

MSTCA E-Board Meeting Notes
Monday January 20, 2014 11:00 am @ NDA-Hingham

Present: Frank Mooney, Rick Kates, Jim Hoar, Charlie Butterfield, Nicole O'Neil, Michael Budd, John Carroll, Lucia Carroll, Kristen (new last name), Steve Infascelli, Bill Kane, Jack Lang, Joseph Lemar, Mike Meagher, Bill O'Connor, Charlie O'Rourke, Scott Ouellet, Linda Rowbotham, Jayson Sylvain, Lou Tozzi, Chris Woods

1. Review of Minutes from Nov. meeting: Motion to accept by Rick, 2nd by Bill K., minutes accepted.
2. Update on Meeting with RCC President: Frank reported that MSTCA has hired a lawyer. The RCC lawyers claims MSTCA has no rights to the facility. 3 tiered strategy-
 - 1) A letter has been drafted to the RCC from MSTCA informing them of our position in the original legislation and our request for them to follow it.
 - 2) The initial legislation that stated the RLC could not be leased to anyone has been amended to allow it to be leased.
 - 3) A petition will be started by MSTCA to follow the original legislation to keep RCC and RLC (MSTCA) budgets separate.
 - The Governor's office is allowing a one time monetary allocation to Reggie Lewis Center. With those funds, the track will be resurfaced and the HVAC system addressed.
 - Frank also pointed out that the RLC had set aside a Future Capital Needs Account at the onset of construction (which MSTCA helped out with) and had \$500,000.00 The Governor took it all.
3. Letter from XC Committee:
 - briefing of the previous XC Committee meeting by Scott:
 - Chip timing: The XC Committee supports the idea as long as it is not a financial burden.
 - "Slow runners": Committee supports a standard being set for each race
 - New idea: Novice race to follow the end of the meet. Optional 3K for coaches to put slower runners in, could be run co-ed, and/or have a time limit where kids would be pulled off the course if it took too long to complete.
 - State Coaches XC Poll: Committee discussed the successes and failures and had several ideas to clean it up. Also requests more input from small school boys.
 - The committee discussed each meet and it's purpose and the pro's and con's for each
 - E Mass host site for All-States: Committee discussed getting input from the membership
 - Letter: The letter addresses the disappointment in the Gardner site of the last XC All-State meet.
 - Discussion ensued regarding the letter. Since the Central Mass site does not occur again for 2 years, it was decided to take the letter into consideration and work on it some more at the March meeting.

-Questions: About the wording “multiple controversies”...where do they stem from? The directorship? Is the site consistently poor? If it’s so bad, why do we keep going back? Is it an MIAA problem or ours? It was decided that it was the MIAA’s issue but that we need to have input and to take time to digest the letter and return to it at the March meeting.

Motion to table the issue of the Gardner site to the March meeting. Seconded and voted Unanimous.

-General discussion of the XC season:

A time table will be added to each entry form.

Overall, we need more space on the start line for our races (more boxes). It is too cramped.

Team Awards area has to be announced so the teams know where to collect their awards.

Twilight Meet: There will be a slight course adjustment for safety to avoid a pivot on the tar. Also, the XC Committee recommends a “per-person” fee with no maximum to deter coaches from entering the entire team only to have less than half of them run.

Novice race would be a difficult thing to work into the meet for time purposes but will be looked into and considered.

The meeting to discuss donation permanent markers (trees) to WDC was postponed but will happen.

Next Year’s Division meets are tentatively taking place at WDC and the All-State meet at Franklin Park. It was noted that the bus parking area is in fact gone.

4. Do It Clinic:

- Lou reported that it was an excellent day
- 300+ kids a bit down from years past but worked to advantage with smaller, easier to manage groups for the clinicians and more 1:1 attention for the athletes.
- Joe Lamar and the Mobility Challenged group were excellent-thanks!
- Over 200 prizes were given away in the raffle
- Lots of positive feedback
- Registration process needs to be clarified for the future

5. Indoor Meets so far this season:

Team Pentathlon:

- Jim reported there were less teams this year because of the first time offered individual pentathlon.
- Newton North boys, Marshfield girls won
- Issue of the Team Pentathlon vs. Individual Pentathlon was discussed and referred to the Indoor Committee for further discussion.

Winter Festival:

- Small school turnout 1600+ Large schools 1400+ with the new delineations
- Some issues with athletes not showing up for races but there was a problem with the 300 and dash/hurdles happening simultaneously. The starters had to alternate starts. Only an issue with the schedule for the small schools due to larger number of entries. Not a problem at all with the large schools.
- The new system of checking in for coaches to receive packets worked very well. The system will be used at the state meets as well.

-Discussion about setting a max number of entries for seeding the races, referred to the Indoor Committee.

Auerbach Fr/So Meet:

- This was the first year for using standards. There were still some poor performances, but it was much better.
- The “third entry” provision had 42 takers of which 11 actually succeeded.
- Lou wondered if the meet was scheduled well in the season.

Holiday Qualifier:

- The pentathlon affected the long jump. It couldn't start on time.
- Numbers were good, not as many scratches
- The oval ran well.

Suggestion to change the name of the meet to avoid confusion with the Holiday Challenge was referred to the Indoor Committee.

Holiday Challenge was reported on via letter by Bill Jennings-overall the meet went great with good numbers and great performances.

Relays:

- Computer scoring problem for D5 and D2 relays. The computer was scoring 8 places and teams were awarded based on the 8 place scoring system. The meets were then rescored with 6 places scoring. The correct teams were awarded, but no awards were taken back.
- Overall, went well.
- Gym situation went smoothly.
- NDA-Worcester had requested to run in another division and forfeited scoring/placing but the athletes did well and had a great time-no problems
- HJ ties: there needs to be a system for ties that is plainly available to the coaches.
- Financially it is estimated that we did not do well. It needs to be looked over.
- Fees: let's keep them consistent from indoor to outdoor.

6. Christmas in the City:

- Lou reported that 37 teams participated, collecting around 500 toys.
- Kennedy Brothers sent a thank you note.

7. Spring Schedule:

- Potential Pentathlon during April Vacation to prep for the State level Pent now added to those meets. Tentatively Tuesday April 22 with a rain date of the 26th
- Reminder of the General standards for the MIAA meet pentathlon entries: The athlete must compete in all 5 events during the current season. The coach enters the best performance for each event and the pent score is tallied based on each score. The top 12 entries are locked in. If an athlete gets in for the Pent, he/she is no longer available for any other events or relays at the Div or All-State meets. The top 2 at each Div plus the next 6 top scorers will advance to All-States.

8. Mobility Challenged: How does the MSTCA connect with this group?

- Joe Lamar reports that we need to continue to educate coaches.

Motion by Rick to refer the Mobility Challenged item to the Outdoor Committee seconded by Jim and passed unanimously.

9. Financial Report 2012-2013

- Review of spending and profits.
- Suggestion to form a sub-committee to overview the finances was also suggested by the accountant.
- Discussion as to how to reinvest our profits.

Motion by Chris to accept all the suggested points to reinvest profits, seconded by Charlie Butterfield, passed unanimous.

10. March Clinic: Reminder to make sure you get your paperwork/check in! Don't miss the deadline.

11. Reggie Lewis Project- MSTCA sign

- The bid for a new MSTCA sign came in for \$1,100 and was accepted.

12. Review of Meet Director Responsibilities: a copy of the responsibilities was sent to all upcoming meet directors.

New Business:

Motion by Charlie O'Rourke to increase the Executive Director's stipend was seconded and passed unanimously.

Question: Does Frank need more help? Discussion ensued that's why Rick's position was created and it has alleviated the amount of work on Frank's plate.

Changes in pay scale for others that work for the organization:

- Handout (attached) was reviewed.
- **Motion** by Jack to increase student helper's fee from \$10.00 to \$30.00 seconded by Jim. Discussion ensued. (Note that the money goes to the helpers' school, not the student's themselves.) **Motion amended:** One fee of \$250 will be given to the helper's school (with a minimum of 10 student helpers provided). Voted Unanimous.
- **Motion** by Rick to accept the Pay Scale Changes outlined in the handout was seconded by Charlie and passed unanimously.

Marathon Sports: They want to know if there is anything else they can buy for MSTCA. It was suggested they purchase a portable board for results. New ideas: Have them provide T-Shirts to the winning relay teams. Discussion ensued as to whether it is ok to do this within the MIAA rules. Frank is pretty sure it's ok, but will look into it.

Membership Report:

- Charlie Butterfield reported that we are currently up from last year's members from this time period. We always get more at the clinic and this year it looks like we'll top 500. So far we have 65 new members.

Coach of the Year/Hall of Fame:

- Lou reported that packets for voting will go out at the spring clinic in March. He needs nominations for the XC COY. Scott will email the XC Committee to have them get the word out.

Update on MSTCA outreach to Western Mass Schools:

- Bill Kane reported that it is tough to get the Berkshire schools to even come to the Valley never mind other MSTCA sponsored sites. Potential XC and Indoor events are pretty well nailed down and there is talk of an Outdoor Relay event.

MSTCA Handbook:

- Rick ran off the draft of the MSTCA handbook and Nicole asked that everyone take a look at it and to please e-mail any corrections or additions.

Motion to Adjourn at 1:15. Next meeting will be held at the 40th Annual New England Track and Field Clinic at the Best Western Hotel in Marlborough.

Respectfully Submitted by Nicole O'Neil 1/22/14