

MHSIBCA Executive Board Meeting

March 29, 2009

President's Report

Since the last Executive Board Meeting, November 16, 2008, I have continued with maintaining www.mhsibca.com, responded to an enormous amount of Emails and tried to find time for my own personal life. The latter was not easy at times.

The MHSIBCA computer used for the web site suffered a major virus attack. This required hiring a Technician to remove all of the viruses (more than 500). Some were so infectious that they could not be removed other than reformatting the hard drive. This meant that some programs and files were lost. Indeed, a collection of three years worth of Emails from MHSIBCA Members has been lost.

As of this writing (March 26, 2009), there have been 116,125 visits to our site since February 13, 2008. That means about 100,000 visits a year. This is a significant growth. On a comparative measure, the former site (www.msyaba.com, the official site for the State USBC Youth organization) created and administered by The Bowl Swami for 4-5 years, currently only receives about 20,000 visits annually.

Along with administering the web site came the numerous Emails (more than 10,000 over the past season) that require some form of action. They were usually in the form of posting Top Scores, Top Guns, Golden Pins, State Records, and Shadow's Eyes (names of top two athletes per school, both boys and girls). However, there were also many visitors wishing information and trying to learn how our association works. Many of the Emails came in a flood after I introduced the new "Weekend Update." I learned that technique from the Secretary of my theatre organization.

It is my desire to direct many of these Emails to another source. This would require some volunteers to step forward, if the posting of Top Scores, Golden Pins and some other awards are to continue. The Bowl Swami plans to move on to other ventures in life. At our Annual General Meeting, he will submit a list of all the items he has had to forego in order to provide services for MHSIBCA.

Once again, the Michigan Junior Varsity Championship provided an exciting venue for our Junior Varsity athletes. The committee of Livonia Ladywood, Farmington Hills Mercy, Sterling Heights Stevenson, and Utica Ford II did an excellent job in managing this event. The Bowl Swami created another Invitational Tournament (he has created 10 Invitational Tournaments thus far) which was sponsored by Utica Ford and Sterling Heights Stevenson. White Lake Lakeland has approached BS to implement one for next year. If others wish assistance in creating one, they are encouraged to use BS's expertise in making it successful.

I visited numerous Invitational Tournaments as a representative of MHSIBCA and The Bowl Swami. Since I was not asked to work at any of the Regional or State Finals venues, I visited Region 5 at Five Star and the State Finals for Division 2 at Sunnybrook.

I thought I was finished with any duties connected with Southeastern Michigan Conferences, but I discovered that the newly formed Kensington Lakes Activities Association (17 schools) was unable to post any Conference Standing Sheets. Thus, I volunteered, purchased the BLS program and performed that function for this past season. I am putting forth a proposal at this meeting for subsidizing the use of the BLS program for scoring in Michigan.

I worked with Bob Soloman on trying to put together an application for a "Not For Profit" status for our organization. Some of the files and work were lost when our computer was zonked. I have tried to find time to visit with that matter as well as the many other items that were lost.

On a personal note, I traversed the footlights once again in a theatrical production for my home based theatre group (Grosse Pointe Theatre). Some of our executive board members sat in the loud, boisterous audience one night. I have accepted the position of Education Chairperson (a Board Position) for this group. My HAP commercial has been running for over a year and a half. My poker playing has dwindled due to my BS assignments, but I will once again visit Las Vegas in June to participate in the WSOP. I will be teaching a Poker class at the Services for Older Citizens in late April. I joined friends in a week-long visit to Mexico and will be heading to Hilton Head, South Carolina this week. I am looking forward to an exciting Awards Banquet and Annual General Meeting this year!

Harry Burkey, President