

MFL Board Meeting  
Saturday, June 2, 2012  
Milton Academy

The meeting was called to order at 10:15 am by the president, Debbie Simon.

Present: PJ Wexler, Jim Murphy, Chris Sheldon, Dan Sapir, Debbie Simon, Josh Cohen, Sarah Donnelly, Joyce Albert, Lisa Honeyman, Bob Hutchings & Rob Croteau.

1. Discussion on Planning the Novice Tournament

The event will take place on October 13, 2012 at Sacred Heart.

We will offer the same events as last year.

There will be three rounds, no finals in speech; Debate rounds will be determined as time allows.

Medals for competitors with a "one" in a round or a winning record in debate. (Lisa will order)

Lisa will run a judge training.

Chris will coordinate a new coach symposium.

Joyce will do invitation.

Debbie will coordinate demonstrations.

In lieu of a final round, we will try to run a an instructional debate in PFD.

We will request that the SAB co-presidents make a brief presentation to novices.

2. Update to Tax extemp Process – by Susan Marianelli

- Our new group will be incorporated as of July 1, 2012.
- If we need to spend \$ under the old name, it needs to be done by the middle of June so checks have time to clear before July 1. Susan will check with Charles as to when we should close out the old banking account and open one for our new organization.
- We will have new articles of organization and bylaws. These should be replaced on-line after July 1.
- Our lawyers are our spokespeople and will handle all of our official correspondence, state & federal filings etc.
- Once we are incorporated, we will purchase an umbrella insurance policy. We will look into this in August & purchase it prior to the 1<sup>st</sup> tournament in the fall.
- Charles Cheever or his assistant, Melissa, will give Susan a check list of what we need to do going forward.
- Voting changes: When our membership elects the board, they are entrusting us with the governing of the league. This is no longer a member organization in the sense that participating schools have a direct vote in the day to day operations of the league. The Annual Meeting is an opportunity for coaches to express their views to the board. (Of course, the can also express their views throughout the year.)
- We need to be clear to the MFL school that we had no choice in this major change in our structure.
- We need an official announcement to school about our structural change. Unfortunately, most school do not attend the league meetings.
- Until a new board is elected, pledge to vote as the membership votes – one vote per school. Once the new board is elected in a year, they can move forward as they see fit.
- No changes take place until July 1.

3. Discussion on planning MFL State Tournament

Tabled until the calendar is set.

4. Vote on previous motions to allow electronic device use in Group Discussion and Debate.

- (a). Electronic device use in Group Discussion will be allowed with the following stipulations: Computers or other electronic devices may not be used to receive information from any source (coaches or assistants included) inside or outside of the room in which the competition occurs. Internet access, use of email, instant messaging, or other means of receiving information from sources inside or outside of the competition room are prohibited. (Original motion by Honeyman)
- (b). The MFL will adopt the current (as of January 29,2012) NFL rules for electronic device use in MFL debate. (Original motion by Donnelly)

Motion to vote on both motions – Wexler  
2nd – Donnelly.  
Passed unanimously.

5. Other things that came up:

Regarding Judge Trainings

We may also run a judge training in the fall at another location, closer to the majority of schools in the MFL.

We have had a request to put some sample ballots on line and will try to do so.

Regarding Judges for Congress

Rob asks, "Can we have teams who enter congress designate a congress judge so judges from schools that do not participate in congress don't get assigned to judge this event?"

Questions others asked:

"Is there a benefit to having judges that are NOT specialized so that the event doesn't become too specialized, like debate has become?"

"Do we really want schools who have entries in an event judged by judges exclusively from their own schools?"

We decided to leave things as they are, but to be sure to include training for congress judges in our judge training sessions.

Motion to adjourn – Cohen  
2<sup>nd</sup> – Sheldon

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa Honeyman

VP/Secretary