

Minnesota State High School League

Board of Directors meeting synopsis

MSHSL Office, Brooklyn Center, MN

Thursday, April 2, 2015

ACTION ITEMS

- In the fifth meeting of the 2014-15 school year, the Minnesota High School League's board of directors formally approved the classifications and section placements that were preliminarily announced in early March. The enrollment classifications and section placements are for the 2015-16 and 2016-17 school years.
- Board of directors meeting dates and area meeting dates were approved for the 2015-16 school year.
- State tournament dates and sites for the 2015-16 school year were formally approved.
- A projected calendar for 2016-18 was approved.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Elk River's John Peterson, the executive director of the Minnesota Wrestling Coaches Association, addressed the board in support of an advisory committee's recommendation to seed the Class A, AA, and AAA individual state tournaments. The top eight individuals in each of the 14 weight classes will be seeded and the remaining eight entries will be drawn randomly. Currently, 324 wrestlers qualify for the state tournament in each of the three classes. Peterson said the seeding would help ensure the best wrestlers are meeting one another later in the tournament. Thirty-two other states seed individuals at their state wrestling tournaments. Seeding the individual wrestling state tournament will be an action item on the agenda for the board's meeting on June 1.
- No discussion took place regarding actions of teams and coaches during the Class AAA dance team state tournament awards ceremony in February. The board continues to gather information from participating schools for action at the June 1 meeting.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Executive Committee

- The committee approved numerous co-op and classification requests.

Technology/Coaches and Officials Education Committee

- Associate Director Jody Redman shared an initiative, a one-year partnership, between the MSHSL and Joe Ehrmann and his company, Coach for America. It is funded by the NFL Foundation and will challenge the current 'win-at-all-costs' sports culture, make space for education-based experiences, and lay a foundation on which to build character into the lives of

coaches and student-athletes that will shift the value from winning games to the development of ethical human beings. This initiative will be piloted in the states of two NFL teams, will be assessed for impact and sustainability, and if proven effective, will be implemented in all 32 NFL team's states over five years.

- The board approved a committee recommendation to charge a \$15 registration fee for first-year officials with an increase to \$30 for second-year officials.

Marketing and Communications Committee

- The staff reviewed plans for the League's 100-year anniversary celebration, which begins with the 2015 spring tournaments. Student-athletes and head coaches will receive a commemorative medallion at each of the spring tournaments. This will continue through the winter state tournaments in 2016. Wells Fargo, the League's premier corporate partner, has agreed to underwrite the cost of a new membership banner in recognition of the centennial celebration. The banner will include a version of the newly-designed 100-year logo and will be distributed to schools in August. Staff is reviewing a sponsorship renewal proposal from Fairview Health Services that would extend its current sponsorship with the League for another five years.

Audit/Finance Committee

- The committee reported a "slight jump" in revenue following the initial review of the winter state tournaments.

NEXT MEETING

- Monday, June 1, 2015, MSHSL office, Brooklyn Center