

MCAC Executive Committee

March '20 Meeting Minutes

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Roll: M. Sam; J. Lamppa; M. Curfman; M. Lester; L. Reed; T. Thorstad; S. Crittenden; S. King; P. Watkins, C. Anderson.

Thanks from Mike Curfman to the group for flexibility in meeting times and dates, due to the evolving nature of the COVID-19 situation.

February '20 EC Minutes: Motion approve Feb. '20 minutes from M. Lester, 2nd M. Sam. Passed Unanimously.

MCAC Women's Basketball End-of-Season Meeting Minutes & Proposals:

Noted by Conference office that several Men's & Women's BB proposals may affect the other gender, in items such as film exchange. Thus, some topics may need to be discussed in context of both sports.

- Northern Division schedule as presented by Northland was approved as put forward by Northland.
- Southern Division schedule will be a 'flip' of the games as played in 2019-20; there will be no re-ordering of opponents, but game sites will be switched between the first round and second round of games.
 - Noted that some games which were re-scheduled due to facility availability will be reflected in flip from contests as played.
 - Noted that some games moved due to weather will revert to original 2019-20 schedule and then be flipped.
 - Noted that Crossover (Inter-Divisional) contest opponents have already been established; Crossover dates are now set due to the fact that the Northern Division has established Division schedule dates.
 - All MCAC contests, including basketball, can be moved by mutual consent, due to facility conflict or other issues.

Crossover Dates established as December 4 & 5 and December 11 and 12.

- Northern Division 20-21 schedule. Motion by M. Sam, 2nd by J. Lamppa to approve. Motion approved unanimously.
- Southern Division 20-21 schedule. Motion by M. Lester, 2nd by S. King to approve.
 - Noted by Todd Thorstad that there will be conflicts with facility issues related to wrestling, high school tournaments, etc.
 - Motion approved unanimously.

MCAC Basketball Film Exchange Non-Compliance:

MCAC women's basketball proposes a successive fine system be implemented related to film upload non-compliance within MCAC programs. Details include:

- \$100 fine assessed by Conference office to offending school which fails to meet MCAC film upload protocol.
 - Notable: Current MCAC film exchange protocol applies; such as applying only to contests involving at least one MCAC-member college and played in MCAC facilities.
 - By example, an MCAC college playing 'Away' to Leech Lake Tribal College whose game is not filmed by Leech Lake Tribal College, would not fall under MCAC film upload requirements.
 - By example, an MCAC college playing 'Home' against JV team of U W-Superior would be required to upload film, due to the fact that game was played in MCAC facility.
 - By example, an MCAC college playing 'Neutral' against any opponent at Lake Region State College tournament would not be required to upload film due to the fact contest took place in a non-MCAC facility.
 - Contest which had technical issues in film upload will be exempt from by-law; colleges would be responsible for notifying MCAC teams and Conference office of technical issue.

Significant discussion in method to assess fines and how fine funds would be handled and allocated.

- 1st offense from member college will result in \$100 after 24 hours.
 - Friendly amendment from Men's basketball to adopt similar language, including \$50 incremental fine structure for every subsequent 24 hours.
- Due to nature of by-law proposal, recommended amendments, and effect on both genders, motion made by Mike Curfman to table the topic until the General Assembly.
 - 2nd by Justin Lamppa.

Motion to table men's & women's basketball motion for incremental fines until such time it can be discussed in person by General Assembly. Motion tabled unanimously.

Items to Address:

- Definition of 'technical issues'.
- What film exchange platform will be the 'official' MCAC platform (Hudl, Synergy, ...)
- Where are fines accrued and what are they applied to?

Proposal from Anoka-Ramsey WBB to require use of PrestoLive Stats for reporting of final game scores.

- MCAC colleges would be required to report scores as soon as possible after a contest through Presto Live Stats.

- Games hosted by MCAC colleges, regardless of opponent, would require **final score** to be reported and posted on Presto page directly after contest.
- Games played ‘away’ or ‘neutral’ by MCAC colleges, regardless of opponent, would require **final score** to be reported and posted on Presto page directly after contest.
 - There is no cost to this by-law change, as Presto access is free to members of the NJCAA.
- Motion to approve motion as presented, Steve King. 2nd by Justin Lamppa. Motion approved unanimously.

Proposal from Northland WBB to require filming of contests in MCAC facilities to be at or near half-court.

- Proposal comes as motion from coaches. 2nd by Justin Lamppa for discussion.

Discussion regarding the reason for the proposal; two MCAC Northern schools currently can not film from half-court, due to facility set-up. Additional discussion as to if a fine system would be used.

Noted by Mike Lester that this item is better served as a ‘best practice’ or ‘recommendation’ rather than by-law change.

Motion as presented was defeated, 0 – Yea; 8 Nay.

Recommended from Executive Committee to include above language as a ‘best practice’ moving forward.

Additional Points of Awareness from WBB end-of-season call:

- Group of coaches is interested in looking at opportunities to increase MCAC contests from current Division plus Crossover games to schedule model that allows for 20-23 MCAC games. This change would take effect ’21-22; goal being to improve scheduling for all teams, develop better opportunity for ‘at-large’ NJCAA bids, etc.

MCAC Men’s Basketball End-of-Season Meeting Minutes & Proposals:

Proposal from Hibbing MBB to require Live-Stream of contests in MCAC facilities to be at or near half-court.

- **Proposal comes as a motion.** Discussion regarding needing to create unified platform; concerns regarding the same requirement for others sports, including challenge of multiple sports being conducted simultaneously (i.e. VB & FB games at same time, but only one set of equipment at college).
- **Proposal as a motion did not received 2nd from EC.** Motion dies for lack of a second.

Noted by Executive Committee that live streaming should be a best practice, but challenges at various colleges in basketball and concerns regarding sport-equity at all campuses, lead this group to not support the motion.

Proposal from Anoka-Ramsey MBB to create a central assignor for basketball. Language identical to motion as presented in 2018-19.

Proposal comes as a motion. Discussion regarding purpose of motion; Is it to help schools who struggle finding officials; to help improve the quality of officials; to help avoid seeing the same officials several times in one season; to avoid 'bidding war' for cost of officials for out-lying schools. Motioned 2nd by Mike Lester for purpose of discussion.

Noted by Conference that Rainy River abstained from coaches vote.

Noted by Justin Lamppa as to an assignor per se may not solve above issues. Main challenges in MCAC basketball is rate of pay, number of available officials and competition with local high school and/or NSIC, MIAC and UMAC games.

Noted by Mike Lester that group may be better served by a supervisor, designated to evaluate, vs. an assignor. Mike Curfman noted that supervisor role may have cost components to it that are different than an assignor.

Recommended to return proposal to MBB/WBB coaches to craft proposal for:

- Creation of a 'supervisor' of officials, as opposed to 'assignor' of officials.
- Development of idea of cost for supervisor and what duties would entail; i.e. In-person evaluations, film review, pre-season clinic or meeting, ...
- Pay rates would need to be standardized.

Noted by Mike Curfman that there may be utility to basketball officials centralized meetings.

Noted by Todd Thorstad & Mike Lester that Paul Conrad may be a good resource for more information.

- **Proposal Call the Question, Mike Curfman.** Motion defeated, 0 – 9 – 0 .

Noted by Executive Committee that further discussion regarding a basketball officials supervisor may be more effective and better in line with needs of the Conference.

Noted by Conference office that EC members at Central Lakes, Anoka-Ramsey and RCTC to have direct discussions with their basketball coaches as to the context of previous discussions on MBB/WBB topics.

Additional Points of Awareness:

- All-America teams are to be named along same or similar timelines as established by NJCAA. Committees shall meet remotely and name AA teams.
 - Concerns regarding professionalism displayed by small group of head coaches on both basketball calls. Referencing MCAC as a 'junior high' league serves no greater organization purposes. Lack of overall understanding to conference operations should not be an excuse to act unprofessionally in group settings. Noted by Conference office that coaches who complain the most tend to be the ones who do the least in terms of proactively working towards realistic solutions.
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Plan for MCAC General Assembly, given current situation.

Steve Crittenden noted that Region may look at possibility of meeting between commencements and early June.

Topic tabled due to range of unknown factors which effect the situation.

Goal is to have in-person meeting, if possible. Group could consider some agenda items via electronic means. Evolving landscape in overall environment.

Discussion regarding Conference operations and using current situation regarding operating code, sport code and other arrangements on reviewing and policy review.

Board of Regents Update:

Steve Crittenden noted that NJCAA has produced FAQ's regarding current situation; noted challenges regarding recruiting restrictions.

BOR meetings will be slightly adjusted due to current situation. NJCAA Connect seems to be operating correctly.

Colleges should operate in recruiting under the premise that admissions will be able to recruit electronically.

Discussion regarding NJCAA email lists and challenges regarding firewalls.

Noted that EC call continue to be on 3rd Friday of the month; next call will be April 17, 10:30am.

Noted that BOR will continue to address issues regarding Clay Target, eSports, DI / DIII proposals in football and wrestling.

Overall positive feedback on the handling of NJCAA MBB and WBB tournaments, given the participants.

Discussions continue regarding 3rd year of eligibility and it remains on the NJCAA agenda, as well as consideration of mandated CPR training.

Call to adjourn, Mike Curfman; 2nd Justin Lamppa. Meeting adjourned.