

Modified Committee Report

November 2007

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

Fall 2007 Meeting Report NYSPHSAA Committee for Modified Athletics

The fall meeting of the State Committee for Modified Athletics took place on October 12, 2007 at the NYSPHSAA office at Latham, New York. A synopsis of the meeting is as follows:

I. Items that will go to the State Executive Committee

- Approval of Jim Miller (Section 5) as the new NYSPHSAA modified softball sport coordinator
- Editorial changes for new NYSPHSAA handbook:

1. Revision of Modified General Eligibility Rule # 10 “MULTI-SCHOOL CONTESTS” (Reference: NYSPHSAA handbook, page 95) with the following verbiage:

Multiple School Contest, Tournament Competition, Championships, Finals and Awards:

Tournament competition is not permitted in the modified program. No sectional team or individual championships are to be conducted. No contest should be conducted with place awards or an order of finish among all the top competitors. Championship playoffs on a team or individual basis are prohibited. Sections, leagues, devices or groupings should not host an end-of-season final multi-school contest that can be construed as a jamboree, carnival, or invitational tournament.

*Multiple school contests can be conducted at the end of the season **only** if it is in a sport in which multiple team contests are regularly scheduled throughout the season and the final contest mirrors that of the rest of the schedule, thus the contest is not larger than all the others. This may be true for individual dual sports (i.e. quad meets for wrestling, cross-country or track.) Team sport multiple school contests **prior to the end of the season** are permitted provided:*

- a) *no participant shall compete in more events, matches or games than permitted in any other regularly scheduled contest in that sport, on that day*
- b) *all handbook rules are applicable*

Coaches and directors are encouraged to design ideas that follow the spirit of, and guidelines for modified athletics.

2. **Softball and Baseball Doubleheaders**

Clarification of language in the game conditions for modified baseball and softball regarding doubleheaders is suggested (Reference: NYSPHSAA handbook, page 102: 19 BASEBALL, **Game Condition 2**. “Doubleheaders” **and** page 113: 34. SOFTBALL, **Game Condition 3**. “Doubleheaders”)

“A team may play two games in one day twice during a season, either a doubleheader against a single opponent, or two successive games against two different opponents. Doubleheader restrictions must be followed.”

3. **Girls’ Lacrosse Editorial Change**

The wording on Girls’ Lacrosse Game Rules (Reference: NYSPHSAA handbook, page 112, 3d) should read “US Lacrosse” instead of “USWLA.” The USWLA no longer exists.

4. **Wrestling Editorial Change**

“Modified Wrestling Game Rule #9 (Reference: NYSPHSAA handbook, page 118) will be deleted. The rewritten multi-school contest rule makes it a moot point. It will be replaced with: “For multi-school contests, refer to General Eligibility Rule #10.”

5. **Additions to Game Rules & Conditions – Cross Country, Swimming, Track**

“The statement ‘For multi-school contests, refer to General Eligibility Rule #10.’ should also be included in the Game Rules and Conditions for cross-country (Reference: NYSPHSAA handbook, page 104, add as Game Rule #3), swimming (page 115, add as Game Rule #6) and track and field (page 117, add as Game Rule #10).

II. Items which will occur before the Spring 2008 Modified Committee Meeting

- Distribution and collection of football pilot program surveys by sectional representatives to all participating schools; forwarding of surveys to modified football sport coordinator Steve Nolan by January 30, 2008 and preparation of report of 2007 modified football survey results by Steve Nolan, to be presented to the Modified Committee at the Spring 2008 meeting. Your assistance in returning your football pilot program survey is very important to this process.
- There will be a meeting of a subcommittee of the NYSPHSAA Committee for Modified Athletics to discuss modified philosophy, variations and overtime.
- Appropriate report preparation from winter sport coordinators. The following sports are scheduled for review in the spring: basketball, ice hockey, swimming, tennis, volleyball, wrestling

III. Discussion Item for Next Meeting

The modified softball pitching distance will be reviewed, as there appears to be wide variation across the sections, leagues and member schools. You are welcome to offer suggestions.

IV. Action Items for Next Meeting

None at this time.

V. Information Items

1. SED consultant Trish Kocialski is a good person to contact if you need information regarding Selection/Classification and coaching certifications. He phone number is 518-474-5922, but she prefers e-mails to pkocials@mail.nysed.gov
2. There are an increasing number of requests to adapt modified athletic game conditions and eligibility rules. Similarly, we are realizing that a number of variations in game rules are being suggested across the state. Towards the goals of implementing a consistent modified athletics philosophy while staying contemporary and considering ideas and variations that might be very effective for younger athletics, a subcommittee of the NYSPHSAA Committee for Modified Athletics will be meeting. We welcome your input on ideas that should be discussed by that subcommittee.
3. The NYSPHSAA Committee for Modified Athletics is in need of new modified sport coordinators for gymnastics, girls' basketball and tennis. Interested parties should contact your sectional representatives, Committee for Modified Athletics co-chairpersons Jim Rose or Judy Salerno, or Lloyd Mott at the NYSPHSAA office.
4. The spring meeting of the NYSPHSAA Committee for Modified Athletics will be on Friday, April 4, 2008 at 9:00 AM at the NYSPHSAA office.