

MINUTES
OF THE
MAINE PRINCIPALS' ASSOCIATION
FOOTBALL COMMITTEE
JANUARY 26, 2017

A meeting of the MPA Football Committee was held on Thursday, January 26, 2017 at the MPA Office at 10:30 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mark Babin, Ed Hatch (Chair), Susan Robbins, and Brendan Scully.

LIAISONS PRESENT: Dan O'Connell and Allan Snell.

STAFF PRESENT: Michael Burnham.

GUEST PRESENT: Travis Lazarczyk, Mike Haley, Ryan Snell, Matt Lash, Travis Lee.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: On a MOTION by Babin/Robbins, the minutes of the December 5, 2016 meeting were UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

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

- A series of e-mails discussing football classification.
- An email from a school's football boosters asking that their school's classification be changed.
- A series of emails discussing an upcoming Maine Football Coaches Association meeting scheduled to take place in Augusta.
- An email with a question about a 7 vs. 7 summer football league.

REVIEW OF FOOTBALL CLASSIFICATION: After discussion, on a MOTION by Babin/Robbins, and UNANIMOUSLY SUPPORTED, it was decided to recognize a fifth class in football for regular season games but that class would not compete for a state championship.

POSTSEASON QUALIFICATION: Tabled to next meeting.

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

- The MFCA recently met to discuss football. The association felt that it would be beneficial to hold a statewide coaches meeting.
- 67 of the 78 head coaches in Maine indicated that they supported having a meeting. Close to 40 coaches attended the meeting. Topics discussed at the meeting included classification, scheduling, and playoff qualification.
- The coaches support 5 classes in football.
- Coaches were encouraged to talk with the administration at their school to discuss classification.
- Coaches understand the process that is in place when determining classification.
- There were a number of questions from coaches about the E-Class.

- In order to assist struggling programs the coaches feel that the classification guidelines should be revised. Would support a system that allows a school to apply to a lower classification and with a 2/3 majority vote of the schools be eligible to participate in the playoffs.

OFFICIALS' REPORT: No report.

ONE-A-DAY PRACTICE GUIDELINES: The guidelines regarding the holding of one extended practice, rather than two separate practices, were reviewed and revised.

PRESEASON ACCLIMATIZATION: The guidelines around the six-day acclimatization were reviewed and revised with language about a scrimmage being added on day six.

NEXT MEETING DATE: The next meeting of the Football Committee is scheduled for Thursday, February 16, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. at the MPA office.

ADJOURNMENT: On a MOTION by Babin/Robbins, and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, the meeting adjourned at 2:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael R. Burnham
Assistant Executive Director