



## PARTICIPATING SCHOOL TOURNAMENT INFORMATION 2012 MHSAA HOCKEY

### 1. TOURNAMENT FORMAT

The MHSAA Hockey Tournament will be conducted in three equal divisions based on school enrollment. Schools will be placed in one of 16 Pre-Regional groupings of 3 or 4 teams in each Division for their initial assignment as determined by MHSAA staff based on geography. Pre-Regional winners will advance to one of eight Regional Final games in each Division. Regional champions in each Division advance to the Quarterfinal round. Quarterfinal winners in each of three Divisions advance to the Semifinal round, with winners meeting for the MHSAA Championship in each Division.

Host sites for Pre-Regional, Regional & Quarterfinal games are determined by the MHSAA staff and reviewed by the MHSAA Hockey Committee. An open draw conducted by Tournament Managers determines first round Pre-Regional opponents.

Semifinal and Final games in each Division will be conducted at the Compuware Arena in Plymouth.

#### Tournament Dates - 2012

Pre-Regional games – February 27 - March 2

Regional Final games – March 2 or 3

Quarterfinal games – March 6 (Division 2), March 7 (Divisions 1-3)

Semifinal games – March 8 (Division 2), March 9 (Divisions 1-3)

Championship games – March 10

The state Semifinal draw as determined by the MHSAA Hockey Committee for 2012 is as follows:

**Division 1 - QF #2 vs. QF #3, QF #1 vs. QF #4**

**Division 2 - QF #5 vs. QF #8, QF #6 vs. QF #7**

**Division 3 - QF #11 vs. QF #12, QF #9 vs. QF #10**

All initial Pre-Regional tournament assignments, Regional Finals hosts, Quarterfinal sites and Semifinal pairings are posted on the MHSAA Web site.

### 2. TOURNAMENT PROCEDURES

**Administrator Attendance Requirement** - By Representative Council action, the school principal, athletic director or other non-coaching faculty member of the school with a letter of authorization from the school principal shall be in attendance at MHSAA Ice Hockey Tournament games in which their school participates and must identify himself/herself to the game management. Schools not complying will face MHSAA administrative disciplinary action.

**Bands** – School pep bands are not allowed at the Pre-Regional, Regional and Quarterfinal levels of the tournament. At the Semifinals and Finals, pep bands are allowed with advance approval and coordination from the MHSAA. Bands may play between periods only.

**Cheerleaders** - A maximum of 12 cheerleaders in uniform, including mascots, plus the coach/advisor from each school, may be admitted without charge to games in which their school competes. Up to 12 at one time may lead cheers, although local management may limit the number of sideline cheerleaders to any number under 12 if the venue so requires.

**Home Team Designation/Jerseys** - At each game of the MHSAA Tournament, the home team will be determined by a coin flip to be conducted by tournament management and a representative of each participating team prior to each game. The coin flip may be conducted in advance of the game (e.g. draw meeting, league meeting, conference call) by the tournament manager with each school represented.

**Noisemakers** - Noisemakers are prohibited at all levels of the MHSAA tournament. This includes, but is not limited to whistles, cowbells, confetti, thundersticks, air horns, jugs with pennies, stones, and marbles. Also prohibited are banners on sticks, confetti, balloons and laser pointers.

**Protests** - There are no protests of officials' decisions in MHSAA Tournament contests.

### **3. OPT OUT POLICIES, ELIGIBILITY LISTS, ROSTERS**

Schools must submit to the Pre-Regional Tournament Manager a Master Eligibility List and Team Roster by the Opt-out Due Date. Roster forms may be school generated or forms posted on the MHSAA Web site. Failure to fulfill the above obligations by the specified Opt-out Due Date will result in MHSAA penalties as stipulated in the MHSAA Handbook. For ice hockey the Opt-out Due Date is February 1, 2012. All players on the Master Eligibility List submitted are eligible for tournament play.

If the Team Roster and Master Eligibility List are received after the Opt-Out Due Date, but before the draw is made, they may be accepted with the payment of a \$50 late fee. The \$50 late fee is due in the hands of the manager before the draw. Late fees may be retained by the host school.

Additions or updates to the Master Eligibility List (except transfer students who enroll after the dates in Regulation I, Section 9 [F]) may be accepted by the Tournament Manager if submitted and received prior to the start of competition for any team in the first level of that tournament to which the school is assigned (Feb. 27). All players on the Master Eligibility List submitted are eligible for tournament play even if the individual names are not on the roster.

**Ineligible Players** - Teams which are defeated by teams which have allowed an ineligible student to participate do not advance in MHSAA tournaments. Placement in MHSAA tournaments is vacated as a result of a team allowing one or more ineligible students to participate.

**Withdrawals** - Tournament management is to contact the MHSAA office if a school withdraws or fails to show for scheduled competition after the Opt Out Due Date for team sports or the pairings, heat assignments or flights are determined for individual sports of the first level of the MHSAA tournament in that sport.

The MHSAA staff person responsible for the sport will request from the school principal a written explanation for the no-show/withdrawal. If the reason is determined to be unacceptable by MHSAA Staff, the MHSAA Executive Director will place the school on probation for the next two school years. A second offense within the two-year probationary period will cause the school to be prohibited from tournament play in that sport for the two years following the second offense.

### **4. DRAW PROCEDURES**

Each Pre-Regional Manager will hold an open draw for the assigned schools. The manager will inform each school of the exact date, time and place for the draw. The earliest draw date is January 1. (Or earlier by MHSAA permission) Host schools may draw a bye.

### **5. TIME SCHEDULES**

Pre-Regional and Quarterfinal start times will be determined by the host school tournament manager. Start times should be no earlier than 5 p.m. and no later than 8 p.m. for weekday Pre-Regional/Regionals, from 12 noon-7:30 p.m. for Saturday Regional Final games and between 6:30 and 7:30 for QF games.

#### **Semifinal Time Schedule – Compuware Arena**

Division 2 Semifinals - 5 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 8  
Division 3 Semifinals are at 12 noon and 2:30 p.m. on Friday, March 9  
Division 1 Semifinals are at 6:00 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. on Friday, March 9

#### **Championship games - Saturday, March 10 – Compuware Arena**

Division 2 - 10 a.m.  
Division 3 - 2 p.m.  
Division 1 - 6 p.m.

### **6. AWARDS**

The winning school in each division at the Regional Final Tournament will receive a trophy. The runner-up team and championship team in each division at the Final Tournament will receive a trophy.

Twenty four (24) medals will be awarded to members of winning teams at Regional and Final Tournaments. The same number of medals will be awarded runner-up teams at the Final Tournament. If additional medals are desired by winning schools, they may be ordered through the MHSAA at school expense. Only MHSAA approved awards may be presented..

## 7. LIMITS OF COMPETITION

Teams and individuals may have a maximum of 24 contests during the regular season. MHSAA tournament dates do not count against season maximums. Exceeding contest limits results in disqualification from the MHSAA Tournament. Two scrimmages may be held prior to the first game.

## 8. FINANCES

Schools participating in Quarterfinal, Semifinal and Finals games will receive reimbursements for lodging, meals and mileage as follows:

**Meal Allowance** - Three dollars (\$3) for breakfast, four dollars (\$4) for lunch and six dollars (\$6) for dinner, per person for a maximum of twenty (20) individuals.

**Lodging** - The maximum allowance is the current hotel rate secured for a maximum of twenty (20) individuals. Allowance for expenses of competing schools at the Semifinals/Finals will continue twenty-four hours after their elimination, provided they remain at the tournament city. Schools eliminated in the Quarterfinal games will not receive expenses to attend final games. All competing teams in Semifinals and Finals who plan to stay overnight must make their own arrangements. Contact the MHSAA for assistance in tournament lodging.

**Per Diem Allowance** - In addition to meal and lodging allowances, schools competing in Quarters, Semis and Finals will be paid one hundred dollars (\$100) for each day of competition. Teams unable to return home after winning Quarterfinal contests will be paid the additional per diem and expenses for next day travel.

**Mileage** - Participating teams at the Quarterfinal, Semifinal and Finals will receive mileage reimbursement directly from the MHSAA office after conclusion of the tournament series according to the following schedule.

0-75 miles – No payment (deductible)  
76-100 miles – pay \$1.00 per mile for all miles  
101-150 miles – pay \$1.50 per mile for all miles  
151-250 miles – pay \$2.00 per mile for all miles  
251-350 miles – pay \$2.50 per mile for all miles  
351 miles & over – pay \$3.00 per mile for all miles

**Note** - Checks for Quarterfinal/Semifinal/Finals reimbursements will be issued by the MHSAA after Final tournament games. Pre-Regional and Regional managers will issue mileage checks at the conclusion of their tournament when applicable according to the above reimbursement schedule.

**Spectator Admission** – Ticket price to all Pre-Regional, Regional and Quarterfinal games is \$5 per game. Admission to Semifinal games is \$6 for each two game session. Admission to Finals games is \$7 per game with all three Division Championship games having a separate admission.

## 9. OFFICIALS SELECTION/ASSIGNMENTS

Tournament officials at the Quarterfinal, Semifinal and Final will be assigned by the MHSAA officials selection committee. At the Pre-Regional and Regional level, local tournament managers will be responsible for hiring game officials from a list of approved officials supplied to managers by the MHSAA.

## 10. PLAYING RULES/ADAPTATIONS

All National Federation hockey playing rules will be used with the following adaptations:

Video replay will be used in the MHSAA Tournament Championship games for goals scoring purposes only. Game officials may consult with the replay official only to determine if a goal was or was not scored or if a goal was scored prior to time expiring.

**Point Differential Rule** – At all levels of the MHSAA Tournament a running clock will be used when a team leads by eight or more goals during the first or second period. After two periods of play or any time during the third period, the game will be terminated when a team leads by eight goals. During the first and second period when the score differential drops beneath 8 goals, regular time shall be reinstated until an 8 goal margin is reached.

**Players in Uniform** - National Federation and MHSAA Rules limit participating teams to a maximum of 22 players in uniform for each game. Schools may have more than 22 on rosters, and the roster may change from one game to the next, but only 22 may be in uniform and all roster players must be on the Master Eligibility List.

**Neck Guards** - All players, including goalies must wear neck guards during warm-up periods and playing action. The neck guards must be commercially manufactured and not altered from their original state. Undergarments with neck guard extensions are allowed if they carry the BNQ certification. Goaltenders must also have throat protection as stated in NF rules.

**Supplemental Game Suspension Regulations** - As approved by the Representative Council game suspension penalties for unsportsmanlike conduct (game DQ) for players and coaches will be as follows: **First game DQ – Two game suspension. Second game DQ – Four game suspension. Third game DQ – Coach or player is suspended for the remainder of the season. Suspensions for game DQ penalties will be served on the next day of competition.**

**Overtime Procedures** – For all MHSAA tournament games that finish regulation tied, sudden victory overtime will take place beginning with a maximum of four 8-minute periods, after which if the game is still tied a series of 4 on 4 sudden victory overtime periods will be played to determine a winner in accordance with the following procedures:

- At the end of regulation play, the two teams go to their locker room. The ice is to be resurfaced prior to the beginning of overtime play.
- The overtime period shall be eight minutes sudden victory.
- Do not change goals for first overtime period.
- If the game remains tied at the end of the first overtime period, there shall be a two-minute rest period (with teams remaining at their bench), change goals and continue with the second overtime.
- At the end of two eight-minute periods of overtime play, the ice shall be resurfaced. Teams may go to their locker rooms. This cycle repeats for an additional two overtime periods.
- At the end of four eight minute periods of overtime play the ice shall be resurfaced, each team shall return to their locker rooms.
- After four overtime periods if the score remains tied, teams will begin with additional eight minute periods of 4-on-4 hockey until a winner is determined. Carry-over penalties will apply, i.e. one team may be short two players if they have a carryover penalty. If the first 4 on 4 period starts with a team down two players, the two man advantage will remain until the first player comes out of the box. The previous cycle of rest periods and ice resurfacing will continue.

**Concussion Protocols** - **“Any athlete who exhibits signs, symptoms, or behaviors consistent with a concussion (such as loss of consciousness, headache, dizziness, confusion, or balance problems) shall be immediately removed from the contest and shall not return to play until cleared by an appropriate health care professional.”**

The language above appears in all National Federation sports rule books and reflects a strengthening of rules regarding the safety of athletes suspected of having a concussion. Some sports rules require officials to remove from play any athlete who was “unconscious or apparently unconscious.” This new language reflects an increasing focus on safety, given that the vast majority of concussions do not involve a loss of consciousness. This protocol is intended to provide the mechanics to follow during the course of contests when an athlete sustains an apparent concussion.

1) The officials will have no role in determining concussion other than the obvious one where a player is either unconscious or apparently unconscious as is provided for under the current rule. Officials will merely point out to a coach that a player is apparently injured and advise that the player should be examined by a health care provider for an exact determination of the extent of injury.

- 2) If it is confirmed by the school's designated health care professional that the student did not sustain a concussion, the head coach may so advise the officials during an appropriate stoppage of play and the athlete may reenter competition pursuant to the contest rules.
- 3) Otherwise, if competition continues while the athlete is withheld for an apparent concussion, that athlete may not be returned to competition that day but is subject to the return to play protocol.
  - a) Only an MD or DO may clear the individual to return to competition.
  - b) The clearance must be in writing.
  - c) The clearance may not be on the same date on which the athlete was removed from play.
- 4) Following the contest, an Officials Report shall be filed with a removed player's school and the MHSAA.
- 5) In cases where an assigned MHSAA tournament physician (MD/DO) is present, his or her decision to not allow an athlete to return to competition may not be overruled.

## **11. MEDIA**

Media credential requests for Regional meets are processed by local managers. Credential requests for Semifinal and Final games will be handled by the MHSAA.

**Videotaping-** Competing schools may videotape games in which that school competes. The tape is not to be used to second-guess decisions made by game/meet officials. Schools wishing to videotape games at other sites may do so without securing advanced permission, but must tape from the stands unless press box space is available. Spectators may tape games from their normal seating area but are not to interfere with the view of other spectators or news media personnel covering the activity. A manager is not required to provide electrical hook-ups; or tripod space and may arrange spectator videotaping from a designated location(s). The tape may not be distributed, sold, rented, or loaned for commercial purposes. Video shot by schools and spectators may not be distributed on the Internet; nor may it be otherwise distributed, sold, rented or loaned for commercial purposes.

### **Souvenir Program Policies**

Regional winners must submit rosters & photos for the MHSAA Finals program via the on-line submission process. Teams should provide Regional and Quarterfinal tournament managers with roster information for local program production.

### **Merchandising/Promotion Policies**

Use of MHSAA Logo – The MHSAA logo and acronym are registered trademarks. MHSAA tournament trophy designs are also copyrighted. Use of these legally protected marks requires written permission of the MHSAA. Contact the MHSAA Communications Director for additional information.

### **Multimedia Policies**

Audio/Video/Still Photography Rights – The MHSAA owns the rights to all multimedia (audio-video-still images-Internet) at all levels of its tournaments. Still and video photography is allowed by individual spectators from the seating area of the venue unless the host school district or facility has a previously-existing policy which is more restrictive. The MHSAA has exclusive multimedia arrangements for its Final events.

MHSAA Handbook Regulation II, Section 14(A) reads as follows: "No school may sell or rent videos (DVD, tape or film) or sell still images of contests which are part of an MHSAA tournament without the permission of the MHSAA."

If a school wishes to authorize an individual(s) to create multimedia content, the principal or athletic administrator must contact the tournament manager for passes and access. Refer to the publication, MHSAA Multimedia Regulations, for more information.

No radio or television origination or audio or video broadcasts via the Internet is permitted at any site until application has been made through the MHSAA, fee paid and authorization given by the MHSAA through the tournament manager.

**Post-Game Interviews** -- Coaches should also be readily available to meet with the media shortly after the conclusion of a contest. It is recommended that approximately five minutes after the game, managers provide a location other than the team locker rooms for post game interviews with coaches and/or players

the coach may wish to designate for interviews. Locker room access should never be allowed to media. Inasmuch as many media outlets are often on deadline following contests, interviews should be granted before any lengthy team meetings occur.

## **12. SPORTSMANSHIP**

When a student is disqualified during a contest for flagrant or unsportsmanlike conduct, that student shall be withheld by his/her school for the remainder of that day of competition and for at least the next day of competition for that team.

When a coach is disqualified during a contest for unsportsmanlike conduct, that coach shall be prohibited by his/her school from coaching for the remainder of that day of competition and from coaching at or attending at least the next day of competition for that coach's team.

Failure of the school for any reason to enforce this regulation will prohibit the school from entry in the next MHSAA tournament for that sport, or from the remainder of the current tournament if the disqualification occurs during an MHSAA tournament or during the last regular-season contest.

Disqualifications from one season carry over to the next season in that sport for undergraduates and coaches, or the next season in any sport for seniors. If the playing rules for a sport specify an additional penalty or more rapid progression, or use of such a progression for other violations, the playing rules apply. **Note: MHSAA Supplemental Hockey suspensions apply for player/coach game DQ's**

Any coach who is disqualified for unsportsmanlike conduct two or more times during a season, any player who is disqualified for unsportsmanlike conduct three or more times during a season, and any coach or player who is ejected for spitting at, hitting, slapping, kicking, pushing or intentionally and aggressively physically contacting an official at any time during that season, is not eligible to participate in the MHSAA tournament for that sport that season. If the tournament disqualifying ejection for that individual occurs during the MHSAA tournament, that player or coach is ineligible for the remainder of that tournament.

If a team is removed from competition in protest, the contest is forfeited to the opponent and the coach and principal of the removed team must appear before the Executive Committee to indicate why additional action should not be taken. The Executive Committee may also require the appearance of personnel from other schools and game officials.

If the coach is ejected from the contest and an assistant coach, or an assigned school representative is not available to continue as the coach the event is terminated and forfeited to the opponent.

When a contest is interrupted or it ends prematurely because of breakdown of proper sportsmanship and whether or not the on-site officials forfeit the contest to one team, one or both schools may be subjected to any or all, but not limited to, the following: censure, probation with competition, probation without competition, forfeiture, loss of privilege of revenue sharing, expulsion. In addition, it may be required of one or both schools that their coaches and administrators appear before the Executive Committee to indicate why additional action should not be taken.

## **13. WEATHER POLICIES, SUSPENSIONS, POSTPONEMENTS**

When teams are delayed in arriving at tournament sites because of inclement weather management is encouraged to consider delaying competition for a few hours and/or playing games/matches in brackets of teams/individuals that are present and prepared to participate. If, after a reasonable delay, fewer than 60% of the scheduled teams/individuals have not arrived, the tournament must be rescheduled. If 60% or more of the scheduled teams/individuals are present, the tournament is to be conducted on the day scheduled.

## **14. INJUNCTION, RESTRAINING ORDER, PROTESTS**

If an injunction or restraining order is served or presented at an MHSAA tournament site and such purports to require the eligibility of or participation by a student or team which a school and/or the MHSAA has ruled to be ineligible under MHSAA regulations, the on-site tournament manager is to suspend the entire competition (team competition) or events in which that student is intending to participate (individual competition). If the meet has begun, it shall be completed.

Protests will not be reviewed by the MHSAA. All disputes must be decided at the site before the game proceeds. The umpires will make the final decision regarding game events. The Tournament Manager will resolve all next game concerns.

## 15. TOBACCO AND ALCOHOL POLICY

For coaches and officials at all MHSAA tournaments, use of tobacco products of any kind within sight of players and spectators and use of alcohol during a contest or at any time before it on the day of the contest is prohibited.

**Tobacco:** It is not intended that a violation of the tobacco policy should lead to immediate ejection of a coach. He or she should be reminded of the policy and reported to his or her school administration after the contest. Only if the coach is unwilling to comply promptly shall he or she be disqualified from coaching at the event. Officials should be reminded of the tobacco policy and reported in writing by the tournament manager to the MHSAA.

**Alcohol:** Historically, officials promptly disqualified coaches, and tournament managers immediately replaced officials who were under the influence of alcohol; and no change in such procedures is intended by these policies.

## 16. SPECTATOR POLICIES

The following general policies apply to spectators at MHSAA Hockey Tournament events. Tournament managers may also have additional school, facility or institutional restrictions and/or policies.

- Banners are allowed with Meet Manager approval.
- Noisemakers are not allowed at MHSAA indoor tournaments.
- Body paint and bare chests are not allowed.
- Smoking is not allowed at the tournament site.
- Coolers are not allowed.
- Signs on sticks are not allowed.
- Helium filled balloons are not allowed.
- Towels waved by fans are not allowed.
- Spectators may not pound on glass during games
- Spectators may tape games from their normal seating area but are not to interfere with the view of other spectators or news media personnel covering the activity. A manager is not required to provide electrical hook-ups; or tripod space and may arrange spectator videotaping from a designated location(s). Video shot by schools and spectators may not be distributed on the Internet; nor may it be otherwise distributed, sold, rented or loaned for commercial purposes.