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To: Track & Field Regional Tournament Managers

From: John R. Johnson, Communications Director

Re: 2019 Tournament Public Address Scripts

Enclosed are the public address announcement scripts to be read by your announcer for the MHSAA tournament event at your site.

**Please note that these scripts are provided in the order in which they are to be read.**

If you are hosting, please remember, this is a tournament event – not a home event – and you should plan to have your announcer conduct him or herself accordingly.

In the interest of good sportsmanship, please follow the script when introducing the participating teams. Your announcer **shall be a neutral party** when introducing teams, and should not show any favoritism to either team, **even if one of the participants is the host school;** or perform in such a manner that is designed to evoke a response from the crowd (i.e. -- “Are You Ready!” or “Let’s Rumble!” etc.).

**NEW!!! – Included in this packet are scripts to assist you in dealing with protective measures should inclement weather prevails or an emergency situation develops. Site management should review existing school district plans for emergency preparedness, and incorporate the provided materials or existing plans and scripts as appropriate.**

# AUGUST 24, 2019



## **PUBLIC ADDRESS ANNOUNCERS CLINIC MHSAA OFFICE**

**Watch for more information soon and  
check out our new PA Announcers**

**Resource Page at:**

**[www.mhsaa.com/Schools/Administrators/Public-Address-Announcers](http://www.mhsaa.com/Schools/Administrators/Public-Address-Announcers)**

**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. And, when saying the year – say “two thousand nineteen” as opposed to “twenty-nineteen.”**

### **15:00 Prior To Beginning Of Running Prelims**

#### **Spectator Streaming Restrictions**

Fans are reminded that the broadcast and streaming rights of this event belong exclusively to the N-F-H-S Network, the M-H-S-A-A, and those media outlets which have pre-arranged to secure those rights. Any individual streaming of this event is strictly prohibited.

#### **Regional T-Shirts On Sale**

(Check with tournament manager to confirm that shirts are being sold at your site and the sales location)

A great way to relive the excitement of today's meet is by purchasing a souvenir t-shirt. They're sure to become collector's items and they're on sale now at the \_\_\_\_\_ (location).

Be a part of the games by buying an M-H-S-A-A souvenir shirt.

## **10:00 Prior To Beginning Of Running Prelims**

### **Watch MHSAA Finals on MHSAA.TV**

Get your pass to watch live streaming video of M-H-S-A-A Spring Championships on the M-H-S-A-A Dot T-V website. One low cost of \$9.95 gives you access to live Finals action in Track & Field, Boys & Girls Lacrosse, Lower Peninsula Girls Soccer; and the Baseball-Softball Semifinals and Finals. Sign up for your pass to the Finals at M-H-S-A-A Dot T-V.

### **Multi-Sport Participation**

Here are 5 good reasons for high school multi-sport participation: Fewer overuse injuries; less opportunity for emotional burnout; exposure to different kids and coaches; exposure to different roles; and learning to compete better. Being a multi-sport participant can help a kid become a more well-rounded person. Multi-sport participation is cross training for life. To learn more about multi-sport participation, visit the health and safety page of the MHSAA website.

## **5:00 Prior To Beginning Of Running Prelims**

### **Regional T-Shirts On Sale**

(Check with tournament manager to confirm that shirts are being sold at your site and the sales location)

A great way to relive the excitement of today's meet is by purchasing a souvenir t-shirt. They're sure to become collector's items and they're on sale now at the \_\_\_\_\_ (location).

Be a part of the games by buying an M-H-S-A-A souvenir shirt.

### **See Something-Say Something (You may wish to adjust reporting location)**

Welcome to \_\_\_\_\_ High School. For your safety and security, the Athletics Department and School Administration encourage you to be aware of unusual activity. Please report any suspicious activity to us here at the announcer's stand **immediately**. Enjoy the meet and remember – Report Suspicious Activity – See Something – Say Something!

## **Welcome Prior To Running Prelims**

Good \_\_\_\_\_. The Michigan High School Athletic  
(Morning, Afternoon, Evening)

Association welcomes you to \_\_\_\_\_ for today's  
(Name of school/facility)

preliminary competition in the Two-Thousand-Nineteen Division \_\_\_\_ Regional  
Track & Field Tournament.

Actions and words speak loudly. Let your actions and words today be respectful.

Remember, nothing beats good sportsmanship.

## **Following Completion Of Girls 3,200-Meter Relay**

### **Meijer**

Here's a message from your local Meijer. Local sports are a victory for our entire community. Building leaders. Teaching integrity. Sparking our economy. That's why Meijer is proud to sponsor local sports throughout Michigan. (pause) Because when we support our home teams, we all win!

## **Following Completion Of Boys 3,200-Meter Relay**

### **Michigan Army National Guard**

The Michigan Army National Guard is proud to be the official Military Branch of the M-H-S-A-A. If you are interested in learning more about the Guard, visit My-Army-Guard-Dot-Com! That's M, I, Army-Guard-Dot-Com!

## **Following Completion Of 100-Meter Dash Qualifying**

### **OK2SAY**

Why not be in the game to help make your school safe? Use OK-2-SAY to confidentially report anything that threatens your safety or the safety of others. Submit a tip by phone, text, email, or the app on your iPhone or Droid. Make the play, use OK-2-SAY.

## **Following Completion Of Girls 100-Meter Hurdles Qualifying**

### **Applebee's**

It's not whether you win or lose – it's how much fun you have after the game. Join us tonight at Applebee's for late night, half-price appetizers. Applebee's - the official restaurant of the M-H-S-A-A.

### **Michigan Student Aid**

Do you need help paying for college? Michigan Student Aid administers scholarships, grants, and college savings programs that help make college accessible, affordable and achievable for you! See how they can help you today by visiting Michigan – Dot – Gov – Slash – My Student Aid.

## **Following Completion Of Boys 110-Meter Hurdle Qualifying**

### **UDIM**

Chocolate milk has essential nutrients every athlete needs not typically found in traditional sports drinks. Next time you grab a beverage, whether it's in the lunch room, out on the field or at home, remember to rethink your drink and pick chocolate milk. Chocolate milk is the official beverage of the Michigan High School Athletic Association.

## **Following Completion Of 200-Meter Dash Qualifying**

### **Great Clips**

If there's one thing everybody needs its more time. Use the Great Clips on line check in app from your phone, tablet or lap top and save some time! The Online check in app lets you see the estimated wait time - you check in from where ever you are, and when you arrive you're already checked in. The Great Clips on line check in app - download it today!

## **15:00 Prior To Beginning Of Running Finals**

### **Spectator Streaming Restrictions**

Fans are reminded that the broadcast and streaming rights of this event belong exclusively to the N-F-H-S Network, the M-H-S-A-A, and those media outlets which have pre-arranged to secure those rights. Any individual streaming of this event is strictly prohibited.

### **Regional T-Shirts On Sale**

(Check with tournament manager to confirm that shirts are being sold at your site and the sales location)

A great way to relive the excitement of today's meet is by purchasing a souvenir t-shirt. They're sure to become collector's items and they're on sale now at the \_\_\_\_\_ (location).

Be a part of the games by buying an M-H-S-A-A souvenir shirt.

## **10:00 Prior To Beginning Of Running Finals**

### **Officials Recruitment**

High school seniors...as your prep playing days come to an end...think about staying in the game as a registered official. We need new high school sports officials now more than ever. It's a great way to give back to the game, stay in shape, and it's not a bad way to make some good part-time money while you're in college. There's Help Wanted – Just Whistle! Register online at M-H-S-A-A DOT COM!

### **Health & Safety Page of MHSAA.COM**

Where can you find good information on all kinds of topics related to the well being of our student-athletes? Check out the Health & Safety page of the M-H-S-A-A Website. Learn about multi-sport participation, heat and hydration, cardiovascular resources, as well as insurance benefits available for students. It's all on the Health & Safety page of M-H-S-A-A dot com.



## **5:00 Prior To Beginning Of Running Finals**

### **Michigan Athletic Trainers Society**

Injury prevention along with proper identification and management of athletic injuries and illness are key components to safe sport participation. Certified athletic trainers are licensed healthcare providers working with many high schools across Michigan to help reduce the risk. Please check out At-Your-Own-Risk-Dot- Org to see how they work in this role.

### **See Something-Say Something (You may wish to adjust reporting location)**

Welcome to \_\_\_\_\_ High School. For your safety and security, the Athletics Department and School Administration encourage you to be aware of unusual activity. Please report any suspicious activity to us here at the announcer's stand **immediately**. Enjoy the meet and remember – Report Suspicious Activity – See Something – Say Something!

## **Welcome For Running Finals & Anthem Introduction**

Good \_\_\_\_\_. The Michigan High School Athletic  
(Morning, Afternoon, Evening)  
Association welcomes you to \_\_\_\_\_ for today's  
(Name of school/facility)  
finals competition in the Two-Thousand-Nineteen Division \_\_\_\_ Regional  
Track & Field Tournament.

Sportsmanship is always taking the high road – even with everything on the line.  
Remember, nothing beats good sportsmanship.

### **Anthem Introduction**

Ladies and gentlemen: The privilege of this event was made possible by those who have fought – and continue to fight for – the freedoms we enjoy. Let us now honor and respect their efforts and our country. Civilian gentlemen, please remove your hats. All veterans - we encourage you to render the appropriate salute, and everyone able - please stand at attention, placing your hand over your heart, as we proudly sing our National Anthem.

### **Following 110-Meter Hurdle Finals**

### **Michigan Student Aid**

Do you need help paying for college? Michigan Student Aid administers scholarships, grants, and college savings programs that help make college accessible, affordable and achievable for you! See how they can help you today by visiting Michigan – Dot – Gov – Slash – My Student Aid.

## **Following 100-Meter Dash Finals**

### **Applebee's**

It's not whether you win or lose – it's how much fun you have after the game. Join us tonight at Applebee's for late night, half-price appetizers. Applebee's - the official restaurant of the M-H-S-A-A.

## **Following 800-Meter Relay Finals**

### **Great Clips**

If there's one thing everybody needs its more time. Use the Great Clips on line check in app from your phone, tablet or lap top and save some time! The Online check in app lets you see the estimated wait time - you check in from where ever you are, and when you arrive you're already checked in. The Great Clips on line check in app - download it today!

## **Following 1,600-Meter Run Finals**

### **Meijer**

Here's a message from your local Meijer. Local sports are a victory for our entire community. Building leaders. Teaching integrity. Sparking our economy. That's why Meijer is proud to sponsor local sports throughout Michigan. (pause) Because when we support our home teams, we all win!

### **Following 400-Relay Run Finals**

#### **Michigan Army National Guard**

Our Michigan Army National Guard soldiers train as little as one weekend a month and 2 weeks in the summer. If you're at least 17 and a high school junior interested in learning more about the Guard, visit My-Army-Guard-Dot-Com! That's M, I, Army-Guard-Dot-Com!

### **Following 400-Meter Dash Finals**

#### **OK2SAY**

Why not be in the game to help make your school safe? Use OK-2-SAY to confidentially report anything that threatens your safety or the safety of others. Submit a tip by phone, text, email, or the app on your iPhone or Droid. Make the play, use OK-2-SAY.

### **Following 300-Meter Hurdle Finals**

#### **Scholar-Athlete Award**

Nearly 2 thousand of the state's top student-athletes were recognized this year through the Scholar-Athlete Award, presented by Farm Bureau Insurance. Visit the M-H-S-A-A Website for a list of this year's applicants, finalists and scholarship recipients and information about the Two-Thousand-Nineteen - Twenty awards program.

## **Following 800-Meter Run Finals**

### **UDIM**

Chocolate milk has essential nutrients every athlete needs not typically found in traditional sports drinks. Next time you grab a beverage, whether it's in the lunch room, out on the field or at home, remember to rethink your drink and pick chocolate milk. Chocolate milk is the official beverage of the Michigan High School Athletic Association.

## **Following 200-Meter Dash Finals**

### **Multiple-Sport Participation**

You're hearing it. The message is getting through to everybody. Multi-sport athletes get injured less. Multi-sport athletes become better in their primary sport in the long run. And even though it's not why we play our games – multi-sport athletes are now getting recruited more than specialized athletes. Multi-sport participation is cross training for life. Learn more at the M-H-S-A-A website.

## **Following 3,200-Meter Run Finals**

### **MHSAA Second Half**

The Second Half page of the MHSAA website gets you closer to the action with features on high school sports from around the state, weekly coaches associations rankings and coverage of MHSAA Tournament Finals. It's a great read with fresh content nearly every weekday during the school year. Make the MHSAA's Second Half your first stop for high school sports information.

## **Following 1,600-Meter Relay Finals**

**(No scheduled announcement after this event)**

## **At Conclusion Of Meet – Closing Statement**

The Michigan High School Athletic Association and \_\_\_\_\_

(Name of host site)

have enjoyed having you at today's meet, and we look forward to having you as our guest at future events. Don't forget that if you can't make it to the Track & Field Finals two weeks from now, to get your pass to watch the action live on the Internet on the M-H-S-A-A Dot T-V Website! Again, thanks for being in attendance today and please drive carefully on your way home. Good \_\_\_\_\_.

(Day, Afternoon, Evening, Night)

## **Learn More About Public Address Announcing**

The MHSAA is pleased to partner with the National Association of Sports Public Address Announcers to help provide our games with the best announcing possible – announcing that has an educational and information tone about it – not the entertainment blare we hear at collegiate and professional events.

We recommend the latest edition of *The Voice Above The Crowd* and its accompanying instructional CD as a guide for announcing amateur athletic contests and events. It includes specific sections for many sports, as well as hints to assist announcers in their pre-game preparations and their in-game work.

For more information about *The Voice Above The Crowd*, and about an online P.A. announcing certification course, visit the National Association of Sports Public Address Announcers at:

**[naspaa.net](http://naspaa.net)**

## Emergency Preparedness & The PA Announcer

In response to a changing world around us, schools are implementing emergency action plans – not just for the school day – but for after-school activities where large groups of people can gather and which present a variety of different security challenges – especially for outdoor events.

For the Public Address Announcer, this means having and knowing when to utilize scripts that go beyond telling spectators to stay off the floor and how to address injuries which delay the action on the playing surface (We have included examples for such situations here). The PA Announcer can be the key vehicle in delivering critical messaging as part of an entire team of game management personnel.

It should **not** be the responsibility of the PA Announcer to develop scripts, or for that matter, make the final decision of when a script is read in an emergency. Those should be the responsibility of the school administration.

There can be preset protocols for things like a lost child or paging someone to a specific location. But some emergency situations that affect the entire crowd, possibly prompting the evacuation of the venue, must be triggered at the top of the game management chain and should be included in the school's emergency action plan. Those situations include: Weather, Bomb or Terrorist Threat, Fire, Medical Incidents, Gas Leaks, Drive-By Shooter or Active Shooter in Vicinity, Power Outage.

The first thing the PA Announcer must do is be calm; and present clear information to move people to safety. Providing visual references to direct people as opposed to directions is important (i.e. "Proceed to the gate near the scoreboard," instead of "Go to the gate at the North end of the field.")

The bottom line is to be prepared. Know the action plan. Have scripts for various situations prepared in a binder by your side at all times.

The information that follows comes from the MHSAA's Athletic Activities Emergency Preparedness Planning Strategy document, which can be found on the MHSAA Website. The document provides encouragement for schools to develop an emergency action plan to be prepared for enhancing the safety of game participants and spectators when a critical incident occurs.

Special thanks as well to the National Association of Sports Public Address Announcers, which also covers emergency readiness in its book, *The Voice Above The Crowd*, a training manual used by PA Announcers across the country.



## **Pre-Game**

It is recommended that an announcement encouraging people to be aware of their surroundings and to report things they may think suspicious to the game management. Here's an example of such a script, which should be read once or twice during pre-game and once at halftime:

### **See Something-Say Something (You may wish to adjust reporting location)**

Welcome to \_\_\_\_\_ High School. For your safety and security, the Athletics Department and School Administration encourage you to be aware of unusual activity. Please report any suspicious activity to us here at the announcer's stand **immediately**. Enjoy the game and remember – Report Suspicious Activity – See Something – Say Something!

During pre-game, the announcer may wish to consult with the game manager regarding potential severe weather or other known threats. It may be decided to use one of the following scripts prior to the start of the game to inform spectators of the protective plans in place:

### **Weather Threat**

May I have your attention please. We have been watching the potential of approaching inclement weather. If it arrives during the game, activity will cease until we have determined it is safe. If we need to evacuate the stadium/gym/arena/field, we will advise you to seek appropriate shelter in the school and follow directions from staff. If you wish, seek shelter in your vehicle. Thank you for your cooperation.

### **Safety Plan**

May I have your attention please. The (school district name) has an emergency plan to keep our students, staff, parents and visitors as safe as possible. If an emergency should occur during the game/event and we need to stop the event to evacuate or take shelter, we will advise you to seek appropriate actions and follow directions from staff and/or event volunteers. If you wish, seek shelter in your vehicle. Thank you for your cooperation and enjoy the contest.

## **During The Event**

During outdoor competition, once the official signals to suspend activity because of weather, the announcer could announce:

### **Weather Delay**

May I have your attention please. We have been notified of approaching inclement weather. Activity will cease until we have determined it is safe and the risk of lightning is diminished. We advise you to seek appropriate shelter in the school, follow directions from staff. If you wish, seek shelter in your vehicle. Thank you for your cooperation.

If during an indoor event, host management determines an evacuation is appropriate, the announcer could announce:

### **Building Evacuation**

May I have your attention please. Due to an emergency situation in the school, we are evacuating the building. Activity will cease until we have determined it is safe and the risk has been resolved. Please follow directions from staff, exit the school and move away from the building. Responding police/fire personnel will provide further instructions. Thank you for your cooperation.

If host management determines Shelter-In-Place is appropriate, the announcer could announce:

### **Shelter-In-Place**

May I have your attention. Due to an emergency situation in the school, (approaching inclement weather, hazardous materials incident, etc.) activity will cease until we have determined it is safe and the risk has been resolved. We will be taking shelter inside the school, please follow directions from staff:

- Remain in the building; you are free to move around or,
- Quickly move to shelter areas in the building.

Responding police/fire personnel will provide further instructions. Thank you for your cooperation.

## **Keeping Spectators Off The Floor**

A “Stay Off The Playing Surface” announcement should be a script the PA Announcer always has at the ready. Here’s a good example to use when it appears fans may be preparing to rush the playing surface:

### **Stay Off The Playing Surface**

Ladies and gentlemen, for your safety and the safety of the participants, we ask your cooperation in not going on the playing surface before, during or after the game. Violators will be removed from the premises and risk prosecution. Thank you.

## **Injured Players**

An injured player down on the playing surface during a game should only be identified by the PA Announcer. The Announcer is in no position to speculate about the injury and should not talk while being attended to by medical personnel. Do not fill the time with music or announcements. Here’s an example of an appropriate acknowledgement of an injured player if you can positively identify the student:

### **Injured Player**

The injured player down on the field is #2, Dylan Lewis.

And when the player is recovered and leaving the field, an announcement encouraging support from the fans is not necessary. This will take place naturally. Again, any announcement speculating about the injury is inappropriate.