

MLFA Fall Meeting Minutes

Saturday, October 5, 2019

Golda Meir School

8:00am

Fall Meeting

- I. 8:00am - Breakfast
- II. 8:25am - Announcements
- III. 8:30am - 9:15am - Committee Meetings
- IV. 9:25am - 9:50am - PD Session #1
- V. 10:00am - 10:30am - PD Session #2
- VI. 10:35am - 11:05am - PD Session #3

PD Sessions:

Check it Out (*Kathryn DeLapp*) - Working and training rubric check-in and infractions

Pick the Winner (*Melissa Krahn*) - Learn how to run and work tab

Things that Work (*Tyne Turner*) - A guided sharing between coaches and strategies for coaching various challenging categories

The Hostess with the Mostess (*Nikki Prelesnik*) - Steps and organizational strategies for hosting your own meet

Get into it (*Barb Dodd*) - Strategies for getting into your first choice o meets and registration protocol

Now You Know (*Bob Herman*) - A question and answer session for 2nd and 3rd year coaches know that you know what to ask

Train the Trainers (*Joe Danek*) - A training of how to train the judges either at judge trainings and/or for your team

The Art of the State (*Sarah Lichey*) - How to register and prepare for the State Tournament

MPS Athletics Meeting (*Jenny Wittemann*) - All MPS Coaches and Judges

Business Meeting

- I. 11:14am - Call to Order
- II. Reports
 - A. Treasurer's Report
 1. Assets: \$44,552.63 as of October 4th, 2019
 2. Dues must be submitted by November 1st to pay \$50; \$75 if paid by December 1st
 3. Submit dues before leaving today and receive your free t-shirt or tote bag from Kari George
 4. Treasurer position opening up this year
 - a) Two year term
 - b) Reach out to Janette Schroeder (sjb4n6@gmail.com) if you'd like to shadow her

B. Past President (Pam Cullen)

1. Will confirm meet schedule with each potential host
2. Need more meets - ideally one in each region each weekend
3. Hosting a meet is a great way to raise funds for your team
4. Final calendar will be posted in December
5. Change:
 - a) Barb Dodd (St. Francis Xavier): moved her meet from Week 5 to Week 6

C. President (Nikki Prelesnik)

1. Survey results used to help make changes: continue to speak up
2. Attended many committee meetings over the summer
 - a) Noticed that it's a small group of about 15 people leading the charge
 - b) Need to get more member voice
3. Mission: Clearing up roles and having people document everything so that there is a log in perpetuity in case of personnel changes
 - a) Forensics need not be the first priority

D. Committee Reports:

1. Policy and Procedure (Pam in lieu of Katie Botsford):
 - a) Will be voting on safety plan with changes to be adopted by the entire organization
 - b) Still no announcing disabilities or issues with illnesses, braces, etc.
 - (1) When in doubt, seek out infractions at the end of the round
 - c) Bylaws and Constitution cleaned up in terms of wording
 - (1) To be voted on: Retirement Recognition
2. Categories (Deb Uttech)
 - a) Changed wording of a few rubrics:
 - (1) 2019-2020 Moments in History decade: 1990's
 - (a) Terry Kaldhusdal, Kettle Moraine: Noted that history is 20 years or more in the past; to be mindful when choosing decades
 - (2) No grace period for under time in Impromptu and Group Improvisation
 - (a) Rule violation (for under time)
 - (b) Time violation (for over 10 second grace period)
 - (3) Informative Speaking now requires a visual
 - (4) Humorous Solo and Group Acting allow digital sources (eg Ted Talks) for source material
 - (5) Added line to Special Events and News Reporting rubrics for judges to write in situation
 - (6) Comments change means now will be : "A minimum of three comments is required. Feedback should include

comments on strengths and suggestions for specific improvement”

3. Communications (Melissa Rickey and Barb Dodd)
 - a) Facebook Page: all coaches who are on Facebook should join
 - (1) Seek Melissa or Nikki with any questions
 - b) Zoom
 - (1) All executive board members and committee heads will have access to host meetings
 - (2) A microphone and speakers will be purchased (previously approved)
 - c) Website
 - (1) Changes have been made to clean up site
 - (a) Drop down menus haven't been added because they are not mobile-friendly
 - d) Register your team if you haven't already
 - (1) Send money to Janette Schroeder
4. State (Sarah Lichey)
 - a) Oak Creek High School
 - (1) April 4th, 2020
5. Tournament Practices and Procedures (Kathryn DeLapp)
 - a) Many changes made to documents - important that hosts use updated documents year after year
 - b) Student Code of Conduct created
 - (1) Highly suggested that each coach have students sign it and adhere to it in order to have transparency in rules and consequences
 - (2) Will pilot this in light of so many disqualifications last year
6. Judges Standards and Procedures (Joe Danek)
 - a) New slides regarding handling student behavior and new training videos for practice scoring will be posted in January
 - b) Prefer that judges attend a structured training rather than head coaches training team
 - (1) All judges must still complete a quiz
7. T-Shirts (Kari George)
 - a) Small change to shirt design - star instead of heart
 - b) No school team names except those ordered by 2/23/19 requesting school name
 - c) Some meets will have t-shirt sales - "T-shirt host" will have a cart and bags to bring in merchandise
 - d) Last year's T-shirts are \$5
 - e) New T-Shirt price: \$10, No long sleeves sold at meets, hoodies are more
8. Mentorship (Dean Chyla)

- a) Anyone wanting a mentor or willing to be a mentor, please fill out the form that Dean will send out
- 9. Historian (Bob Herman)
 - a) Job description: accumulating records of our organization all the way back to 1989, back when we were part of the high school organization and they ran our checkbook and state meet
 - (1) We began separating in 1999-2000 when constitution and bylaws were created
 - (2) 2000-2001: First season independent of WHSFA (Wisconsin High School Forensics Association)
 - (3) Awards: Years of Service rather than Retirement Awards
 - (a) If you know anyone who served in forensics and has since left, but has not been recognized, please reach out to Bob Herman
- 10. Small Schools (Peter Kao)
 - a) Working on a Coaches' Conference to go into more detail about each category and
- E. Old Business
 - 1. Spring Business Meeting Minutes from 5/4/19 (Melissa Rickey)
 - a) Motion to approve: Melissa Krahn - Nature Hill
 - b) Second: Michael Gotthardt - Brookfield Academy
 - 2. Bylaw change: change retirement recognition to years of service
 - 3. Bylaw change: adoption of safety plan
- F. New Business
 - 1. Discussion: Pins for years of service (5, 10, 15, etc.) with a small gift card at some levels (outlined in bylaws)
 - a) Motion to adopt: Melissa Krahn (Nature Hill)
 - b) Second: Sarah Lichey (Longfellow MS)
 - 2. Discussion: Adoption of safety plan
 - a) If your school/district has a separate policy regarding safety, that trumps the MLFA safety plan
 - (1) Melissa Krahn proposed a friendly amendment: If you are hosting a meet, see your school district's policies and procedures
 - b) Motion to adopt: Yvonne Audi (Milwaukee School of Languages)
 - c) Second: Monique Wollersheim (Thoreau)
 - 3. Voting for Coach of the Year
 - a) Discussion: Ideal to have it done prior to State Registration (which is the precedent)
 - (1) Nominations by end of February
 - (2) Voting in early March
 - b) As Past President, Pam will take this on as part of her duties
 - c) Motion to adopt bylaw change: Barb Dodd (St. Francis Xavier)

- d) Second: Kathryn DeLapp (St.Robert's)
- e) To be added to Spring Business Meeting Agenda:
 - (1) Rename award to honor Helen Andrews and note that the award is more of a culmination of lifetime achievement
- 4. Creation of Adhoc Committee to explore options to hire a website designer
 - a) Since website is used so much, hiring a web designer will ensure that webmaster and secretary simply maintain the website
 - (1) Nikki has asked for input regarding hiring of a professional website designer
 - (2) Reach out to Nikki to be part of the committee
- 5. Announcements
 - a) On-Watch: Hall of Fame award
 - (1) Currently, need to be a retired/inactive member of MLFA and uninvolved for several years
 - (2) Nikki would like members to consider whether or not this award is still relevant since it is hard to track down those former members who are no longer involved
 - b) Thank you to Tyne for hosting
- 6. Adjournment - 12:37pm
 - a) Motion: Darlene Junker (Lakeshore)
 - b) Second: Eileen Scheer (Roosevelt)