

2018 MIAAA POSSIBLE POSITION STATEMENTS

Recommendations to the Representative Council Based on Sport Committees & Discussions

Not all items recommended to the Representative Council are presented. Only those judged to be more significant and impacting most schools. Note: Some MHSAA Committees meet following the Board of Directors meeting approving these statements.

1. We support an addition to Int.105 under the undue influence – anti-recruiting rule that states, “High school coaches or their representatives may not attend ~~grade~~ school or non-school games, camps, clinics or competitions for the purpose of evaluating or recruiting specific prospective athletes.” (MHSAA Staff)

Rationale: Discourage recruiting at events such as 7 on 7, AAU, etc.

2. We support a clarification of the out of season coaching limit regarding when 8th graders can work out with high school teams (Reg. II, Section 11 H [4]): “For the purposes of this section, incoming 9th-graders become high school students when the four-player period ends on the Monday following Memorial Day. Provided these recent 8th-graders are not still involved in middle school sports, they may begin working out with high school students on the Monday following Memorial Day. This does not negate the rule that prohibits recruiting for athletic purposes (undue influence.” (MHSAA Staff)

Rationale: More clearly states what has been generally understood and applicable to all schools and situations. Same date as when the four player period ends and summer rules begin.

3. We support this addition to the MHSAA Insurance Program which covers eligible athletes and sideline cheerleaders while traveling to and cheering at interscholastic events; “To be covered by MHSAA-purchased insurance, the activity of sideline cheerleaders at interscholastic athletic events must not exceed the safety norms of MHSAA girls competitive cheer (i.e., the height of mounts, flips, stunts, etc.).” (MHSAA Staff)

Rationale: Addresses concern that some unregulated sideline cheerleading activities may be unsafe.

4. We support extending the Junior High Middle School Limited Team Membership Regulation to team sports (no change for individual sports): “During the junior high/middle school sport season in any MHSAA sport except football, allow a member of the school team in that sport to participate in a maximum of two (2) non-school meets or contests in that sport while not representing his or her school. An event held on not more than three (3) consecutive calendar days is considered a single meet (i.e. weekend tournament). (MHSAA JH/MS Committee and Representative Council for continued input)

Rationale: May encourage students who do not participate in one or more school sports to do so. May allow for a slight schedule overlap between the start and/or end of school and non-school seasons. Same rule for team sports as for individuals. May encourage non-MHSAA schools with non-school programs to join the MHSAA.

5. We support each MHSAA sport committee examine and expand the number of middle school games and dates in that sport, without extending the length of the 13-week season. This would also include expanding the number of multi-game events allowed on the same day not followed by a day of school from two to four. (MHSAA JH/MS Committee and Representative Council for continued input)

Rationale: In non-school sports, the number of contests in a season and in a day far exceeds the MHSAA JH/MS limits on competition to the point that some students will not play for the school because the non-school activity offers so much more competition. Adding a small number of dates (e.g. from 12 to 15 basketball games) is reasonable and will allow for more playing time and not significantly decrease practice time. Allowing, for example, double headers in JH/MS basketball on four dates is a more efficient use of time and travel and still less than what is done in non-school basketball.

6. In boys and girls basketball, we support seeding at the District level of the MHSAA tournament and a speedy identification as to the method and protocols that will be required.

Rationale: Details to be determined. Attempts to prevent the best two teams in a district from playing in an early game. Keeps local control and ownership of a seeding system with MHSAA member schools. Supported by the Basketball Coaches Association of Michigan. Some like seeding some do not. Will not increase travel. May tend to favor traditionally stronger programs.

7. In ice hockey, we support using an MHSAA-controlled RPI-type formula to determine Regional seeds two weeks prior to the start of the MHSAA tournament and at the semifinal round after the quarterfinals.

Rationale: Details to be determined. Attempts to prevent the best two teams in a regional from playing in an early game. Offers a Plan A and Plan B. Keeps local control and ownership of a seeding system with MHSAA member schools. Supported by the Michigan High School Hockey Coaches Association. Some like seeding some do not. Will not increase travel. May tend to favor traditionally stronger programs.

8. In Basketball, we support allowing head coaches to use the 28-foot coaching box that the NFHS rules allow by state association adoption. Currently, the MHSAA allows for a 14-foot coaches box. (MHSAA Basketball Committee)

Rationale: More opportunity to coach from a larger area of the floor towards the team bench and base line. More opportunity to act out.

9. In 11-player football, we support adopting the MHSFCA enhanced strength of schedule plan, effective for the 2020 football season. This plan includes eight divisions determined in advance of the season as is done in other sports, an altered points system for wins against teams in each of the eight divisions (currently Class A-D), bonus point multiplier different for each division and the same number of bonus points rewarded regardless of win or loss. (MHSAA Football Committee)

Rationale: Supported by the Michigan High School Football Coaches Association. Attempts to reduce pressure on scheduling regular season games. May be more difficult for the public to understand. Losses Week 6, 7, 8 and 9 story lines.

10. In boys lacrosse, we support a policy beginning with the 2019 tournament where an MHSAA tournament game will end when an 18-goal margin is reached any time after the third quarter is completed. The 12-point goal point differential running clock in the second half continues. (MHSAA Boys Lacrosse Committee)

Rationale: To end lopsided tournament games attempting to decrease penalties by players from teams whose seasons are clearly about to end and may cause a player from an advancing team to also face ejection. Soccer, hockey, baseball and softball have score differentials which stop games.

11. In Soccer, as part of the Multi-team tournament allowance at the high school level, we support allowing teams to play two full games on a non-school day, and have those two count as one of the 18 regular season contests. (MHSAA Soccer Committee)

Rationale: More flexibility in scheduling. Less travel. Less time on the field than the multi-team tournament allowance of 180 running time minutes (3 games with 30 minute halves).

12. In soccer, we support requiring the first round of District games to be played the week before the current District week. First round games may be played on Wednesday, Thursday or Friday, with the District Semifinals and Finals scheduled for the following week. Saturday games can be used as a weather backup only for the first round. (MHSAA Soccer Committee)

Rationale: Too demanding on teams and individuals to play three tournament games in the week. Will assist in assignment of officials as the first round games are spread out over three days.

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1. We support modifying the Limited Team Membership rules so that during the Competitive Cheer season allow a member of a school team to participate in a maximum of two non-school meets or contests in that sport during that season while not representing his or her school. An event held on not more than three consecutive calendar days is considered a single meet (including team sport tournaments). The 2 non-school events must be in-state only and not be considered a “national championship” final event. (Region 10)

Rationale: May encourage more participation as a student could also have limited activity with a non-school team without impacting the school season. At times during the competitive cheer season, students are forced to choose between school and non-school teams when a summer championship qualifying event occurs during the school season.

2. We, the members for Michigan Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (MIAAA), support all regulations set forth by Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA); as athletic directors from MHSAAA member schools, we help create, implement and enforce all regulations.

Rationale: The MIAAA needs to take an official position on potential legislation that directly alters the current MHSAA rules and regulations.