



michigan high school athletic association

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[http://www.mhsaa.com/portals/0/documents/AD\\_Forms/minutes/RC\\_summary\\_1314.pdf](http://www.mhsaa.com/portals/0/documents/AD_Forms/minutes/RC_summary_1314.pdf)

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## ALERT TO CHANGES FOR 2014-15 SCHOOL YEAR

There are at least four **significant changes that will impact schools now and next fall**. On May 15, 2014, MHSAA Membership Resolutions for next school year were mailed to superintendents with the minutes of the May 2014 Representative Council meeting and instructions to view a “Summary of Representative Council Action” on MHSAA.com (schools - administrators). Also included is a memo on the new meeting requirements for **subvarsity and assistant coaches** that begins this fall. Below are four summaries. Please consult the full rule and resources, including the online Summary of Representative Council Action.

- 1. Subvarsity and Assistant Coach Requirements:** Effective with fall sports 2014-15, a high school must attest that all of its subvarsity and assistant coaches (paid or volunteer) have completed an MHSAA rules meeting or, in the alternative, one of seven online courses designated for this purpose. High school athletic directors will attest that their entire staff has met this requirement prior to the established deadline at the start of each season (fall, winter and spring). A school shall not permit a coach who has not completed the requirement to be present at the MHSAA tournament in that coach’s sport. The head coach’s requirement remains the same and will be tracked by the MHSAA. In future years, graduated enhancements to coach preparedness occur with CPR training for head coaches (2015-16) and Level 1 or 2 CAP training for first-time newly hired head coaches (2016-17).
- 2. Transfer Rule Changes (Links):** If a student transfers into a new school where an “athletic coaching link” existed in the past 12 months, that student is ineligible for 180 school days in the specific sports where a link was present. Links include (1) Attendance at an open gym (and then transferring); (2) Playing non-school (AAU) or school-based summer sport teams (and then transferring to that coach’s school); (3) Transferring into a school where a former coach has just been hired; and (4) Transferring into a school where a former or current personal trainer or strength or conditioning coach is employed. Schools should only allow students registered to attend their school to be involved in otherwise allowed summer sports activities. Schools should exchange a New Student Transfer Information Form with the former school’s athletic director to verify past involvement. The “Links Rule” only activates **after** a student begins the 9<sup>th</sup> grade and **does not apply** to a student who meets an exception such as a full and complete residential change. Download more information and the Athletic-Related Transfer Rule (Regulation I, Section 9[F]) and the New Student Transfer Information Form on MHSAA.com (schools and administrators), as well as under Appendix **D** in the Summary of Council Action.
- 3. International Students:** For students not attending an MHSAA school in 2013-14. The automatic exception which allows immediate eligibility for first-time-ever 9<sup>th</sup>-graders will no longer apply to international students. Only those international students (J-1 or F-1) enrolled under a Transfer Rule Residency Exception or placed through an MHSAA “Approved International Student Program” (AISP), can have varsity eligibility. Those international students who are placed through an AISP are immediately eligible for one academic year and then ineligible for one academic year (“Play One, Wait One”). Other international students have no varsity eligibility. After the normal (approximately one semester) waiting period for transfer students, local schools may provide those students subvarsity eligibility, regardless of grade level and previous sports experience and without MHSAA Executive Committee approval. Find more on MHSAA.com and Appendix **B** of the Summary on Council Action.
- 4. Football Practice Policies:** The first two days with helmets only; next two add shoulder pads. No full pads until the fifth day. Before 1st game: No more than one “collision” practice in a day. After 1st game: No more than two “collision” practices per week (Monday-Sunday). No single practice may exceed three hours. Total practice time for multiple sessions may not exceed five hours. Warm-up, stretching included. Weights, video not included. See Appendix **A** of Summary of Council Action or MHSAA Health and Safety page for specifics and definition of collision: “live, game speed, player vs. player.”