

Fall 2022 MTHSSA Meeting
Saturday, August 20, 10:00 AM
Harpeth Hall

- I. **Greeting:** Josh Tinley, President

- II. **Teams Present:** Battle Creek Middle School, Blackman Middle School, Blackman High School, Brentwood Academy, Brentwood Middle School, Centennial High School, Catholic Middle Schools, Central Magnet School, Coffee County High School, Columbia Academy, Christ Presbyterian Academy, Cookeville High School, Ellis Middle School, Ensworth School, Father Ryan, Fayetteville City Schools, Franklin Road Academy, Franklin County Swimming, Franklin High School, Freedom Middle School, Grace Academy Homeschool, Grassland Middle School, Harpeth Hall, Hillsboro High School, Henry County High School, Hume Fogg Academy, Immaculate Conception High School, Independence High School, Lebanon High School, Legacy Middle School, Liberty Creek High School, Lipscomb Academy, Merrol Hyde, Mill Creek Middle School, Montgomery Bell Academy, Nolensville High School, Oakland Middle School, Oakland High School, Page High School, Pope John Paul II Preparatory, Providence Christian Academy, Ravenwood High School, Riverdale High School, Rockvale High School, Rockvale Middle School, Siegel High School, Spring Hill High School, Spring Station Middle School, St. Andrew’s Sewanee High School, St. Andrew’s Middle School, St. Cecilia Academy, Summit High School, Sunset Middle School, University School of Nashville High School, University School of Nashville Middle School, Upperman High School, Woodland Middle School, Zion Christian Academy

III. Reports of officers:

- a. Josh Tinley, president: 2022-23 status update;

MTHSSA has been cleaning up some things about our Region championship meets, and we’re excited for return to divisions and divisional awards in high school.

- b. Polly Linden, treasurer:

We have \$18K in the MTHSSA account. No major expenses expected in 22-23, except for if we chip into awards for region meets, and for supplementing cost of the banquet. We still have one starting system purchased in 2019-2020 that isn’t spoken for.

We’ll ask host clubs to provide medals for places 1-8 at region meets (both for MS and HS). If they can’t or are unwilling to, we’ll come back ask the membership to vote on supplementing the awards expenses.

- c. Justin Karpinos, secretary: We have revised the registration form for 22-23 (no more Google Forms. Everything will go directly to Polly at the PO Box indicated on the form), and Pat Killian has created a new co-op form

that spells out exactly what is required from middle school teams wishing to form co-ops for 2022-2023.

- d. Pat Killian, VP: will share more about the HS divisions shortly in the HS
- e. Drew Brewer, Middle School: has some things about the admin of the MS region meet to do

IV. Elections:

- a. Secretary (currently Justin Karpinos, USN);

Nominated for Justin to continue; no other nominations from the floor. Second. Motion approves. Justin stays as secretary for the next two years.

- b. Treasurer (currently Polly Linden, Harpeth Hall).

Polly Linden nominated, no other nominations from the floor. Second. Motion approved. Polly stays as treasurer for the next two years

- c. Rules & Regulations Chair nominations.

Shannon Philbin nominated. No other nominations from the floor. Second. Approved. Shannon stays as Rules & Regulations Chair.

- V. Presentation and approval of annual budget. *This was wrapped into the treasurer's report.*

- VI. New business, middle school.

- a. Discussion of middle school championship meet (January 28), "B" relays returning to the meet.

After February 2020, we needed to trim the time standards for the 50 free and eliminate B Relays, in the effort to shorten the timeline of the meet in (to create more time between prelims and finals). Over the past four years, participation in the MS Region meet has looked like this:

2022: 257 girls, 208 boys = 465 athletes total

2021: no MS Region meet held

2020: 433 girls, 307 boys = 740 athletes total

2019: 461 girls, 327 boys = 788 athletes total

Before/After time standard changes in 2019-2020:

241 girls in 50 free in 2020, down to 119 in 2022

161 in boys' 50 free in 2020, down to 105 in 2022

Our proposal for Relays for MS Region meet:

Proposal #1: An A relay must have 2 individual qualifiers (and up to 2 relay-only swimmers per team). A non-scoring B relays must have 4 individual qualifiers.

Amendment from John Mooney, Mill Creek: Schools may bring up to 2 relay-only swimmers which can be on EITHER the A OR B Relays.

This amendment is accepted for discussion.

Points of clarification:

- a) Non-qualifiers CAN now swim on a non-scoring relay.
- b) This means 2 non-relay only swimmers total, NOT two relay-only swimmers per relay event.

Polly Linden, Harpeth Hall: Remember, the reason we don't have pressure from host team to cut Q times is because the meet is a manageable size. If we grow the meet via adding non qualifiers, we may end up having to cut Q times sooner rather than later.

Josh Tinley: NAC last year (in 2022) discussed going to a flat fee of \$35 per athlete. Are coaches going to pay \$35 for a non-qualifying athlete?

Consensus is yes, perhaps. People pay \$35 to swim just the 50 free.

Call to vote on MS Amendment.

For: 20

Against: 1

Amendment passes. B relays can contain non-qualifiers; each school may bring up to 2 relay-only swimmers per gender which can either be on A or B relays.

Back to proposal for returning "B relays at all" to the MS meet.

For: 20+

Against: 1

Proposal passes.

Proposal #2: Changing the dates of the middle school season (making middle school swimming a fall sport, essentially)

The idea is to begin in mid-August and hold a championship meet in late September.

Rationale: teams would be able to use outdoor pools, and because MS teams get squeezed out of pool facility space during the HS season.

Discussion.

John Mooney, Mill Creek: many MS kids do other fall sports (XC, volleyball, football, golf).

Pat Killian, MBA: Expects this would involve conversations with Athletic Directors, because of implications with school calendars.

Will McCauley: this would help teams like us, who have to squeeze in MS AND HS teams in 4 lanes.

April Parker: we ran a spring season for metro MS teams last year because of pool space challenges.

Jim Chapman, BA: the end of September would coincide with the end of the first quarter of school; increased lane availability, and rental revenues for outdoor pool spaces.

Concerns about capacity for seasonal athletes to make Q times in such a short season. This fall season would diminish the # of weeks of the season.

Concerns with qualifying period being so diminished. But would summer league involvement carry over to a fall sport better than a long break from July to October does?

Call to question -- Shannon Philbin. Remember, only MS coaches vote on this. If you don't coach a MS team, you need to abstain.

In favor of proposal: 1

Opposed: 20+

Motion Fails.

Proposal #3: from Pat Killian, Montgomery Bell Academy

At MS Region meet, 100 free goes into 200 Free relay during prelims (b/c 500 prelims doesn't happen until AFTER the session). Proposing a 5-minute break following the 100 free in prelims written into the timeline to help coaches get their athletes together.

Second. Motion passes unanimously.

b. Proposal: clarification of middle school co-op rule

Our new co-op registration form has the details spelled out for everyone.

Clarification: A team consisting of 4 boys and 2 girls may NOT co-op. Once a team can compose a relay (either girls OR boys), it is no longer eligible to co-op. The biggest co-op size, then, would be two schools consisting of 3 boys and 3 girls each (12 athletes total).

Question about county restriction from Joe Helmer, St. Cecilia: "Our Catholic school is the only Catholic school in the county."

Pat Killian: you don't *have* to co-op with only Catholic schools.

Shannon Philbin: explains that the Diocese of Nashville has “parochial athletics” – football, basketball, etc. I wanted all swimmers to be able to get together, I started Catholic Middle School Swimming. Each child is entered for their own school and they swim for their own school for individual events. 4 boys or 4 girls from a school would make a relay. But for smaller schools, we could combine the kids for relay purposes only.

-Hytek’s software doesn’t recognize if you take kids from different schools, so the system that switched their affiliation for the entire team.

In 2019, MTHSSA wanted us to have “School 1-School 2” co-ops. We wanted the kids to swim as individuals and combine together for relays ONLY.

Josh Tinley, Green Hill HS: Two schools who feed into Gallatin HS registered as “Gallatin Green Wave” – that was the only non-Catholic co-op in 2021-2022.

Could we include the Diocese as a “school district”?

Josh Tinley: the only place the co-oping really matters is the MS Region meet. Our goal is to make this as clear and as explicit as possible.

Shannon Philbin: I want to go back to the idea of “closest school” (across county lines).

Pa Killian: Do we want to give discretion to single (or 2-3) athlete teams to “shop around” for best teams, if they are equidistant between two other schools?

Shannon Philbin: proposal for the Board to review all co-op arrangements if they violate the ‘one county’ rule.

Josh Tinley: I’m not comfortable without the scaffolding of explicit rules. The judgement calls of the Board could be open to bias or interpretation.

Polly Linden: to clarify, this form is required when you register a co-op, by January 5. You can’t enter a co-op for the Region meet unless it is already registered with MTHSSA for the season.

The ‘same county’ rule stands. Please reach out to the Board as you register your co-op and we’ll offer guidance early as best we can.

VII. New business, high school

a. Discussion and review of high school divisions.

These are finalized for 22-23 – we'll send this to everyone.

Clarification: In order to be eligible for division awards, you need to swim dual meet with each team in your division. Teams decide ahead of time (if you swim multiple times) which dual meet counts for the divisional standings.

Division representatives are responsible for collecting W-L records for each team in their division, AND for submitting nominations for COTY of the year to the Board, AND for helping to evaluate the divisional reassignments for the year to come.

- b. Discussion of high school region meet (Friday, January 27, unless TISCA announces a change to the State meet date), photo banner (possibly different ones for MS and HS? Possibly the same ones).

High School Proposal #1: adding mixed medley relay at high school region meet, as the final event (Event #25), after the 400 freestyle relays.

This would not count against their 4-event total. It would be a fifth event. Would score ONLY for combined team totals, but not for the boys' OR girls' team scores.

Polly Linden: If it is going to affect team score, it's going to need to be within the 4-event total, as far as the Hytek is concerned.

Josh Tinley: The way around this would be for it just to not enter names for the relay lineup and enter as a team only

Christian Bahr, Ensworth: I'm concerned with us getting out of our hierarchy (below NFHS and TISCA). Shouldn't we follow NFHS and the state meet, standard HS order of events? Just because it's a fun idea doesn't mean it belongs at a championship meet.

Amendment for MMR as a non-scoring event.

For: 19

Against: 3

Amendment stands. This would be a non-scoring relay at the end of the meet and wouldn't count towards event totals.

Now, back to voting on the proposal itself – the addition of the Mixed Medley Relay itself. Questions remain about awards – would we make medals or ribbons for this?

Call to question.

For the unscored MMR: 14

Against: 19

Motion fails.

High School Proposal #2: adding exhibition relays into the high school region meet.

Matt Pierucki, Lebanon: aren't we always looking at the timeline of the meet? Doesn't this affect this negatively?

Josh Tinley, Green Hill HS: Yes, that's a concern. Another concern is that it gums up faster heats where the impact of scoring matters; a team that's fighting to get 8th or 16th deserves to be in the fastest 1 or 2 heats. Or that limiting them into the early heats embarrasses the earlier heats.

Justin Karpinos, USN: concerns that this affects the feel of the meet – it compromises the competitive spirit of the championship environment. Better for an early-season invitational or Relay Meet or something...

Question (*I'm not sure of who offered this*): this is a lot like the MS issue with co-op. Seems like a fair thing to stretch into high school, since we have just gone through the same exercise in middle school. We could take exhibition teams out of the top 2 heats or something...

Call to question -- adding MS relays to the meet consisting of qualified individuals.

For: 0

Against: Unanimous. ***Proposal fails.***

VII. Other High School Business:

INVITATIONAL MEETS SCHEDULED:

Saturday, October 29 – Middle School MTSC Invitational at Jimmy Floyd Center

Saturday, November 5 – MTSC Invitational HS at Jimmy Floyd Center

Saturday, November 12 -- Father Ryan Relay meet -- tentatively for MS AND HS. (*probably a 1:00-1:30 PM start*).

Saturday, December 3 – Middle School Sewanee Meet

Saturday, December 10 – Ensworth Middle School meet

Saturday, January 14 – Sewanee Invitational.

Josh Tinley, Green Hill: LaVergne historically hosted lots of MS meets, and probably will not be hosting much (if at all) this year. If you have the capacity to host MS meets or invites, there will likely be more of a need for this than before.

VIII. Adjournment

Adjourned at 11:45 AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Justin Karpinos
MTHSSA Secretary