

ATHLETIC COUNCIL MEETING May 16, 2012 – Agenda item 6.4

Modified Committee Report

May 2012

Chairpersons: Adam Stoltman (Boys), Katie McGowan (Girls)

NYSPPHSAA Committee for Modified Athletics Spring 2012 Meeting Report

The spring meeting of the State Committee for Modified Athletics took place on March 30, 2012 in Latham, New York. A synopsis of the meeting is as follows:

I. Items that will go to the State Executive Committee:

A. Awards - Motion:

"With sectional/league approval, Modified General Eligibility Rule #10 (Reference: NYSPHSAA handbook, page 132) shall be edited to allow multi-school contests and invitationals to award place ribbons to the top competitors." Approved 10-6.

B. Early Sport Seasons Starting Dates

The following Sections requested early starts to the following modified seasons/sports in 2012-2013:

Section III: Fall starting date of Mon, August 27, 2012 for modified football.

Winter starting date of October 29, 2012 for volleyball only.

Section V: Fall starting date of Wednesday, August 29, 2012 for:

Livingston football, soccer, volleyball and cross-country

Genesee Region football

Finger Lanes football

Allegany County football, soccer and volleyball

Winter starting date of October 22, 2012 for:

Livingston girls' basketball and wrestling

Wayne boys' basketball

Section X: Fall starting date of August 27, 2012 for all fall sports

Approved unanimously.

C. Editorial Change in Football Game Rule #2 (Reference NYSPHSAA handbook, page 144).

Motion:

"An editorial addition will be made to 11-Man Football Game Rule #2, following sentence #5, as follows:

'Motion is allowed towards the two receiver side of the formation, provided the ball is snapped before the player in motion crosses the midline of the formation.'

Approved unanimously. This item will also go to the Handbook Committee.

D. Modified/JV Pilot Program Proposal Motion: *"With sectional/ league approval, a Modified/JV program*

pilot program may be used when a JV program does not exist in a school district. The following

requirements must be followed for implementation:

Grade Levels: 7-8-9

Season starting dates: the modified start dates

Minimum practices: HS grid, page 108 of NYSPHSAA handbook

Maximum number of games: HS grid

Nights rest: HS grid

Games per day: HS grid

Game length: Modified rules

Overtime: Modified rules

Sport Rules: Modified rules in handbook, as agreed upon in each section.

Maximum 3 games per week will be waived, providing that one game is on a day in which there is no school the next day.

Sections/leagues implementing this pilot program must declare their intention to do so to their modified sectional representatives, and must be willing to participate in pilot program evaluations requested by the NYSPHSAA."

Approved 10-2-2.

Do we wish to participate in this pilot program?

II. Action Items for Next Meeting

Our section's input is requested for the following Action Items:

A. Awards

"With sectional/league approval, Modified General Eligibility Rule #10 (Reference: NYSPHSAA handbook, page 132) shall be edited to allow multi-school contests and invitationals to award place ribbons to the top competitors."

Do we wish to award place ribbons to top competitors in our section?

B. Wrestling Weight Class Variances

"Modified Wrestling Program 2 Game Rule #1 (Reference: NYSPHSAA handbook, page 154) shall be edited as followed:

1. **Weights.** *Weight Class is listed first, variance second: 70-80 lbs.(6 lbs.); 80-90 lbs.(6 lbs.);90-100 lbs.(6 lbs.);100-110 lbs.(6 lbs.); 110-120 lbs.(6 lbs.); 120-130 lbs.(6 lbs.); 130-140 lbs.(6 lbs); 140-150 lbs.(6 lbs.);150-160 lbs.(6 lbs.); 150-160 lbs.(6 lbs.);heavier weights (6 lbs.)."*

Variance: *The variance listed above permits a contestant to compete against a competitor who is either in a lower or higher weight group. As long as both wrestlers stay within the 6 pound variance listed. (i.e. A wrestler in the 70-80 lbs. group who weights 78 lbs. can compete with a wrestler in the 80-90 lbs. weight group as long as the heavier wrestler does not weigh more than 84 lbs.)*

Approved 14-2.

This motion was edited. Do we agree with using a 6-pound variance for all weight classes?

III. Discussion Items for Next Meeting: None at this time.

IV. Information Items

1. The proposal to use the 3-point shot in modified basketball, or even to pilot its use, was turned down by the NYSPHSAA Executive Committee.
2. The use of pitch counts in modified baseball was discussed, but no change in the existing innings limitations for modified pitchers was made. The Modified Committee felt that it was tough to enforce, and probably would be inaccurate, since students would likely be doing the counting. It would be yet another task for modified coaches. The State Baseball Committee Coordinator was asked for his input; he felt that there was no real overuse of modified pitchers; if anything, the combination of weekend outside league pitching + school pitching was more likely leading to injuries. The modified pitching standards for pitchers stand as written.
3. The modified Football Pilot program that would allow use of the kick-off was defeated soundly. The Committee had concerns about the safety of the kick-off and the resulting contact, and felt that modified coaching practice would be better spent on football basics. The kick-off can be practiced without doing it live on the field.
4. Reminders from NYSPHSAA modified sports coordinators: The distance that modified cross-country runners utilize for the first half of the season is 1½ miles; it increases to two miles for the second half of the season. Also, modified and HS swimmers cannot compete in the pool at the same time for the same event at combined HS/Modified meets, even if there is a larger 8-lane pool.
5. Selection Classification
The State Education Department is redoing Selection/Classification, a job still in progress. It is likely that student-athletes who wish to selection-classify to the HS level must score at the 85th percentile in all items of the President's Council for Physical Fitness test for their age. The timetable of implementation of the new guidelines is still unclear. Some issues were discussed:
 - The President's Council test is being used because it is familiar, has national data, and there is easy access to the test.
 - The students will have to take all of the fitness tests; it is no longer sport-specific.
 - If a student is 12 years of age when tested, s/he will be tested at the 12-year-old fitness standards, not at the HS age of play. This is a concern, since the tests are not too difficult for 12 year olds to pass, especially for girls.
 - The nominating coach's evaluation will continue to be very important. Just because students pass the fitness tests, they will still have to try out and be evaluated by the HS coaches during regular HS try-outs.
 - Modified level student athletes who wish to selection-classify and pass the fitness tests will not have to be fitness tested again every season/year.

6. Need for Modified Gymnastics and Tennis Sports Coordinators. We continue to be in need of a modified sport coordinator for girls' gymnastics, and a boys' and girls' tennis coordinator. If you have interest in filling one of these roles, please let us know; your participation on the State Committee would be welcome!

NYSPHSAA Modified Committee Meetings for 2012-2013

The 2012-2013 meetings of the Modified Committee will take place on:

Fall: Friday, October 5, 2012 9:30 AM

Spring: Friday, April 12, 2013 9:30 AM

The meetings will take place at the NYSPHSAA office in Latham, NY.