

MFL Board Meeting - Saturday, March 4, 2006, Shrewsbury H.S.

The president, Chris Palmer, called the meeting to order at 12:15 pm on Saturday, March 4, 2006.

Present: Joyce Albert, Lynne Coyne, Rob Croteau, Lisa Honeyman, Patrice Jean-Baptiste, Holly Loell, Wendy O'Neil, , Chris Palmer, Amanda Parker, Debbie Simon and P.J. Wexler.

1. Revision of Multiple Entry rules for States

Greg Cunningham asked the board to consider allowing students to double-enter in a draw event (such as Radio) and Multiple since this had been possible at tournaments during the year and some students have bids in both events. The board approved unanimously.

2. Sweepstakes formula for States

We discussed whether or not to include results from final rounds in the sweepstakes calculation for team awards at States. The board believes that the entire day of competition should be factored into the team sweepstakes awards in order to determine rankings at States. This formula will be used: A student will be awarded 5 points for placing 1st overall in an event, 4 for placing 2nd, 3 for placing 3rd, 2 for placing 4th and 1 for any other placement in finals. These points will be in addition to the points a student earns in preliminary rounds. After totals are computed for each competitor in each event, the top 16 scores will be counted towards sweepstakes for each team.

3. Bids for States in small events

Joyce began by presenting the rules as they currently exist and suggested that there needs to be consistency in how bids are assigned in events and that is should not be dependent upon choices that individual tournament directors make. For example, at some tournaments this year we have run finals even if there have only been 7 entries in an event and at others, like Lexington (2/25/06) we did not. She advocated for granting bids to all students who would advance to finals, whether or not finals are held at a given tournament. Lisa pointed out that awarding bids in events that are too small to run finals means that if an event has 6 or fewer entries, we are granting the student who enter "free bids" without having to earn them. She asked that the board consider what its goal was when it tried to "raise the bar" last year when it instituted the new bid system and how this policy would affect whether or not we meet that goal. After some discussion, we decided that the deeper philosophical issue needs further discussion, but in the interests of maintaining consistency with what has been done at some tournaments this year, we will grant a minimum of 6 bids per event, whether or not a final round is run at a tournament for the 2005-2006 season.

Motion by PJ Wexler. 2nd by Rob Croteau: "For this year we will grant a minimum of 6 bids per MFL event at each MFL sanctioned tournament. Bids will be awarded retroactively for the 2005-2006 season in order to be consistent throughout the year." Passed unanimously.

The issue of bids in small events will be revisited prior to next season.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Honeyman
VP/Secretary