



Updated 03/17/21

## **PARTICIPATING SCHOOL TOURNAMENT INFORMATION 2020-21 MHSAA COMPETITIVE CHEER**

### **1. TOURNAMENT FORMAT**

The MHSAA Competitive Cheer Tournament will be conducted in four equal Divisions by enrollment. Schools sponsoring Competitive Cheer teams will be assigned to one of six District sites in each Division. Four teams per Division, per tournament site will qualify from the District tournament level to the Regional tournament level. Teams will compete in a Round 1, 2 and 3 format to determine the District champion. The team which scores the most points after all three round scores have been totaled will be the District Champion.

Four teams per Division per tournament site will qualify from the Regional tournament level to the Finals tournament level. Teams will compete in the Round 1, 2 and 3 format to determine the Regional champion. The team which scores the most points after all three round scores have been totaled will be the Regional champion.

In District and Regional tournament competition, should there be a tie for fourth place, both fourth place teams will qualify for the next tournament level.

Should there be a tie for first place at Finals tournament competition, a tiebreaker procedure will be instituted. A tie will be broken by checking the final score of Round 3. If a tie still remains, co-champions will be named.

#### **Tournament Dates - 2021**

Twenty-four Districts may be held on March 17-20, 2021 at the posted sites and times at mhsaa.com. Regional competition will be held at eight sites (2 per Division) with twelve teams competing at each site on March 23-24, 2021.

<b>Tournament Opt-Out Due Date:</b>	<b>March 5, 2021</b>
<b>District Draw Dates:</b>	<b>March 5 – 10, 2021</b>
<b>District Tournaments:</b>	<b>March 17-20, 2021</b>
<b>Regional Tournaments:</b>	<b>March 23-24, 2021</b>
<b>Finals:</b>	<b>March 26, 2021 and March 27, 2021</b>

### **2. TOURNAMENT PROCEDURES**

**Team Size** – A minimum of four and a maximum of 16 team members are allowed on the floor for competition in Rounds 1 and 3. The number of participants in Rounds 1 and 3 must be identical but may differ from the Round 2 mandated number. Round 2 varsity mandated numbers are as follows: D1=12, D2=10, D3=8, D4=6. Varsity teams competing with less than their division mandated number are allowed to compete but receive a 10-point penalty if less than the number required are on the floor in Round 2. The Master Eligibility List submitted by the school, along with the Team Roster, may list as many eligible competitors as desired by the school.

**Team Check-In** – Each coach is required to declare the number of competitors that will compete in each round. Each coach must email, FAX or send the Round 1, 2, and 3 scoresheets, all penalty sheets and the Round 3 Routine Description Form to the Host Manager. Coaches should follow-up with the Host Manager regarding receipt of the seven documents. Managers may request the information early however, may not penalize a school unless they do not meet the 2 p.m. prior to the day of the meet deadline.

**Admission for Non-competitors at MHSAA Tournament Sites** – All team members who are eligible to compete with their qualifying team at Districts, Regionals or Finals must enter the facility together with their coach in order to be considered part of that team for admission purposes. It is appropriate to expect non-competitive sub-varsity cheer teams to enter with an admission charge.

**Order of Competition** – The Tournament Manager will conduct a blind draw to determine the order in which teams compete in each round of competition. No team will be required to compete first more than once or last more than once during District competition, nor will a team compete last then first in consecutive rounds. The same procedure will be followed at Regional and Finals competition. Regional and Finals order of competition will be drawn by Committee. The District Draw Dates are March 5-10, 2021.

**Finals Qualifying Procedures** – Four teams from each District will qualify to compete at the Regionals (total of 12 teams per Division). Four teams from each Regional (total of 8 teams per Division) will qualify for Finals competition.

**Determining Winners** – Determination of a winner shall be the team that has accumulated the most points after all three rounds have been scored and the points totaled. The four District teams with the highest total points scored will qualify for Regional competition. The four Regional teams with the highest total points scored will qualify for Finals competition.

**Tie-Breaker Procedures** – Should there be a tie for fourth place at District or Regional tournament competition, both fourth place teams will qualify for the next tournament level. Should there be a tie for first place at Finals tournament competition, a tiebreaker procedure will be instituted. A tie will be broken by checking the final score of Round 3. If a tie still remains, co-champions will be named.

**Competition Mat** – The Finals competition mat is a 42' x 42' blue flexiroll – 1 3/8" thickness.

**Banners** – Each cheer team will be allowed one school banner not larger than 4' x 8'. At the Finals, the banner may only be placed on the spectator side of the arena below the railing.

**Warm-up Area**- A warm-up area must be provided for competing teams. Local Tournament Managers will provide competing teams with information regarding the mat that will be used as well as information regarding the warm-up area at their site.

**Scores are Final** – Scores that are the result of a clerical error made by the scoring table may be reviewed for correction. All scores are final 10 minutes after posted and judges have signed the master scoresheet.

**Team Supervision** – No individual or team may participate in an MHSAA event unless accompanied to the event by the coach, administrator or appointee of the school.

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

The Team Roster along with a current Master Eligibility List must be provided to the District Tournament Manager no later than the Opt-Out Due Date of 4 p.m. on March 5, 2021. The Junior Varsity and Freshman Master Eligibility Lists should also be sent if there is intent to use any Junior Varsity and Freshman team members). It is imperative that the Tournament Manager and the MHSAA be notified by or before the Opt-Out Due Date if a team does not intend to enter the District Tournament.

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] – February 1, 2021 for winter sports) 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. 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. TIME SCHEDULES**

All District, Regional and Final time schedules in Competitive Cheer will be determined and posted at [mhsaa.com](http://mhsaa.com).

## 5. DRAW PROCEDURES

After Team Rosters and Master Eligibility Lists are due and received, the Host Manager will conduct a blind draw for each round of competition to determine the order in which the teams will compete. No team shall compete first more than once and no team shall compete last more than once in the three rounds. No team which competed last in the previous round should be first to compete in the next round.

Schools should be contacted regarding the time and date of the draw. This draw must be held between March 5-10, 2021 and the order as drawn shall be printed and made available to each school prior to the day of the event.

## 6. AWARDS

**Districts** – A team trophy will be awarded to the winning team at each site. In addition, each winning team member will receive a medal (maximum of 20 medals).

**Regionals** – A team trophy will be awarded to the winning team at each site. In addition, each winning team member will receive a medal (maximum of 20 medals).

**Finals** – Champion and Runner-Up trophies will be awarded in each Division and individual medals will be presented to the winner and runner-up team members, (maximum of 28 medals).

Only MHSAA approved awards are to be presented to student-athletes at MHSAA tournaments. If a school wishes to purchase additional Regional or Finals medals, they can be ordered by using the Additional Medal Order Form.

**Extra Medal Order Form** – <http://www.mhsaa.com/Portals/0/Documents/AD%20Forms/medal%20form.pdf>

## 7. LIMITS OF COMPETITION

Teams and individuals may have a maximum of 12 dates of competition during the regular season. MHSAA tournament dates do not count against season maximums.

## 8. FINANCES

**Competing Team Expenses** – Each team assumes all costs/expenses of participation at all levels of the MHSAA Girls Competitive Cheer Tournament.

### **Spectator Admission –**

District Tournaments: \$7.30 Students and Adults

Regional Tournaments: \$7.30 Students and Adults

Finals Tournaments: \$19.90 Students and Adults

The cost for Competitive Cheer Finals is \$19.90 for each Division and includes parking. There are four separate sessions.

Digital tickets will be sold for each contest via GoFan, with host schools determining capacity limitations based upon current COVID-19 guidance.

## 9. OFFICIALS SELECTION/ASSIGNMENTS

Tournament Judges at District, Regional and Finals competition will be assigned by the MHSAA Judges Assignment Committee. Coaches of schools which sponsor Competitive Cheer are invited to recommend judges for the Competitive Cheer Tournaments. These recommendations will be used as an aid in the assignment of judges to each District, Regional and Finals Competitive Cheer Tournament. To be selected to work a District, Regional or Finals, the judge must be registered and must have attended an MHSAA online or face to face Competitive Cheer Rules Meeting.

## 10. PLAYING RULES/ADAPTATIONS

The *2020-22 Girls Competitive Rules and Regulations Manual* contains the guidelines which will be followed at all regular season and MHSAA Competitive Cheer events. This Manual clarifies legal and illegal stunts and specifies required spotting techniques for each type of stunt and dismount. The safety rules provided in this Manual are designed for High School Competitive Cheer teams with modifications included for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade teams. A spotter is required for stunts in which the supporting arm(s) of the base(s) is fully extended above the head. The spotter must touch, watch, and assume a correct position which is away, not under the flyer.

## 11. MEDIA

Media credential requests for District and Regional meets are processed by local managers. Credential requests for Competitive Cheer Finals 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 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). 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** – Teams winning Regional titles in selected sports must fill out and e-mail program information and a team photograph to the MHSAA office to be used in the souvenir program for the Semifinals and the Finals in the event the team qualifies for Final round play. Program information kits are available on the respective sports pages of the MHSAA Web Site. Those sports are as follows: baseball, boys and girls basketball, girls competitive cheer, football, ice hockey, boys and girls soccer, softball, girls volleyball, team dual wrestling. Complete directions for filling out and submitting information and photographs is included with each kit. All program information and photographs must be submitted by e-mail.

Teams competing in MHSAA District and Regional tournaments shall provide, upon request, team rosters, photographs and other information as necessary, to local tournament managers so that a souvenir program may be assembled for the event.

#### **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 or individual or business on behalf of schools 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.

**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.

**Participating Team/Spectator Internet Streaming** – The broadcast and streaming rights of MHSAA post-season tournament events belong exclusively to the N-F-H-S Network, FOX Sports Detroit, the M-H-S-A-A, and those media outlets which have pre-arranged to secure those rights.

Teams participating in MHSAA Tournaments are prohibited from streaming live video of any portion of an event over the Internet - including using social media platforms like Periscope and Facebook – or any other method.

Likewise, individual spectators are also prohibited from streaming video through any means.

Participating schools are responsible for informing their students, parents and other fans of this policy and to assist the MHSAA upon request in enforcing it. Participating schools are asked to help promote where their particular game may be viewed when being streamed by the MHSAA, one of its television partners, or a media outlet which has pre-arranged to secure such rights.

## **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.

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.

**Team Spectator Sports Celebrations** – During contests, officials will penalize under applicable sportsmanship or playing rules those student-athletes or coaches who leave the field of play and contact or approach spectator areas for celebration. Each school shall assign an acceptable number of adult crowd control supervisors to be stationed in front of its student cheering sections. At the conclusion of contests, prior to or after awards are presented, athletes shall not enter spectator areas or physically contact spectators in the stands. Similarly, spectators shall not run on the floor. Athletes shall not enter spectator areas and physically contact spectators in the stands. Any cost for repair or replacement to facilities damaged as a result of celebrations shall be paid by the school involved directly to the host facility within 30 days of the bill being submitted to the school. MHSAA reimbursement or revenue sharing will be withheld until paid by the offending school. Future tournament hosting privileges or school reimbursements to offending schools may be withheld if payment is not made.

### **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 contest proceeds. The judges will make the final decision regarding meet events. The Tournament Manager will resolve all next contest concerns.

### **15. TOBACCO AND ALCOHOL POLICY**

Use of alcohol or tobacco, including e-cigarettes or other smoking devices, is prohibited at MHSAA tournament events by players, coaches and spectators. Managers should stress in coaches meetings that they are not to use tobacco at the tournament venue.

### **16. YOUTH PROTECTION POLICY**

During the MHSAA Tournament events, the MHSAA expects all designated managers, volunteer or paid staff assisting in the event, officials or any other personnel to follow local school district policy and state statute regarding the mandatory reporting of child abuse, bullying, hazing and sexual harassment. A report of such activity shall be made to legal authorities and to the MHSAA Executive Director or his designee.

### **17. UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLE (DRONE) POLICY**

The use of unmanned aerial vehicles ("UAV"), also known as drones, is prohibited for any purpose by any persons at MHSAA tournament venues. Tournament management shall refuse admission or entry to anyone attempting to use a UAV; and if necessary, tournament management shall remove anyone attempting to use a UAV and/or confiscate the UAV until the event has been completed. For purposes of this policy, a UAV is any aircraft without a human pilot aboard the device.

An exception to this policy may be made in specific cases for MHSAA broadcast partners, provided the management of the tournament facility permits the presence of UAVs for broadcast purposes under the control of the MHSAA.

## **18. LOCKER ROOM PRIVACY POLICY**

Using devices of any kind to capture or transmit images is strictly prohibited in locker rooms, dressing areas, training rooms, weigh-in rooms, showers, restrooms, or other areas where there is an expectation of privacy during MHSAA tournament events. Tournament managers or athletic directors that discover such use should move immediately to have the device removed and inform the head coach or athletic director of the identity and nature of the activity of the person involved.

## **19. SPECTATOR POLICIES**

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

- Banners are allowed with Meet Manager approval (no larger than 4' X 8').
- 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.
- Spectator Videotaping – 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 policies of the local host site shall prevail with respect to pets/animals. In the absence of local host policy, animals or pets shall not be permitted to enter MHSAA tournament venues; including spectator and team areas. However, properly marked or documented service animals which are leashed or harnessed at all times may accompany a spectator paying admission or attending with other approved team or school personnel. Individuals who bring service animals are asked to bring their own waste disposal bags and request special seating in advance of the event if this is needed.

## **20. RETURN TO ACTIVITY & POST-CONCUSSION CONSENT FORM**

<https://www.mhsaa.com/portals/0/documents/health%20safety/returntoplay.pdf>



## 2020-21 COMPETITIVE CHEER TEAM ROSTER

The following information is to be sent to the District Tournament Manager. The Manager will forward the Winning Teams' Roster and Master Eligibility List to the Regional Tournament Manager. It is the responsibility of the coach to correct and update any team changes made during the Tournament series. A minimum of four (4) and a maximum of sixteen (16) team members will be allowed per team to compete in the rounds.

Team Roster For \_\_\_\_\_ High School Coach \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone Number of Coach \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone Number of Coach \_\_\_\_\_

Time and Date the Team is Departing for Tournament Site \_\_\_\_\_

Please list the cheer competitors who will more than likely compete in any of the three rounds at District Tournaments. This information will be helpful to the tournament manager for program purposes. Please list the information alphabetically.

<u>NAME</u>			<u>NAME</u>		
<u>LAST</u>	<u>FIRST</u>	<u>GRADE</u>	<u>LAST</u>	<u>FIRST</u>	<u>GRADE</u>
1. _____	_____	_____	17. _____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____	18. _____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____	19. _____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____	20. _____	_____	_____
5. _____	_____	_____	21. _____	_____	_____
6. _____	_____	_____	22. _____	_____	_____
7. _____	_____	_____	23. _____	_____	_____
8. _____	_____	_____	24. _____	_____	_____
9. _____	_____	_____	25. _____	_____	_____
10. _____	_____	_____	26. _____	_____	_____
11. _____	_____	_____	27. _____	_____	_____
12. _____	_____	_____	28. _____	_____	_____
13. _____	_____	_____	29. _____	_____	_____
14. _____	_____	_____	30. _____	_____	_____
15. _____	_____	_____	31. _____	_____	_____
16. _____	_____	_____	32. _____	_____	_____

The **TEAM ROSTER** and **MASTER ELIGIBILITY LIST** **MUST** be in the hands of the District Tournament Manager **BY 4 P.M. FRIDAY, MARCH 5, 2021**