

## MEMORANDUM



**TO: BCAM Coaches**

**FROM: Tom Hursey**

**RE: Seeding Update**

**DATE: December 2018**

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SEEDING UPDATE: At the December meeting of the Basketball Committee, a proposal was made to seed the district tournament. This proposal will go to the Representative Council in May and they will vote on accepting or not. The following document explains the proposal. This is not exactly what BCAM was hoping for, but it is a start. Make sure to read through the entire document so you understand how this will change the state tournament. BCAM believes it is a step in the right direction. This eliminates the top two teams in a district from facing each other on opening night. It also gives the lower seeds a better chance to win at least one game in the district since they will not open against a #1 or #2 seed. If you favor this proposal, make sure you AD endorses this also.

Coaches need to know that any seeding will be dependent on scores of games being reported. If games are not reported, your seeding position could be affected. Make every effort this year to report all your scores to the MHSAA after each of your games.

**SEEDING UPDATE:**

At the May 2017 MHSAA Representative Council meeting, the Council asked the MHSAA staff to examine possibilities for seeding the top two teams of each geographically determined District of the MHSAA Girls and Boys Basketball Tournament.

The MHSAA staff presented some possible seeding proposals to the December 2018 Basketball Committee. This committee was made up of school athletic administrators, basketball coaches, officials and BCAM directors. After much discussion, the Committee proposed the following recommendation to the Representative Council by a 15-0 vote with 1 abstention:

The district tournament teams will be seeded using the Rating Percentage Index (RPI) rating system. No human element will be involved in the first year. This will be done after the 15<sup>th</sup> week of the season. The team receiving the #1 seed will be placed at the top of the upper bracket and

will have a bye. The team receiving the #2 seed will be placed at the top of the lower bracket and will have a bye unless there are 7 teams in the district. If that is the case, they will play the #7 seed. The #3 seed will play the #6 seed in the lower bracket. The #4 seed will play the #5 seed in the upper bracket. If there are only 5 teams in the district, the #3 seed would have a bye.

**SEEDING NON-TRADITIONAL DISTRICTS** – A “Non-Traditional District” is one authorized by the MHSAA to reduce travel for participating teams. In a Non-Traditional District, a “Host School” is determined by the MHSAA to be the principal point of contact and communication for that District tournament; but the Host School does not actually host all the games. It hosts only the games in which it is a participant, whether or not it is seeded #1 or #2 and whether or not it is on the upper or lower line of the bracket for a particular game. Non-Traditional District brackets are completed exactly like traditional Districts. Teams are seeded #1 through #5, -#6, or -#7 and placed on the appropriate line of the bracket. The only difference is that the school which has been assigned by the MHSAA to be the District Host School hosts every game in which it is a participant.