



# Statewide Tournament Proposal

**Special Assembly**  
**February 28, 2020**

Assabet Valley RTHS  
215 Fitchburg Street  
Marlboro, MA



# Statewide Tournament Benefits

- Gender Equity issues addressed
- Schools play like-sized schools
- Path to Championships is equal
- Same format used across the state
- One seeding and qualifying method for all teams
- Allows teams from same area of the state or league to play for championship
- Brings state together; new opponents; ADs meet ADs from other parts of the state
- Student athletes compete against student athletes they know from other MIAA educational programs



# Statewide Tournament Proposal

- All team sports will qualify the top 32 teams by division (modified rule 97)
- Teams not power seeded in the top 32 but meeting 50% qualifying criteria will be eligible for the tournament
- All team sports will be seeded by power ranking system
- Top 4 seeded teams placed in four brackets (1,2,3,4)
- The rest of bracket positions filled with remaining teams by power ranking system. After the top 32 teams are power seeded, the remaining teams with 50 % or better record will be seeded from the bottom of each bracket
- All games will be at home site of higher seed for the Preliminary Play in games, Round of 32, Round of 16 and Round of 8



## Statewide Tournament Proposal (continued)

- If home team site is not acceptable the following will apply
  - Home school AD finds an acceptable site
  - Lower seed will host the game
  - If both sites are not acceptable, Tournament Director will place game at an acceptable site with MIAA site policy



## **Statewide Tournament Proposal** (continued)

Home field venues must meet the following standards from MIAA handbook:

- Condition of playing surface
- Crowd control
- Seating capacity
- Ticket sales control
- Locker rooms
- Acceptable Lights for night games

**The MIAA will provide sites for State-Semi Finals (round of 4), and State Finals as defined by TMC site policy**



# Standards for Number of Divisions Statewide

\*Proposal based on 32 team statewide brackets and before any appeals

\*In addition to the percentages indicated below, more teams will qualify based on the 50% qualifying criteria

\*Sport Committees continue to be afforded the opportunity to request divisional expansion or alternatives to alignment methods to TMC

<b><u>OVER 275 teams</u></b>	<b><u>STATEWIDE 5 DIVISIONS</u></b>	<b><u>(160 teams qualify)</u></b>
• Baseball 333 teams		48% qualify
• Boys' Soccer 331 teams		48% qualify
• Girls' Soccer 330 teams		48% qualify
• Boys' Basketball 349 teams		46% qualify
• Girls' Basketball 346 teams		46% qualify
• Softball 330 teams		48% qualify
• Football 311 teams		51% qualify
• Girls' Volleyball 288 teams		55% qualify



## Standards for Number of Divisions Statewide (continued)

\*Proposal based on 32 team statewide brackets and before any appeals

\*In addition to the percentages indicated below, more teams will qualify based on the 50% qualifying criteria

\*Sport Committees continue to be afforded the opportunity to request divisional expansion or alternatives to alignment methods to TMC

- **200 to 274 teams      STATEWIDE 4 DIVISIONS      (128 teams qualify)**
- Girls' Tennis 244 teams      53% qualify
- Boys' Tennis 225 teams      57% qualify
- Boys' Lacrosse 225 teams      57% qualify
- Girls' Lacrosse 213 teams      60% qualify
- Field Hockey 204 teams      62% qualify



## Standards for Number of Divisions Statewide (continued)

\*Proposal based on 32 team state wide brackets and before any appeals

\*In addition to the percentages indicated below, more teams will qualify based on the 50% qualifying criteria

\*Sport Committees continue to be afforded the opportunity to request divisional expansion or alternatives to alignment methods to TMC

- **150 to 199 teams STATEWIDE 3 DIVISIONS (96 teams qualify)**

- Boys' Hockey 198 teams 62% qualify

- **50 to 149 teams STATEWIDE 2 DIVISIONS (64 teams qualify)**

- Girls' Hockey 100 teams 64 % qualify
- Boys' Volleyball 100 teams 64 % qualify
- Boys' Rugby (emerging) 2 divisions based on health and safety

- **50 to 149 teams STATEWIDE 1 DIVISIONS**

- Girl's Rugby





## Statewide Tournament Proposal

- Sport committees may request an additional division for a 1A Division or request a 1A division within the divisional structure, as long as meets all criteria established by TMC/Blue Ribbon Committee



# Statewide Tournament Proposal (continued)

## FINANCIAL STRUCTURE

### TMC will work with Finance and Personnel Committee of BOD

Initial thoughts in consideration:

- Preliminary Play in games and First Rounds games – revenue remains with Host School
- Second Round games (round of 16)– revenue share or revenue to MIAA with standard set fees for hosting school
- All State Quarter Finals, Semi Finals, and Finals are 100% MIAA Games (MIAA assumes all expenses)



# What does your vote mean?

Beginning Fall 2021	“YES” Vote means:	“NO” Vote means:
Team Tournament Structure	Tournaments will be conducted in <u>Statewide divisional</u> format (vs. current N/S/C/W sections)  (Note: Districts/regions/leagues may elect to conduct regional end of season tournaments of their own design)	Tournaments will be conducted in <u>Balanced sections and divisions</u>  (This will mean a geographic shifting to the west in most sports)
Qualifying Criteria	Top 32 teams would qualify based on Power Rankings  50% tournament qualifying method (for teams with .500 records who are outside of top 32)	Current MIAA Handbook qualifying criteria remain in place
Seeding	Teams will be seeded by Power Rankings	Teams will be seeded by Power Rankings
Alignments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Alignments established by sport committees using TMC alignment guidelines (See TMC web page)</li> <li>Divisions <u>will not</u> need to be re-balanced following appeals</li> <li>At the determination of the sport committee, small divisions would qualify 16 vs 32 teams</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Alignments established by sport committees using TMC alignment guidelines (See TMC web page)</li> <li>Divisions <u>will need</u> to be re-balanced following appeals (ie: if 5 schools are granted appeals to move down, then 5 other schools will be moved up) in order to maintain balance</li> </ul>



## Additional Information

The February 28<sup>th</sup> Special Assembly meeting is specific to the Statewide Tournament vote only.

Any questions or conversations regarding the Fall 2020 transition to MaxPreps Power Rankings should be forwarded to TMC for consideration/discussion at their March 17, 2020 meeting.

Members of TMC along with MaxPreps representatives will conduct a session Thursday, March 26, 2020 at the MSSADA conference to provide an opportunity for Q&A session regarding MaxPreps.



# Motion Before the Assembly

To approve the Statewide Tournament Proposal. The Board of Directors, at their December 11<sup>th</sup> meeting, voted 15-0-2 to recommend support for adoption.