



## Athletic Directors and Coaches Guide for Rating Game Officials

*MHSAA Handbook*, Regulation II, Section 7 (B) requires schools to rate officials who officiate contests involving their teams in sports for which ratings are maintained. Ratings are submission online at MHSAA.com. Rating officials is critical to provide those officials areas where improvement is needed and to give the MHSAA feedback and guidance for the selection of officials for postseason consideration. The following guidelines are provided to assist athletic directors and coaches of member schools in the rating of officials.

### Rating Definitions

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| (1) – <b>Excellent</b> –     | Very good, first class, surpasses all others. Typically, the quality of performance required to officiate tournament contests in the advanced rounds.                                   |
| (2) – <b>Above Average</b> – | Better than the mean, high quality, better than the accepted level of performance. Typically, the quality of performance required to officiate mid and lower level tournament contests. |
| (3) – <b>Satisfactory</b> –  | Adequate, average, a solid performance. Typically, the quality of performance required to officiate seasonal and lower level tournament contests.                                       |
| (4) – <b>Below Average</b> – | Deficient, lacking the skills and/or knowledge to earn a higher rating. Typically, an official who would benefit from additional training and education.                                |

### Things to Consider Before Entering Online Ratings

- **ONLY OFFICIALS THAT ACTUALLY WORKED THE CONTEST MAY BE RATED.** It is important that you keep track of the officials that arrive for your contest and not rely on the names listed on the Arbiter schedule or MHSAA contest calendar. If an official is listed that did not work your game, **DO NOT RATE HIM/HER** (even if the red dot remains on the contest calendar). If a contest is missing an official that worked your contest, **MANUALLY ADD THAT NAME TO THE CONTEST CALENDAR AND RATE HIM/HER.**
- An official should be rated on his/her entire body of work and just for the current contest. They should not be rated based on a reputation, a performance from a previous contest or on a single call or decision.
- A rating should consider the official's overall performance in these four categories: (1) Attitude and Effort, (2) Presence and Demeanor, (3) Administration and Communication and (4) Judgment.
- Rate officials independent of the rest of officials that work on the crew. It is expected that officials will receive different ratings and areas of improvement from other members of the crew based on their individual performances – not the crew's performance as a whole.
- You are free to assign any rating to an official you feel appropriate; however, coaches may not use the threat of low ratings to intimidate or coerce officials during the contest. **Coaches that threaten low ratings are subject to immediate ejection.**
- Timing of ratings is important. There is a 48-hour cool down period for submitting ratings following the conclusion of a contest. Ratings submitted sooner than later are better, though, as performances are fresh on your mind and regular feedback may indicate patterns that can be addressed sooner. **Ideally, ratings will be submitted within a week from the conclusion of the contest.**