmitter Home School/United Christian Academy/Welch Academy - Basketball, Girls
30. Detroit Lakes/Frazeo - Swimming and Diving, Boys
31. Detroit Lakes/Frazeo/Hawley/Lake Park-Audubon/Moorhead/Perham - Alpine Skiing, Girls

32. Detroit Lakes/Frazee/Hawley/Lake Park-Audubon/Moorhead/Perham - Alpine Skiing, Girls
33. Eagle Ridge Academy/Heritage Christian Academy/Legacy Christian Academy/PACT Charter School/Providence Academy/RiverTree School/West Lutheran - Hockey, Boys
34. Eden Valley-Watkins/Rocori/St. Cloud Apollo/St. Cloud Cathedral/St. Cloud Tech High School/St. John's Prep/Sartell/Sauk Rapids-Rice High School/Sartell - Alpine Skiing, Girls
35. Elk River/Maple Grove/Maranatha Christian Academy/Osseo/Park Center/Rogers/St. Anthony Village/Totino-Grace - Alpine Skiing, Girls
36. Elk River/Maple Grove/Maranatha Christian Academy/Osseo/Park Center/Rogers/St. Anthony Village/Totino-Grace - Alpine Skiing, Boys
37. Ely/Northeast Range - Nordic Skiing, Boys
38. Ely/Northeast Range - Nordic Skiing, Girls
39. Faribault/Shattuck-St. Mary's - Softball, Girls
40. Fertile-Beltrami/Win-E-Mac - Wrestling
41. Gentry Academy/Mounds Park Academy - Alpine Skiing, Girls
42. Great River School/Math and Science Academy/New Life Academy/St. Croix Lutheran/St. Croix Prep Academy/Twin Cities Academy/Woodbury - Hockey, Girls
43. Hope Academy/Trinity School at River Ridge/Unity - Wrestling
44. Kato Public Charter/Mankato Christian Academy/Mankato Loyola - Basketball, Boys
45. Lakeview/MACCRAV/Marshall - Hockey, Boys
46. Mabel-Canton/Spring Grove - Basketball, Girls
47. Mesabi East/Mountain Iron-Buhl/Rock Ridge - Alpine Skiing, Boys
48. Mesabi East/Mountain Iron-Buhl/Rock Ridge - Alpine Skiing, Girls
49. North Branch/Rush City - Basketball, Girls
50. Parnassus Preparatory/Spectrum - Nordic Ski Racing, Boys
51. Robbinsdale Armstrong/Robbinsdale Cooper - Girls Lacrosse
52. Robbinsdale Armstrong/Robbinsdale Cooper - Swimming and Diving, Boys
53. St. Cloud Apollo/St. Cloud Cathedral/St. Cloud Tech/Sauk Rapids-Rice - Gymnastics, Girls
54. Verndale/Wadena-Deer Creek - Dance Team, Jazz
55. Verndale/Wadena-Deer Creek - Dance Team, Kick

Ejections – Violation of the Coaches Code of Ethics

1. Derek Maggaard, Football, Ogilvie High School
2. Charles Adams, Football, Minneapolis North Community High School
3. Adi Bilani, Soccer, Boys, Maranatha Christian Academy
4. Shafici Omar, Soccer, Boys, Lincoln International High School
5. Mike Knutson, Soccer, Boys, White Bear Lake Area High School
6. Rodrigo Sanchez, Soccer, Boys, Two Rivers High School

Bylaw 413 – Violation: Use of a Non-Registered Official

1. Minneota High School, Patty Myrvik, Activities Director
2. Leah Fadness, Official

There being no further business, motion by Indra and second by Lilleberg to adjourn the meeting at 12:00 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.



Executive Director



MINNESOTA STATE HIGH SCHOOL LEAGUE

Wrestling Daily Participation Limitations

Request: League staff are requesting MSHSL Board Policy changes to a wrestler's daily participation limitations as outlined in Bylaw 521. These changes are recommended to align with the recent NFHS Wrestling Rules changes. The requested changes are indicated in the affected policy language below:

Dual Meet Varsity and JV Participation

For Dual, Triangular and Quad Meet participation an individual can wrestle in the JV and Varsity portion of each dual. Participating at the JV and Varsity level of a dual will count as two matches toward the maximum of 45 individual matches but only count as one event toward an individual wrestler's maximum participation in 16 events.

The individual can wrestle in both the JV and Varsity levels of the dual as long as:

- The wrestler does not exceed the Match Limit of **5 6** per day
- The wrestler has a rest time between matches of **45 30** minutes
- **The wrestler does not wrestle in more than 10 matches in a two-consecutive day period**
- The wrestler does not exceed the 45 match count limit
- The wrestler does not exceed the 16 event limit (Varsity & JV portion of an event count as only 1 event together)

Dual/Triangular/Quad Meet Procedure: Teams will weigh-in all of their wrestlers by weight at the same time from smallest to largest (Varsity, Junior Varsity & Junior High at the same time).

- Each team would be required to designate and notify the opposing team of their roster that could be used on their Varsity squad for that event prior to the start of weigh-ins.
- All wrestlers on the varsity roster would be eligible to wrestle both the junior varsity and varsity competitions if all previously stated rules are followed.

Rationale: The NFHS changed its competition rules beginning with the 2023-2034 season as follows:

- Rule 1-4-3 No wrestler shall represent the school in more than one weight class in any meet or in more than **six** matches (championship or consolation), excluding forfeits, in any one day of competition.
- Rule 1-4-4 No contestant shall wrestle in two consecutive matches with less than a **30-minute** rest between matches. The conclusion time of each match shall be recorded.
- **Rule 1-4-7 No contestant shall wrestle in more than 10 matches in a two-consecutive day period.**

This policy change is supported by: Sports Medicine Advisory, Wrestling Advisory and the League's State Wrestling Rules Coordinator.



MINNESOTA STATE HIGH SCHOOL LEAGUE

Minnesota State High School League - Belief Statement Addition

Draft Belief Statement:

- **Postseason participation at the state level must recognize and support opportunities for both individuals and teams from all geographic regions of the state.**

Constitution 211.02.09

Board of Directors: Powers and Duties

It shall divide the state into regions (sections), assign member schools to regions (sections) for the purpose of carrying on League activities at those levels to determine who shall participate in state tournaments or contests.

MSHSL BELIEF STATEMENTS

We believe that...

- Participation in school activity programs is a privilege and not a right.
- Academic priorities must come before participation in athletic or fine arts activities.
- Students should have an equal opportunity to participate in all activities offered by their school.
- Participation in school-sponsored activities must be inclusive, not exclusive.
- Ethical behavior, dignity and respect are non-negotiable.
- Sportsmanship needs to have a constant presence in all school-based activity programs.
- Student participants who choose to be chemically free must be supported.
- Positive role models and an active involvement in a student's life by parents and others are critical to student success.
- Collaborative relationships with parents enhance a school's opportunity to positively impact student success.
- High school activity programs are designed for student participants, and adults must serve in a supportive role.
- The success of the team is more important than individual honors.
- Compliance with school, community and League rules is essential for all activity participants.
- **Postseason participation at the state level must recognize and support opportunities for both individuals and teams from all geographic regions of the state.**
- Ethical behavior, fairness, and embracing diversity best serve students and school communities.

Indicate the category of the proposed recommendation

State Tournament Recommendations regarding Format and Non-NFHS Rules or NFHS Experiments

Authors of the Proposal

Tom Critchley
Executive Director- MBCA

Pat Barrett
MGBCA Liaison to MSHSL

Current Rule/Policy

State the rule/policy as it appears in the current MSHSL Handbook or Activity/Sport Specific Rules and Policies.

STATE TOURNAMENT Boys & Girls: Pairings for All Classes: A seeding meeting to determine state tournament pairings will be held prior to the state tournament. The participating coaches will seed teams 1-5 in their respective tournament, and the remaining teams representing seeds 6-8 will be determined by a blind draw. Brackets: All Classes in Boys & Girls Upper Bracket Seed #1 vs. Random Draw Seed #4 vs. Seed #5 Lower Bracket Seed #2 vs. Random Draw Seed #3 vs. Random Draw

Proposed Recommendation

Submit your proposed change to the above-stated rule/policy.

STATE TOURNAMENT Boys & Girls: Pairings for All Classes: A seeding meeting to determine state tournament pairings will be held prior to the state tournament. The participating coaches will seed teams 1-8 in their respective tournament. Brackets: All Classes in Boys & Girls Upper Bracket Seed #1 vs. Seed #8. Seed #4 vs. Seed #5 Lower Bracket Seed #2 vs. Seed #7 Seed #3 vs. Seed #6.

Include any other policies that are impacted by this proposal.

No other policies are impacted by this proposal

Rationale

What is the history of the proposal?

1. Seeding MSHSL State Tournaments has a 15 year precedent dating back to the 2007 State Hockey Tournament. Initial seeding for Girls Basketball and Soccer was 1-8 so there is precedent.
2. Previous 1-5 seeding has on occasion resulted in inequitable and controversial quarterfinal pairings such as 1-6, 3-8. etc. In a deep tournament field a #6 seed is closer to a #5 seed than it is to a #8 seed. The 2022 Class AAA and Class A Girls Tournaments provided prime examples of inequitable and controversial quarterfinal pairings with the current process.
3. Boys and Girls Coaches have demonstrated great knowledge and integrity in the seeding process especially with the availability of and access to information combined with the expansion of highly rated teams scheduling each other the regular season.

How does your proposal benefit education-based opportunities and MSHSL Mission and Beliefs for all Minnesota students?

1. This proposal calls for the seeding of all participating teams 1-8 rather than the existing policy of 1-5 with 3 random draws. Upon listening to the reports of each Sport Association at the most recent MSHSCA meeting on 9/10/2022, and in further consultation with Sport Association leaders, it appears that multiple sports favor and/or will be seeking a seed of 1-8 as they make their future recommendations to the MSHSL. This proposal would be consistent with the direction in which seeding seems to be headed at MSHSL sponsored State Tournaments.
2. MSHSL Sub-Section and Section Tournaments seed ALL teams in ALL sports. Seeding the Boys and Girls State Tournaments 1-8 would result in consistency at the Regional and State levels with education-based opportunities and MSHSL Mission and Beliefs for all Minnesota students.

What other policies are significant in this proposal?

No additional policies would be affected by this proposal

Provide evidence of support for the proposal from other groups

A 12/2022 survey conducted of Boys and Girls Coaches provided the following:

Girls 88% Yes 12% No

Boys 88.7% Yes 11.3% No

Survey results included representation from all Classes and Sections

Impact

How does your proposal affect this activity, including its impact on all classes, areas of the state, and variety of schools

Seeding 1-8 would be consistent with the seeding of all teams in all sports in MSHSL Sub-Section and Section play.

Administration

How does your proposal impact section and state tournaments?

There would be no impact on the administration of Section and State Tournaments,

Length of Tournament

How does your proposal impact the needed competition time for section and state tournaments?

No impact on the Length of the Tournament

Participants

How does your proposal impact the number of participants/teams?

No impact on the number of participants/teams

How does your proposal impact the percentage of participants/teams that would qualify for the state tournament?

No impact on the percentage of participants/teams that would qualify for the state tournament.

Facilities

How does your proposal impact the facilities needed to accommodate your recommendation at both the section and state level?

No impact on facilities

Awards

How does your proposal impact the number of awards at both section and state?

No impact on the number of awards

Other

Provide any other pertinent information not included in this proposal

Nothing further

Primary Author and Contact for Proposal

Proposal submitted by

Tom Critchley

Position

Executive Director- Minnesota Basketball Coaches Association

Phone number

[651-775-8600](tel:651-775-8600)

Email

hctirc@earthlink.net

Dance Team, High Kick, Dance Team, Jazz

Submitted on: Thu, 02/16/2023 - 10:53 AM

Indicate the category of the proposed recommendation

State Tournament Recommendations regarding Format and Non-NFHS Rules or NFHS Experiments

Authors of the Proposal

Alyse Eichorst (Wayzata, AAA), Jenny Raiche (former coach, Eastview, AAA), Molly Carlson (Mound Westonka, AA), Marissa Haakonson (St. Cloud Cathedral, A), Chelsea Lockrem (Cannon Falls, A)

Activity/Activities (Check all that apply)

Dance Team, High Kick, Dance Team, Jazz

Current Rule/Policy

State the rule/policy as it appears in the current MSHSL Handbook or Activity/Sport Specific Rules and Policies.

Order of Competition at the State Preliminary round is set on a randomly generated rotation.

Proposed Recommendation

Submit your proposed change to the above-stated rule/policy.

Order of Competition at the State Preliminary round will be determined based on Section placement. Teams placing 1st at their respective section will compete in spots 9 through 12, by a random draw or rotation. Teams placing 2nd will compete in spots 5 through 8. Teams placing 3rd will compete in sports 1 through 4.

Include any other policies that are impacted by this proposal.

No other policies impacted.

Rationale

What is the history of the proposal?

This proposal was suggested by a MSHSL associate director to reward the Section Champion at the State level. It was submitted last year but had not passed through our coaches association. It was passed by MADT in Fall 2022 to be submitted again for consideration.

How does your proposal benefit education-based opportunities and MSHSL Mission and Beliefs for all Minnesota students?

Just like other sports where seeding occurs or teams/individuals who place high at the section level are given a later race time or placement later in the event, this would be along those same lines for the Dance Team State Tournament.

There isn't anyone who knows where or why the random order for our order of competition at State Prelims began. We want to put in place a better option in determining our order of competition.

What other policies are significant in this proposal?

No other policies are significant in this proposal.

Provide evidence of support for the proposal from other groups

MADT passed this proposal in Fall 2022.

Impact

How does your proposal affect this activity, including its impact on all classes, areas of the state, and variety of schools

It creates a new way to do our order of competition at State Prelims that better aligns with other sports and will have minimal effect on tournament prep.

Administration

How does your proposal impact section and state tournaments?

Does not change any structure or timing to the State Tournament.

Prep work would be impacted to determine the order by randomly drawing the order within the 3 sections (1st place teams, 2nd place teams, 3rd place teams).

Length of Tournament

How does your proposal impact the needed competition time for section and state tournaments?

No impact.

Participants

How does your proposal impact the number of participants/teams?

No impact.

How does your proposal impact the percentage of participants/teams that would qualify for the state tournament?

No impact.

Facilities

How does your proposal impact the facilities needed to accommodate your recommendation at both the section and state level?

No impact.

Awards

How does your proposal impact the number of awards at both section and state?

No impact.

Other

Provide any other pertinent information not included in this proposal

No other pertinent information.

Primary Author and Contact for Proposal

Proposal submitted by

Alyse Iorio Eichorst, Wayzata

Position

Coach

Phone number

[763-442-3729](tel:763-442-3729)

Email

alyse.eichorst@wayzataschools.org



MINNESOTA STATE HIGH SCHOOL LEAGUE

Minnesota Rule Modification to FIS Alpine Skiing Rule Change

Request: Approve the modifications below to the FIS International Competition Rules (ICR) that apply to MSHSL Alpine Ski. The modifications highlighted below represent language from the 2022-23 FIS ICR and past practice for MSHSL Alpine Ski.

MN614.2.3 Interdiction to Continue after a competitor stops

If competitors come to a complete stop (e.g. after a fall), they must no longer continue through previous or further gates. **The only exception is for Slalom (art. 661.4.1), as long as the competitor:**

- does not interfere with the run of the next competitor or,**
- has not been passed by the next competitor.**

MN661.4.1 A gate has been passed correctly when both the competitor's ski tips and both feet have crossed the gate line. If a competitor loses a ski, without committing a fault, e.g. not by straddling a pole, then the tip of the remaining ski and both feet must have crossed the gate line. **This rule also applies when a competitor has to climb back up to a gate. (art. 614.2.3)**

MN804.3 Where there is no outside pole, both feet and ski tips must have passed the turning pole on the same side, following the normal race line of the slalom crossing the imaginary line from turning pole to turning pole. If competitors lose a ski, without committing a fault, e.g. not by straddling a pole, then the tip of the remaining ski and both feet must meet both requirements. **If competitors have not correctly crossed the imaginary line from turning pole to turning pole and does not follow the normal race line, they have to climb back up and pass around the missed turning pole.** Where there is an outside pole (first and last gate, delayed gate, and combinations (hairpin, vertical) art. 661.4.1. is valid.

Rationale: The FIS approved rules changes to the ICR at its fall meeting in Zurich that prohibit slalom competitors from "hiking" back up the hill if they miss a gate or come to a complete stop during their run. Due to the unique nature of team competition and scoring embedded in MSHSL alpine ski, this rule change has the potential to significantly alter the team dynamic in MSHSL Alpine Ski. The request is supported by our Alpine Rules Clinician, Alpine Advisory and League Staff. A survey of the views of the Alpine Coaches Association membership will be available at the December board meeting.



CONFERENCE MEMBERSHIP

Central High School

November 7, 2023

IN THE MATTER OF CONFERENCE MEMBERSHIP FOR CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE ASSIGNED TO AN INTERSCHOLASTIC CONFERENCE UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE MINNESOTA STATE HIGH SCHOOL LEAGUE

On Tuesday, November 7, 2023, beginning at 9:00 AM in person at the Minnesota State High School League Office, an independent MSHSL Conference Placement Committee reviewed presentations and related documents in order to make a conference placement recommendation for Central High School

Independent committee members included:

1. Troy Stein (Chair), Edina High School Assistant Principal/Activities Director and former MSHSL Board of Directors President.
2. Jami Carr, Kittson Central Principal and Activities Director
3. Chuck Evert, Region 6A Region Secretary
4. Paul Hartmann, Red Wing Activities Director
5. Giovan Jenkins, Minneapolis Washburn Activities Director
6. Suzy Guthmueller, Former MSHSL Board Member, Former Centennial School Board Member
7. Chad Nyberg, Bloomington Jefferson Activities Director

Based on a review and analysis of the oral testimony and related documents from Central High School, the Central Minnesota Conference, Wright County Conference, and the Independent Metro Athletic Conference (IMAC) the committee used its educational background and expertise in the field to review all information, and determine and recommend placement in a conference for Central High School.

Appearing on behalf of Central High School was Joe Kley, Activities Director and Tim Shocken, Superintendent.

Appearing on behalf of the Central Minnesota Conference was Jason Bruns, Activities Director at Holdingford.

Appearing on behalf of the IMAC was Tom Clancy, Executive Secretary and Nick Rathman, Activities Director at Blake.

Appearing on behalf of the Wright County Conference was John Vraa, Executive Secretary.

Documentation presented to the committee for consideration consisted of the following:

1. Jurisdiction authorizing the Minnesota State High School League to arrange conference membership is pursuant to Minnesota Statute 128C, specifically 128C.02, Subd 3, Criteria for conference arrangements, and

128C.07, Arranging interscholastic conference membership. The Minnesota State High School League is authorized to arrange conference membership for member schools as identified in MS 128C.07 Subdivision 2 as follows. "The reason the member is not in a conference must be: (1) the conference was dissolved, or (2) the member was involuntarily excluded."

2. Minnesota State High School League Board of Directors' policy first adopted in August, 1987 which established the criteria for conference placement by the Minnesota State High School League.
3. Letter of application by Central High School to the following conferences:
 - 3.1 Letter of application submitted to the Central Minnesota Conference in July, 2023.
 - 3.2 Letter of application submitted to the IMAC in July, 2023.
 - 3.3 Letter of application submitted to the Wright County Conference in March, 2023.
4. Correspondence rejecting membership from conferences under consideration by Central High School.
 - 4.1 Central Minnesota Conference, August 2023.
 - 4.2 IMAC, August 23, 2023.
 - 4.3 Wright County Conference, May 2023.
5. Central High School has exhausted its 90-day good faith search to find and establish conference membership.
6. The criteria for arranging membership in a conference are both statutory and as adopted by the Minnesota State High School League. They include:
 - a. the relative enrollments of the schools,
 - b. the comparability of athletic or other extra-curricular activities in the schools, including the number and type of levels of competition,
 - c. the distance to be traveled by competing schools (geography), and
 - d. the number of member schools in the conference under consideration and in divisions within conferences under consideration (conference structure).
7. Support documentation
 - 7.1 Central High School Application Data to the Central Minnesota Conference
 - 7.2 Central High School Application Data to the IMAC
 - 7.3 Central High School Application Data to the Wright County Conference
 - 7.4 Central Minnesota Conference Data
 - 7.5 IMAC Data
 - 7.6 Wright County Conference Data

8. Findings of Fact

The following is applicable to Central High School:

Central High School, located in Norwood Young America, is currently a member of the Minnesota River Conference, which is dissolving at the conclusion of the 2023-24 school year. Central has applied to the Central Minnesota Conference, IMAC, and the Wright County Conference, and has been denied by all three conferences.

Central HS has a MSHSL 9-12 student enrollment of 308 students. This would place them as the smallest in the Wright County Conference, the largest in the Central Minnesota Conference, and the second smallest in the IMAC. Central administration, working with a demographer, believes that the school will be growing in the coming years

with the expansion of HWY 212 to four lanes and the district's recent renovations and facility improvements, which bring a renewed focus on keeping district resident students from attending other area schools.

Regarding facilities, Central HS has financial support from the community for growth and continued facility improvements. Earlier this year, Central opened a new artificial turf stadium, which will host football and soccer. Included in this project is a new eight lane track that will open in the spring of 2024. In addition, Central will be adding a two gym fieldhouse.

Central HS is looking for a conference with schools that are similar in size and an opportunity for the district to grow into the conference. Central desires a conference that offers good competition and ease of conference scheduling. Currently, Central competes with 12 of the 14 Wright County Conference schools and competes in MSHSL Sections with 9 of the 14 schools. Central desires to join the Wright County Conference.

The following is applicable to the Central Minnesota Conference:

The Central Minnesota Conference is composed of eight (8) schools. MSHSL 9-12 enrollments of the conference schools range from 178 to 304 students.

The Central Minnesota Conference has an average enrollment of 244 students, an average of 22 activity offerings, and an average of 2.4 levels per activity offered.

The Central Minnesota Conference expressed geography as their biggest concern regarding the addition of Central HS. The number of miles from Central HS to the geographic center of the conference is 53.9 miles.

The following is applicable to the IMAC:

The IMAC comprises six (6) schools. MSHSL 9-12 enrollments of the conference schools range from 238 to 531 students.

The IMAC has an average enrollment of 385 students, an average of 32 activity offerings, and an average of just over 2 levels per activity offered.

The IMAC expressed the level of academics within the conference as of extreme importance. The concern with the addition of Central HS to the IMAC is centered on:

1. Enrollment. Central would be the second smallest.
2. The limited offering of similar activities within the IMAC. In the winter season, the only program in the IMAC would be basketball.
3. Geography. The geographic center of the IMAC is at US Bank Stadium.
4. Academics. With increased travel to Central HS, IMAC students would need to leave school early and this is not an accepted standard in the IMAC.

The following is applicable to the Wright County Conference:

The Wright County Conference comprises fourteen (14) schools. The conference is divided into west (8 schools) and east (6) divisions. While the divisions are named by geography they also incorporate enrollment as a factor. MSHSL 9-12 enrollments of the conference schools range from 351 to 796 students.

The Wright County Conference has an average enrollment of 529 students, an average of 30 activity offerings, and an average of 1.9 levels per activity offered.

The Wright County Conference expressed the levels of play as the most important factor in determining conference placement when looking at the four (4) criteria under consideration (Geography, enrollment, activities & levels, and conference structure) in this decision.

Conclusions and Committee Recommendation:

1. The Minnesota State High School League has complied with all procedural requirements imposed on it by Minnesota State Statutes and the Constitution, Bylaws, and Policies of the League.
2. Central High School is a member of the Minnesota River Conference which is dissolving at the end of the 2023-2024 school year.
3. Central High School has spent at least 90 days in a good faith attempt to obtain membership in a conference.
4. Central High School applied to the Minnesota State High School League for assistance in arranging membership in a conference after concluding a search for 90 days and after being rejected for conference membership by the Central Minnesota Conference, IMAC and the Wright County Conference.
5. Based on the identified criteria for arranging membership in a conference, the required documentation, and the preponderance of information presented in writing and in oral testimony at the Conference Placement Committee Hearing, the MSHSL Conference Placement Committee recommends that Central High School be placed in the Wright County Conference effective for the 2024-2025 school year. The recommendation is based upon the following:

- a. Geography: Central HS is 8.08 miles to the geographic center of the Wright County Conference. Compared to the Central Minnesota Conference (53.8 miles) and the IMAC (35.8), travel within the Wright County Conference will be the best fit for student-athletes to limit time out of school.
- b. Enrollment: This was a unique situation for Central HS. Central would be the largest in the Central Minnesota Conference, second smallest in the IMAC and the smallest in the Wright County Conference. Central HS’s demographer has shared with the superintendent that they should anticipate enrollment growth in the coming years with the expansion of HWY 212 and the district's facility upgrades. Central HS desires to play the level of competition in the Wright County Conference and had no concerns with participating with Wright County opponents. The Wright County Conference did not identify enrollment as the top criteria to use in this process.
- c. Comparable Activities: Section and Class: Central HS Activities Director, Joe Kley, shared that 12 of 14 schools in the Wright County Conference currently are on Central’s regular season schedules. 9 of 14 Wright County schools compete in the same section as Central HS in at least one sport. Central is currently playing a majority of Wright County Conference schools.
- d. Comparable Activities & Offerings: The activities and offerings at Central HS appear to more closely resemble the activities offered within the Wight County Conference. Of Central’s 21 programs, the number of those programs that have levels at or above the average for each of the conferences best match the Wright County Conference (Data below).

Of Central HS's 21 programs, the number of programs at or above the average conference levels is:	
Central MN Conference	6
IMAC	7
Wright County	10

- e. Conference structure and fit: While the Wright County Conference expressed concern over scheduling, the placement committee viewed this as a growth opportunity for the conference. Central is open to joining the west or the east division, with preference in joining the west. Unique scheduling can be done between the divisions. The Wright County Conference could also consider three (3) geographic divisions to create unique scheduling crossovers.

Respectfully submitted by Troy Stein on behalf of the MSHSL Placement Committee



CONFERENCE MEMBERSHIP

Lester Prairie High School

November 7, 2023

IN THE MATTER OF CONFERENCE MEMBERSHIP FOR LESTER PRAIRIE HIGH SCHOOL TO BE ASSIGNED TO AN INTERSCHOLASTIC CONFERENCE UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE MINNESOTA STATE HIGH SCHOOL LEAGUE

On Tuesday, November 7, 2023, beginning at 9:00 AM in person at the Minnesota State High School League Office, an independent MSHSL Conference Placement Committee reviewed presentations and related documents in order to make a conference placement recommendation for Lester Prairie High School.

Independent committee members included:

1. Troy Stein (Chair), Edina High School Assistant Principal/Activities Director and former MSHSL Board of Directors President.
2. Jami Carr, Kittson Central Principal and Activities Director
3. Chuck Evert, Region 6A Region Secretary
4. Paul Hartmann, Red Wing Activities Director
5. Giovan Jenkins, Minneapolis Washburn Activities Director
6. Suzy Guthmueller, Former MSHSL Board Member, Former Centennial School Board Member
7. Chad Nyberg, Bloomington Jefferson Activities Director

Based on a review and analysis of the oral testimony and related documents from Lester Prairie High School, the Tomahawk/Valley Conference, South Central Conference, and the Central Minnesota Conference the committee used its educational background and expertise in the field to review all information and determine and recommend placement in a conference for Lester Prairie High School.

Appearing on behalf of Lester Prairie High School was Ross Scheevel, Activities Director.

Appearing on behalf of the Central Minnesota Conference was Jason Bruns, Activities Director at Holdingford.

Appearing on behalf of the Tomahawk/Valley was Val Oftendal and Paul Arnoldi, Tomahawk Valley Conference.

Appearing on behalf of the South Central was Randy Walsh, South Central Conference.

Documentation presented to the committee for consideration consisted of the following:

1. Jurisdiction authorizing the Minnesota State High School League to arrange conference membership is pursuant to Minnesota Statute 128C, specifically 128C.02, Subd 3, Criteria for conference arrangements, and 128C.07, Arranging interscholastic conference membership. The Minnesota State High School League is authorized to arrange conference membership for member schools as identified in MS 128C.07 Subdivision 2

as follows. "The reason the member is not in a conference must be: (1) the conference was dissolved, or (2) the member was involuntarily excluded."

2. Minnesota State High School League Board of Directors' policy first adopted in August, 1987 which established the criteria for conference placement by the Minnesota State High School League.
3. Letter of application by Lester Prairie to the following conferences:
 - 3.1 Letter of application submitted to the Central Minnesota Conference on June 14, 2023.
 - 3.2 Letter of application submitted to the Tomahawk Conference on April 21, 2023.
 - 3.2.1 Note: At the time of application, the Tomahawk and Valley Conferences had not combined.
 - 3.3 Letter of application submitted to the South Central Conference on June 13, 2023.
4. Correspondence rejecting membership from conferences under consideration by Lester Prairie
 - 4.1 Central Minnesota Conference, August 16, 2023.
 - 4.2 Tomahawk Conference, June 12, 2023.
 - 4.3 South Central Conference, July 1, 2023.
5. Lester Prairie High School has exhausted its 90-day good faith search to find and establish conference membership.
6. The criteria for arranging membership in a conference are both statutory and as adopted by the Minnesota State High School League. They include:
 - a. the relative enrollments of the schools
 - b. the comparability of athletic or other extra-curricular activities in the schools, including the number and type of levels of competition,
 - c. the distance to be traveled by competing schools (geography)
 - d. the number of member schools in the conference under consideration and in divisions within conferences under consideration (conference structure)
7. Support documentation
 - 7.1 Lester Prairie High School Application Data to the Central Minnesota Conference
 - 7.2 Lester Prairie High School Application Data to the Tomahawk Valley Conference
 - 7.3 Lester Prairie High School Application Data to the South Central Conference
 - 7.4 Central Minnesota Conference Data
 - 7.5 Tomahawk Valley Conference Data
 - 7.6 South Central Conference Data

8. Finding of Fact

The following is applicable to Lester Prairie High School:

Lester Prairie High School is currently a member of the Minnesota River Conference, which is dissolving at the conclusion of the 2023-24 school year. Lester Prairie has applied to the Central Minnesota Conference, Tomahawk Valley Conference, and the South Central Conference, and has been denied by all three conferences.

Lester Prairie HS has a MSHSL 9-12 student enrollment of 139 students. This would place them smallest in the Central Minnesota Conference, smallest in the South Central Conference, and fifth largest in the Tomahawk Valley Conference. Lester Prairie's enrollment has been mainly stable, showing slight growth.

Lester Prairie HS is looking for a conference with schools that are similar in size and to provide an opportunity for their students and programs to thrive. Lester Prairie desires a conference that offers good competition and ease of conference scheduling. Currently, Lester Prairie competes with a number of schools from the Tomahawk Valley Conference.

The following is applicable to the Central Minnesota Conference:

The Central Minnesota Conference is composed of eight (8) schools. MSHSL 9-12 enrollments of the conference schools range from 178 to 304 students. Lester Prairie would be the smallest school in the conference.

The Central Minnesota Conference has an average enrollment of 244 students, an average of 22 activity offerings, and an average of 2.4 levels per activity offered.

The Central Minnesota Conference expressed geography as their biggest concern regarding the addition of Lester Prairie HS. The number of miles from Lester Prairie HS to the geographic center of the conference is 44.15 miles.

The following is applicable to the Tomahawk Valley Conference:

The Tomahawk Valley Conference comprises 17 schools. MSHSL 9-12 enrollments of the conference schools range from 46 to 181 students. Lester Prairie would be the fifth largest school in the Tomahawk Valley Conference.

The Tomahawk Valley Conference has an average enrollment of 120 students, an average of 22 activity offerings, and an average of 1.7 levels per activity offered.

The Tomahawk Valley Conference schools will be in two divisions for some sports, with the champion in each division playing a championship game for the Tomahawk Valley Conference Championship. The Tomahawk has 8 schools and the Valley has 9 schools. Sports that will be played in Divisions are volleyball, boys and girls basketball, softball and baseball. Cross-country, track, wrestling and golf contests will be hosted in meets with schools involved in the merger.

The following is applicable to the South Central Conference:

The South Central Conference is composed of six (6) schools. MSHSL 9-12 enrollments of the conference schools range from 211 to 296 students. Lester Prairie would be the smallest school in the newly formed South Central Conference.

The South Central has an average enrollment of 251 students, an average of 24 activity offerings, and an average of 2.025 levels per activity offered.

The South Central expressed that they denied Lester Prairie based on the enrollment and activity offerings. This new conference desired a conference of 2A schools (relative to four-class sports) in their newly formed conference. Lester Prairie is 1A in every sport but Golf and Wrestling.

Conclusions and Committee Recommendation:

1. The Minnesota State High School League has complied with all procedural requirements imposed on it by Minnesota State Statutes and the Constitution, Bylaws, and Policies of the League.
2. Lester Prairie High School is a member of the Minnesota River Conference which is dissolving at the end of the 2023-2024 school year.
3. Lester Prairie High School has spent at least 90 days in a good faith attempt to obtain membership in a conference.
4. Lester Prairie High School has applied to the Minnesota State High School League for assistance in arranging membership in a conference after concluding a search for 90 days and after being rejected for conference membership by the Central Minnesota Conference, the Tomahawk Valley Conference and the South Central Conference.
5. Based on the identified criteria for arranging membership in a conference, the required documentation, and the preponderance of information presented in writing and in oral testimony at the Conference Placement Committee Hearing, the MSHSL Conference Placement Committee recommends that Lester Prairie be placed in the Tomahawk Valley Conference effective for the 2024-2025 school year. The recommendation is based upon the following:
 - a. Geography: Lester Prairie HS is 55 miles from the Tomahawk Valley geographic center. Reviewing the travel in the divisions of the Tomahawk Valley Conference, Lester Prairie HS is 48 miles to the geographic center of the Tomahawk division and 66 miles to the geographic center of the Valley division. In comparing travel to the other conferences, travel to the Central Minnesota Conference (44 miles) and South Central (37 miles) geographic center is similar, thus, the committee sees the Tomahawk division as a reasonable fit for Lester Prairie.
 - b. Enrollment: This was a unique situation for Lester Prairie HS. Lester Prairie would be the smallest in the Central Minnesota and South Central Conferences. Lester Prairie’s enrollment would be 5th of 18 schools in the Tomahawk Valley Conference. The committee felt the enrollment in the Tomahawk Valley was the best fit for Lester Prairie High School.

Enrollment Data	Average	Low	High	Conference Rank (x of total schools)
Central Minnesota Conference	244	178	304	9 of 9
Tomahawk Valley Conference	120	46	181	5 of 18
South Central Conference	251	211	296	7 of 7

- c. Comparable Activities - Section and Class: The Activities offered at Lester Prairie more closely resemble the activities offered within the Tomahawk Valley Conference, as well as levels of competition at each school.

Conference Average Activities Offered	
Central MN Conference	22
Tomahawk/Valley	22
South Central	24
Lester Prairie HS	18
Conference Average Number of Levels per Activity	
Central MN Conference	2.401

South Central	2.025
Tomahawk/Valley	1.691
Lester Prairie HS	1.9

- d. Conference Structure: The Tomahawk Conference had a fair number of schools that expressed interest in the addition of Lester Prairie at the time of their application, but did not reach the two-thirds majority threshold to support their acceptance (per conference bylaws). The concerns of the conference could be eased with placement of Lester Prairie in the Tomahawk Division of the conference.

Respectfully submitted by Troy Stein on behalf of the MSHSL Placement Committee

Football – State Quarterfinal Seeding

Submitted: October 23, 2:06 pm

1-Committee

MFCA Exec. Board and the Football Advisory Committee to the Minnesota State High School League

2-Committee Members

Trevor Carrier- Head Football Coach Leroy-Ostrander (9P)
Rex Metzger- Head Football Coach Hills-Beaver Creek (9P)
Ribsby Petermeier- Head Football Coach- Browerville (1A)
Cory Larson Head Football Coach – Dawson-Boyd (1A)
Charles Adams III – Head Football Coach – MPLS North (2A)
Marc Kruger- Head Football Coach – NRHEG (2A)
Bill Magnuson- Head Football Coach- Pequot Lakes (3A)
Brad Wendland- Head Football Coach – Waseca (3A)
John Cassellius- Head Football Coach – Winona (4A)
Greg Spahn – Head Football Coach – Grand Rapids (4A)
Bryan Dahl – Head Football Coach – Chaska (5A)
Tom Develice-Head Football Coach-Andover (5A),
Ben Burk – Head Football Coach- Lakeville South (6A)
Lambert Brown – Head Football Coach – Wayzata (6A)
Nick David-Assistant Principal and Head Football Coach-Mound Westonka (4A), VP
Brent Schimek-Activities Director and Head Football Coach-Deer River (1A), (Pres)
Ron Stolski-MFCA Executive Director (ex officio member),
Dave Nelson – MFCA Asst Exec Director
Jim Dotseth – MFCA Sec/Treas

3-Activity

Football-Class AAAAA, AAAA, AAA, AA, A, and 9-Player

4-Rule

Sport and Activity Rules and Policies
Football Information-Postseason

FUTURE PAIRINGS

Quarterfinals

2023: Section 3 vs. 1, 4 vs. 2, 7 vs. 5, 8 vs. 6

2024: Section 1 vs. 4, 2 vs. 3, 5 vs. 8, 6 vs. 7

2025: Section 2 vs. 1, 4 vs. 3, 6 vs. 5, 8 vs. 7

2026: Section 1 vs. 3, 2 vs. 4, 5 vs. 7, 6 vs. 8

Semifinals

2023: Section 3 vs. 1 Winner vs. Section 8 vs. 6 Winner Section 4 vs. 2 Winner vs. Section 7 vs. 5 Winner

2024: Section 6 vs. 7 Winner vs. Section 2 vs. 3 Winner Section 5 vs. 8 Winner vs. Section 1 vs. 4 Winner

2025: Section 6 vs. 5 Winner vs. Section 2 vs. 1 Winner Section 8 vs. 7 Winner vs. Section 4 vs. 3 Winner

2026: Section 5 vs. 7 Winner vs. Section 2 vs. 4 Winner Section 6 vs. 8 Winner vs. Section 1 vs. 3 Winner

5-Proposed

1. Beginning in the Fall of 2024, Class 9-Player through Class 5A would begin seeding State Quarter Finals 1-4 North and 1-4 South . North and South to be determined when sections are aligned by FB Advisory and MSHSL Tournament Director. Semi-final round would place highest Qtr. Final seed North Vs Lower seed south, Higher seed South vs Lower seed north.
2. Section Championship games would be required to be completed by Friday night so that the seeding process can occur Saturday morning.
3. The Head Coach and Activities Director of each competing school in a Class will utilize the established MSHSL seeding process.
4. Upon receipt of all votes, the MSHSL shall communicate seeds to the participating schools, set the Quarterfinal matchups, and begin to assign sites. Matchups will be communicated to the participating teams Saturday morning.
5. Sites will be determined and communicated by Noon on Monday following all Section Championship games.

The MFCA believes that seeding State Qualifiers 1-4 North and 1-4 South is very feasible and is the proposal we wish to move forward with for implementation beginning in 2024. This will allow sites to be set up in advance to help with travel and site identification. The MFCA pledges to assist the MSHSL in the procurement of host sites for Quarterfinal games or other areas as needed.

6-Rationale

1. This meets all the required seeding policy criteria.
2. This proposal would continue to protect the importance of regional representation in the Football State Tournament. Section playoffs and the State Tournament qualification process would remain unchanged.
3. Unlike many of the other team sports, the Football Quarterfinals are played at a variety of sites throughout the state. This would allow for sites to be set up in advance.

7-Example

The Minnesota Football Coaches Association is supportive of regional representation in the Football State Tournament through geographic Section assignment. Our proposal to seed the State Tournament would not change that in any way. Unlike many other sports, the Quarterfinal Round is not played at a “destination” stadium, but rather takes place in many sites across the state. The MFCA would like to provide a greater opportunity for the most deserving teams to have a chance to play at US Bank Stadium and still decrease travel in the Qtr. Final round. This also increases predictability of for procuring Qtr. Final Sites.

8- Survey

A survey taken of 9P-5A coaches showed 76.6% of coaches approved of this format.

9-Time

This proposal would not impact competition time during the Football State Tournament.

10-Competitors

This proposal would not change the number of competitors who qualify for the State Football Tournament.

11-Facilities

The adoption of this proposal would not alter the total number of sites that must be secured by the MSHSL to administer the State Quarterfinals of the Football State Tournament.

12-Awards

This proposal would have no impact on the number of awards provided by the MSHSL.

13-Other

This proposal appears to have no other impact on MSHSL governed sports or activities.

Staff Analysis

History of the proposed rule/policy change

This proposal is the third proposal I have seen in seven years. Football continues to desire seeding yet has a unique format with 7 classes at neutral artificial turf sites.

Specific bylaws or policies that align or do not align with the proposal

This proposal now aligns with the new Team State Tournament Seeding Policy.

Regular or postseason impacts

This proposal has no impact on the regular season, yet regular season records will be taken into consideration for the seeding of the quarterfinal teams.

Cost analysis of the proposal

This could increase travel costs for member schools but will have less potential travel than previous proposals.

Potential precedence for other activities

Seeding 1-4 in North and South could be something other sports propose. The unique aspect of having quarterfinals at a variety of sites is quite different than those sports that come to a single site for all eight teams.

Anything additional that you feel would be beneficial to know from an operational standpoint

This proposal is more predictable for sites and placement of officials.

14-Proposal Submitted by

Brent Schimek
MFCAs President
Head Football Coach
Deer River High School
on behalf of the MFCAs Advisory Board and Exec. Board

15-Position

Minnesota Football Coaches Association
President

16-Phone Number

507-327-0201

17-Email

bschimek@isd317.org

Soccer – Suspended Games

Submitted on Fri, 10/13/2023 - 11:35 AM

Indicate the category of the proposed recommendation

Regular Season and Section Tournament Format Recommendations

Authors of the Proposal

Tracey Griess, Keith Randa, Greg Juba, Aaron Percy, Jens Levisen

Activity/Activities (Check all that apply)

Soccer, Boys, Soccer, Girls

Current Rule/Policy

State the rule/policy as it appears in the current MSHSL Handbook or Activity/Sport Specific Rules and Policies.

MN Modifications:

Suspended Games (Rule 7-1-3): If less than one-half of the game has been played, the game will be replayed from the start of the game. The host school has the authority to suspend a game for inclement weather.

Rules and Policies under Post Season:

SUSPENDED GAMES: Games that have been suspended before the completion of the first half, or are tied at the point of suspension, shall be replayed from the start.

Proposed Recommendation

Submit your proposed change to the above-stated rule/policy.

Suspended Games (Rule 7-1-3): If less than one-half of the game has been played, the game will be replayed from the point of suspension unless game completion is mutually agreed upon by head coaches in which case the existing score would be final. The host school has the authority to suspend a game for inclement weather.

Post Season:

SUSPENDED GAMES (Rule 7-1-3): Games that have been suspended before the completion of the first half, or are tied at the point of suspension, shall be replayed from the point of suspension unless game completion is mutually agreed upon by head coaches and tournament manager in which case the existing score would be final.

Include any other policies that are impacted by this proposal.

None

Rationale

What is the history of the proposal?

Last year we had a situation in the Section Tournament where two teams were tied in overtime of a quarterfinal game and the game was suspended due to lightning. According to the current rule, the game needed to be replayed from the beginning. Since this occurred in the Section Tournament,

the timeline was tight and the winning team had to play almost three entire games in a very short period of time.

How does your proposal benefit education-based opportunities and MSHSL Mission and Beliefs for all Minnesota students?

We believe that the health and safety of our student-athletes is a priority and playing so many minutes in such a short time period is not beneficial to any of them.

What other policies are significant in this proposal?

N/A

Provide evidence of support for the proposal from other groups

We surveyed the coaches in our association and spoke with some Activities Directors regarding our concerns and the consensus was overwhelmingly in favor of limiting the stress of so many minutes on student-athletes in that situation.

Impact

How does your proposal affect this activity, including its impact on all classes, areas of the state, and variety of schools

This proposal would apply to all classes, areas of the state, and schools who host soccer.

Administration

How does your proposal impact section and state tournaments?

This proposal would ensure that teams/players do not have to endure excessive minutes in playoff games where suspension due to weather conditions impact the games and time to replay games is short. This proposal is in line with preserving the health and safety of our student-athletes.

Length of Tournament

How does your proposal impact the needed competition time for section and state tournaments?

This proposal would lighten the load of time needed for competition in section and state tournament games that are suspended due to weather conditions or other factors outside the control of administrators and tournament directors.

Participants

How does your proposal impact the number of participants/teams?

This proposal impacts any players/teams/participants that participate in suspended games. This could be a few games or it could be none each season.

How does your proposal impact the percentage of participants/teams that would qualify for the state tournament?

This proposal would have no impact on the percentage of teams that would qualify for the state tournament.

Facilities

How does your proposal impact the facilities needed to accommodate your recommendation at both the section and state level?

This proposal would not impact the facilities needed at both the section and state level. Extra facilities would be needed to accommodate suspensions of games anyway. In fact, this may lighten the duration of time needed from a facility if only a partial game was needed.

Awards

How does your proposal impact the number of awards at both section and state?

This proposal does not impact the number of awards at both the section and state level.

Other

Provide any other pertinent information not included in this proposal

None

Staff Analysis

History of the proposed rule/policy change:

One key situation requiring the use of current suspended game language, that was not commonly impacting teams, was a postseason game that was tied in the second half at the point of suspension where a victor is required. The current language requires the game to be replayed from the beginning and will result in a team playing the equivalent of three (3) games on consecutive days during the tournament. For the advancing team, this would create a competitive disadvantage and additional safety/health risk. This exact situation happened in last year's section tournament, bringing a need to address the rule. The proposal requires the game to resume at the point of suspension, which is similar to sports like football and LAX.

Specific bylaws or policies that align or do not align with the proposal

Other than current rule, none

Regular or postseason impacts

Regular season impact:

None, there is no regular season OT in Soccer and the current rule states that if a game is suspended and one half is complete, the game is complete and final.

Post Season impact:

This proposal will have a positive impact, by requiring a shorter contest in the event of suspension.

Cost analysis of the proposal

No impacts recognized at this point.

Potential precedence for other activities:

Soccer is one of the last sports to move to “pick up from the point of suspension” for suspended games. This puts soccer in line with other sports that have already moved away from replaying the entire game.

Anything additional that you feel would be beneficial to know from an operational standpoint:

This rules proposal addresses a rare situation but when it does occur, it has a large impact on everyone involved (AD, Schools, Players, Coaches, Spectators, Facilities). This rules adjustment completes the game in a more efficient method without creating a disadvantage for the advancing team.

Primary Author and Contact for Proposal

Proposal submitted by

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Section 7AAA rep
MSHSSCA President Elect

Position

Coach

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Girls Tennis – Add a Third Class

Submitted on Sat, 10/14/2023 - 3:49 PM

Indicate the category of the proposed recommendation

State Tournament Recommendations regarding Format and Non-NFHS Rules or NFHS Experiments

Authors of the Proposal

MN Tennis Coaches Advisory Committee and Executive Board:

- * Steve Tacl (Rochester Lourdes) ** Joe Fredrickson (St. Francis)
- * Les Zellmann (St. James) ** Lisa Salo (Brainerd)
- * Andy Skoogman (Hill-Murray) ** Jeff Prondzinski (Wayzata)
- * Jil Fiemeyer (Wadena-Deer Creek)** Drew DeCorsey (Shakopee)

Robb DeCorsey: MTCA President (Glencoe-Silver Lake)

Aaron Rothenberger: MTCA President-Elect (St. Peter)

David Wareham: MTCA Exec. Sec. (Totino-Grace)

* Class A ** Class AA

Activity/Activities (Check all that apply)

Tennis, Girls

Current Rule/Policy

State the rule/policy as it appears in the current MSHSL Handbook or Activity/Sport Specific Rules and Policies.

The current rule/policy regarding is found in the MSHSL Handbook in the 400.00 Bylaws pages 78-81 regarding class competition (updated 12/6/18) ... [of particular note is Section D “Class Competition” ##4 highlighted below]

Proposed Recommendation

Submit your proposed change to the above-stated rule/policy.

We propose a 3-class postseason tournament for Girls’ tennis divided by thirds allowed under MSHSL classification policy.

Under the current MSHSL policy and formula adopted in 2018, the number of girls’ tennis programs now meets the required number of programs (192) to be divided into the three classes.

Girls tennis currently has 194 programs.

Three class team and individual tournaments will make a significant and positive impact on the tennis experience by making the enrollment ratios more equitable, balancing section numbers, allowing more potential for advancement in section play.

Our proposal provides an equity component for three classes and is appropriately addressing the disparity challenges in both enrollment and socioeconomics faced in Minnesota high school tennis. Using other classification options would not address the challenges in both enrollment and socioeconomic.

Include any other policies that are impacted by this proposal.

None.

Rationale

What is the history of the proposal?

Current girls' tennis classification enrollment ratios are the highest amongst MSHSL sports: for example, 7.2:1 in AA girls' tennis. Most ratios among the top classes for all other sport activities are in the 2s.

Current ratios of two class girls' tennis:

* Class AA - 5.8 to 1

*.Class A 3.41-1

How does your proposal benefit education-based opportunities and MSHSL Mission and Beliefs for all Minnesota students?

Three class ratios would become:

* Class AAA 2.8 to 1

* Class AA from 2.13 to 1

* Class A from 3.28 to 1

The proposed ratios for a three class girls tennis tournament are consistent with those provided to other MSHSL sports and activities

3-Class Girls' Tennis would provide a number of benefits:

* Provides opportunities with 8 more teams + 48 individuals qualifying for a state tournament.

*Continue to provide geographic representation across the state within each class.

* Keeps option for teams to opt-up

* Help build programs due to increased opportunities for post-season advancement

* Provide significantly greater opportunities for success and more student-athletes a more positive tennis playing experience.

Research reveals that two driving factors are important to success, including advancement in postseason play, in MN high school tennis: (larger) enrollment plus (higher) socioeconomics.

MTCA membership clearly supports this change: from 176 responses (representing 78% of membership), 82% percent support 3-class tennis. This proposal also addresses the specific challenge of large school dominance, enrollment and socioeconomic disparities within the sport of Minnesota high school tennis.

What other policies are significant in this proposal?

None.

Provide evidence of support for the proposal from other groups

The proposal for 3-Class Girls' Tennis has received notable support. In a survey to Athletic Directors and Superintendents, of the 101 responses, 83% were in favor (84) and 13% (13) answered 'maybe'. Only 4 responded 'no'.

The Region Advisory supported it 9-6-1. And AD Advisory supported it 8-7.

In the survey, as well as what we heard through Region/AD advisory, the concern was clear. [The same concern was raised at the MSHSL Board Meeting in February 2023.]

1) Does the proposal follow MSHSL policies governing classification?

NOTE: The proposal, submitted last year ('22-'23) included an exception of expanding Boys' Tennis (165 teams) to 3-Classes and introducing a new breakdown for 3-Classes – top 32, then 50/50. This is not a current policy option.

This proposal for only Girls' Tennis expanding to 3-Class addresses those concerns; Girls' Tennis, 194 teams, DOES meet the league policy governing classification.

Impact

How does your proposal affect this activity, including its impact on all classes, areas of the state, and variety of schools

Sections in all three classes will be equitably balanced with 8 sections and 8-9 teams per section. Eight teams will advance to the state team tournament, 16 singles players and 16 doubles teams will advance to the state individual tournament.

Class AAA: History verifies the domination of current AA girls' tennis by the very largest schools in the state of MN. This proposal will keep the largest schools together:

** Examples: Minnetonka, Edina, Shakopee, Burnsville, Prior Lake, Elk River, Edina

** Class AA: brings together teams with (more) similar enrollment plus creates opportunities for mid-sized school teams and individuals to advance to State:

** Example(s): Delano, Hutchinson, Chisago Lakes, Mankato East, Mankato West, Grand Rapids, Alexandria, Monticello, Red Wing, Princeton, Marshall, New Ulm (*co-op), Worthington

Class A: still keeps the smallest schools together and provides opportunities for these schools:

** Example(s): Foley, East Grand Forks, Thief River Falls, Luverne, Mora, Fairmont, Waseca, Glencoe-SL, Park Rapids, Pine City, Roseau, Lake City

Administration

How does your proposal impact section and state tournaments?

Our proposal:

- * Will require an additional State Tournament site.
- * Will require additional section (management plus State Tournament site management)
- * Class A Section Tournaments be administered by Class "A" Regions
- * Class AA & AAA Section Tournaments be administered by Class "AA" Regions
- * Will add 8 more teams + 48 individual participants
- * Will require more USTA roving officials

Length of Tournament

How does your proposal impact the competition time needed for section and state tournaments?

We can use the same schedule for Section + State tournaments. Therefore, no change in competition time will be necessary; however, as there will be fewer teams per section in the biggest classes (AAA & AA), the start date for section play could (potentially) be moved later, which could allow for late, regular season rescheduling of matches from inclement weather.

Participants

How does your proposal impact the number of participants/teams?

Our proposal will increase the number of tournament teams by 8 and individual participants by 48 individuals in singles (16) + doubles (32).

How does your proposal impact the percentage of participants/teams that would qualify for the state tournament?

This will increase the percentage of state tournament teams by 4% (from 8% to 12% in Girls' Tennis). The increase of qualifying individual participants will be approximately 4% of overall individuals.

Facilities

How does your proposal impact the facilities needed to accommodate your recommendation at both the section and state level?

An added class will require an additional (indoor) facility for State competition. The MTCA has communicated with Life Time Fitness in Bloomington regarding interest and availability in hosting a State Tournament.

Life Time Fitness has enthusiastically expressed an interest in hosting the Girls' State Tournament.

* This facility is located in the Twin City metropolitan area, consistent with current State Tournament sites at the Baseline Tennis Center and InnerCity Tennis. Life Time Fitness previously hosted the State Tournament.

Awards

How does your proposal impact the number of awards at both section and state?

Our proposal will require an increase of 4 team + 60 individual medals for Team State and 10 medals for Individual State competition.

Other

Provide any other pertinent information not included in this proposal

Research reveals that two driving factors are important to success, including advancement in postseason play, in MN high school tennis: (larger) enrollment plus (higher) socioeconomics. Both socio-economic disparity and enrollment disparity are well documented in the sport of tennis. Our proposal provides support to address both disparities.

As noted earlier, the MTCA did previously submit a proposal for classification for both girls' and boys' tennis in 2022-23. Our proposal received a favorable review from a majority of the Region Committees and also the AD Advisory Committee. The MSHSL did not accept our proposal based on the joint proposal of boys' tennis and girls' tennis together as they have different numbers of programs. Therefore, this proposal has been revised and is being submitted on the behalf of girls' tennis only and fits all the current criteria of three class bylaws.

In this revised proposal, we are only seeking what other activities, which fit MSHSL policy governing classification, have been afforded. It is our belief that the programs, and specifically our athletes, deserve such consideration.

Our previous proposal included constructive discussion and debate. The MTCA took attentive note of concerns and constructive feedback along the way. We (again) appreciate your careful review and look forward to addressing any questions/concerns along the way.

Staff Analysis

History of the proposed rule/policy change

In 2022-2023, the Tennis Advisory Committee submitted a proposal for three-class tennis for boys and girls. There were not enough boys teams to meet the needed threshold. The proposal failed at the Board level.

Specific bylaws or policies that align or do not align with the proposal

All policies align. Board policy states "The Board of Directors may request input from the member schools to assist in determining the classification and format of any League-sponsored tournament, but the Board of Directors shall have the sole discretion for determining the classification of schools and the tournament format(s) ... Three class Tournament: When there are 192 or more teams registered for a League sponsored activity ..."

Regular or postseason impacts

Although technically each section tournament may take less time due to the reduced number of teams, the main factor for scheduling for the section tournaments involves availability of indoor courts. Limitations on indoor courts will still exist, they will just be "shared" by more sections.

For the State Tournament, we would need one additional site for the third class, and staffing to accommodate that site. We currently use all of the available USTA officials, so would likely have fewer at each of three sites.

Cost analysis of the proposal

Rental for a third State site would be the primary additional cost. Ticket sales – which began in 2022-2023 for tennis – would assist in offsetting this cost.

Potential precedence for other activities

The main precedence would be the possibility of other activities that wish to have a different number of classes for the boys tournament than the girls tournament. This could be particularly complicated for those activities in which both genders compete in the same season or potentially at the same site.

Tennis differs from all other both-gender activities, except swimming and diving. Tennis and swimming/diving are the only activities in which the genders compete in different seasons. In that sense, the challenges that may come from having a different number of classes may be reduced.

Anything additional that you feel would be beneficial to know from an operational standpoint

The tennis community will need to understand that there will be differences between section and state tournaments if girls have three classes and boys have two classes. Items such as the scheduling for section tournaments and the number of roving officials will no longer be consistent. Although we can make it work, Section and State tournaments will “look” different; there will be multiple items that will no longer be consistent with the other gender.

Primary Author and Contact for Proposal**Proposal submitted by**

David Wareham

Position

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Girls Volleyball State Tournament Seeding

Submitted on Mon, 10/30/2023 - 12:51 PM

Indicate the category of the proposed recommendation

State Tournament Recommendations regarding Format and Non-NFHS Rules or NFHS Experiments

Authors of the Proposal

Jim Lee, Ada-Borup-West
Darin Swenson, Litchfield
Lonnie Morken, Mabel-Canton
Theresa Brummer, Elk River
Tom Weko, Moundsview
Joelle Grimsley, Mayer Lutheran
Deidre Wierson, Jackson County Central
Dan Westby, Marshall
Marty Keibel, Maple Lake
Becca Rue, Delano

Activity/Activities (Check all that apply)

Volleyball, Girls

Current Rule/Policy

State the rule/policy as it appears in the current MSHSL Handbook or Activity/Sport Specific Rules and Policies.

Team sport--volleyball--seeds 1-5 with a random draw for seeds 6, 7, and 8.

Proposed Recommendation

Submit your proposed change to the above-stated rule/policy.

Team sport--volleyball--seeds all teams once per state tournament.

Include any other policies that are impacted by this proposal.

None

Rationale

What is the history of the proposal?

Volleyball has been seeded 1-5 with a random draw for seeds 6, 7, and 8 for many years.

How does your proposal benefit education-based opportunities and MSHSL Mission and Beliefs for all Minnesota students?

Currently, the #1 may have to play the #6 best team in the state tournament instead of the #8 seeded team--which doesn't follow the notion that the #1 seed should benefit from the "easiest" route to a state championship. Instead, if the #1 seed plays the #6 best team at the state tournament, there is a higher chance of an upset--negated the regular season's wins the #1 seed has accumulated to achieve the highest seed at the state tournament. Seeding 1-8 would allow a

more fair--equitable--competitive route, if the #1 seed is "lucky" enough to keep advancing.

What other policies are significant in this proposal?

None

Provide evidence of support for the proposal from other groups

MNVBCA Advisory Board recommended to seed 1-8 at volleyball state tournament after hearing that 80.2% of volleyball coaches in Minnesota who responded did not support seeding the volleyball state tournament 1-5 with a random draw for seeds 6, 7, and 8. 208 coaches responded.

Impact

How does your proposal affect this activity, including its impact on all classes, areas of the state, and variety of schools

Each of the four volleyball classes will be seeded 1-8 at the state tournament.

Administration

How does your proposal impact section and state tournaments?

The alteration at the state tournament will have no effect on finances, officials availability, participation, or Title IX. The administration of the tournament will be altered where instead of a random draw for seeds 6-8 where the top 5 teams would be seeded, all 8 teams entered into state tournament competition would now be seeded--eliminating the need for random draw of seeds 6-8.

Length of Tournament

How does your proposal impact the needed competition time for section and state tournaments?

Does not impact the length of tournament.

Participants

How does your proposal impact the number of participants/teams?

Does not impact the number of participants/teams

How does your proposal impact the percentage of participants/teams that would qualify for the state tournament?

Does not impact the number of participants/teams that would qualify for state tournament.

Facilities

How does your proposal impact the facilities needed to accommodate your recommendation at both the section and state level?

Does not impact the facilities at section and state levels.

Awards

How does your proposal impact the number of awards at both section and state?

Does not impact the number of awards at both section and state tournaments.

Other

Provide any other pertinent information not included in this proposal

None

Staff Analysis

History of the proposed rule/policy change

With the new policy language to allow advisory committees to recommend a preferred method to the board, volleyball would like to seed all teams once per tournament.

Specific bylaws or policies that align or do not align with the proposal

This would align with the new Team State Tournament Seeding policy that the board passed in 2023.

Regular or postseason impacts

The impact would be that we would use the seeding of all 8 seeds to coaches through the state tournament seeding process and match them up according to the full 1-8 seeding. We currently know the seeds internally but did random draw for 6-8.

Cost analysis of the proposal

No foreseeable cost

Potential precedence for other activities

Many other activities may choose this seeding option, yet is allowed with the new seeding policy.

Anything additional that you feel would be beneficial to know from an operational standpoint

None

Primary Author and Contact for Proposal

Proposal submitted by

Jim Lee, President MNVBCA

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MINNESOTA STATE HIGH SCHOOL LEAGUE
BROOKLYN CENTER, MINNESOTA

EXHIBIT 1

BALANCE SHEET

<u>Assets</u>	<u>September 2023</u>
Current Assets	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,080,504
Investments	8,249,735
Accounts receivable	544,516
Accrued interest receivable	63,805
Prepaid expenses	19,508
Total current assets	\$ 9,958,068
Other Assets	
Property and equipment	\$ 2,150,397
Accumulated depreciation	(1,569,494)
Net property and equipment	\$ 580,903
Deferred compensation	135,662
Investments held for retirement benefits	305,532
Total other assets	\$ 1,022,097
Total Assets	\$ 10,980,165
Deferred Outflows of Resources	\$ 60,740
<u>Liabilities and Fund Balance</u>	
Current Liabilities	
Salaries payable	\$ 75,293
Accounts payable	84,540
Membership fee credit/school reimbursement payable	937,454
Accrued employee benefits payable	186,396
Unearned income	38,333
Total current liabilities	\$ 1,322,016
Long-Term Liabilities	
Membership fee credit/school reimbursement payable	0
Deferred Compensation	135,662
Other post-employment benefits payable	575,950
Accrued employee benefits payable	153,798
Total long-term liabilities	\$ 865,410
Total Liabilities	\$ 2,187,426
Deferred Outflows of Resources	\$ 143,928
Fund Balance	
Reserved for future building expenses	100,000
Reserved for future expenses	248,090
Reserved for retirement benefits	151,734
Unreserved net equity in fixed assets	580,903
Unreserved	7,628,824
Total Fund Balance	\$ 8,709,551
Total Liabilities and Fund Balance	\$ 11,040,905

EXHIBIT 2

MINNESOTA STATE HIGH SCHOOL LEAGUE
COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE
FOR THE PERIOD: 09/01/2023 to 09/30/2023 and YEAR TO DATE 07/31/2024

	09/30/2023 Actual	09/30/2022 Actual	Variance	Percentage Variance	Year to Date Actual	Year End 2024 Budget	Year to Date Variance	Percentage Variance
Revenues								
Tournaments	\$ 0	\$ (20)	\$ 20	(100.0)	0	5,500,000	(5,500,000)	(100.0)
Membership services	0	3,300	(3,300)	(100.0)	2,262,632	2,250,000	12,632	0.6
Contest officials registration	28,840	30,035	(1,195)	(4.0)	68,620	365,000	(296,380)	(81.2)
Sales of handbooks, rule books, and supplies	8,312	3,975	4,337	109.1	20,434	95,000	(74,566)	(78.5)
Corporate partnership	218,825	167,500	51,325	30.6	218,825	947,500	(728,675)	(78.9)
Television & Streaming Fee	98,333	98,333	0	0.0	121,470	1,175,000	(1,053,530)	(89.7)
Interest/Unrealized Gain/(Loss)	28,504	6,341	22,163	349.5	66,835	225,000	(158,165)	(70.3)
Educational Services	4,200	17,600	(13,400)	(76.1)	55,185	100,000	(44,815)	(44.8)
Grant Revenue "Together Initiative"	0	0	0	0.0	5,000	60,000	(55,000)	(91.7)
ERTC	0	0	0	0.0	321,648	500,000	(178,352)	(35.7)
Other	8,794	8,070	724	9.0	17,339	70,000	(52,661)	(75.2)
Total Revenues	\$ 395,808	\$ 335,134	\$ 60,674	18.1	3,157,988	11,287,500	(8,129,512)	(72.0)
Expenses								
Tournaments	\$ 19,101	\$ 21,637	(2,536)	(11.7)	30,503	3,841,000	(3,810,497)	(99.2)
Membership fee credit/school reimbursement	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
Membership services	319,277	300,415	18,862	6.3	1,008,850	1,015,000	(6,150)	(0.6)
Insurance	6,517	780	5,737	735.5	16,354	99,000	(82,646)	(83.5)
Handbooks, rule books, and supplies	9,215	13,554	(4,339)	(32.0)	13,631	165,000	(151,369)	(91.7)
Other	0	330	(330)	(100.0)	0	60,000	(60,000)	(100.0)
Grant Expense "Together Initiative"	0	0	0	0.0	548	20,000	(19,452)	(97.3)
Fine arts programs	35,622	21,819	13,803	63.3	36,828	280,000	(243,172)	(86.8)
Officials association	1,138	106	1,032	973.6	1,480	21,000	(19,520)	(93.0)
Committees	1,225	1,534	(309)	(20.1)	15,940	96,000	(80,060)	(83.4)
Board of directors	177,825	164,701	13,124	8.0	355,720	2,410,000	(2,054,280)	(85.2)
Salaries	98,666	94,130	4,536	4.8	194,122	1,381,000	(1,186,878)	(85.9)
Employee benefits	470	0	470	0.0	470	26,000	(25,530)	(98.2)
Insurance	10,515	6,290	4,225	67.2	10,515	127,000	(116,485)	(91.7)
Legal	0	0	0	0.0	18,452	121,000	(102,548)	(84.8)
Other professional services	1,859	1,928	(69)	(3.6)	4,613	125,000	(120,387)	(96.3)
Maintenance	3,547	5,610	(2,063)	(36.8)	7,260	55,000	(47,740)	(86.8)
Utilities	884	5,805	(4,921)	(84.8)	9,047	43,000	(33,953)	(79.0)
Postage	652	644	8	1.2	1,783	23,000	(21,217)	(92.2)
Supplies	2,770	5,259	(2,489)	(47.3)	17,059	123,500	(106,441)	(86.2)
Data processing and office equipment	0	0	0	0.0	0	260,000	(260,000)	(100.0)
Website Design and Build	1,000	2,188	(1,188)	(54.3)	4,000	80,500	(76,500)	(95.0)
Public relations	1,239	1,239	0	0.0	2,478	14,900	(12,422)	(83.4)
Television Consulting Fee	0	0	0	0.0	0	46,000	(46,000)	(100.0)
Depreciation	6,083	2,097	3,986	190.1	12,744	100,000	(87,256)	(87.3)
Educational Services	10,089	7,682	2,407	31.3	21,590	225,000	(203,410)	(90.4)
Other								
Total Expenses	\$ 707,694	\$ 657,748	\$ 49,946	7.6	1,783,987	10,757,900	(8,973,913)	(83.4)
Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	\$ (311,886)	\$ (322,614)	\$ 10,728	(3.3)	1,374,001	529,600	844,401	159.4
Fund Balance - August 1					7,335,550			
Fund Balance - September 30 - Unrestricted					8,128,648			
Fund Balance - September 30 - Capital Assets					580,903			
					8,709,551			

MINNESOTA STATE HIGH SCHOOL LEAGUE
BROOKLYN CENTER, MINNESOTA

EXHIBIT 1

BALANCE SHEET

<u>Assets</u>	<u>October 2023</u>
Current Assets	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 589,964
Investments	8,301,443
Accounts receivable	560,981
Accrued interest receivable	63,805
Prepaid expenses	19,508
Total current assets	\$ 9,535,701
Other Assets	
Property and equipment	\$ 2,150,397
Accumulated depreciation	(1,569,494)
Net property and equipment	\$ 580,903
Deferred compensation	135,662
Investments held for retirement benefits	306,715
Total other assets	\$ 1,023,280
Total Assets	\$ 10,558,981
Deferred Outflows of Resources	\$ 60,740
<u>Liabilities and Fund Balance</u>	
Current Liabilities	
Salaries payable	\$ 75,293
Accounts payable	84,540
Membership fee credit/school reimbursement payable	937,454
Accrued employee benefits payable	186,396
Unearned income	38,393
Total current liabilities	\$ 1,322,076
Long-Term Liabilities	
Membership fee credit/school reimbursement payable	0
Deferred Compensation	135,662
Other post-employment benefits payable	575,950
Accrued employee benefits payable	153,798
Total long-term liabilities	\$ 865,410
Total Liabilities	\$ 2,187,486
Deferred Outflows of Resources	\$ 143,928
Fund Balance	
Reserved for future building expenses	100,000
Reserved for future expenses	248,090
Reserved for retirement benefits	152,917
Unreserved net equity in fixed assets	580,903
Unreserved	7,206,397
Total Fund Balance	\$ 8,288,307
Total Liabilities and Fund Balance	\$ 10,619,721

These financial statements do not include the 16 MSHSL Regions.

EXHIBIT 2

MINNESOTA STATE HIGH SCHOOL LEAGUE
COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE
FOR THE PERIOD: 10/01/2023 to 10/31/2023 and YEAR TO DATE 07/31/2024

	10/31/2023 Actual	10/31/2022 Actual	Variance	Percentage Variance	Year to Date Actual	Year End 2024 Budget	Year to Date Variance	Percentage Variance
Revenues								
Tournaments	\$ 661	\$ 37,682	\$ (37,021)	(98.2)	661	5,500,000	(5,499,339)	(100.0)
Membership services	(1,968)	3,451	(5,419)	(157.0)	2,260,663	2,250,000	10,663	0.5
Contest officials registration	28,810	24,135	4,675	19.4	97,430	365,000	(267,570)	(73.3)
Sales of handbooks, rule books, and supplies	14,330	13,622	708	5.2	34,764	95,000	(60,236)	(63.4)
Corporate partnership	(836)	100	(936)	(936.0)	217,989	947,500	(729,511)	(77.0)
Television & Streaming Fee	0	0	0	0.0	121,471	1,175,000	(1,053,529)	(89.7)
Interest/Unrealized Gain/(Loss)	54,285	6,540	47,745	730.0	121,119	225,000	(103,881)	(46.2)
Educational Services	21,400	12,130	9,270	76.4	76,585	100,000	(23,415)	(23.4)
Grant Revenue "Together Initiative"	5,000	40,000	(35,000)	(87.5)	10,000	60,000	(50,000)	(83.3)
ERTC	0	0	0	0.0	321,648	500,000	(178,352)	(35.7)
Other	25,410	18,952	6,458	34.1	42,750	70,000	(27,250)	(38.9)
Total Revenues	\$ 147,092	\$ 156,612	\$ (9,520)	(6.1)	3,305,080	11,287,500	(7,982,420)	(70.7)
Expenses								
Tournaments	\$ 74,305	44,469	29,836	67.1	104,808	3,841,000	(3,736,192)	(97.3)
Membership fee credit/school reimbursement	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
Membership services	0	0	0	0.0	1,008,650	1,015,000	(6,150)	(0.6)
Insurance	6,321	(168)	6,489	(3,862.5)	22,676	99,000	(76,324)	(77.1)
Handbooks, rule books, and supplies	24,803	10,807	13,996	129.5	38,434	165,000	(126,566)	(76.7)
Other	0	1,537	(1,537)	(100.0)	0	60,000	(60,000)	(100.0)
Grant Expense "Together Initiative"	3,656	1,304	2,352	180.4	4,204	20,000	(15,796)	(79.0)
Fine arts programs	26,485	14,436	12,049	83.5	63,312	280,000	(216,688)	(77.4)
Officials association	298	0	298	0.0	1,778	21,000	(19,222)	(91.5)
Committees	3,404	4,105	(701)	(17.1)	19,344	96,000	(76,656)	(79.9)
Board of directors	208,650	174,611	34,039	19.5	564,371	2,410,000	(1,845,629)	(76.6)
Salaries	113,124	90,606	22,518	24.9	307,246	1,381,000	(1,073,754)	(77.8)
Employee benefits	0	0	0	0.0	470	26,000	(25,530)	(98.2)
Insurance	7,315	6,290	1,025	16.3	17,830	127,000	(109,170)	(86.0)
Legal	19,352	21,115	(1,763)	(8.3)	37,804	121,000	(83,196)	(68.8)
Other professional services	8,971	4,324	4,647	107.5	13,583	125,000	(111,417)	(89.1)
Maintenance	4,738	4,083	655	16.0	11,998	55,000	(43,002)	(78.2)
Utilities	12,023	1,928	10,095	523.6	21,070	43,000	(21,930)	(51.0)
Postage	2,360	1,036	1,324	127.8	4,143	23,000	(18,857)	(82.0)
Supplies	6,109	13,812	(7,703)	(55.8)	23,169	123,500	(100,331)	(81.2)
Data processing and office equipment	22,912	17,850	5,062	28.4	22,912	260,000	(237,088)	(91.2)
Website Design and Build	4,538	0	4,538	0.0	8,538	80,500	(71,962)	(89.4)
Public relations	1,239	1,239	0	0.0	3,717	14,900	(11,183)	(75.1)
Television Consulting Fee	0	0	0	0.0	0	46,000	(46,000)	(100.0)
Depreciation	5,500	2,000	3,500	175.0	18,244	100,000	(81,756)	(81.8)
Educational Services	12,233	11,603	630	5.4	33,822	225,000	(191,178)	(85.0)
Other								
Total Expenses	\$ 568,336	\$ 426,987	\$ 141,349	33.1	2,352,323	10,757,900	(8,405,577)	(78.1)
Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	\$ (421,244)	\$ (270,375)	\$ (150,869)	55.8	952,757	529,600	423,157	79.9
Fund Balance - August 1					7,335,550			
Fund Balance - October 31 - Unrestricted					7,707,404			
Fund Balance - October 31 - Capital Assets					580,903			
					8,288,307			