



A growing trend among public address announcers in high school sports is one of the announcer trying to be an entertainer like we see at the professional and major college levels, and trying to help set an atmosphere for the event that favors the home team.

The role of the public address announcer is to inform – not to entertain or incite. Saying cute phrases like “there’s some yellow laundry on the field” when a penalty flag is thrown; dragging out a word like “touchooooooooooooooooowwwwwwwwwnnnnnnnnn” in football or “gooooooooooooooooooooooal” in soccer; too much favoritism for the home team and almost mumbling about the visiting team; trying to get a reaction out of the crowd “Viking fans-let’s make some noise!” – “Are You Ready!” - and doing real time play-by-play just has no place in our games.

The gold standard is pretty simple. Most of our examples here are for football, but you get the idea:

- These are the basics of the gold standard for public address announcing, and if you follow these guidelines and apply them to your entire body of work during the course of the game, you will be contributing in a positive way to the educational nature of the event.

MHSAA PUBLIC ADDRESS ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fall Regular Season, 2011-12 School Year

Welcome & National Anthem Introduction

Good _____, and welcome to _____
for today's game with our visitors from _____.

Sportsmanship is respecting the game, and everyone and everything associated with it. Our greatest display of sportsmanship should come during the playing of the Star Spangled Banner. Let us honor and respect our country by gentlemen removing their caps, and everyone standing at attention, placing their hands over their hearts as we proudly sing our National Anthem.

Concussion Resources

How many times in sports have we heard the phrase – “you just got your bell rung, you’ll be OK, get back into the game”? Guess what? If you got your bell rung, you’re probably not OK, you’ve probably sustained a concussion, and going back in the game just might put your life in jeopardy. Safety comes first in high school sports, and everyone should learn the signs and symptoms of concussions. Visit the M-H-S-A-A Website to learn more.

Mobile MHSAA

Scores, schedules, directions to schools and so much more can be at your fingertips with the new M-H-S-A-A Mobile App for your handheld device. Track your favorite teams, submit scores from games, check out blogs and other information with the free M-H-S-A-A Mobile App, now available for the Android, i-Phone and Blackberry.

MHSAA Friday Football Overtime (Football games only)

Highlights and scores from football games across the state can be found every Friday night at Midnight on MHSAA Friday Football Overtime on FOX Sports Detroit. The show will feature the MHSAA Network's Game Night presentation each week, as well as coaches interviews and highlights produced by schools in the MHSAA's Digital Broadcasting Program. Check out MHSAA Friday Football Overtime on FOX Sports Detroit every week!

Scholar-Athlete Award Applications

Over 2 thousand of the state's top student-athletes will be recognized for excelling academically and in school activities through the M-H-S-A-A's Scholar-Athlete Award, underwritten by Farm Bureau Insurance. The applicants will be in the running for a total of 32 one-thousand dollar college scholarships. Application materials are available exclusively online through the M-H-S-A-A Website.

Officials Recruitment

A great opportunity exists for people who enjoyed sports as participants and who would still like to give something back to the game that gave so much to them. Becoming a high school game official gives you the opportunity to get involved, get in shape and help teach the game to young people. Signing up is easy. To become a registered high school game official, visit the M-H-S-A-A Website.

2-2-2 – 11-12 Fall Regular Season PA Scripts

MHSAA Network On Comcast & Online

Another great season of high school sports coverage is underway on the M-H-S-A-A Network. Check out M-H-S-A-A Game Night every Wednesday at 7 p.m. on Comcast Channel 900. Fresh M-H-S-A-A Network programming is also available every Thursday on the MHSAA.TV website. The M-H-S-A-A Network will also cover a number of championship events to be shown on FOX Sports Detroit and FOXSportsDetroit.com.

Good Sports Are Winners! Program

The Good Sports Are Winners! Award recognizes those teams displaying good sportsmanship at selected M-H-S-A-A tournaments. Over one thousand teams will be recognized this year by the Meemic Insurance Company. Meemic is also providing sportsmanship educational materials to schools and is an underwriting supporter of a series of Sportsmanship Summits across the state. Remember, sportsmanship is the educated choice, and Good Sports Are Winners!

It's Sportsmanship

There's something that sets school sports apart from all other levels of competition. Something that truly makes the games educational for a lifetime. Something that emphasizes the values of ethics, integrity and respect more than wins and losses. Something that everyone – players, coaches and spectators need to be a part of. What is it? It's sportsmanship.

Digital Broadcasting Program

Schools across the state are promoting their athletic and non-athletic activities through the M-H-S-A-A's Digital Broadcasting Program. Students are getting experience in video production, and schools are using the program to better communicate with their communities through the M-H-S-A-A – Dot – T-V Website. For information about the Digital Broadcasting Program, visit M-H-S-A-A – Dot T-V.

School Sports Perspective

How do we deal in school sports with specialization and talk of college athletic scholarships? It's a matter of perspective. A well-rounded experience involves multiple-sport participation, which can minimize injuries that come with overuse of the body. Athletic scholarships are a nice byproduct of our games, but they're given to so few kids they cannot be the focus. With the proper perspective, we can have programs that enrich the lives of young people, and the spirit of our schools and communities.

MHSAA-MAB Foundation Student Broadcasting Awards

There's more than one way for kids to take part in high school sports. The M-H-S-A-A, in cooperation with the Michigan Association of Broadcasters Foundation, will again provide aspiring sports broadcasters and video producers the opportunity to be recognized through the Student Broadcasting Awards. For more information, visit the M-A-B Foundation Website at Mish-Mab-Dot-Com! (NOTE – Don't spell the website address out, just pronounce it as shown)

(NOTE – When saying the MHSAA acronym, say each letter – M – H – S – A – A. Do not say M-H-S-Double A or try to say MHSAA as a word)