MINUTES
OF THE
MAINE PRINCIPALS' ASSOCIATION
FOOTBALL COMMITTEE
NOVEMBER 29, 2018

A meeting of the MPA Football Committee was held on Thursday, November 29, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Fred Lower, Susan Robbins, and Brendan Scully.

MEMBER ABSENT: Dan Clifford.

LIAISONS PRESENT: Dan O’Connell and Allan Snell.

GUESTS: Jeremy Marks (Camden Hills Regional High School), Bunky Dow (Mount Desert Island High School), Joel Stoneton (Winthrop High School), Joe Rafferty (Kennebunk High School), Jim Leonard (Maine Central Institute), Tom Bertrand (Maine Central Institute), Matt Lash (Medomak Valley High School), Travis Lee (WMTW), Travis Lazarczyk (Central Maine Newspapers), and Gene Keene (Consultant).

STAFF PRESENT: Michael Burnham.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: On a MOTION by Lower/Robbins, the minutes of the October 9, 2018 meeting were UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

CORRESPONDENCE: The football correspondence was reviewed and placed on file:

REVIEW OF CHAMPIONSHIP GAMES: Weather and cold temperatures impacted the attendance at this year’s championship games. The games, with the exception of the Class C Championship, were not close and ended with running time. A huge thank you to the City of Portland and the University of Maine at Orono for their efforts to clear the venues of the snow that fell on Friday.

COACHES’ REPORT: Mr. O’Connell reported the following:

- Interest amongst the coaches is high regarding football classification and the possibility of adding 8-man football.
- The Maine Football Coaches’ Association, with the passing of Executive Secretary Mike Haley, is at a crossroad with their leadership.
- There have been a number of coaches that have shared their ideas regarding football classification.
- Competitiveness during the regular season continues to be an issue.

OFFICIALS’ REPORT: Mr. Snell reported on the following:

- The selection of tournament officials went smoothly with one exception.
- Information regarding the mechanics of working with a 7-man crew was provided to all championship officials prior to the championship games.
- There continues to be discussion at the national level regarding the use of a 40-second/25-second time clock.
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REVIEW OF BULLETIN: The 2019 Football Bulletin was reviewed and updated.

- After discussion, on a MOTION by Robbins/Lower, and UNANIMOUSLY SUPPORTED, it was decided to move forward with a division of 8-man football, possibly two divisions if the interest were high enough to support having two.

OTHER: The following items were discussed:

Football Survey: A survey of all MPA member schools will be sent out within the next week to give the committee information to move forward with a classification proposal.

Acclimatization: No changes needed to the preseason acclimatization.

Heal Points/Crab Tree: The Heal Points continue to work fine and will continue to be used for playoff ranking in 2019. The Crab Tree Points will continue to be used as a tie-breaker.

Class E Football: With the possible move to 8-man football, the E-Class will no longer be sponsored.

Television Coverage: There were no television stations that submitted a proposal to televise the championship games in 2018.

Classification: Table to the next meeting.

ELECTION OF CHAIR: Table to next meeting.

NEXT MEETING DATE: The next meeting of the Football Committee was scheduled for Tuesday, January 8, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. at the MPA office.

ADJOURNMENT: On a MOTION by Lower/Robbins, and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, the meeting adjourned at 1:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael R. Burnham
Assistant Executive Director

/tjm
1/2/19

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