

MINUTES
OF THE
MAINE PRINCIPALS' ASSOCIATION
OUTDOOR TRACK COMMITTEE

JANUARY 8, 2018

A meeting of the Outdoor Track Committee was held on Monday, January 8, 2018 at the MPA office at 9:30 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Molly Bishop, Jim Bourgoin, Donna Brunette, and Craig Sickels.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jeff Benson and Mike Haley.

LIAISONS PRESENT: Don Berry, Chris Mazzurco, George Mendros, and Rod White.

STAFF PRESENT: Michael Burnham.

ELECTION OF CHAIR: On a MOTION by Bishop/Bourgoin (3-0-1), and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, Craig Sickels was elected as chair for the 2017-2018 school year.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: On a MOTION by Bourgoin/Bishop, the minutes of June 22, 2017 were UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

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

- A copy of the Annual Committee Report that was presented at the MPA Fall Conference.
- Copies of the updated outdoor track records.
- A question about the number of athletes it takes to make a team.
- A memo announcing Don Berry as the recipient of the "James Gray Award" that was presented at the USA Track & Field Conference.
- An e-mail with a question about the specifications needed to host an MPA Track Championship.
- An e-mail discussing membership on the MPA Outdoor Track Committee.
- An e-mail discussing the NFHS Rules Interpreters Meeting.
- A draft copy of the 2018 Unified Track Bulletin.

REVIEW 2018 OUTDOOR TRACK BULLETIN: The 2018 Outdoor Track Bulletin was reviewed and updated.

- It was requested that a 3-turn stagger be used at the Class B Championships.
- The sites for the 2018 Championships were finalized: Class A – McMann Field, Class B – Foxcroft Academy, and Class C – Massabesic.

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COACHES' REPORT: Mr. Mazzurco and Mr. White reported the following:

- There was a coaches' meeting held last March.
- There is a confusion about Unified Track.
- Coaches would like to know the site of the State Championship meets earlier.
- There is a concern about the use of drones at track meets.
- Coaches understand the need for a fine when they forget to enter an athlete.
- Coaches' boxes continue to be an issue at the State Meets and feel that MPA Guidelines need to be established.
- Coaches' boxes are often difficult to establish because of site limitations.
- Boxes are often not located in "convenient" locations. Would like them located close to the event and have coaches clear the box after their athlete has finished.
- There has been discussion amongst the coaches about the possibility of eliminating the Race Walk as an event at the state meet.
- There is concern that the same officials are always assigned to the same events.

OFFICIALS' REPORT: Mr. Berry reported the following:

- He will be offering three officials clinics in the coming weeks in Gorham, Orono, and Augusta. Additional clinics may be added if there is an interest in other parts of the state. Coaches are invited to attend any of the clinics.
- The acceleration zone in relay runs has now been eliminated at the national level and will impact high school races in a couple of years.
- All USA Track & Field Officials must complete the Safe Sport Background Check.

OTHER:

- Coaches' Exam: Mr. Berry will, once again, put together a rules exam for coaches.
- Unified Track & Field: The Unified Track Bulletin was reviewed and discussed. Unified Track during the regular season will be included in regular meets and a separate championship will be held later in the spring.
- Meet Entries: The membership UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED implementing a fine for schools that needed to change their entries because the coach forgot to enter an athlete.
- Volunteer Coaches: The meet directors requested that a list of volunteer workers be made available on the Sub5 website so that could be confirmed prior to the meet.

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- **Coaches' Boxes:** After discussion, it was determined that because the location of the coaches' boxes is different at each site that a recommendation be made that they be provided in a logical location and that coaches that abuse the box be reported to the committee.

NEXT MEETING DATE: The next meeting of the Outdoor Track Committee will be on Thursday, June 21, 2018 at 9:30 a.m. at the MPA office.

ADJOURNMENT: On a MOTION by Brunette / Bishop, and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, the meeting adjourned at 11:42 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael R. Burnham
Assistant Executive Director

/tjm
4/11/18

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