

Southwestern Maine Activities Association Athletic Administrators' Meeting

Thursday, September 11, 2025 9:00 A.M.

Cheverus High School

Meeting called to order at 9:12 A.M. by President Ashley.

Members Present: Biddeford, Bonny Eagle, Cheverus, Deering, Cheverus, Falmouth, Kennebunk, Marshwood, Massabesic, Noble, Portland, Sanford, Scarborough, South Portland, Thornton Academy, Westbrook and Windham.

Opening Remarks: President Ashley welcomed the Association.

Agenda Adjustments: none

Announcements:

Biddeford: no announcements

Bonny Eagle: no announcements

Cheverus: turf project beginning in early September, games to be relocated to Deering High School and upper level of Shea Field

Deering: no announcements

Falmouth: no announcements

Gorham: distributed golf medals

Kennebunk: Field Hockey concerns for 2026

Marshwood: varsity football participation numbers are low

Massabesic: 20 field hockey players are not very competitive, seeking FT Volleyball

Noble: no announcements

Portland: cancel JV Field Hockey, varsity games will be played at 5:00 P.M.

Sanford: no announcements

Scarborough: Main scoreboard should be repaired in about two weeks. Seeking FT Girls soccer matches.

South Portland: no announcements

Thornton: no announcements

Westbrook: JV Girls soccer numbers are low

Windham: JV Field Hockey will be 8x8.

Correspondences/Communications: none

Executive Director's Report: an overview of the current Association finances was presented. The September Financial Snap Shot was emailed and is in the SMAA Meeting Folder.

Current checking account balance is **\$164,530**. Total expenditures for 2024-2025 were \$179,623 (modest increase.).

Two member schools have fully or partially paid their 2025-2026 SMAA Assessments. (Some other fees are still in the process of being collected.

The site for our next meeting and the Annual SMAA Holiday Luncheon may change.

2025-2026 Assessments invoiced for September 1, 2025.

Please update the SMAA Directory in the Association Folder.

The SMAA Business Calendar should be reviewed and updated by the Culture Committee.

Motion: To approve the Financial Report and Executive Director's Report as presented. Kennebunk /Scarborough. Motion approved 16-0-1.

MPA Committee Reports:

AD Advisory Meeting: no report

Technology, Ferriera: The new MPA data management program is a work in progress. There is some "confusion" with Fusion.

Classification, Schwartzman: Enrollment numbers appear to be changing rapidly.

Officials Fees, LeGage: The next committee meeting will be in January, 2026.

Sports Medicine, no report.

Winter Activities:

Girls and Boys basketball, Spear, Curtis and Coffey: The expectation is to have a 2025-2026 two-year basketball schedule. There was a lengthy discussion of the proposed 2025-2026 basketball schedule. Concerns were expressed over competitive imbalances being imposed on some weaker programs. It was noted that participation of girls is down in many activities.

Motion: To approve the Boys' Basketball schedule (two-year schedule) as presented. Noble/Portland. Motion approved 14-2-1.

Motion: To approve the Girls' Basketball Schedule (two-year schedule) as presented. Noble/Portland. Motion approved 12-4-1.

Cheering, Lemelin: SMAA Championships will be at Noble on January 24, 2026.

Ice Hockey, Walton: Girls ice hockey will require a two-hour game slot in 2025-2026. New cooperative teams are being formulated for 2025-2026 with MPA approvals in the works. There was a lengthy discussion of cooperative teams.

Indoor Track, Lawrence: 2025-2026 schedule is a work in progress as the USM dates have not been finalized. Practice dates will be similar to last year.

Skiing, Alpine, Spear: There is a new race coordinator at Pleasant Mountain.

Nordic Skiing, Daly: The State Meet in 2026 will be at Fort Kent. This year's schedule awaits WMC.

Swimming and Diving, Schwartzman: The State Meet date is in question. There will most likely be a schedule ready for our next meeting. Portland and Deering are concerned over the denial of their cooperative swim team.

Unified Basketball: Mike LeGage and Mike Daly

Wrestling, Moore: Scales will be certified at the October meeting. There was a lengthy discussion of the proposed wrestling schedule and opportunities for junior varsity wrestling events. Biddeford will continue to host a junior varsity wrestling invitational. JV matches do not count as an MPA wrestling date.

Motion: To approve the proposed 2025-2026 wrestling schedule. Sanford/Bonny Eagle. Motion approved 14-0-3.

Esports, Daly: no report

Spring Sports:

Baseball, Livingston: no report

Boys' Lacrosse, Johnson: no report.

Girls' Lacrosse, Schwartzman: a 2026 survey will be forthcoming.

Softball, LeGage: Sanford will be a varsity team and Deering/Portland will continue as a cooperative team in 2026.

Tennis, Daly: no report

Outdoor Track and Field, Lawrence: Gorham and Scarborough (potentially available late in the season) will not have home tracks available in 2026. A SMAA Championship site (preferably in Cumberland County) is needed for 2026.

Esports, Daly: no report

Bocce, Buzzell: Please share your 2026 Bocce intentions with Rich Buzzell.

Fall Sports

Cheering, Lemelin: Gorham will sponsor a “game day cheering “event.

Cross Country, Lemelin: Coaches meeting went well. The SMAA Second Seven entry criteria will remain unchanged (no-varsity runners only).

Field Hockey, Ashley: change in penalty corner face protection was noted. Home uniforms are now color uniforms (dark). Discussion of schools needing to playing 7v7 junior varsity games. There are a few schools still determining their ability to sponsor junior varsity games.

Football, Johnson and Buzzell: There was a lengthy discussion of the Football Assignor’s contract. Gary Hoyt will continue to research the issues and access council.

Golf, Spear: Motion to approve changes to SMAA Guidelines for golf. Thornton, Bonny Eagle. Motion approved 16-0-1.

Soccer, Moore: The last countable date on our SMAA schedule needs to be moved back one day to comply with the MPA’s end of season date. There was a brief discussion of difficulties of soccer card reporting.

Volleyball, Livingston: no report

Some interest was expressed for unified volleyball. There will be a State-wide unified volleyball festival at Morse High School.

Esports, Daly: Anticipating an exciting Fall Season.

SMAA Committees:

Citizenship, Ashley: SMAA Citizenship Banquet to be held April 6, 2026 at the Italian Heritage Center. MIAAA Spring Conference is April 7-10, 2026.

Leadership Summit Committee, Walton, Schwartzman: There was a brief discussion of potential topics for the 2025 Summit.

Culture Committee: The Fall Culture Committee meeting will be scheduled soon.

SMAA Website, Livingston: please add unified team rosters.

MIAAA, Buzzell, Livingston, Schwartzman and Walton: The MIAAA Spring Conference will be April 7-10, in Rockport. Gary Stevens has been selected as the next MIAAA Executive Director.

NIAAA: The National NIAAA Conference in December 2025 will be in Tampa, FL.

Old Business: none

New Business: A potential vendor is interested in presenting at our October Meeting.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn at 11:07 A.M. South Portland/Noble. Motion approved 16-0-1.

Next Meeting: Thursday, October 2nd, 2025, site likely Salmon Fall Tap and Grill, 10:00 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary Hoyt, CMAA

SMAA Executive Director