

MSTCA E-Board Meeting Notes

Wednesday June 18, 2014 5:30 p.m. @ Joe's American Bar and Grill, Dedham

Present: Frank Mooney, Rick Kates, Jim Hoar, Charlie Butterfield, Nicole O'Neil, John Carroll, Lucia Carroll, Peter Comeau, Livvy Kates, Jack Lang, Bill O'Connor, Charlie O'Rourke, Scott Ouellet, Al Porter, Linda Rowbotham, Jayson Sylvain, Lou Tozzi

- 1) Review of April 24th meeting minutes-accepted
- 2) RLC Meeting- Frank reported the most recent meeting scheduled was cancelled at the last minute. The same issues are on the table, specifically MSTCA's right to priority scheduling of the facility.
- 3) Relay Late Fees: Frank reported that someone complained to the MIAA that the MSTCA late fee for the Relay meets is set too high. MIAA has nothing to do with it. One team was particularly upset about an \$1100.00 fee for late entry.
 - a) Discussion ensued as to why our deadline for the relays is so much earlier than our typical deadline. Reasoning is that much more work goes into the set up and data entry process for running 4 meets in one weekend versus one or two.
 - b) Any suggestions or revisions will left up to the Outdoor Committee to discuss and bring back to the E-Board for approval.
- 4) MIAA June 13th Tournament Committee Meeting:
 - a) Frank reported that the 2015 Outdoor start times for all division and the All-State Meets will be 10:00 for the PV and Pentathlon, 1:00 for Field Events and 1:30 for the Running Events.
 - b) The order of events will be changed to accommodate weather (heat) and the distance races. First event will be the 4x800 followed by the 400H and so on, ending with the 2M, 4x1, and 4x4.
 - i) This raises the question of whether the MSTCA Invitational will mirror this order of events. This issue will go to the OTC for discussion.
 - c) 2014-15 Advancement to All-State Proposal: Indoor, Top 4 automatically move on and the next 10 best performances. Outdoor: Top 4 automatically move on and the next 6 best performances. This will bring the total number of competitors per event to 30. (Pentathlon will not change.)
 - d) The State House of Representatives have received a bill that proposes that no athletic event shall be scheduled on the same day as the SAT and/or ACT. We as an organization that will be directly affected must write letters to the representatives stating our case against this proposed bill. If it goes into effect, it will be impossible to schedule our seasonal meets.
- 5) MIAA Summer Meeting: Frank reported that the meeting will be held on July 16th. If there are any questions or concerns, please notify him, Rick, or Jim and they can relay it to the meeting. Current ideas include: eliminating the jewelry rule, coaches boxes for all jumping events, any 4 events for conference meets
- 6) Update and Recommendations from the Indoor Committee: Not represented at this meeting. Tabled to September 2014.
- 7) XC Committee Update: Scott Ouellet
 - a) Steve Infascelli resigned as co-chair and has been replaced by current committee member Jack Lang. The position on the committee must also be refilled. Scott

- nominates Dave Reinhart of Holyoke as a key Western Mass representative. 2nd Rick/Linda, Unanimous.
- b) Review of the last meeting's agenda.
 - i) **Motion** by Scott to name the additional meet added to the schedule after Frank Mooney 2nd Unanimous.
 - ii) The committee has come up with an evaluation process for XC Meets (both MSTCA and MIAA. The evaluation form would be filled out by the coaches. Forms will be handed out in the meet packets as well as being available online. Rick mentioned that it would be professional courtesy to inform the MIAA of the evaluations taking place prior to implementation. This was agreed to.
 - iii) A format was devised for and proposed for the 4th MSTCA meet to be held at Franklin Park. (See handout.)
 - iv) Response from MIAA re: the Gardner site XC Letter. (See handout.)
 - c) Frank reported that dealings with Franklin Park as shaky and unproductive as usual. They are difficult to get in contact with and can still refuse to host the meet at the last minute.
 - d) Frank reported that Rick will be traveling to Atlanta, GA to attend an information session on the chip timing mat systems.
 - e) Scott reported that there are too many instances of athletes left on the course finishing with inappropriate times for a state level meet. Frank said it will be posted in the meet information that the course will shut down at a specified point and non-finishers will be removed from the course.
 - f) Jim reported that the Twilight meet info will now have approximate race times listed for each race.
- 8) Review of Spring meets:
- a) Freshman/Sophomore meets: Jim reported that the small school meet was down in numbers this year due to a lot of conflicting conference Fr./So meets. **Motion** (Rick) to open the meet up to 7th and 8th graders as long as those student athletes are under the same principal as the rest of the 9th-12th graders from that school. 2nd Lou Unanimous.
 - b) Relays: John reported that the meets went well. There was some confusion regarding which division some teams were in but all were cleared up in time. There were several requests for B teams which all performed adequately, some even scoring and help teams win the meet.
 - i) Frank reported on the early decision to postpone the D4 and D1 meets. He stated it was a very difficult decision based on strong forecasts for torrential rain and hurricane force winds. The weather turned out fine. This raised the question of whether we make our decisions too early. Discussion ensued. No change will be made but this situation will be taken into account if and when future situations arise.
 - c) Coaches Invite: Charlie O'Rourke reported that the girls meet was strongly attended and went well. The freshman races were very well received. A freshman 100 will be added for next year. No one entered the mobility challenged events. It is recommended to call it a mobility challenged event and not just a wheelchair event. The only issue was with the number of entries in the

- TJ. The event took way too long with 86 athletes. Next year bump the standard up to 32' (Division 2 standard).
- i) Frank reported that the boys meet ran ahead of schedule but came back on. The Freshmen events were great. Add the 100 next year. One issue was that there were no medals for the freshman races. They were ordered and mailed to the recipients after the meet.
- 9) Recent Purchases: Frank reported that the MSTCA has recently purchased windgages, a double faced clock, replacement parts for the Lynx system, pop-up tents to replace the ones broken this season, as well as sending Rick to Atlanta for the info session on the chip timing mats. MSTCA will purchase a new camera to hold in reserve. Charlie recommended waiting until the newest model comes out or to get one with a free upgrade and to do so when the time comes.
- 10) Report on Non-Profit Financial Statement:
- a) Frank reported that he attended a seminar for Non-Profit organizations and came away with a lot of ideas and suggestions.
 - b) It was suggested and added to the by-laws that a committee be formed to review the financial records of the association. Jim nominated: Lucia Carroll (chair), Peter Comeau, and Bill Jennings (member). Lucia and Peter accepted.
 - c) Frank asked for additional ideas on how to spend our money. **Motion** (Lou) to triple the stipend offered to the Assistant Executive Director. 2nd by Charlie Butterfield. Discussion: Frank requested that we wait until the end of the year review and see how the year went since it is a new position. There is no job description yet. He recommends we draw up a job description before changing the stipend amount. Vote: 11 for, 4 against, 2 abstentions. Passed.
 - d) **Motion** to determine a stipend for Rick for attending the information session in Atlanta. 2nd Scott. 15 for, 2 abstentions. Passed.
 - e) Frank passed out and reviewed the financial report. The question was raised as to when the medals and t-shirt contracts expired. Frank reports that the Medals contract has 2 more years and the T-shirt contract has 1 more year. Both companies received praise for their professionalism and business.
 - f) Frank reported that in trying to determine a payment for Dom Finelli, Dom made it clear that he will not accept it. He wants to donate his earnings for his lawyer services to a scholarship for the Kelley Adversity Award winners. Jim nominated Livvy and Kristen to come up with the details and protocols for the scholarship and to assist in selecting award winners. Livvy accepted the nomination.
- 11) Awards Dinner:
- a) Jim reported that the Kelley Adversity Awards went great. There was a lot of positive feedback.
 - b) Lou reported that the night was great. Special thanks to those that helped out. It was an all time record for attendance and people were eventually denied tickets. We will request more room next year. There was a lot of positive feedback and many thank you notes sent in.
- 12) New Business:
- a) Committee Reviews: Frank reported that overall the committees have certainly helped. They have had a lot of new ideas and suggestions. However, we need

- more help from the committee members themselves in working our meets.
Especially indoor!
- b) Peter raised the concern that the same teams are providing student workers for the indoor meets. What can we do to encourage more teams to volunteer? We will offer the team \$500 for the day or an MF Athletic gift card.
 - c) Lucia asked about the potential for more meetings for the committees.
Discussion: It is in the by-laws that each committee meet 3 times a year at specified times. It is up to the committee chair to schedule the meeting dates. They are required to meet 3 times but can certainly have more. It was also recommended that the committee chairs be invited to the E-Board meetings. Again it was stated that the by-laws state the committee chair be present at the E-Board meetings to present their ideas, motions, and updates.

Motion to adjourn at 8:15 p.m. Next meeting to be held in September 2014, date, time, and location TBA.