



"Be The Referee" is a series of one-minute messages designed to help educate people on the rules of different sports, to help them better understand the art of officiating, and to recruit officials. "Be The Referee" features MHSAA Assistant Director Mark Uyl's insights on officiating.

## Recruiting Officials

One of the most challenging tasks for the MHSAA is the recruitment and retention of game officials and referees.

In many cases, the job of the referee can be a thankless one. It's an avocation where others expect an official to be perfect on their very first day on the job, and then improve on that performance.

Officials must be fit, knowledgeable on the rules, decisive and most importantly, have good people skills in handling competitive situations with emotional players, coaches and fans. While this can be a great challenge, many of our officials find this experience to be incredibly rewarding.

There is no better feeling than to officiate a game where the rules are fairly enforced, judgment calls are made decisively and the teams involved determine the outcome of the game.

If you are interested in becoming a part of this great team, go to [MHSAA.com](http://MHSAA.com) to learn more about officiating and how to get started in this rewarding avocation.

(1/11/16)