

# Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

## ZOOM, Saturday, January 9th @ 9:00 AM

### I. Call to order- R. Stolski

### II. Attendance:

- **Present:** C. Allaire; B. Anderson M. Bachman; N. David; J. Dotseth; Dan Fritze; Dave. Fritze; B. LaBore; P. Lemke; D. Nelson; R. Nielsen; D. Nigon; R. Petermeier; C. Ross; R. Stolski; B. Sullivan; S. Tschimperle, W. Wackman; J. Weiland; J. Williams
- **Absent:** C. Anderson; J. Ferguson; S. Gonnerman; D. Ramey;

### III. Approve 1/11/20 minutes.

### IV. Additions/deletions to agenda

### V. Reports

#### A. Financial Report (Dotseth)

- As you can see by the attached financial summary, our December 31<sup>st</sup> balance will be higher than 2019. Ron again did an excellent job keeping our sponsors.
- **ADDITIONALLY:**
- Line 7 is the \$7,900 from the PPP Loan program.
- Expenses were down in some areas like Camp Outreach (line 19), 12 scholarships instead of 16 (line 35), and when the NFF awards program was canceled the NFF \$2,000 (line 39) scholarship will be held over to 2021. The summer magazine was posted on-line and not printed, so those costs were down (line 33). Awards banquet was canceled, so expenses are for awards ordered and program layout.
- Meeting costs (line 26) are primarily the January 2020 meeting.
- Line 31 is a new entry..... liability insurance.
- Mileage (line 34) includes Ron's reimbursement. This was a onetime reimbursement for travel, will not be repeated in 2021.
- Office expenses (line 40) include Jim's technology/internet reimbursement.
- Printing costs were up because of the LOGO change and need for printing new stationary.

Old Logo



New Logo



- The awards expense listed on the 2021 summary are for 2020 academic awards, which were sent out in December.
- A motion was made and 2<sup>nd</sup> to approve the financial report. Passed

#### B. President's Project (Ross)

- Wow, what a year 2020 was. I can only imagine what we will be telling our grandchildren, great grandchildren, and hopefully our great -great grandchildren many years from now. It might start out with; you think your season is tough..... LOL Starting in the early fall I was meeting with the Executive Committee and MSHSL members trying to determine when a season was going to happen. Once it was decided that the season would begin, we had to decide on how it could go on in a safe and fair manner. I appreciate the input and patience that was given to me by the coaches around the state. Hats off to the Executive Committee for the long hours and putting aside frustrations to get as normal of a season as possible. I was really impressed on how everyone handled themselves in what was a very difficult decision process. My idea for a project was to have a "Celebrate Minnesota Football" day. My early intentions were to include the MN Gophers and possibly the MN Vikings, but scheduling proved to be impossible. I thought a modified version would be better than nothing, so I

did get a statement out to the high schools to be read at their first home game. It talked about the football tradition and what it does for Minnesota communities. It is my hope that a future MFCA President can take that idea to the next level. Under these most unprecedented times, I would like to congratulate all our high school coaches for a job well done. But that is what football coaches do; they read what is going on, they adapt, and make split decisions. You have once again proven you are the best!

- Ross agrees and supports that the MSHSL decision for fall football.

### C. Ex. Director Report (Stolski)

- THANK AND PRAISE
- THE FUTURE CHALLENGES; OPPORTUNITIES
- INVITE INPUT AND CRITICAL THINKING
- UPHOLD AND HONOR THE MISSION REVIEW AND APPROVE
- ENCOURAGE INCLUSION AND DIVERSITY WITHIN COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP
  1. **OPENING STATEMENT MODIFICATION** (in RED): The professional organization of high school football coaches representing and serving Minnesota High School Football for 65 years by preserving its past, providing educational opportunities for students and coaches; SUPPORTING AND PROMOTING DIVERSITY; recognizing and honoring achievement; valuing good sportsmanship; improving and enhancing the game of football and engaging in partnership with the MSHSL and MHSCA to develop healthy participation in all activities for the student-athletes of our schools and communities.
- DETERMINE THE METHOD OF RECOGNIZING 2019 AWARD RECIPIENTS
- FINANCIAL STATUS OF THE MFCA REVENUE STREAMS MEMBERSHIP, SPONSORSHIPS, t (CURRENT MEMBERSHIP 1040)
- CURRENT SPONSORS. (PLEASE PATRONIZE). ADRENALINE, WILSON, THE GRAPHIC EDGE, BADGER SPORTS, TWIN CITIES ORTHOPEDIC (TCO), FIELD TURF, HUDL, TACKLE BAR, RIDDELL, THE MINNESOTA VIKINGS, COACHES INSIDER, U OF M, DYNAMIC FITNESS AND STRENGTH. Ron implored members to, when feasible, advocate for considering our sponsors ' goods and services.
- SERVICES IN KIND – CAMBRIA, JOSTEN'S, DTREE
- LOST HADAR, MNARNG, ROGERS ATHLETIC
- **NEW:** PREMEIR SPORTS PSYCHOLOGY (PSP)
- **GOALS:** INCREASE MEMBERSHIP, RETAIN AND ADD SPONSORS, HOST ALL EVENTS, SPONSOR ALL PROGRAMS
- There was a lengthy discussion by the committee about the challenge to the MFCA leadership last fall. The disgruntled coaches were disappointed in the initial decision by the MSHSL to move football from the fall of 2020 to the spring of 2021 and assumed that the MFCA was involved in making that decision. Even though the group purported to be speaking for the MFCA, many were not MFC A members.
- The message below was sent out from the MFCA leadership in September as a response:

Dear MFCA Members,

As you are aware, a petition has been circulating that calls into question the decision made by the MSHSL to postpone our season. While this petition did not originate from the MFCA, it obviously represents the feeling of many of our members. This statement from the MFCA Executive Committee is meant to clear up any confusion regarding the role the MFCA played in this decision and our duty moving forward:

1) The MFCA, through its Advisory Committee, met with the MSHSL leading up to the MSHSL Board of Directors Meeting scheduled for August 4 and strongly advocated for a Fall Season beginning August 17.

2) On August 4, the MSHSL Board of Directors voted to postpone the football season until spring. They cited guidance received from "the Minnesota Department of Health's Guidance for

Youth Sports” as well as “review and feedback from lead physicians the Minnesota State High School League’s Sports Medicine Advisory Committee” in arriving at their decision.

3) Based on feedback received from the MFCA Survey (attached) and the advocacy of our Football Advisory Committee, the MSHSL voted to allow football coaches to work directly with their athletes this fall. The survey also indicated a willingness on the part of coaches to hold a season in the spring, rather than cancel the season outright. The MSHSL heeded this recommendation.

4) The MFCA, through our Advisory Committee, met with the MSHSL on August 5 and August 10. The Advisory Committee raised many of the questions included in the petition. As it was clear that the decision of the MSHSL was final, the Advisory Committee turned its attention to providing a successful spring season to all our players.

While there is a diversity of opinion within our membership regarding the decision the League made, two things are clear. First, barring a change in guidance from the medical advisors or the Governor’s Office, the MSHSL will likely not reverse their decision and allow us to play this fall. Therefore, it is our duty as “Keepers of the Game” to turn our attention to how we will provide the best possible experience to all our players during a spring season. So many questions remain: How will we practice in March? Will our fields be playable that early? How and when will schedules be set? Will we have a postseason? If so, what will it look like? And many more... Please be assured that the MFCA will continue to listen to input from ALL our members as we continue to work with the MSHSL to build a spring season. It is time to resolve ourselves to come together as a unified MFCA Membership, to play the cards we were dealt, and create the best possible season for our players this spring. Our kids deserve it!

The MFCA

MFCA Code of Ethics: [Code of Ethics \(mnfootballcoaches.com\)](http://mnfootballcoaches.com)

#### **D. Membership (Bachman)**

- The current membership stands at 1013. Renewal of memberships seems to be negatively affected by the initial lack of a fall season. When it was decided to play football during the fall of 2020 coaches needed to focus on learning the protocols of practicing and playing within the COVID-19 restrictions which greatly reduced our initial membership numbers as compared to the past years. As is generally the case an additional 100 coaches or so renewed or joined the association toward the end of the season as membership remains required to submit student/athletes for MFCA recognition. Throughout the season I appreciate the support of Rob Nielsen blasting out reminders of the benefits and importance of membership.
- **Social Media:** Twitter was used several times per week within the season to encourage membership in the MFCA, to highlight great happenings by members around the State, to provide links for followers of Friday night results and support our Tackle Cancer endeavors. The Twitter media was managed by me during 2020. The MFCA feed currently has 821 followers. Instagram was not engaged at all this year as it seems to have more value as being an “on site” photo media which I’d like to engage others with ideas on how we can create a network around the State which might all post images each Friday of the excitement and leadership which can be seen each Friday throughout the fall at High School football games. The goal of the social media sites is to engage our younger members and provide the MFCA another outlet to share the benefits of the association and the positive outcomes which happen as a result of high school football.
- **Constitution, By-laws, and Job Descriptions:** There has not been any changes to any of these items in 2020.

## E. Mr. Football (C. Anderson)

- The Mr. Football Committee met on December 5<sup>th</sup> to pick the 10 finalists for Mr. Football. There were 31 nominees for Mr. Football, 2020

Breakdown by class:

9man – 1; 1A – 1; 2A – 6; 3A – 5; 4A – 4; 5A – 8; 6A – 6

- The 10-finalist selected are:

Name	School	Position	Sub-District	Class
Shea Albrecht	Orono	OT/DT	Suburban-Red	4A
Joe Alt	Totino-Grace	TE/OT	Metro-North	6A
Cameron Anderson	Blue Earth Area	WR/S	South Central-White	2A
Trey Feeney	Moorhead	QB	North Central-Red	5A
Nick Flaskamp	MPLS Southwest	RB/LB	Twin City-Gold	5A
Marcus Hansen	Waseca	DE/G/K	South Central-Red	3A
Eli Mau	Chanhassen	LB/TE/P/K	Suburban-White	5A
Jake Ratzlaff	Rosemount	SS/TE	Metro-South	6A
Garrison Solliday	St. Thomas Academy	DL/DE	Suburban-Maroon	5A
Adam Tonsfeldt	Barnesville	QB/SS	Midwest-White	2A

- The committee is currently evaluating the 10 finalists and will be meeting again on January 16<sup>th</sup> via Zoom.
- The Mr. Football committee would like to wait to announce the winner of Mr. Football until we can have a banquet to properly honor the 10 finalists and Mr. Football. A thought was to do it in conjunction with the All-Star Football game.
- The Minnesota Vikings have been and still remain the sponsor of Mr. Football!

## F. Scholarships (B. Anderson)

- In 2020, we gave out 12 scholarships. Typically, we give out 16 scholarships but lowered it to 12 due to not having a coaching clinic this year, which helps fund the scholarships. We had over 50 applicants in 2020.

**Things to think about:**

- How many scholarships do we think we will be able to award this year? Is the number going to be determined by whether we have a coaching clinic this year? The goal is back to 16 scholarships.

## G. All-Star Game (Dave Fritze)

- All MN Head Coaches will receive an email in late January requesting nominations for the All-Star game.
- Recommendations will be due approximately 2 weeks after that.
- Coaches will be selected in mid-February.
- The selection committees will meet to finalize the teams in late February or early March.
- Players will be notified later in March.
- The game will take place on a Saturday in June-yet to be determined.
- The location of the game will be the TCO stadium at the Vikings complex.
- Players will be housed at the new Omni hotel at the Vikings complex.
- We will make a decision by May 30 whether to proceed with the June game.

The next game following the 2021 season will take place in December as usual.

## H. Hall of Fame (Tschimperle & Lemke)

- There was general agreement that two HOF classes should not be inducted at the same banquet. Too long and much of the meaning would be lost.

- A motion was made and 2<sup>nd</sup> to postpone the naming of the 2021 class until the Class of 2020 has been honored. Motion passed. (The years were changed in the motion to reflect the record.....see attached HOF list).

### **I. Awards Committee (Dotseth)**

- Following the executive committee meeting the awards committee will meet to select coaches of the year in each of the 7 classes, as well as state coach of the year. In addition, assistant coach of the year, Butch Nash award, Distinguished Service Award, Don Swanson Award, and Jerry Kill Power of Influence award.

### **J. Awards Banquet (Nelson)**

- We postponed the 2020 banquet (was supposed to have been held on Saturday, March 28, 2020) This year's banquet is scheduled for Saturday, April 10, 2021. Not sure of the status of the 2021 banquet at this point.

### **K. Tackle Cancer (Nelson)**

- `2020 total was \$43,108. Our goal was \$400,000. Obviously, a tough year to execute Tackle Cancer - late start, limited fans, COVID protocols. We are looking forward to 2021 and hope to get started organizing the 2021 campaign this spring.

### **L. Recruiting Fair & Combine (Ferguson)**

- **FACTORS:**
  1. SPRING FB: The MIAC has a shortened schedule that ends in early May. NDSU, etc will be done in early May.
  2. IMPACT OF COVID VIRUS. The later we hold the event, the farther we are along with vaccinations, etc.
  3. FISHING OPENER (May 7-10?)
  4. FACILITY AVAILABILITY: TBD
  5. INTEREST (of both the combine athletes, the college coaches and the HS coaches)
- **I think if we decide to move forward, we should look at one of these Saturdays in May: MAY 15; MAY 22; MAY 29.**
- Ideally, we could hold the event like we did a few years ago at STILLWATER HS with the Rec Fair from 8 to noon and the Combine from 12:30-2:30.
- I have been playing phone tag with Bill Welle.
- Once we decide, if in fact we decide to hold the events, the next steps would be:
  1. LOCK IN THE DATE
  - 2.LETTER TO COLLEGE COACHES
  3. INFO TO HS COACHES
  4. CREATE A DATA BASE (ROB:)
  5. GET DATA TO COLLEGE COACHES
  6. HOLD THE EVENTS

### **M. MFC Clinic (Allaire)**

- This year's MFCA Clinic is scheduled for April -10, 2021. As you know, we had to cancel last year's clinic and instead worked with our sponsor & partner *Coaches Insider* to offer a virtual clinic featuring the Gopher Staff as well as members of the NDSU and Wyoming staffs. While this alternative was a success, our priority is to return to an onsite event for our membership. At the very least, we would consider a combination of on-site and virtual events if necessary. We are currently holding to see what the outlook looks like for April and are also exploring the possibility of moving the clinic to the All-Star game weekend in June.
- We currently have 784 coaches registered (109 schools) for the next clinic, which will hopefully be on April 8<sup>th</sup>.

### **N. NFF (Nigon)**

- No NFF activity in 2020.

### **O. Jerry Kill Power of Influence (Sullivan)**

- Old News: Charles Adams was our MFCA winner in 2020, Dave Nelson received the 2019 National Power of Influence Award from the AFCA/AFCF. He is Minnesota's second national award winner along with Ron Stolski, who was the national recipient in 2005.

- New News: We will select our local winner on Jan. 9th. We could use more nominations as there are many deserving coaches out there.

## **P. Retired Coaches (Ramey)**

- It is my recommendation that we continue to host retired coaches at the Spring Clinic when it resumes.

## **Q. Community Service (LaBore)**

- This year's Community Service Award will go to Rocori High School. The program packed shoe boxes with school supplies, hygiene items, clothing, and toys for boys and girls ages 2-14. Almost every box was different and packed uniquely. The packages were shipped to 100 countries to children who likely do not receive any Christmas gifts. I need to follow up for photos and quotations to compose the MFCA Magazine Article and update the website.

## **R. Concussion Awareness (Bachman)**

- During 2020 Twitter was used to highlight studies which reduced the stigma of concussion and injuries related to the game of football. Currently USA Football's youth certification program is being reviewed as a potential basis the MFCA could use to ensure youth coaches have a uniform basis for youth skill training and safety in hopes to maintain participation through association football and into school district programs.

## **S. Everything but X's & O's Clinic (Weiland)**

- Until we can have an in-person clinic (2022?) there will be no Everything BUT X's and O's clinic this year.
- Jeff is looking into having a virtual clinic.

## **T. Camp Outreach (Petermeier)**

- Summer Camp outreach is a work in progress but nothing different than past years.
- Would like to get back to 10 camps this summer.

## **U. Academic All-State (Petermeier & David)**

- Ribsy: Both the Individual and Team Academic went better than I thought it would. The new online form worked well and will be much better next year as coaches have used it once already!
- Nick: We rolled out a new Academic All-State application submission process for both Team and Individual selections this year using Google Forms. With COVID as well as this being a new process, I thought that it worked out really well and it will definitely be the route we continue to go in the future. We had 199 Individual Academic All-State applications submitted from all classes with 112 players earning Individual Academic All-State honors from 108 different high schools. The only class to have multiple players from any given school was 6A. All Individual Academic All-State award plaques were ordered, paid for, and shipped by December 21st which was a great turnaround considering applications were due on December 1st, and class representatives had to submit their selections to me by December 8th.

As far as Team Academic All-State goes, we had 107 Team Academic All-State applications submitted, with 58 earning a "Silver" (3.0-3.25) recognition and 46 earning a "Gold" (3.26 or higher) recognition. Three of the schools who submitted an application did not qualify for either recognition.

- Team: [Team \(mnfootballcoaches.com\)](http://mnfootballcoaches.com)
- Individual: [Individual \(mnfootballcoaches.com\)](http://mnfootballcoaches.com)
- Nick David appointed to create and maintain electronic nominations forms for all MFCA awards and recognitions.

## **V. Youth Services (Dan Fritze)**

- **Youth Services:**
  - Update our youth database for 2021.
  - Disseminate our youth position statement via the new database.
  - Wait and see if the Youth Clinic is feasible this year.
- Dan will coordinate with Nellie to update the data base, create a position statement and the Youth Clinic.

## **VI. Old Business**

**A**

## **VII. New Business**

**A. 2nd Vice President (3A, 1A, 4A, 2A, 6A, 9M, 5A)**

- a. Mat Mahoney, Fairmont, has been voted by the committee to be advanced to the sub-district reps for approval as the 2<sup>nd</sup> vice-president of the MFCA.

**B. New Sponsors:**

- Premier Sports Psychology
- Dynamic Fitness & Strength

**Next Executive Committee Meeting: TBD**