A meeting of the Interscholastic Management Committee was held on Thursday, September 17, 2015, at the MPA office in Augusta.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chad Bell, Joseph Gallant, Matt Haney, Chris L’Abbe, Jon Moody, Keith Morin, Jeremie Sirois, and Paul Theriault.

**MEMBER ABSENT:** Gus LeBlanc.

**LIAISONS PRESENT:** Bunky Dow, Kevin Jordan, and Marty Ryan.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Michael Burnham, Dick Durost, Gerry Durgin, and Patty Newman.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mr. Durost called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. and led introductions.

**ELECTION OF CHAIR:** It was MOVED (Gallant), SECONDED (Theriault), and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to elect Matt Haney as chair.

**MINUTES:** It was MOVED (Gallant) SECONDED (Nadeau), and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to approve the minutes of May 7, 2015.

**FINANCIAL REPORTS:** It was MOVED (Bell) SECONDED (Moody), and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to place the financial reports for August 31, 2015 on file. Mr. Durost then distributed the audit review report for the committee’s information.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** A letter was received from Joel Stoneton, athletic administrator at Winthrop High School self-reporting the use of an ineligible athlete in three outdoor track meets. Following discussion, it was MOVED (Sirois), SECONDED (Moody), and VOTED with one abstention to accept the correspondence and place on file.

Mr. Durost distributed the committee nominations and reviewed the process for confirmation. It was then MOVED (Morin), SECONDED (Gallant), and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to approve the following committee nominations, as presented:

Basketball, Class D South – Tim Kane, Vinalhaven School  
Drama – Chad Bell, Winslow High School and Brian Laramee, Waterville Senior High School  
Lacrosse – Jason Long, Dirigo High School  
Soccer, Class C South – Eric Hall, Lisbon High School  
Swim, North – Amy Ketch, Old Town High School
OLD BUSINESS:
A. Schenck/Stearns – In attendance were Schenck High School Athletic Administrator John Montgomery, Stearns Jr./Sr. High School Athletic Administrator Fredy Lazo, Stearns student Emma Alley, and student Alley’s grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Wildman. Mr. Montgomery and Mr. Lazo were present to respectfully request that the Interscholastic Management Committee consider allowing two Stearns High School junior student-athletes to participate on the Schenck High School girls’ soccer team.

B. Mr. Durost provided background information concerning previous cooperative team requests by Schenck High School and Stearns High School. He indicated that at the May 7 meeting, the committee denied Schenck/Stearns’ request for a waiver of the enrollment rule to allow the Schenck/Stearns cooperative soccer team to remain in Class D rather than in Class C where the combined enrollments place them. As a result, the East Millinocket School Board voted to not continue with the cooperative agreement. As a result, the two student-athletes who were part of the Schenck/Stearns cooperative soccer team last year will be unable to play this year because Stearns does not offer soccer.

Following discussion, it was MOVED (Sirois), SECONDED (Moody), and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to adjourn to executive session. It was then MOVED (Gallant), SECONDED (Moody), and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to return to open session. It was then MOVED (Sirois), SECONDED (Gallant), and VOTED with two opposed to grant the request for a waiver permitting the two returning Stearns High School student-athletes to participate in varsity soccer at Schenck High School for the 2015 season.

NEW BUSINESS:
A. Houlton/Hodgdon/Southern Aroostook/Katahdin Boys’ Ice Hockey Cooperative Team Waiver Request – In attendance via WebEx were Houlton Middle/High School Athletic Administrator Bruce Nason and Southern Aroostook/Kathadin High School Principal/Athletic Administrator Jon Porter. Mr. Nason and Mr. Porter were present to request a waiver of the six month notification rule to allow Southern Aroostook High School and Katahdin High School to join the existing Houlton/Hodgdon Boys’ Ice Hockey Cooperative Team. It was MOVED (Moody), SECONDED (Bell), and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to adjourn to executive session. Following a return to open session, it was MOVED (Sirois), SECONDED (Moody), and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to grant a waiver of the six month notification rule to allow Southern Aroostook Community School and Katahdin High School to join the Houlton/Hodgdon boys’ cooperative ice hockey team.

B. Thornton Academy Sport Season Waiver Request – In attendance was Thornton Academy Athletic Administrator Gary Stevens. Mr. Stevens was present to request a waiver of the Sport Season Policy to allow three high school tennis athletes to assist the high school’s assistant varsity tennis coach with the middle
school intramural tennis program this fall. It was MOVED (Bell), SECONDED (Sirois), and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to adjourn to executive session. It was then MOVED (Bell), SECONDED (Gallant), and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to return to open session. It was then MOVED (Bell), SECONDED (Theriault), and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to grant the request for a waiver of the sport season policy for this fall and to authorize Executive Director Durost to process similar future requests on their behalf.

(It should be noted that the following requests were heard with the action taken at the end of the last presentation.)

C. Lake Region/Fryeburg/Oxford Hills Boys’ Ice Hockey Cooperative Team
Maximum Enrollment Waiver Request – In attendance were Lake Region High School Athletic Administrator Paul True and Oxford Hills Comprehensive High School Athletic Administrator Jeff Benson. Mr. True and Mr. Benson were present to request a waiver of the maximum enrollment rule to allow Lake Region, Fryeburg, and Oxford Hills to form a cooperative boys’ ice hockey team.

D. Cony/Hall-Dale/Monmouth Boys’ Ice Hockey Cooperative Team Six Month Waiver Request – In attendance was Cony High School Athletic Administrator Paul Vachon. Mr. Vachon was present to request a waiver of the six month notification requirement to add Hall-Dale to the existing Cony/Monmouth boys’ ice hockey cooperative team.

E. Winslow/Gardiner/Erskine/Messalonskee Girls’ Ice Hockey Cooperative Team Maximum Enrollment Waiver Request -- In attendance was Gardiner Area High School Athletic Administrator Steve Ouellette. Mr. Ouellette was present to request a waiver of the maximum enrollment rule. Mr. Ouellette also reported that Messalonskee recently withdrew its participation in the cooperative team.

F. Mt. Ararat/Brunswick Wrestling Cooperative Team Maximum Enrollment Waiver Request – In attendance was Mt. Ararat High School Athletic Administrator Todd Sampson. Mr. Sampson was in attendance to request a waiver of the maximum enrollment rule to allow Mt. Ararat High School and Brunswick High School to form a cooperative wrestling team.

G. Mt. Ararat/Morse Girls’ Ice Hockey Cooperative Team Six Month Waiver Request – In attendance were Mt. Ararat High School Athletic Administrator Todd Sampson and Morse High School Athletic Administrator Scott Walker. Mr. Sampson and Mr. Walker were present to request a waiver of the six month notification requirement.

H. Mt. Ararat/Lisbon/Morse Boys’ Ice Hockey Cooperative Team Six Month Waiver Request – In attendance were Mt. Ararat High School Athletic Administrator Todd Sampson and Morse High School Athletic Administrator Scott Walker. Mr. Sampson and Mr. Walker were present to request a waiver of the six month notification requirement to add Morse to the existing Mt. Ararat/Lisbon boys’ ice hockey cooperative team.

I. Caribou/Presque Isle/Maine School of Science and Mathematics Swimming Cooperative Team Six Month Waiver Request – Representatives from Caribou, Presque Isle, and Maine School of Science and Mathematics were not in attendance to request the waiver of the six month notification requirement.
J. Cape Elizabeth/Waynflete/South Portland Girls’ Ice Hockey Cooperative Team Six Month Waiver Request – Representatives from Cape Elizabeth, Waynflete, and South Portland were not in attendance to request the waiver of the six month notification requirement.

K. Cheverus/Kennebunk/Old Orchard Beach Girls’ Ice Hockey Cooperative Team Six Month Waiver Request – Old Orchard Beach High School Athletic Administrator Jack Trull was present to request the waiver of the six month notification requirement.

L. Scarborough/Sacopee Valley Girls’ Ice Hockey Cooperative Team Six Month, Maximum Enrollment, and Team Name Waiver Requests – In attendance were Scarborough High School Athletic Administrator Mike LeGage and Sacopee Valley High School Athletic Administrator Chris Hughes were present to request waivers of the six month requirement, maximum enrollment rule, and team name rule.

M. Gorham/Bonny Eagle/Massabesic Girls’ Ice Hockey Cooperative Team Six Month, Maximum Enrollment, and Team Name Waiver Requests – In attendance were Gorham High School Athletic Administrator Tim Spear and Massabesic High School Athletic Administrator Brendan Scully. Mr. Spear and Mr. Scully were present to request waivers of the six month requirement, maximum enrollment rule, and team name rules.

Following the presentations of the waiver requests, it was MOVED (Sirois), SECONDED (Moody), and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to adjourn to executive session to consider each waiver request presented. It should be noted that Mr. Bell recused himself from the girls’ ice hockey cooperative waiver request involving Winslow High School. It was MOVED (Gallant), SECONDED (Theriault), and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to return to open session. It was then MOVED (Gallant), SECONDED (Moody), and VOTED with one abstention to grant all waiver requests as presented.

N. Sports Medicine Committee Recommendation – Tim Spear, athletic administrator at Massabesic High School and Chair of the Sports Medicine Committee was in attendance to present the Sports Medicine Committee’s recommendation that all coaches be required to view the NFHS Sudden Cardiac Arrest Video as part of the Coaches’ Eligibility Policy. Following discussion, it was MOVED (Morin), SECONDED (Bell), and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to adopt and implement the Sports Medicine Committee’s recommendation beginning in the fall of the 2016-2017 school year.

O. Heal Point Preliminary Value for Class AA – Mr. Durost presented the following Classification Committee’s recommendation:

Basketball is the only sport with Class AA. For consistency across all sports, it is recommended that Class AA have a preliminary index value of 42 resulting in the following: Class AA – 42; Class A – 40; Class B – 38; Class C – 36; Class D – 34.

Following discussion, it was MOVED (Gallant), SECONDED (Theriault), and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to adopt the recommendation, as presented.
P. Approved Private Schools – Mr. Durost provide recommended language concerning approved private schools as follows:

**MDOE Approved Private Schools**

A student fully enrolled in an MDOE approved private school with 60 or fewer students combined in grades 9-12 is eligible to participate in co-curricular, interscholastic, and extracurricular activities:

1. In the local public high school to which the student would otherwise attend based on the student’s and parent/guardian’s legal residency; and
2. Only if the approved private school does not offer that same activity.

The principal of the public high school may withhold approval of participation under certain circumstances such as lack of capacity. The student must agree to and abide by all, established behavioral, disciplinary, attendance and other rules applicable to regularly enrolled students.

Following discussion, it was MOVED (Bell), SECONDED (Sirois), and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to adopt the policy on MDOE Approved Private Schools and forward to the membership at the fall meeting for approval.

**REPORTS:**

A. Executive Director Dick Durost – Staff reported on the following:

- Gerry Durgin reported on the golf tournament held on September 13; the golf coaches’ exam recently developed; an upcoming meeting to discuss revising the wrestling officials’ fees due to the decline in wrestlers and the increase in forfeits; the work of the Sportsmanship Committee in developing a “Heart of the Arts” sportsmanship award for Drama and Speech and Debate, and that he and Mr. Burnham have attended the Mountain Valley, Aroostook, and Kennebec Valley athletic conference meetings and distributed the talking points they have discussed at each.

- Mike Burnham reported on the Workshop for New Administrators that was held August 3 in conjunction with MIAAA by integrating the Leadership Training Course within the program; the Student Leadership Conference that took place on July 14-17 at Stonehill College in which 42 students attended; and the work of the Baseball Committee in developing guidelines for the pitching rule and that the Sports Medicine Committee recently endorsed the Baseball Committee’s recommendation that the number of pitchers and catchers no longer be restricted and that it will be recommended that schools adhere to strict guidelines on what can be done during that conditioning week. He reported on the recently revised NFHS Concussion video introduction now featuring Dr. Heinz. He reported on the Standards-based Eligibility Policy and that links to sample policies were shared in The Maine Apprise and that a
one-day workshop on the topic may be held in the near future. He distributed a paper copy of recently developed electronic officials' nomination form that was piloted and very well-received. He then distributed a list of sports with the number of cooperative teams currently participating as well as shared the current cooperative team application form being used. He indicated that the Ice Hockey Committee will be reviewing the form in detail, obtaining information from the other New England States, and will be sharing and requesting input from the other sport committees which utilized the application in an effort to streamline the process.

- Dick Durost, on behalf of Holly Couturier, reported on the upcoming National Honor Society Workshop taking place on November 2.

- Dick Durost reported that the transfer waiver form is being reviewed for improvement. He reported on the recent State Board of Education meeting in which the topics was the large number of superintendent’s agreements being overturned and a bill being introduced that would require that public funds follow the student when superintendent’s agreements are made.

B. MSSA, Kevin Jordan reported that there are 39 new or transferring superintendents this school year; districts are experiencing shortages of teachers and the applicant pool is weak; standards-based diplomas; state common assessment; urged the committee to download the Smarter Balance data before September 30, and the new classifications and the impact on travel.

C. MIAAA, Marty Ryan distributed a written report which outlined the following:
- Todd Livingston, CAA from South Portland High School has begun his term as the Leadership Training and Certification Assistant Executive Director.
- A recent report from the NIAAA indicated that 86% of eligible athletic administrators in Maine were members, in addition to 91% of eligible athletic administrators in Section I were members of NIAAA.
- NIAAA Executive Director Bruce Whitehead recently announced his retirement effective June 30 and that current Assistant Executive Director Michael Blackburn has been appointed to fill the position.
- The MIAAA board has adopted Present-elect Mike Archer’s proposal for the spring conference theme to be “Embracing the Challenges of Change.”

OTHER BUSINESS: None.

NEXT MEETING DATE(S): The next meetings were confirmed for November 18, 2015 at 3 p.m. at the DoubleTree in Portland; January 28, 2016 at 9:30 a.m.; March 10, 2016 at 9:30 a.m.; and May 5, 2016 at 9:30 a.m.
Minutes of the MPA
    Interscholastic Management Committee
September 17, 2015

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 1:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard A. Durost
Executive Director

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