

Via Zoom at 7pm

In Attendance:

Ricardo Andrade-Needham	Bob Foley-Nantasket	Hilary Frye-Gloucester
Julie Gordon-Norwell/NDA	Scott Greenbaum-Scituate	Joe Griffin-Hingham
Steve Hall-Pingree	Jesse Hamilton-BLS	Angela Hickey- Winthrop
Chris Larsen-NCD	Anthony Legget-Manchester	Larry Lovett- Wellesley
Jacon Mayer	Jared Rodriques-SJP	Beth Smith-Concord Academy
Calder Stames- Duxbury	Doug Walker-Landmark	Gary Warden-Sharon

Treasurer’s Report-

Larry Lovett – No news.

Update on NESSA and Spring Schedule

Date	Day	NESSA and MBL Events	Location
2-Apr	sat	Courageous Keelboat Kickoff	Courageous
3-Apr	sun		
9-Apr	sat		
10-Apr	sun	Sharon Invitational MAYBE??	
13-Apr	wed	MBL League Meet	
14-Apr	thu	MBL League Meet	
15-Apr	fri	Good Friday	
16-Apr	sat	Passover	
17-Apr	sun	Easter	
18-Apr	mon	<i>vacaton</i>	
19-Apr	tue		
20-Apr	wed		
21-Apr	thu		
22-Apr	fri	<i>vacation</i>	
23-Apr	sat		
24-Apr	sun		
27-Apr	wed	MBL League Meet	
28-Apr	thu	MBL League Meet	
30-Apr	sat	Donald Greene	Cochituate
1-May	sun	O'Day Qualifier	
4-May	wed	MBL League Meet	
5-May	thu	MBL League Meet	
7-May	sat	SAT test	

8-May	sun	Freshman - Sophomore	Gloucester?
	sun	Mother's Day	
		O'Day Finals	
		Linda Juliano	Cochituate
11-May	wed	MBL League Meet	
12-May	thu	MBL Make-up Meet	
14-May	sat	NESSA TR Champs Mark/Terk	
		MBL TR Tournament	Sharon
15-May	sun	NESSA TR Champs Mark/Terk	
17-May	tue	MBL TR Playoff Alternative	
18-May	wed	MBL TR Playoff Alternative	
19-May	thu	MBL TR Playoff Alternative	
21-May	sat	Hereshoff Qualifiers	
		NIT	Sharon
22-May		Hereshoff Qualifiers	
	sun	NIT	Sharon
23-May	mon	MBL Championships	CBI
24-May	tue	MBL Championships	CBI
25-May	wed		
26-May	thu	States????????????	MIT
28-May	sat		
29-May	sun		
30-May	mon	Memorial Day	

Update on CBI

As of now, no change to teams at CBI

New Members

No new applications.

Elo Ranking System

Proposal from Jacon Mayer:

Advantages:

1. Schools can choose their schedule based on their goals. Maybe that means driving less, maybe it means having the best strength of schedule for NESSA rankings
2. Schools with different covid restrictions are easily accommodated — they'll just make their own schedule within their restrictions
3. Schools that are bad actors on the water will find it difficult to schedule meets, thus self-correcting some of the issues we've had in the past

4. If NESSA rankings are important to you, you can avoid a meet where even a win might damage your ranking

Disadvantages:

1. You have to trust math, something that's apparently hard for many people
2. Coaches have the scheduling burden. I think personally this will even out, with the bigger teams doing a lot of the legwork to chase down the smaller teams for meets, but I recognize it as a con of the system I am proposing.

Scoring:

1. This is the part where you have to trust math. You should use an Elo system to rank the teams within the MBL. This is the system used at an international level by: chess, checkers, Go, tennis, women's football, Starcraft, you name it: almost every sport where not every team/player meets every other team. Nate Silver ranks NBA, NFL and NHL teams by Elo. My point is this is big-league stuff, with 70 years of testing to prove that it is the best system.
2. It works by gaining Elo points when you win and losing them when you lose. But, crucially, your Elo rating predicts how likely it is that you will win or lose, so if it's very likely that you win and you do in fact win, you don't gain many points (but you do gain some, unlike [NESSA's] idiotic system). If you were supposed to win and you lose, you lose a lot of points. And vice versa: if you're not supposed to win and you do, it's worth a lot of points, but if you lose as predicted, you don't lose much. If you evenly-rated teams meet, they both stand to win/lose the same number of points.
3. This means that the system incentivizes competition. You can only gain points by playing. Unlike NESSA's system, there is no advantage to turning down a meet.
4. It is also easy to calculate exactly how many points you stand to win / lose in a given meet.
5. Gary has suggested that there are too few data points in the system for this to work. That is not correct. Let me give an example: let's say the average team in the MBL competes 8 times. If they win all eight, they'd rise from the starting point of 1500 to something like 1600 (how many points they gain per win depends on their competition, but the max in a standard Elo system is 32, so I'm averaging). A team that wins 4/8 would probably still be at about 1500, where they started. 0/8 would drop to ~1400 points. Many teams compete more than this, of course.
6. But wait, there's more! I would have teams carry over some of their Elo rating year to year. Not all of it — there would be regression to the mean during the off-season. Here's why: beating Wellesley, last year's MBL champ, on meet 1 of the current season should be worth more than beating another team. So teams retain some of what they gained or loss in the previous season, but of course not all, because we know that kids graduate, coaches change, etc.

Jacon volunteered to be this system's Carl for the MBL if we decided to adopt it.

After much discussion, it was approved.

How Divisions Shall Be Set Up

Go back to 2019 or stay with Regional?

Voted to go back to 2019 with 5 meets and 3 within your division.

Composition of Divisions

Return to 2019 configuration-

A Coastal. Duxbury, Manchester-Essex, St. John's Prep, Winchester

A Inland. Dover-Sherborn, Lincoln Sudbury, Sharon, Wayland, Wellesley

B North. Beverly, Concord Academy, Gloucester, Landmark, Pingree, Swampscott/Salem, Winthrop

B South. BB&N, Brookline, Boston-Latin, Hingham, Nantasket, Notre Dame, Scituate. East Boston

C at CBI. Cambridge, Natick, Needham, Newton North, Newton Country Day, Quincy, Winsor

Scheduling

Split into division rooms to schedule meets.

A default schedule will be made. Please send dates to Gary for updating.

Meeting adjourned.