

UPPER PENINSULA ATHLETIC COMMITTEE
Escanaba, September 27, 2017

Members Present

Mike Berutti, Iron River
Don Gustafson, St Ignace
Bruce Horsch, Houghton
Sean Jacques, Calumet
Jeff Markham, Baraga
Al Unger, Kingsford

Staff Member

Nate Hampton

Guest

Gary Brayak, Rock-Mid Peninsula
Nick Nolde, Escanaba
Rick Pepin, Rapid River

The meeting began at 8:30 a.m. with Mr. Al Unger, Kingsford as Chair. MR. Unger welcomed the committee and guest, Mr. Nick Nolde, Escanaba and Mr. Rick Pepin, Rapid River as well as Gary Brayak, Rock Mid-Peninsula. Mr. Nolde and Mr. Pepin are newly elected members to the committee and Mr. Brayak is leaving the committee.

After a review of meeting materials, the following business was conducted.

MHSAA Tournament Discussions

Competitive Cheer

Districts – Feb. 16 or 17, 2018
Regionals – Feb. 24, 2018
Finals at DeltaPlex, Grand Rapids, March 2-3, 2018

Cross Country UP Finals – Oct. 21, 2017 - Munising

Girls Divisions 1, 2, 3
Boys Divisions 1, 2, 3

Order of Competition: Girls Division 1, Girls Division 2, Girls Division 3
Boys Division 1, Boys Division 2, Boys Division 3

Gymnastics - UP Participating Schools – Marquette, Escanaba and Negaunee

Regionals – March 3, 2018
Finals at Plymouth HS, Canton – March 9-10, 2018

Ice Hockey

Regionals - Feb. 26, 2018
Quarterfinals - March 6-7, 2018
Semifinals – March 8-9, 2018 – USA Hockey Arena, Plymouth
Finals - March 10, 2018, USA Hockey Arena, Plymouth

Skiing

Regionals: Feb. 12-16, 2018
Finals – Feb. 26, 2018 Sites: TBD

Swimming

Boys and Girls UP Finals - February 17, 2018, Marquette HS

Discussion: Committee member Bruce Horsch, Houghton suggested that there should be a review of the UP Qualifying Standards given that in some events there are not enough qualifiers to fill two heats. Mr. Horsch also suggested that a UP coach be involved with the review.

Tennis

Girls UP Finals - Sept. 27-30, 2017 Sites: Div. 1 Kingsford, Div. 2 Ishpeming Westwood

Boys UP Finals - May 30 - June 2, 2018 – Sites: Div. 1 Kingsford, Div. 2 Ishpeming Westwood

Discussion: The Girls Up Tennis Finals are typically scheduled 2 weeks prior to the Boys LP Tennis Finals. This year (2017-18), the schedule reflects a 3 week difference. The committee will present this topic to UP athletic directors in the coming weeks to try and gain an understanding of the membership interest on how to proceed.

Track and Field

UP Regionals – May 18, 19 or 20, 2018 Sites: TBD

UP Finals – June 2, 2018 Site: Kingsford

Wrestling

Individuals

District – Feb. 10, 20

Regionals – Feb. 17, 2018

Finals – March 2-3, 2018 (New Two-Day Tournament, Ford Field, Detroit)

Team

District – Div. 1 & 3 – Feb. 7, 2018

Div. 2 & 4 – Feb. 8, 2018

Regionals – Feb. 14, 2018

Finals – Feb. 23-24, 2018 (New site: Wings Event Center, Kalamazoo)

Golf

UP Boys and Girls Finals – May 30 or 31 or June 1 or 2, 2018

Discussion: The committee received a Division 3 report form Mr. Gary Brayak, that indicated the new equal division format was well received and made for a better Finals experience. The committee also shared concerns with the Division 1 arrangement for a single course set up or a two-course set up. The committee discussed the course layout for Division 1 that may not suit the number of entries for both boys and girls and thought that the two-course format used for last year's Finals worked well.

Volleyball

District – Oct. 30- Nov. 2, 3, or 4, 2017

Regional – Nov. 7 & 9, 2017

Quarterfinals – Nov. 14, 2017

Semifinals - Nov. 16-17, 2017

Finals – Nov. 18, 2017

Discussion: The committee made no recommendation for change in the length of the current volleyball season. The committee recommended tournament invitations to be extended to 11 approved officials for assignment to the MHSAA Post Season Tournaments including one official to the Semifinals and Finals.

Football

11-Player

Pre-Districts – Oct. 27 or 28

Districts – Nov. 3 or 4

Regionals – Nov. 10 or 11

Semifinals – Nov. 18

Finals – Nov. 24 & 25 Site: Ford Field, Detroit

8-Player

Regional Semifinals – Oct. 27 or 28

Regional Finals – Nov. 3 or 4

Semifinals – Nov. 11

Finals – Nov. 17 Site: NMU, Marquette

The committee recommended invitations to approved Football officials in the following levels of the 2017 MHSAA Football Postseason Tournament.

15 Crews for the first rounds of both the 8-Player and 11-Player Tournament.

6 Crews for the second and third rounds.

5 Individuals for the 8-Player Semifinals and Finals

7 Individuals for the 11-Player Semifinals and Finals

Other Discussion Items:

Member School Surveys – This fall the MHSAA will survey member schools relating to the following topics.

1. Basketball – District Tournament Seeding
2. Basketball and Volleyball – Regular season and Tournament scheduling
3. 8-Player Football enrollment limits for tournament eligibility
4. Junior High/Middle School contest limitations and MHSAA sponsorship of Regional or State meets.
5. Transfer Rule – Possible changes

Basketball Tournament Options – The committee reviewed options being considered for scheduling the Girls and Boys Basketball Tournament and potential venue availability.

Option 1 Current format with one week separation between Girls and Boys

Option 2 Two week separation between Girls and Boys

Option 3 Simultaneous Tournaments – Both Girls and Boys Tournaments running at the same time (different week days) and ending at a single site on the same weekend. Semifinals to be held at geographical sites Tues. and Wed. prior to the Finals Friday and Saturday.

Discussion: The committee without an in-depth study thought that Option 3 was interesting.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for January 11, 2018, Escanaba.

Awards Presenters

Mr. Don Gustafson and Mr. Sean Jacques will present awards for the 8-Player Football Finals at NMU, Marquette on Nov. 17, 2017.