



# SUCCESSION

**New Leader,  
Solid Foundation  
Keep the Ball Rolling  
for MHSAA Schools**



JOHN E.  
"JACK" ROBERTS  
BUILDING

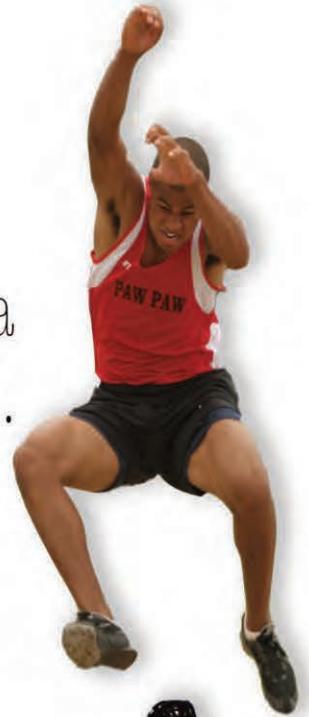
Fall 2018 Vol. 10 No. 1

# benchmarks

mhsaa



I have a  
story...



I have a  
story...



I have a  
story...



I have a  
story...

We tell their stories



by MHSAA



# Cover Story: MHSAA Foundation Propels Future



**4** The MHSAA has a long tradition of visionary leaders who built a solid foundation for school sports in the state, including recently retired Jack Roberts, who stepped down after 32 years last spring. Next up, Mark Uyl, who brings vast experience and insight to keep the ball rolling.

## MHSAA Full-Time Staff

- Tony Bihn, Director of Information Systems
- Jordan Cobb, Assistant Director, Information Systems
- Andy Frushour, Director of Brand Management
- Nate Hampton, Assistant Director
- Dan Hutcheson, Assistant Director
- Cody Inglis, Assistant Director
- John R. Johnson, Director of Broadcast Properties
- Rob Kaminski, Website & Publications Coordinator
- Geoff Kimmerly, Media & Content Coordinator
- Camala Kinder, Administrative Assistant
- Cole Malatinsky, Administrative Assistant
- Peggy Montpas, Accounting Manager
- Andrea Osters, Assistant Director
- Thomas M. Rashid, Associate Director
- Brent Rice, Assistant Director
- Laura Roberts, Receptionist/Officials Registrar
- Adam Ryder, Assistant Director, Information Systems
- Mark Uyl, Executive Director
- Jamie VanDerMoere, Administrative Assistant
- Faye Verellen, Administrative Assistant
- Tricia Wieferich, Administrative Assistant
- Kathy Vrugink Westdorp, Assistant Director
- Paige Winne, Administrative Assistant
- Karen Yonkers, Executive Assistant

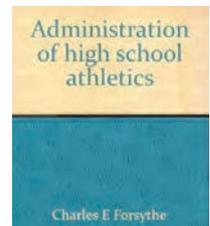
**benchmarks** is published three times per year by the Michigan High School Athletic Association, Inc., 1661 Ramblewood Drive, East Lansing, MI 48823 (Phone 517-332-5046). Edited by Rob Kaminski. **benchmarks** welcomes contributions of articles, information or photos which focus on coaching and officiating in Michigan. Send them to [benchmarks@mhsaa.com](mailto:benchmarks@mhsaa.com).

© 2018 Michigan High School Athletic Association

## The Vault - 14

### Follow the Leaders

The MHSAA has been in good hands with visionary leaders since 1931 – and even before that.



## State of Play - 26

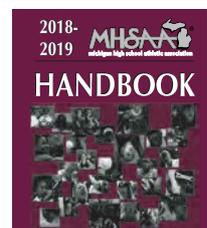
A total of 19 sports bested the state's overall national participation ranking of eighth by placing seventh or higher on their respective lists. Girls volleyball helped lead the way.



## Regulations Review - 34

### Transfer Tune-Up

A new transfer rule takes effect beginning with the 2019-20 school year. Here is a primer on the regulation moving forward.



## Departments

Wide Angle	.2
Leading Off	.3
Outside Shots	.12
Health & Safety	.16
Student Spotlight	.20
Getting I.T.	.24
Officially Speaking	.30
MHSAA Business	.35

## New Age Means New Directives for School Sports

As we are well into another school year and tournament season quickly approaches, it's business as usual for veterans who fill the important roles in developing student-athletes either as our coaches, administrators, contest officials or support staff.

For those new to any of the above positions, it is my hope that all have had a chance to catch their breath on occasion while carrying out your important mission to help elevate school sports.

While education and athletics have long been my passion and served as my launching pad professionally in 1996, I am also a "newbie" of sorts this fall, my first as MHSAA Executive Director.

Under the "business as usual" side of the ledger, that was one of my goals upon being given this great privilege of overseeing our state's wide array of educators from coast to coast, above and below the bridge. With the foundation built by my predecessor, Jack Roberts and the wonderful staff assembled here, my first order was simply to work hard with our constituents to keep our product the best of its kind, and protect the values that make it so.

Yet, things don't stay the same in our business. Staffs change, students change, and society changes. While the MHSAA depends on you to battle in the trenches, we promise to keep our sights set on developing issues.

With that in mind, here are some topics on which we will keep a watchful eye in the near future:

- **Football Participation** – A large portion of our Update Meeting Survey concerns football play-off and scheduling, always a hot topic. However, we turn the discussion very soon to declining participation numbers, both in school football programs and community-based programs – and how to reverse that trend.
- **Mental Health Issues** – The MHSAA has been at the forefront in providing resources and awareness of the "Four H's:" Hearts, Heads, Heat and Health Histories. I'm being advised by medical personnel that depression, anxiety, other issues related to mental health are the No. 1 concern among adolescent-aged children. There's a real opportunity to provide some leadership and guidance there.
- **Officials Recruitment** – The number of registered officials continues to decline, so we need to re-focus our efforts in this vital area.
- **Transfer Rule** – There are significant changes coming to our transfer rule, and while we've done a good job of educating the masses, we will need to continue to be vigilant throughout this school year to ensure great compliance when 2019-20 begins.

I look forward to these and the numerous unforeseen challenges that lie ahead. I am comfortable and confident in this important work because of the tremendous efforts that all of you do in your communities.

Thank you for your support. We wish all of you a great end to your fall seasons and a successful start winter sports just around the corner.



Mark Uyl  
MHSAA Executive Director



While much discussion takes place each fall regarding prep football playoffs, the real conversation must begin to center on participation numbers which have fallen from the high school level all the way down to youth teams.



## Welcome Back! Here's What's Happening

Following are important deadlines to put on your calendars for 2018-19.

### OFFICIALS RATINGS:

- Fall — Dec. 1
- Winter — April 1
- Spring — June 20

### SPORTSMANSHIP SUMMITS

In the 2018-19 school year, the MHSAA will once again be holding a series of regional sportsmanship summits. The summits will be highly interactive, and each school group will develop a sportsmanship plan to implement upon returning back to school. Registration is \$30 per participant, and a maximum of 250 spots available at each of the four summit sites. **IMPORTANT NOTE FOR ADS:** We are looking for volunteer administrators to help facilitate each of the breakout sessions. A curriculum will be provided to you long before the event. If you are interested, please contact Andy Frushour at [andy@mhsaa.com](mailto:andy@mhsaa.com).

- TRAVERSE CITY at the Grand Traverse Resort on November 5
- SAGINAW at SVSU on November 7
- GRAND RAPIDS at the Crowne Plaza Airport on November 12
- ANN ARBOR at Sheraton Ann Arbor Hotel on November 14

### SCHOLAR-ATHLETE AWARD APPLICATIONS

Now in its 30th year, Farm Bureau Insurance continues to sponsor the MHSAA's Scholar-Athlete Award. In 2018-19, 32 \$1,000 scholarships will be available to high school seniors who meet the eligibility requirements listed at [MHSAA.com](http://MHSAA.com) on the "Students" page.

- Applications Available Online — Aug. 1
- Online School Applicant List — Mid-October.
- Applications Due to MHSAA — Nov. 30

## CAP a Requirement for Head Coaches

Each head coach of a varsity team hired for the first time as a high school head varsity coach at any MHSAA member high school shall have completed either Level 1 or Level 2 of the MHSAA Coaches Advancement Program (CAP). If the head coach does not complete CAP Level 1 or 2 prior to the established deadline, that coach shall be prohibited from coaching in that season's MHSAA tournament. The Regulation reads as follows:



### **MHSAA Handbook Regulation II, Section 3(C)**

Each head coach of a varsity team in an MHSAA tournament sport hired for the first time as a high school varsity head coach at any MHSAA member high school shall have completed either Level 1 or Level 2 of the MHSAA Coaches Advancement Program (CAP). If the head coach does not complete CAP Level 1 or 2 prior to the established deadline, that coach shall be prohibited from coaching in that season's MHSAA tournament for the sport involved and shall not be present at the facility where the MHSAA tournament involving that coach's team is being held. See Regulation II, Section 15 H(4). An administrator or faculty member designee of that school shall be present with supervisory capacity over the school's competitors. Failure to receive reminder notifications (email or other) does not change the requirement of this Section. The MHSAA may substitute an alternative coach's education program for late hires which will fulfill the requirement on a temporary basis.

### **The deadlines are:**

Fall: September 14, 2018 | Winter: December 14, 2018 | Spring: April 12, 2019



John Johnson, MHSAA

# SUCCESSion

*The strength of the MHSAA decade after decade has been solid local school administration under the direction of insightful leaders at the state office in Lansing. New Executive Director Mark Uyl is prepared to build on that foundation while meeting challenges old and new as his tenure begins.*

**E**ven if he didn't know it while it was happening, Mark Uyl spent a great deal of his life honing skills that would lead to his selection as the fifth-ever executive director of the Michigan High School Athletic Association. Growing up in the world of sports officiating, communication, conviction and the ability to enforce rules and regulations come with the territory. Those who can't cultivate such skills quickly get out, or get found out. A decorated and lengthy career in officiating at the high school and collegiate levels serve as testimony that Uyl indeed excelled in those areas.

Those traits, Uyl says, figure to serve him well as he trades in his 14-year-old assistant director's chair to his seat at the helm of the Association.

"I think the biggest adjustment is that you have to have thick skin and the stomach for enforcement of regulations," Uyl said. "As an assistant director, I worked with committees and forwarded ideas. Now, as the ultimate decision-maker, I know that some people are going to be happy and some will be upset. I understand that some of this comes with territory.

"I think my officiating background helps. At the end of the day, our members expect that we will follow our rules and enforce our rules. Everyone loves having rules until the day comes when those rules affect 'our school,' or 'our community.' That's when the ability to stand firm by the rules determined by our membership will help guide us through the process."

## MHSAA Executive Director Mark Uyl

### Education

Graduated Caledonia HS – 1992  
Bachelor's Degree Calvin College – 1996  
Master's Degree Grand Valley State Univ. – 2000

### Professional Experience

Teacher/Coach, Middleville Thornapple-Kellogg HS – 1996-2000  
Athletic Director, Caledonia HS – 2000-2001  
Principal/Athletic Director, Middleville Thornapple-Kellogg HS – 2001-2004  
MHSAA Assistant Director – January 2004-July 2018  
MHSAA Executive Director – August 2018

### Officiating

#### High School

Registered in Baseball, Basketball and Football since 1992  
MHSAA Baseball Finals Umpire – 1999

#### NCAA

Baseball Umpire – 21 years in NCAA Division 1  
• 11 Regionals, 5 Super Regionals, 2 College World Series (2014, 2017)  
Football Official – 10-year Referee in the MIAA  
National Association of Sports Officials – Board of Directors 2012-15

MHSAA Executive Director Mark Uyl (*opposite*) leads discussion at a gathering of first-year athletic directors in August.

Officials also listen a lot; many times to people who aren't happy. That, too, is a skill Uyl brings to the table, not only through his experience in stripes or behind the mask, but also during his years as an educator and as an assistant director with the MHSAA.

"One of the things I am most proud of since coming to the MHSAA is that I believe I served as a caring voice for officials. They are too often the last people to be defended," Uyl said. "I think people knew they had a guy who could relate to them, and was walking in those same shoes. The relationships I was able to build with many officials in our state is important, and I think that's still an incredibly important function today."

Other satisfactions came from sports more unfamiliar to Uyl prior to his employment at the MHSAA. Again, listening proved valuable.

"Directing our cross country and wrestling tournaments for many years taught me to be a better listener. Some of the really good things we did in both those sports were improved because we listened to those in the trenches," Uyl said. "It was a really good lesson. I was probably a better administrator in cross country and wrestling because I was less familiar with those sports and relied on committee expertise. I know baseball, and because of that maybe had too many sacred cows – so to speak – and maybe wouldn't be as open to ideas."

Prior to his time at the MHSAA, Uyl first taught and coached and then served as athletic director and assistant principal at Middleville Thornapple-Kellogg High School, the latter from 2001-04. Before becoming an administrator

there, Uyl served as athletic director at Caledonia High School in 2000-01.

In his 20-plus years of involvement with educational athletics plenty has changed, some for better some for worse. Ironically, Uyl cites the same catalyst for both ends of the spectrum.

*"I think my officiating background helps. At the end of the day, our members expect that we will follow our rules and enforce our rules. Everyone loves having rules until the day comes when those rules affect 'our school,' or 'our community.'"*

"Where sports have changed for the better, there are more opportunities than there have ever been. The number of sports – not only in-season, but out-of-season – has increased. There are more options available than ever before. That is often a good thing for kids.

"But, one of the biggest threats to school sports, is the non-school sports economy. More people are making more money at youth, travel and club sport levels. Teachers and coaches in school sports are there to help students learn and grow; to become better people, not just athletes. That's not always the case outside school sports. Too often, there's a business dynamic that comes with those sports programs. Parents are quicker to get upset because of the money they've invested; they perceive that their kids are shortchanged by coaches' decisions or officials' calls."

– continued next page

Such experiences can also put a dent in officials retention throughout the state, a trend that needs to be reversed.

Uyl knows first-hand the values of positive early experiences in officiating.

“My dad has now been a registered official for 50 years. I grew up seeing what it was like to be an official,” Uyl said. “He ran the youth football, basketball and baseball leagues, and when your dad runs the youth program, you become an emergency official. I’ve always been kind of a rules guy anyway, so liked that aspect and I also liked the money it put in my pocket. That was my job. I never had a job in fast food, landscaping, or anything like that. It was officiating.”

Uyl officiated collegiate baseball from 1997 until last June, putting away the gear following his 11th NCAA Division 1 Regional assignment. Working major conference baseball across the United States already put Uyl in elite company, but the pinnacle came with his appointment to the 2014 and 2017 College World Series crews in Omaha. He served as a college football referee for 10 years with several NCAA postseason assignments, and was coordinator of officials for the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association. He was registered with the MHSAA for at least three sports beginning in 1992 and worked the Baseball Finals in 1999.

Uyl graduated from Caledonia High School in 1992, and from Calvin College in 1996 with a bachelor’s degree in history and physical education. He later received a master’s in educa-

tional leadership from Grand Valley State University. At Calvin, Uyl was a four-year starter on the baseball team, earning all-conference honors twice and serving as team captain.

Following college, there was little doubt as to his career path.

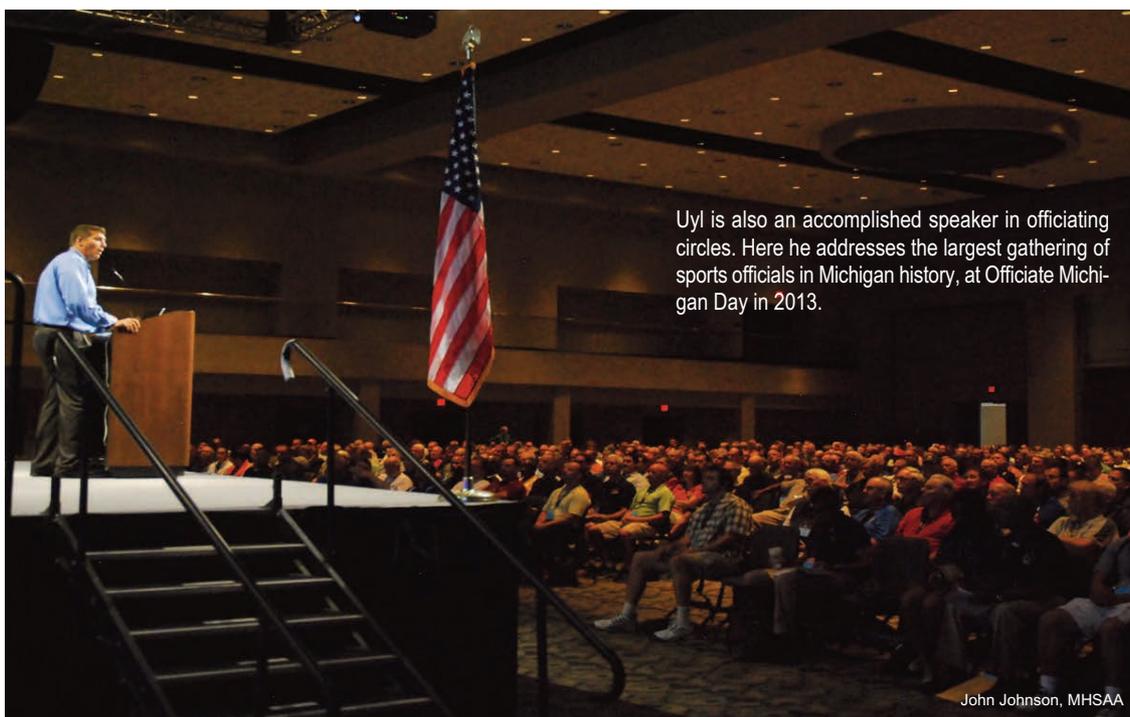
“In high school, I was just very, very fortunate to have a handful of people who made a huge impact on me as role models. Those people were teachers and coaches,” Uyl said. “I thought, ‘These are pretty impressive people and hopefully there will be a day when I can give others the same kind of great experiences I had.’ Those coaches and teachers at Caledonia were great motivators.”

His passion for education and athletics made it difficult to imagine ever wanting to make a

---

*“The foundation built here by Jack Roberts over the last 32 years is the strongest in the country, and I’m honored to have the opportunity to lead our staff in building on that foundation,” Uyl said. “There will be many ways we’ll continue to protect the same values of educational athletics, while also looking for new ways and new opportunities to best serve the students and our member schools in Michigan.”*

---



Uyl is also an accomplished speaker in officiating circles. Here he addresses the largest gathering of sports officials in Michigan history, at Officiate Michigan Day in 2013.



Uyl realized a lifelong dream in 2014 when he was selected to work the NCAA College World Series. He would return to Omaha once again in 2017.

change professionally, until the opportunity at the MHSAA presented itself. Again, it was officiating that helped tilt the scales.

“At that time it was probably the hardest decision I have had to make in my life because I enjoyed teaching and coaching so much, but saw this opportunity in 2004 as the chance of a lifetime,” Uyl recalls. “Being able to help train and support 10,000 officials statewide was too good of an opportunity. If I didn’t like officiating so much, I’d likely have stayed in the school system.”

As a sport director, Uyl has sought to create the best experiences for Michigan high school teams, including with the move of the MHSAA Baseball and Softball Finals to Michigan State University in 2014.

“The foundation built here by Jack Roberts over the last 32 years is the strongest in the country, and I’m honored to have the opportunity to lead our staff in building on that foundation,” Uyl said. “There will be many ways we’ll continue to protect the same values of educational athletics, while also looking for new ways and new opportunities to best serve the students and our member schools in Michigan.”

As assistant director, Uyl was instrumental as the MHSAA became the first state high school athletics association to offer concussion care insurance, which provides gap coverage to assist in covering costs for athletes who are injured while participating in MHSAA-sponsored sports.

**All in the Family** Just as Uyl grew up in an officiating atmosphere, so, too, have the Uyl children: (from left) Jackson, Madison and Grant are regulars at the MHSAA’s Annual Officials Awards & Alumni Banquet each May.

As the new school year is underway with more immediate targets such as the changing transfer rule for 2019-20 (see page 34) and football playoffs and scheduling (see page 9), Uyl and the MHSAA staff will also keep the well-being of student-athletes in their scope.

“Shortly after beginning my new role here, I met with some folks in the medical community, and it was interesting to hear that mental health among adolescents has become a huge priority,” Uyl said. “I had a doctor tell me that where he used to spend most of his days treating injuries and illnesses, now it’s just as much – or more – depression, anxiety and other mental health issues among school-age children that he is seeing. This certainly is an area that we have to



John Johnson, MHSAA

– continued next page



Officials training was one of Uyl's fortes during his 14 years as an MHSAA Assistant Director.

MHSAA Files

keep at the forefront; how can we assist or provide programs to heighten awareness.

"We always assume that kids who play sports are the most healthy because they are busy and engaged and have it together, but now we are hearing that there are real mental topics that we need to discuss."

Another long-range and continuing point of emphasis focuses on participation and multi-sport participation.

"While we have decisions to make regarding football playoffs and scheduling, the conversation needs to turn to participation numbers in that sport," Uyl said. "We are losing freshman teams, JV teams, and at the youth level the numbers are down, too. Communities that used to have three and four teams now have one. If we don't get our arms around participation, then all the playoff and scheduling stuff won't matter in a few years."

Participation is a hot topic for more than just the traditional sports like football. The MHSAA will continue to focus efforts toward multi-sport participation to combat specialization trends, and also bolster its presence at the junior high/middle school level, where students get their first taste of school-based athletics.

And, even with 18 sports available to MHSAA member schools, Uyl promises to evaluate changing interests of students which could lead to expanded opportunities.

"We will look with an objective eye to determine whether what we've traditionally offered continues to fit, and also look at expansion," Uyl said. "The one that gets eyes rolling to anyone over 35 is e-sports, but to 20-somethings that could be the next big thing. We will also continue

---

*"My dad has now been a registered official for 50 years. I grew up seeing what it was like to be an official. He ran the youth football, basketball and baseball leagues, and when your dad runs the youth program, you become an emergency official."*

---

to be an inclusive organization, working closely with organizations such as Special Olympics. Our goal and purpose needs to involve all kids as their interests change with the times."

Uyl is the fifth full-time executive in the MHSAA's 94-year history, following Charles E. Forsythe (1931-42, 1945-68), Allen W. Bush (1968-78), Vern L. Norris (1978-86) and Roberts (1986-2018).

Uyl resides in DeWitt with his wife Marcy, an accomplished educator and coach who has served as a high school varsity basketball coach since 1994. They have three children: Jackson (17), Grant (15) and Madison (11).

"Mark was the obvious choice to become the next executive director of the MHSAA," said Roberts, who passed the torch after 32 years, and whose name now adorns the Association's headquarters on Ramblewood Drive in East Lansing. "Mark has the proper student-focused perspective of educational athletics, excellent person-to-person communications skills and a deep practical understanding of what is happening day to day in school sports here and nationally."

As they say in officiating, it was a good call.

## Kicking Around Football Playoff Ideas

Much of the conversation at the MHSAA's Annual Update Meeting Series this fall centered around football playoffs and scheduling. Following are the questions pertaining to football. Complete survey results will appear in the winter issue of *benchmarks*.

- Would you support keeping regular-season football scheduling and the playoffs “as is” but with an adjustment to the playoff point formula to better reward schools for playing a tougher schedule, similar to the recent “Strength of Schedule” proposal?
- Would you support reducing the football regular season to eight games and expanding the football playoffs one round, allowing 64 schools out of each predetermined division of 68-69 total schools to qualify for the tournament? This plan would include revenue sharing between the two competing schools and the MHSAA similar to current Round 1 playoff games, and would also allow those schools not qualifying for the playoffs (generally 1-7 and 0-8 teams) to schedule a ninth game against each other.
- Would you support the MHSAA establishing football divisions prior to the start of the season and assigning every school to a “group of eight” (based on division and geography) which would determine the seven opponents a school would play in Weeks 3-9? The top four schools in each group of eight would qualify for the playoffs. A school would also schedule Weeks 1 and 2 on its own, and those games would not count toward playoff qualification.
- In light of the previous three questions, when it comes to the football playoffs and regular-season scheduling, which concept do you believe is BEST to ease the difficulty of scheduling regular-season games?
  - a. Make no changes to current regular-season scheduling and playoff process.
  - b. Make no changes to current regular-season scheduling but an adjustment to the playoff point formula to better reward schools that play a tougher schedule.
  - c. Reduce the regular season to eight games and expand the football playoffs one round, allowing 64 schools per Division to qualify for the tournament, which would include revenue sharing between the two schools and MHSAA similar to Round 1 playoff games, and would also allow those schools not qualifying for the playoffs to schedule a ninth game against each other.
  - d. Establish football divisions prior to the start of the season and assign each school to a group of eight schools within each division (based on geography) which would determine the seven opponents a school would play in Weeks 3-9. The top four schools in each group of eight would qualify for the playoffs, and each school would schedule Weeks 1-2 on its own and those games would not count toward playoff qualification.



## Rice Brings Wealth of Experience to MHSAA Post

When Brent Rice reached the campus of Michigan State University to umpire a Michigan-MSU baseball game last March, he had no idea that five months later he'd be pulling into a parking lot just 2.8 miles up the road on a daily basis.

Rice previously had worked baseball games at professional and collegiate levels with Dave Lyl, but had never called games with Dave's brother Mark, who was a couple months shy of being named the fifth-ever executive director in MHSAA history.

That chance scheduling began a chain of events leading to the Concord native becoming the newest member of the Michigan High School Athletic Association staff in August.

"We worked together again a while after that first time, and Mark mentioned that his old position was open and I thought that would be an interesting gig; I thought, 'Well it's worth a shot,'" Rice said.

He made the best of it, being selected for the assistant director position from a pool of nearly 70 applicants. Rice has an extensive background in officiating and training officials. A minor league baseball umpire for 12 years, he came to the MHSAA after serving as administrative director and chief of instruction for the Wendelstedt Umpire School since 2000.

"For about the last five years I had been looking for something that involved less time away from home because I have a 10-year-old and a 5-year-old. I love teaching and being around the guys, but traveling all the time with clinics and schools became less desirable," Rice said.

"But, few opportunities were fitting the mold. A lot of places didn't really see how my background fit into their business. It was a hard bridge to gap, and that's why this particular position was intriguing. My officiating background obviously tied in."

Before starting down the path toward becoming

one of the nation's most respected trainers of baseball umpires, Brent Rice was a student at small-town Concord High School who didn't have to put much effort into succeeding academically.

But he received a challenge that has continued serving him along the way. It came from one of his high school coaches, who said he'd go to bat for the then-senior leaving school early to begin attending the prestigious Harry Wendelstedt Umpire School in Ormond Beach, Fla. To do that, Rice would have to show the higher level of effort and commitment it would take to succeed on his quest to become a professional official.

"I went to a small school, and I learned a lot of life lessons through that and I want to be able to give back," Rice said. "It's where I got my start, and where I want to finish up."

The Wendelstedt School is the most highly-attended professional umpire school in the world, and Rice served as chief of instruction since Sept. 2000 while adding responsibilities as administrative director in Jan. 2005. Rice also umpired at various levels of minor league baseball from 2000-12, including as a crew chief, and has directed or contributed to training publications referred to by thousands of professional umpires worldwide.

He now transfers those skills to the MHSAA, charged with supervising the nearly 10,000 registered officials in all sports and also serving as the MHSAA's director of baseball and assists with soft-ball. One area Rice would like to start work on immediately at the MHSAA revolves around tackling poor sportsmanship – a main factor driving officials away from the avocation.

"Sportsmanship is about getting the message out to the right audience. My plan is to speak at parent nights around the state, with their kids sitting next to them. It's more effective when you bring up examples I see a lot of looks from kids toward



Brent Rice (left) returns to his home state after serving as one of the country's premier trainers of umpires for over a decade.

# Introducing Brent Rice

## Education

Graduated Concord HS – 2000

Bachelor's Degree Western Michigan University – 2012

## Professional Experience

Wendelstedt Umpire School, Chief of Instruction – 2000-2018

Wendelstedt Umpire School, Administrative Director – 2005-2018

MHSAA Assistant Director – August 2018

## Officiating

### High School

Registered in Baseball, Volleyball and Football since 2014

### NCAA

Baseball Umpire – Professional umpire at the minor league level from 2000-2012; currently works in the Big Ten Conference and Atlantic Coast Conference



John Johnson, MHSAA

their parents in agreement,” Rice said. “We *get* that people have opinions and disagree; that’s fine. The problem is not screaming at the time of the call; it’s afterward when people are still screaming.”

Such behavior is directly tied to what Rice sees as the No. 1 task: *retaining* those who register.

“So much of our retention is linked to poor sportsmanship. And it’s by the adults; parents and coaches. A distant third is the student-athlete,” Rice said.

Protecting new officials is paramount. Rice recalled a story from Major League Baseball where managers Joe Torre and Don Zimmer were told in the pregame meeting by crew chief Brian Gorman that the home plate umpire was working his first big-league game. They were *told* that they would not say a word to him; to let him work that day. The next day, he was fair game, but not that day.

“And this is in the major leagues,” Rice said. “As senior officials at all levels, we need to protect the new guys and new gals who come in and give them the peace of mind.”

To that end, Rice intends to build on the MHSAA Legacy Program, pairing new officials with mentors to provide the chance and the space to work without being berated right out of the gate.

As many readers might already have seen, Rice also is making strides to humanize officials through weekly installments on the MHSAA’s feature site, SecondHalf.com, called “The Official View.”

“Officials are members of the community. They don’t just pop up out of the ground. The stories and blurbs online have received a huge response rate among officials,” Rice said. “If we can humanize them, people will hopefully – not stop complaining – but watch what they are saying. People have gotten personal. It’s one thing to yell at the shirt, but don’t yell at the person.”

Rice, 36, graduated from Concord High School in 2000 and has a bachelor’s degree from Western Michigan University. He began attending Wendelstedt as a student while a senior at Concord and currently umpires at the Division I college level in the Big Ten and Atlantic Coast Conference. He moved to Battle Creek from New Orleans four years ago,

and since returning to his home state has been registered as an MHSAA official for baseball, volleyball and 11 and 8-player football, working as part of a regular football crew.

“Brent Rice has devoted his career to preparing the next generations of officials, and he will provide great expertise in growing our efforts to recruit, retain and train officials in all of our sports,” said Uyl. “He was a national leader in teaching and training and has been a much sought-after speaker and clinician for many years, yet brings knowledge and passion for Michigan and educational athletics.”

While at Wendelstedt, Rice supervised 30 Minor and Major League Baseball instructors and developed the curriculum for training future professional umpires. He led the day-to-day operations of the program, presented daily classroom lectures on rules and directed staff demonstrations of field mechanics.

As the school’s administrative director, Rice was responsible for maintaining registration and enrollment records and developing programs to increase enrollment. Among his successful initiatives were recruiting programs that focused on engaging college student-athletes and military veterans.

He has directed the design, composition and annual revision of the school’s Official Baseball Rules and Interpretation Manual, the go-to source for umpires at all levels across the country and internationally. Rice also has been commissioned to rewrite the Official Baseball Rules manual used at all levels of the professional game.

Additionally, Rice has worked with both Minor League and Major League Baseball to develop various protocols and has served as a consultant for the Chinese Professional Baseball League, Korean Baseball Organization and the summer collegiate Northwoods League, as well as USA Fencing.

Rice played football and baseball as a student at Concord. He is working toward a master’s degree in public administration to go with his bachelor’s from WMU in political science and sociology. He and his wife Jenna have two daughters, Abigail (10) and Lucy (5).



## School Sport Reflections from Small-Town America

**W**hat are sports really about today? And are today's parents missing the point. Time, money, effort and energy. All for what? Trophies, medals, first-place, a college scholarship or that top-five draft pick and that multi-million dollar contract that come with it. Fortune and fame?

Why does American society have such an obsession with sports and are the true values of the games being lost in the "new" modern-era of sports?

What if the games kids played were for the pure values of competition, hard-work, camaraderie, trust, respect, discipline, communication and relationship building? Even just expressing these words and phrases seems healthier than the win-at-all-cost, everyone-gets-a-trophy, playing for the "end-game" society we currently live in.

What messages are we instilling-infusing in our future leaders? It has become a strong and consistent message across all fronts; the arms race to be the best and win at all costs.

Families sacrificing their most precious resources, time and money, for what? For the golden child, the chosen child...that special one. A glimmer of hope that becomes a burning obsession (for the parent). Are parents attempting to right their wrongs of their playing days or relive their youth through their child? It is an easy and complex trap to fall into.

I don't have children, but I have played sports for nearly 40 years. I have coached, officiated, watched and listened closely at all levels. A spectator with an intense passion for the lessons to learn and a strong curiosity of why and how. I guess at 45 I am old...or maybe just old-school.

Being raised on an isolated farm in Northern Michigan with a dirt driveway and a make-shift basketball hoop created the love affair with sports. Games of pig, horse or around-the-world with my father are some of my fondest memories. He has since passed. He would always shoot with his off-hand or easy bunny shots to finish me off. And dad always told me, if you want to play in the fourth quarter, be a 90-percent free-throw shooter and the coach has to put you in. Baseball would entail games of rain on the roof by myself and a home-

made batting-T to hit home runs into the pasture. Football was either offense-defense (three person football, with my father as quarterback) against my older sister or break-away running plays against my aggressive dogs; a stiff-arm was my best defense. No video games or cable television on our farm, maybe this fueled my fire or forced my hand. It sure did not make friends want to come over for sleep-overs.

Small town America was a great place to be raised. I am biased in that regard. I do think it takes a village to raise a child. Sports was and is the fiber of these communities, it was reality TV, before reality TV, and what Friday Night Lights was based on. Kids playing a game for a common goal. It could not be more simple or pure. They are called "games" for a reason. When did we start taking it so seriously? Where did we go wrong?

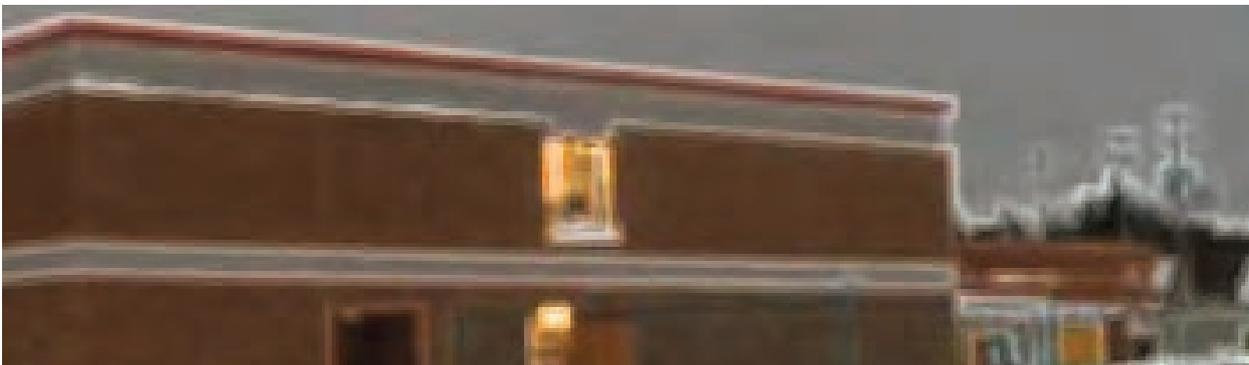
---

*These kind of lessons can't be learned in a text book; cannot be explained by a parent or modeled by a teacher in a classroom. The field, the court, the rink is where these lessons are learned. Where family values are refined. Manners are taught. And respect is earned.*

---

In high school we were pretty good. You put kids together since kindergarten and they kind of know and trust each other, they know each other's strengths and weaknesses. They know more than this. They know each other's families. And extended families. They pretty much know everything about each other. Which family is broken and which one may have a little more love at their dinner table. Good or bad this is the reality of being raised in a small town.

Our basketball team was so good we received a top five ranking, and legendary *Detroit Free Press* writer Mick McCabe compared us to Hickory, Indiana, in the movie *Hoosters*. No Hollywood ending for Manton in 1991 though.



This is where the lessons of sports become real; the harsh reality of your childhood fantasies begin to fade and fade quickly. The hours spent in that driveway will lead to no state championships. The early morning trips to the gym to play against your adult coaches would lead to no college scholarships. And the thousands of hours in the weight room lifting, jumping rope and wearing ankle weights would lead to no multi-million dollar contract. Devastating. Crushing. The end?

**No. This is just the beginning.**

This is the beginning of life's toughest lessons being learned. This is where the sweat of your youth meets the tears of maturity, leading to a wisdom that is worth more than any trophy. Maturity is processing these challenging life lessons, learning from them and moving on. If you do not let go of these failures, the burdens can lead you to a life of regret or maybe becoming that aggressive parent trying correct their short-comings through their child. You know these parents from your kid's games and I hope you are not one of them.

It has often been stated more is learned from losing than winning. The lessons from failure burn deep, etched into our soul, this pain more powerful than the glory of victory. These lessons and scenarios easily translate to our personal relationships and work life. Memorable. Powerful anecdotes that become part of us. Part of or history. Part of our story. Erase these chapters from our lives and what are we left with? A shell of a person. A half-written book. A journey half-walked. Perspective with no depth.

These kind of lessons can't be learned in a text book; cannot be explained by a parent or modeled by a teacher in a classroom. The field, the court, the rink is where these lessons are learned. Where family values are refined. Manners are taught. And respect is earned.

Or is it?

This is the crossroads we are at as a society. I cannot think of any other vehicle that offers so much potential and opportunity for the building of character. It starts with the family. And where does it go from there? School, church, a job. The military. A fraternity. Volunteering? An internship or apprenticeship? A civic organization?

Nope. Sports.

Sports is the most dynamic and able tool to build character. The kind of character we need right now as a country and society. Polished. Refined. Character with a sharp edge. An edge called courage. But the reality is sports has become about money, power and control. Are these qualities desirable? Have they corrupted the innocence of sports? Do we worship false idols? Is this generation entitled? Have we given them too much? Made it too easy?

Are the kids having fun? What do the kids want? Do kids have and show a genuine passion for a sport? Have we dared to ask them? Have we prepped them with the appropriate answer? Or do we answer for them? Do we hear them OR do we listen to them? To clarify, listening is an active process of hearing and then processing. As coach Tom Izzo starts each basketball camp with, "Learn to listen...and listen to learn." It is that simple.

I do think communication is vital to this process. Communication between all parties; athletic directors, coaches, parents and players. Governing bodies. All stake-holders. A real and raw dialogue on what we collectively want out of sports. Because somehow we have gotten lost and the many headlines and feature stories confirm the crossroads we are at.

Do we as leaders, adults, parents care enough to look into the mirror and ask the tough questions. Or is it just easier to proceed as-is? If you believe sports has a larger impact than trophies, medals and ribbons, a larger value than money then I encourage you to start the conversation with those around you. Our communities future depend on these conversations.

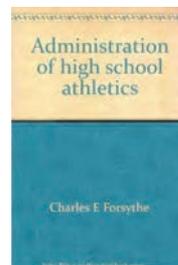
We may soon reach a point of no return and this would be a catastrophic failure for our generation. When playing for the "love of the game" is just a marketing tagline and not a real opportunity for our kids. For our children's sake I hope this is not the case. I know I am a better athlete, better professional and better human from all the losses in my life.

Play hard. Play to compete. Play with passion. Play to learn.

— Christopher Mundy  
Principal, Mundy Advisors Group  
Graduate of Manton High School and  
Michigan State University

## Leading the State's Schools a Labor of Love

The "MHSAA Vault" features stories from past publications and other documents in the MHSAA Library. This issue takes a look at the MHSAA's first four executive directors – and a predecessor who paved the way.



**T**he names, one time synonymous with school sports in Michigan, are sometimes today more connected to MHSAA awards, or meeting rooms at the home office in East Lansing: Norris. Bush. Forsythe.

But, before the Norris Award recognized excellence in officiating; or the Bush Award lauded contributions to the MHSAA, or the Forsythe Award heralded excellence in athletics, these were the men who captained the MHSAA ship ahead of recently retired Jack Roberts.

Charles Forsythe was the MHSAA's first executive director, guiding the Association from 1931-68. He was followed by Allen Bush, who took the reins from 1968-78 after serving under Forsythe as an assistant director from 1960-63, and as associate director from 1963-68. Vern Norris succeeded Bush in 1978 and would direct the MHSAA until 1986. From there it would be Roberts, whose 32-year term was second in length only to Forsythe's span. During Roberts' final days in August, he enjoyed a ceremony during which the current MHSAA building was named for him.



Former MHSAA Executive Directors, from left: Allen Bush, Charles Forsythe and Vern Norris.

The four former executive directors had in common the traits of leadership, vision and passion, and always placed the good of scholastic sports at the forefront when weighing proposals and decisions.

The MHSAA was founded in 1924, when a different Forsythe, L.L., began an 18-year term as president of its Representative Council (see box on next page). In 1931, Charles Forsythe became the MHSAA's first full-time executive director, a post he would occupy for 37 years.

A native of Milan and graduate of the University of Michigan, **Charles Forsythe** was the athletic director at Lansing Central HS from 1923 until 1929 when he became the assistant director of athletics with the MHSAA. Two years later, he became the first executive director, guiding the Association until 1968 for all but a 37-month tour during World War II as a Navy Commander.

Forsythe was one of the first and finest authors on the topic of interscholastic athletics, and his "Administration of high school athletics" was used by administrators around the globe at that time.

In 1951, he received the Honor Award for the American Association for Health, Physical Education and Recreation, and in 1965 Eastern Michigan University presented him with an honorary Doctor of Laws degree.

Forsythe died in December 1968, months after his August retirement from the MHSAA.

**Bush** served as an assistant director under Forsythe from 1960 until he began his 10-year term as executive director in 1968. Bush oversaw some of the most significant developments in MHSAA history, chiefly the addition of girls sports – MHSAA tournaments existed for nine girls sports when he retired – plus the addition of football playoffs in 1975, and MHSAA tournaments in baseball, ice hockey and skiing.

Bush was a graduate of Kalamazoo University and later earned multiple bachelor's degrees from Western Michigan University and a master's in school administration from the University of Michigan. He was captain of the football team at WMU

and received its Most Valuable Player and Athletic-Scholarship awards as a senior, and later was named Man of the Year in 1975 by WMU's Alumni W Club.

Bush also studied at Princeton University and the University of Arizona and served six years of active duty with the U.S. Marine Corps during World War II and the Korean War. He was discharged with a rank of first lieutenant.

Bush died in 2013 at age 90.

**Norris** served under both Forsythe and Bush, beginning his work at the MHSAA in 1963. He would succeed Bush at the top in 1978.

Norris brought to the MHSAA a wealth of experience having coached at Traverse City, Rockford and Hillsdale high schools. He served as Assistant Director of Placement at Western Michigan University for the five years prior to joining the MHSAA staff, and during that time Norris built a reputation as a highly-regarded game official in the Kalamazoo area – and worked as a referee during the 1963 MHSAA Class A Boys Basketball Final.

Norris served on a number of national rule-making bodies during his 23-year tenure with the

Recently retired executive director Jack Roberts stands before the building bearing his name, reflecting the foundation he continued to build during his 32-year term.

MHSAA, and as president of the Executive Board of the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) during the 1983-84 school year. But he was best known for his work with Michigan's coaches and especially officials.

Norris remained a frequent visitor to the MHSAA office prior to his death last February.

**Roberts** took the controls in 1986 at age 37, then the youngest leader of high school athletic associations, and would leave last August as the longest active director in the nation after 32 years.

Under Roberts' leadership, overall participation in high school athletics in Michigan increased 10 percent, and the MHSAA added more than 200 schools in increasing its membership by more than 15 percent at the high school and junior high/middle school levels combined. Most recently, in 2016, 6th-graders were allowed to compete for member schools for the first time as a push was made to increase junior high/middle school membership and serve the state's students at an earlier age.

But the most significant and arguably lasting work influenced by Roberts came on topics not related to specific sports or competition. The MHSAA has led nationally in concussion care with its first programming in 2000 and return-to-play protocols enacted in 2010, and with concussion pilot testing, mandated reporting and insurance for those who suffer head injuries rolled out in 2015.

He is a 1970 graduate of Dartmouth College and previously served as an assistant director for the National Federation from 1973-80. He came to the MHSAA in 1986 from the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.



## The Other Mr. Forsythe in Michigan School Sports

**T**he modern world is quick to dismiss pioneers who paved our way, but it would be wrong to diminish the accomplishments of those who gave form and function to school-sponsored sports in Michigan.

It was a time when travel was arduous and communications were slow. A time when the fundamentals of sports we take for granted today were being determined. A time when the basic rules of competition and eligibility we have today were being developed.

No single person has done more than L. L. Forsythe to shape school sports in Michigan, and the nation. This is Lewis L. Forsythe, not Charles E. Forsythe, the first and longest-serving executive director of the Michigan High School Athletic Association.

In 1918-19 and again in 1923-24, L. L. Forsythe served as president of the MHSAA's predecessor organization, the Michigan Interscholastic Athletic Association, which operated from 1910 to 1924. He served on its board of control from 1921 to 1924.

When the MIAA gave way to the MHSAA in 1924, L. L. Forsythe was elected president of its Representative Council, and he served unpaid in that position for 18 consecutive years (1924 to 1942).

L. L. Forsythe served on the Executive Committee of the newly forming National Federation of State High School Associations from 1922 to 1940, and was the young national organization's vice-president for 15 of those 18 years.

During these years, the MHSAA commenced state tournaments in seven sports and the National Federation ended national high school tournaments in all sports. Playing rules moved from a local hit-and-miss process to a national system that emphasized standardization and safety. Much that we do routinely now was a matter of first impression then.

— Jack Roberts  
"From the Director" Blog  
Aug. 8, 2017

## MHSAA Report Shows Reduction in Concussions During 2017-18 Year

Concussions are down, according to data compiled by the Michigan High School Athletic Association during its third year of collecting head injury reports from member high schools. The work is not done – but this year’s data reinforces trends that emerged during the first two years of reporting and will assist the MHSAA as it explores solutions to continue reducing the incidence of head injuries in school sports.

The 2017-18 concussion report found a 9.6-percent decrease in the number of confirmed concussions from the previous year. Student-athletes at MHSAA member high schools encountered during 2017-18 a total of 3,580 head injuries – or 4.8 per member school, compared to the 2016-17 average of 5.2. Total participation in MHSAA sports for 2017-18 was 284,920 – with students counted once for each sport he or she played – and only 1.3 percent of participants experienced a head injury, down from 1.4 in 2016-17 and 1.6 percent the first year of the study.

As first mandated in 2015-16, member schools are required to report head injuries to the MHSAA identifying the sport that each student-athlete was participating in and whether the injury was sustained during practice or competition. Schools also are required to designate at which level – varsity, junior varsity or freshman – the injury occurred.

The full report of all head injuries experienced during 2017-18 by student-athletes at MHSAA member high schools – including percentages by sport (per 1,000 participants), gender and team level, as well as data tracking when athletes returned to play – is available on the Health & Safety page of the MHSAA Website.

Consistent with the first two years of the study, the MHSAA received data from more than 99 percent of its member high schools after the fall, winter and spring seasons and continued to track each injury report through its conclusion this summer. Member junior high and middle schools also were allowed, although not mandated, to report their potential head injuries; and those findings are not part of the published report.

The decrease in overall head injury reports collected for 2017-18 follows a similar reduction from 2015-16 to 2016-17 – and brings the total decrease to 19.6 percent fewer reports since the first year of the study.

Former MHSAA Executive Director Jack Roberts noted that the decreases in reports, both year to year and since the first year of the survey, likely have some relation to year-to-year fluctuation, refinement of the follow-up reporting process and a better understanding by schools of what is not to be included for the survey – including head injuries not diagnosed as concussions and head in-



MHSAA Files

Ice hockey remained second among MHSAA tournament sports with the highest number of reported concussions per 1,000 participants, but the figure continued to show a decline in 2017-18.

juries that did not take place during MHSAA-sponsored activities.

However, the findings of this year’s study – and their similarities to the findings from the first two surveys – has begun to clarify the identification and understanding of trends. Continuing to emerge perhaps most prominently is the higher incidence of concussion reports from girls sports – and pertinent questions about physiological and social causes behind those results.

“With three years of reporting by virtually 100 percent of our high schools, what we’re learning is no longer anecdotal; the results are beginning to identify valid trends and genuine issues that need to be addressed,” Roberts said. “For example, it’s even clearer than before that girls are reporting three times the number of concussions as boys when comparing similar sports – soccer, basketball and baseball versus softball. As a result, we’ve already begun to incorporate these gender differences into our coaches education, and the writers of high school playing rules are obligated to focus on these gender differences as well.”

Although the total number of confirmed concussions was significantly lower again in 2017-18, a number of findings detailing those injuries fell in line with results of the first two surveys.

Boys experienced 2,373– or 66 percent – of those injuries, the same ratio as 2016-17, and not surprisingly as boys have a much higher participation in contact sports. More than half of head injuries – 56 percent – were experienced by varsity

**BY THE NUMBERS . . .**

This Summary is based on confirmed Head Injury Reports submitted for MHSAA supported sports sponsored and conducted at the MHSAA's member high schools during the 2017-18 school year.

Sport	Head Injury Per 1,000 Participants	Rank Among All MHSAA Sports
Football - 11 player	41	1
Football 8-player	38	2
Ice Hockey	32	3
Wrestling	25	4
Girls Soccer	25	4
Girls Basketball	22	6
Girls Lacrosse	20	7
Competitive Cheer	20	7
Boys Lacrosse	17	9
Gymnastics	16	10
Boys Soccer	12	11
Volleyball	9	12
Boys Basketball	9	12
Softball	7	14
Boys Skiing	6	15
Girls Swimming & Diving	4	16
Baseball	3	17
Boys Swimming & Diving	3	17
Girls Skiing	1	19
Girls Tennis	1	19
Girls Track & Field	1	19
Boys Tennis	0	22
Boys Track & Field	0	22
Girls Cross Country	0	22
Boys Cross Country	0	22
Boys Bowling	0	22
Boys Golf	0	22
Girls Bowling	0	22
Girls Golf	0	22

athletes, which for the second year also fell within a percent difference of the previous year's findings.

A total of 2,330 head injuries – or 65 percent – came in competition as opposed to practice. More than half took place during either the middle of practice or middle of competition as opposed to the start or end, and 52 percent of injuries were a result of person-to-person contact. The MHSAA also asked schools to report the number of days between the head injury and the athlete's return to activity – and the two largest groups, both at 24 percent, returned to activity after either 6 to 10 days of rest or 11 to 15. All of these findings were within 1-3 percent of those discovered from the 2016-17 data.

Contact sports again revealed the most head injuries. Ranking first was football, 11 and 8-player combined, with 41 head injuries per 1,000 partici-

pants – a decrease for the second straight year, this time from 44 head injuries per 1,000 participants in 2016-17 and down from 49 head injuries per 1,000 football participants shown by the first study in 2015-16.

Ice hockey repeated with the second-most injuries per 1,000, with 32 (down from 36 injuries per 1,000 from 2016-17 and 38 per 1,000 in 2015-16), and girls soccer and wrestling tied for third with 25 head injuries per 1,000 participants – girls soccer down from 28 head injuries per 1,000 participants and wrestling down from 26 per 1,000 in 2016-17.

Also consistent with 2016-17, the next five sports (after football and hockey) to show the highest incidences of head injuries were girls sports – girls soccer followed by girls basketball (22 per 1,000), girls competitive cheer (20) and girls lacrosse (20). Boys lacrosse (17), girls gymnastics (16) and boys soccer (12) were the only other sports to show double-digit head injuries per 1,000 participants.

Females again reported significantly more concussions than males playing the same or similar sports – soccer, basketball and baseball/softball. Female soccer players reported more than double the concussions per 1,000 participants as male soccer players (25 to 12), while female basketball players also reported more than double the number of concussions per 1,000 participants (22 to 9). Softball players reported seven concussions per 1,000 participants, and baseball players reported three per 1,000. Although the percentage differences vary from year to year, the results of all three comparisons remained consistent with what the survey found in 2015-16 and 2016-17.

The MHSAA in 2018-19 is directing its sport committees to focus on a pair of questions – how to increase participation and how to make their specific sports safer – the latter aiming to put some of what has been learned from concussion reporting into practice. The MHSAA also is continuing to invite Michigan's universities, health care systems and the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) to take part in analyzing the data and resulting questions that have arisen during the past three years.

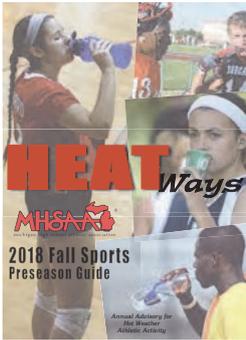
"Regrettably, I do not see a nationwide head injury reporting effort likely," Roberts said. "First, it's hard to coordinate 50 states' efforts. And second, if left to medical professionals, the survey tool might become so cumbersome that schools would be reluctant to participate – and certainly, it would not get the 99.9 percent cooperation that we've enjoyed from schools over these three years."

Schools report possible concussions online via the MHSAA Website. Reports are then examined by members of the MHSAA staff, who follow up with school administrators as those student-athletes continue to receive care and eventually return to play. Student privacy is protected.

Visit the *MHSAA Health & Safety* Web page for resources



## MHSAA Provides Bounty of Health & Safety Resources



With each school year, personnel changes abound at all member schools, from administrators to coaches to student-athletes. But, the No. 1 goal remains the same for the MHSAA: to provide schools with an array of resources which will minimize risk and promote health and safety for all of its participants.

### 1. Coaching Requirements:

- A. CAP 1 or 2 is required for newly hired first time head coaches.
  - Last year between MHSAA schools and Michigan colleges, there were approximately 3000 coaches who attended one or more levels of CAP.
  - Of this number, approximately 2000 coaches attended a CAP 1 or CAP 2 clinic.
  - Already this year, approximately 800 coaches have attended one or more levels of CAP clinics.
- B. CAP 1 curriculum includes a Sports Medicine module with the following safety topics:
  - Emergency Action Plan.
  - Concussion/Head Injury.
  - Sudden Cardiac Arrest.
  - Environmental – Heat Exhaustion, Heat Stroke, Heat Stress, Heat Related Illnesses.
  - Equipment and Facility Safety.
  - Care of Common Injuries.
  - Inclement Weather.
  - Preventative Sports Conditioning.
- C. CAP 2 curriculum includes Legal Responsibilities module with the following safety topics:
  - Emergency Action Plan/Emergency Planning.
  - Concussion Awareness/Protocol.
  - Instruction, Supervision, Management.
  - Hazing.
  - Bullying.
  - Recordkeeping.
  - Healthy Living.
- D. CAP 2 curriculum also includes in the Effective Communications module a piece that focuses on how positive interpersonal communication may help athletes in the concussion reporting process.
- E. Valid CPR Certification is required for all head coaches of a high school varsity team.
- F. High School Varsity Head Coaches, Assistant and Subvarsity High School Coaches (paid or volunteer) must complete an MHSAA rules meeting in their sport by the designated deadline.
  1. **All 2018-19 MHSAA coaches rules meetings include concussion awareness training.**
    - Signs and Symptoms.
    - Return to Activity Protocol.
    - Education and Enforcement.
    - Removal from Play.
    - Return to Activity and Post-Concussion Consent Form.
    - Reporting of all Concussion Injuries.

Also included in 2017-18 Rules Meeting:

- a. Heat and Hydration.
  - b. Heart and Emergency Readiness.
  - c. Signs and Symptoms.
  - d. Emergency Action Plans.
  - e. Anyone Can Save a Life.
- G. Athletic Directors must attest that Coach Requirements are Met:
    1. Each season by the final date of the season's rules meetings, athletic administrators must attest that:
      - a. Subvarsity coaches (paid or volunteer) have viewed a rules meeting (and therefore also concussion education and other health and safety topics).
      - b. All Head Varsity Coaches at the High School Level have valid CPR Certification.

## 2. MHSAA Concussion Protocol for Implementation of National Federation Sports Playing Rules For Concussions:

- 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. The clearance may not be on the same date on which the athlete was removed from play.
  - b. Only an M.D., D.O., P.A. or N.P. may clear the individual to return to activity.
  - c. The clearance must be in writing and must be unconditional.
  - d. Individual schools, districts and leagues may have more stringent requirements and protocols.
- Member schools are required to complete and submit an online report designated by the MHSAA to record and track head injury events when they occur in all levels of all sports during the season in practices and competitions.
- Post-Concussion Consent Forms must be completed and returned (by student and parent) prior to returning to physical activity.

## 3. MHSAA Concussion Care Insurance:

- MHSAA provides athletic participants at each MHSAA member junior high/middle school and high school Concussion Care Insurance. This insurance intends to assure that all eligible student-athletes in MHSAA member schools in grades 6-12, male and female, in all levels of all sports under the jurisdiction of the MHSAA receive prompt and professional attention for head injury events.

## 4. Additional Concussion Awareness:

- State Champs has a new feature regarding Concussion Awareness on FSDetroit.
- Football has made a change to the allowable level of contact on a blindside block as one of the latest rules changes aimed at increasing player safety.

## 5. Heat Management Training and Resources:

- A. MHSAA's Model Policy for Managing Heat and Humidity has been adopted as a rule for MHSAA postseason competition. This plan directs schools to begin monitoring the heat index at the activity site once the air temperature reaches 80 degrees and provides recommendations when the heat index reaches certain points, including ceasing activities when it rises above 104 degrees.
- B. The Model Policy for Managing Heat and Humidity is outlined in a number of places:
  - Available for download from the MHSAA Website on the Health and Safety page.
  - In the publication Heat Ways.
  - In CAP 1 (Sports Medicine) curriculum.
  - In MHSAA's publication of Safety Blitz.
- C. Football practice allows for only helmets to be worn during the first two days, only shoulder pads to be added on the third and fourth days, and full pads to not be worn until the fifth day of team practice.
- D. Heat, Hydration and Acclimatization is also a focus of the MHSAA's required preseason rules meeting.

## 6. Safety Blitz includes the following resources:

- Coaching Requirements.
- Risk Minimization and Conditioning.
- Football Policies (see above) for managing heat and humidity.
- Football Policies for Collision practices:
  - a. Before the first regular-season game, schools may not schedule more than one "collision" practice in a day.
  - b. After the first regular-season game, teams may conduct no more than 90 total minutes of collision practice in any week.
  - c. No single practice may exceed three hours, and the total practice time for days with multiple practice sessions may not exceed five hours.
- Football Helmet Inspection.
- Concussion Signs and Symptoms.
- Concussion Management Policy.
- Post-Concussion Consent Form.
- Member School Concussion Reporting.
- Model Policy for Managing Heat and Humidity.
- CPR Requirements.
- Emergency Response Plan.

## Student Advisory Council Camps with a Cause



**MHSAA Student Advisory Council members:** *Front Row:* Bella Lindsay, North Muskegon; Chloe Idoni, Fenton; Taylor Adams, Allendale; Lexi Mohney, Mattawan; Kaitlyn Bricker, Pellston; Grace Beardsley, Gladwin; Megan Corbe, St. Joseph; Abby Nelson, Negaunee. *Back Row:* Nathan Eccles, Port Huron Northern; Lance Wiltse, Saginaw Michigan Lutheran Seminary; Neil Bazaj, Ann Arbor Greenhills; Will Jontz, Brighton; Trevin Phillips, Caro; Pierce Morrissey, Big Rapids; Jack Fairman, Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook Kingswood. *Not Pictured:* Shane Dolan, Clarkston Everest Collegiate.

Each June, the MHSAA Student Advisory Council convenes at Mystic Lake YMCA Camp in Lake, Mich., to develop leadership strategies and become better acquainted.

The camp is the first meeting of the incoming SAC class and the incumbent members who are halfway through their terms.

Under the guidance of MHSAA staff, the students enjoy a variety of team-building activities and problem-solving sessions, with an abundance of fun mixed in while cell phones are replaced with interpersonal communication.

The goal is to return to their local communities with sportsmanship and teamwork initiatives which can be shared with classmates and other schools in their leagues and conferences.

Embarking on their first years as SAC contributors, representing the Class of 2020, are: **Grace Beardsley**, Gladwin; **Kaitlyn Bricker**, Pellston; **Nathan Eccles**, Port Huron Northern; **Jack Fairman**, Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook Kingswood; **Bella Lindsay**, North Muskegon; **Lexi Mohnney**, Mattawan; **Trevin Phillips**, Caro, and **Lance Wiltse**, Saginaw Michigan Lutheran Seminary.

The new additions to the SAC will join the Class of 2019 members who were selected a year ago: **Taylor Adams**, Allendale; **Neil Bazaj**, Ann Arbor Greenhills; **Megan Corbe**, St. Joseph; **Shane Dolan**, Clarkston Everest Collegiate; **Chloe Idoni**, Fenton; **Will Jontz**, Brighton; **Pierce Morrissey**, Big Rapids, and **Abigail Nelson**, Negaunee.

The first Student Advisory Council was formed for the 2006-07 school year. With the addition of this year's class, members will have represented over 100 school and 50 leagues plus independent schools that do not play in a league.

The Student Advisory Council meets seven times each school year, and once more at the leadership camp. In addition to assisting in the promotion of the educational value of interscholastic athletics, the council discusses the 4 S's of educational athletics: scholarship, sportsmanship, safety and the sensible scope of athletic programs. They also lead sessions during the MHSAA Sportsmanship Summit series and judge the annual Battle of the Fans contest.

## SAC Belief Statement

*As the voice of Michigan’s student-athletes, the Student Advisory Council’s role is to convey the message of how high school sports are supposed to be played. We are responsible for helping the MHSAA maintain a positive and healthy atmosphere in which interscholastic athletes can thrive.*

*We believe **athletes** should be competitive, sportsmanlike and excel academically. We believe **students** in the stands should have fun, but not take the focus away from the game. We believe **coaches** should act as teachers, helping student-athletes develop while still keeping high school sports in perspective. We believe that **parents** should always be positive role models and be supportive of their child’s decisions. We believe **officials** commit their own time to high school sports and respect should always be shown and given to them.*

*The most important goal for student-athletes is to enjoy high school sports while keeping a high level of respect between all those involved in the games.*

– Written by the Student Advisory Council,  
adopted by MHSAA Representative Council November 2007

## Request “The Captains Playbook”

In 2009, the MHSAA and its Student Advisory Council rolled out a book titled “Captains 101” and delivered 7,000 copies to member schools. Completed for Fall 2017, version 2 of the book – “The Captains Playbook” – was again sent to the membership. This 24-page book follows the structure and lessons of both the in-person and online versions of the MHSAA Captains Clinic. 5,000 additional books have been printed for schools which want more copies, or for teams which want to dig deeper into the material.

The objective of the publication is to encourage captains throughout Michigan to be positive role models within their community. It was written in a collaborative partnership between high school students and graduate students of the Institute for the Study of Youth Sports at Michigan State University.

This book is intended to be read by aspiring high school team captains. Contact the MHSAA for additional copies at \$5 apiece (includes shipping).



## MHSAA Sportsmanship Summits Calling

Sign up a group of students from your school to attend an MHSAA Sportsmanship Summits this fall and change the culture at your school and conference. This year’s Summits will be held the first three weeks in November as follows: Traverse City on Nov. 5 at Grand Traverse Resort; Saginaw on Nov. 7 at SVSU; Grand Rapids on Nov. 12 at the Crowne Plaza, and Ann Arbor on Nov. 14 at Sheraton Ann Arbor Hotel.

Call Andy Frushour at the MHSAA, 517-332-5046, for further information.

### SCHOLAR-ATHLETE AWARD APPLICATIONS

In 2018-19 we celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Farm Bureau Insurance sponsored MHSAA Scholar-Athlete Award. In 2018-19, 32 \$1,000 scholarships will again be awarded from a pool of the best and brightest high school seniors. Eligibility requirements and applications can be found at MHSAA.com on the “Students” page. Applications are due to the MHSAA on Nov. 30.

### SPORTSMANSHIP SUMMITS

This fall the MHSAA’s series of Sportsmanship Summits returns with four regional clinics spread across the state. These day-long summits will cover sportsmanship topics from a variety of perspectives, including from the viewpoints of athletes, coaches, officials and administrators. Most importantly, though, the summits will focus on sportsmanship in student cheering sections. School groups will review what makes great student sections tick, and then develop plans on how to make its own student section more loud, organized, positive and fun. This year’s Summits will be held the first three weeks in November as follows: Traverse City on Nov. 5 at Grand Traverse Resort; Saginaw on Nov. 7 at SVSU; Grand Rapids on Nov. 12 at the Crowne Plaza, and Ann Arbor on Nov. 14 at Sheraton Ann Arbor Hotel.

### BATTLE OF THE FANS

The eighth annual MHSAA Battle of the Fans competition will take place again during the winter season. The contest, organized by the MHSAA Student Advisory Council, seeks to find the loudest, most organized, more fun and most positive student cheering section in the state. Students should begin filming their student sections this fall in preparation for the video deadline in early January. Buchanan is the defending champion, while Frankenmuth won in 2017; Traverse City West in 2016; Dowagiac in 2015, Beaverton in 2014, Buchanan in 2013 and Frankenmuth in 12. Visit [mhsaa.com/BOTF](http://mhsaa.com/BOTF) for further details.



### STUDENT LEADERSHIP GRANTS

The MHSAA has earmarked \$20,000 to help students become better leaders. This fund originated from a gift to the MHSAA from student leadership training leader, the former W.B.A. Ruster Foundation. Scholarships are available to students to attend existing student leadership camps, and schools can receive grant money to create student leadership programs in their communities. Funding is available NOW. There is no deadline – applications are accepted, and money is distributed, year-round. Visit the “Students” page at MHSAA.com.

### CAPTAINS CLINICS

The purpose of the MHSAA Captains Clinic series is to give basic leadership training to both current and future team captains. The training session is only four-and-a-half hours long, so there’s no way these students can learn everything they need to become effective team leaders. Instead, we use this time as an opportunity to give the students the basics of being a team captain – we answer the question, “I was named a team captain, now what am I supposed to do?” We walk through the role of a team captain, we discuss common team problems, and we finish the day by making a “To Do” guide for all of each school’s team captains. Several clinics will take place in the coming year, and the MHSAA would love to come to your league. If you can get your entire league on board, guarantee 100-150 participants, and suggest a good location (preferably a school on a professional development day), the MHSAA will do the rest. The Association will coordinate the registration process, negotiate with facilities if necessary, provide the curriculum and supplies, work with the caterers and bring facilitators to the clinic. Contact Andy Frushour to learn more about the Captains clinic program – [andy@mhsaa.com](mailto:andy@mhsaa.com).

### ONLINE CAPTAINS COURSE

The MHSAA Captains Clinic program has proven to be a great in-person training method for future team leaders, but the program can only reach a finite number of students per year. With the new online version of the captains clinic, ALL of Michigan’s student-athletes and even all students nationwide, can now receive the training anytime and anywhere. Over 50,000 students have taken the course in the last three years. The Captains Course is housed on the NFHS Learning Center, and it is FREE to all participants. Go to [NFHSLearn.com](http://NFHSLearn.com) to take the course today.

## Scholar-Athlete Program Rolls Into 30th Year

Thousands of students voluntarily extend their classroom day by taking part in extracurricular activities, often improving their academic achievements in the process. The value that such programs play in the total education of a high school student is highlighted through the MHSAA/Farm Bureau Insurance Scholar-Athlete Award, which will award \$1,000 scholarships to 32 top student-athletes and recognize over 2,000 other outstanding individuals in 2018-19.

Underwritten by Farm Bureau Insurance, the Scholar-Athlete Award is now in its 30th year, and presents scholarships to students in every MHSAA enrollment classification. The scholarships may be used at any institution of higher learning.

“It is amazing to see the number of young people who are proven achievers in academics and activities,” said Mark Uyl, executive director of the MHSAA. “At a time when our educational system is coming under fire, the Scholar-Athlete Award is something that proves how important athletics are to the development of a well-rounded person.”



*Michigan's Insurance Company*



The 2018 Scholar-Athlete Class

Students applying for the Scholar-Athlete Award must be graduating during the 2018-19 school year, carry a 3.5 grade-point average, and have previously won a letter in a varsity sport that the MHSAA sponsors postseason competition.

Applicants will also be required to show involvement in other school- community activities and submit an essay on the importance of sportsmanship in educational athletics.

Application materials can be found on MHSAA.com. Scan the code below to access the page.

Each MHSAA member school is allowed to nominate a number of student-athletes based on the size of the school. Class A schools can nominate six boys and six girls, Class B four boys and four girls, Class C three boys and three girls and Class D two boys and two girls. The first 30 scholarships will be awarded based on this graduated scale, with two additional scholarships intended for minority applicants.

A committee composed of school administrators from across the state will select regional and statewide winners.

Farm Bureau Insurance, a long-time supporter of MHSAA activities, also sponsors other educationally oriented programs.

The 32 scholarship recipients will be recognized at the MHSAA Boys Basketball Finals at the Breslin Student Events Center in East Lansing on March 16, 2019.



The MHSAA encourages people to submit success stories for generating sports participation and attendance at their schools. Please send to: [info@mhsaa.com](mailto:info@mhsaa.com) and type School Success Story in the subject line.

## MHSAA and Krossover Announce Technology Partnership

*Getting I.T. offers helpful hints and instructions pertaining to information technology as it relates to the MHSAA and school sports in general.*

The Michigan High School Athletic Association has named Krossover, a leader in game breakdowns and video analytics, as the official video breakdown and analytics provider of the association.

Krossover, a Stack Sports company, will provide a range of services for the MHSAA and its member schools including complimentary self-editing tools and discounted pricing on Krossover's automated breakdown services – in addition to highlight packages for student-athletes.

"We're glad to promote Krossover as a valuable tool both for our school teams and also our officials," MHSAA Executive Director Mark Uyl said. "Krossover is a leader in video breakdown technology, and we're glad to develop a relationship with a company that also is among sponsors of the Basketball Coaches Association of Michigan."

Krossover offers technology solutions for coaches to review film, scout opponents and catalog players throughout the year to evaluate player development and progress.

The MHSAA joins state associations from California, Arizona, Nevada and Oregon as the latest sports properties operated by Outfront Media Sports Inc. to partner with Krossover.

"Stack Sports and Krossover have a long-standing relationship with high school athletics in the state of Michigan through partnerships with coaches associations and jumped at the opportunity to partner with the state association. We couldn't be more excited to join the MHSAA family," said Eric Perugini, Vice President of Governing Bodies and Partnerships with Stack Sports.

With nearly 50 million users in 35 countries, Stack Sports is the global leader in sports technology providing an integrated technology platform for national governing bodies, youth sports leagues,

**KROSSOVER**  
powered by **stack sports**

**Free with every account:**

- ✓ Unlimited video storage
- ✓ Self-editing: clip and tag footage yourself.
- ✓ Add telestrations and notes to your clips.

**Add breakdown & stats:**

- ✓ We clip and tag your game footage for you.
- ✓ Advanced filtering and search tools.
- ✓ Stats and analytics for your team and players.

Official Video Breakdown and Analytics Provider of the MHSAA

**Contact your rep for more information.**  
MHSAA@StackSports.com

clubs and associations, parents, coaches, and athletes. Stack Sports is headquartered in Dallas and backed by Genstar Capital, the NFL's 32 Equity, Jerry Jones of the Dallas Cowboys, Providence Equity and other leading sports and technology investors.

Since its formation in April 2016, Stack Sports has completed 26 acquisitions of market-leading sports technology companies. To learn more about how Stack Sports is transforming the sports experience, please visit <http://www.stackports.com>.

### Know the Score

Thousands of MHSAA events take place during any given week each school year. Help the MHSAA and prep sports enthusiasts around the state stay up to date on results by becoming a registered score reporter for the Score Center page on MHSAA.com. Score Center is the most comprehensive site for schedules and scores around the state, and can be accessed from any mobile device or computer.

1. Register on MHSAA.com.
2. Login and find a game.
3. Click the "Submit Score" link. This link does not appear until the scheduled start time.



## Pixellot Streaming Productions on the Rise

A year ago, Pixellot, the automated production solution for schools wishing to stream live video of their athletic events on the NFHS Network and MHSAA.tv, was in use at six schools across Michigan.

With the new school year underway, nearly two dozen schools are actively streaming events using Pixellot, with half of those schools streaming indoor and outdoor events. Several schools have more than two Pixellot units in place.

“Schools are finding that Pixellot provides a great opportunity to get a lot of their games out to their fans in a way they could never achieve,” said Mark Uyl, executive director of the MHSAA. “We have some schools which are using a mix of their traditional, student-staffed, School Broadcast Program efforts along with Pixellot to be able to add subvarsity coverage; and schools going exclusively with Pixellot with installations at multiple venues.”

Pixellot units use from two to four High Definition cameras that cover the length of the playing surface and then focus in on the ball and player movement to deliver the action. The unit communicates with the scoreboard to insert a time and score graphic on the screen. Ambient audio is picked up by the device, but the commentary of the

public address announcer or the radio style play-by-play of an in-person announce team can also be patched in.

All that has to be done from a school’s perspective is type in the event schedule, and promote the fact that the games are available on MHSAA.tv. Pixellot does the rest. The unit can also be set up to isolate a camera on a fixed location, which allows for activities like cheer and wrestling to also be streamed.

Schools actively engaged in Pixellot productions now include: Ann Arbor Greenhills, Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook Kingswood, Brighton, Calumet, Dollar Bay, Frankenmuth, Freeland, Fremont, Grand Blanc, Grand Rapids NorthPointe Christian, Harrison, Howell, Kalamazoo Christian, Macomb Lutheran North, Manchester, Norway, Novi, Otisville-Lakeville, Ovid-Elsie, Plainwell, Saginaw Heritage, Saline, Stevensville Lakeshore, Warren DeLaSalle and Williamston. Schools using indoor and outdoor units include Cranbrook Kingswood, Frankenmuth, Freeland, Grand Blanc, Howell, Manchester, Norway, Novi, Ovid-Elsie, Plainwell, Saginaw Heritage, Saline and Stevensville Lakeshore. Additional schools will have their Pixellot units coming online soon.

### Happy 10th MHSAA.tv

It was ten years ago on Aug. 29 that the MHSAA began its current television network efforts by broadcasting a season-opening football game pitting local rivals in small-town setting.

Sand Creek High School was hosting Blissfield in what had become a traditional season-opening game at the time, the two schools less than 15 miles apart. The Aggies were celebrating a community effort by debuting new grandstands on the home side of the field salvaged from nearby Michigan International Speedway. Townsfolk gathering across the street in the high school for a fund-raising taco dinner, and the MHSAA Network was there.

In the 10 years since that kickoff game, won by Blissfield by a score of 14-6, the MHSAA’s video production efforts have gone from games on cable television to an exclusively online effort powered by the NFHS Network – which produces over 135 events and over 400 hours of MHSAA Championships – and featuring a growing School Broadcast Program, which will produce upwards of 2,000 hours of regular-season games at over 80 participating schools.



A game between Blissfield and Sand Creek on Aug. 29, 2008, launched MHSAA.tv, the medium that continues to flourish and bring live high school events to enthusiastic viewers statewide.

## Michigan Above Population Rank on Participation List

**M**ichigan had the eighth-most participants in high school sports nationally for the second straight year in 2017-18 according to statistics recently released by the National Federation of State High School Associations, again outpacing the state's national ranking of 10th for total number of residents of high school age.

Michigan's participation ranking was based on a number of 296,625, with 127,098 girls and 169,527 boys taking part in high school athletics, and included sports in which the Michigan High School Athletic Association does not conduct post-season tournaments. The totals count students once for each sport in which he or she participates, meaning students who are multiple-sport athletes are counted more than once.

The state's girls participation ranked eighth nationally for the second straight year, while the boys participation figure improved to seventh, up one spot from 2016-17. However, as with overall population, Michigan continued to rank 10th for both

Michigan's participation rank continues to rate above its population status nationally. Girls volleyball enjoyed the most substantial improvement, moving up two spots to fourth on the list.

females and males ages 14-17 according to the latest U.S. Census Bureau estimates from 2017.

A total of 19 sports bested the state's overall national participation ranking of eighth by placing seventh or higher on their respective lists. Four Michigan sports improved in national ranking during 2017-18, while the state fell one spot in the rankings of three sports.

The most substantial improvement among Michigan sports came in girls volleyball, where Michigan moved up two spots to fourth – the same ranking it occupied for 2014-15 and 2015-16 before falling to sixth on the list a year ago. Competitive cheer rose one spot in the competitive spirit ranking to fifth, while girls swimming & diving moved up one spot to ninth and girls gymnastics moved up one position to 11th on its ranking list.

Two of three sports that fell on participation lists still outpaced Michigan's overall participation rank – boys golf and boys tennis both fell from fifth to sixth, respectively. Girls lacrosse participation fell to 14th after five straight years ranking 13th.

Other Michigan sports that ranked eighth or higher in 2017-18 were baseball (eighth), girls basketball (sixth), boys basketball (seventh), girls bowling (fourth), boys bowling (third), girls and boys cross

country (both seventh), 11 and 8-player football (sixth and seventh, respectively), girls golf (fifth), boys ice hockey (fourth), girls and boys skiing (both third), girls softball (seventh), girls tennis (third), girls track & field (eighth), boys track & field (seventh) and boys wrestling (seventh).

Boys lacrosse, boys and girls soccer and boys swimming & diving participation all slotted ninth on their respective lists, holding to their 2016-17 rankings and placing still ahead of where Michigan slotted for high school-aged population. The football rankings were again notable in that Michigan slotted sixth for 11-player participation for the sixth straight year despite another sizable increase in the number of schools switching to the 8-player format.

National participation in high school sports in



MHSAA File Photo

2017-18 set a record for the 29th consecutive year with 7,979,986 participants – an increase of 16,451 from the year before. Girls participation increased for the 29th consecutive year with an additional 15,009 participants to set an all-time high of 3,415,306. Boys participation also set another all-time high with 4,564,680, an increase of 1,442 participants from 2016-17.

For the second consecutive year, competitive spirit (competitive cheer in Michigan) had the largest increase among girls sports with an additional 18,426 participants. Swimming and diving, lacrosse and golf showed the next greatest increases among girls sports. Boys soccer registered the largest gain among boys sports with 6,128 additional participants.

Football (1,067,970) was down 1.7 percent from 2016-17, but again remained the most-played high school sport overall – and nationally, the number of schools sponsoring the sport increased 29 to 15,486.

### Complete 2017-18 Participation Numbers



## Hunt, Jolly, Seng and Latva Earn 2018 Bush Awards

Three athletic directors who have provided decades of memory-making opportunities for student-athletes – East Lansing’s Tom Hunt, Troy’s Michael Jolly and Ann Arbor’s Meg Seng – and a member of the media, St. Ignace’s David Latva, who is beloved for documenting those moments, have been named recipients of the Michigan High School Athletic Association’s Allen W. Bush Award for 2018.

Al Bush served as executive director of the MHSAA for 10 years. The award honors individuals for past and continuing service to prep athletics as a coach, administrator, official, trainer, doctor or member of the media. The award was developed to bring recognition to men and women who are giving and serving without a lot of attention. This is the 27th year of the award, with selections made by the MHSAA’s Representative Council.

Hunt recently announced his retirement after 20 years as an athletic administrator, the last 16 at East Lansing High School after serving at Perry for three years and Lansing Waverly for one. During his tenure, Trojans teams have had success at local and larger levels – the girls basketball, boys golf, boys soccer, boys tennis, and boys and girls track & field teams all won MHSAA Finals championships under his department leadership. In addition to his duties as East Lansing athletic & activities director, he served as the district’s Title IX coordinator.

East Lansing, Waverly and Perry all were frequent MHSAA Tournament hosts at the District, Regional and Semifinal levels under Hunt’s direction. He served on a variety of MHSAA committees, providing input on specific sports, officials, tournament site selection or selection of the MHSAA/Farm Bureau Insurance Scholar-Athlete Awards. As part of the Michigan Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (MIAAA) for two decades, Hunt was named Regional Athletic Director of the Year in 2011 and his region’s representative in 2013 and 2015. He also served terms as president of the Capital Area Activities Conference and former Ingham County League.



Jolly

Jolly also is retiring, with nearly three decades in administration. He took over as District Athletic Director in Troy in August 2004 after previously serving four years as assistant principal/athletic director and then four as principal at Boyd Arthurs Middle School in Trenton. He also taught and served as an assistant middle school principal for

three years in the New Boston Huron district and taught and then added athletic director duties over two years at Hale. He coached during his first two stops, varsity basketball and softball at Hale and varsity football and track & field at New Boston Huron.

At Troy, Jolly has overseen staff and facilities for two high schools and four middle schools. During his tenure, Troy schools have added skiing and bowling programs as well as non-MHSAA rugby and figure skating, and kept gymnastics available by creating a cooperative program. Under his leadership, the district also has been a frequent host of MHSAA Tournament games at various levels, including Division 1 Football Semifinals 14 consecutive seasons.



Seng

Seng completed her 28th year at Greenhills School and has served as the athletic director the last 15 after 13 teaching physical education and health. She has hosted MHSAA tournament events in various sports at various levels and served on a variety of MHSAA committees and the Multi-Sport Participation Task Force. She also is an instructor for the MHSAA Coaches Advancement Program and has served as part of the MIAAA’s Leadership Academy faculty since 2011, and on the NIAAA’s certification committee since 2014. She completed a term as the MIAAA’s Executive Board president in 2013-14.

After graduating from Maine South High School in Park Ridge, Ill., Seng played both volleyball and softball at Indiana University and then coached at the college level before taking over the Ann Arbor Huron volleyball program in 1985. Seng received the MIAAA Jack Johnson Distinguished Service Award in 2012 and her region’s Athletic Director of the Year Award in 2008. Under her leadership Greenhills received the Exemplary Athletic Program Award from the MIAAA in 2017. She most recently selected for the MHSAA’s 31st Women In Sports Leadership Award this past February.

Retired journalist Latva dedicated 30 years to chronicling the achievements of high school athletes. A St. Ignace graduate, Latva went on to report as the lead sports-writer for the St. Ignace News from 1987-2016 covering communities in the eastern Upper Peninsula. He was a member of the Upper Peninsula Sportswriters and Sportscasters Association from 1989-2017 and served on the board of the Upper Peninsula Sports Hall of Fame from 2008-16. He also was a frequent Upper Peninsula representative on The Associated Press’ all-state selection committees.

Latva’s contributions to schools reached past sportswriting. He was a registered MHSAA official for basketball, football and track & field during the 1970s and 1980s, and served eight years on the St. Ignace Area Schools Board of Education.



Latva

## Survey Shows Slight Decrease in Participation Fees



***Survey shows fewer than 50 percent of responding schools are charging participation fees to help fund interscholastic athletics.***

**S**lightly less than 50 percent of Michigan High School Athletic Association member high schools assessed sports participation fees during the 2017-18 school year, according to an annual survey that enjoyed its highest response rate in 14 years of measuring the prevalence of charging students to help fund interscholastic athletics.

This year's survey was completed by a record 80 percent of the MHSAA's 751 member high schools, and 49 percent of respondents charged participation fees – down slightly from 49.7 percent in 2016-17, when the rate dropped below 50 percent for the first time since 2009-10.

The MHSAA conducted its first participation fee survey during the 2003-04 school year, when 24 percent of responding schools reported they charged fees. The percentage of member schools charging fees crossed 50 percent in 2010-11 and reached a high of 56.6 percent in 2013-14.

Class A schools remained the largest group charging fees in 2017-18, with 65 percent of respondents doing so – although that percentage was the lowest for Class A since 66 percent reported using fees in 2011-12. Class B schools fell to 47 percent charging fees (from 52 percent in 2016-17), while Class C (46 percent) and Class D (37) schools remained below 50 percent as well.

Charging a standardized fee for each team on which a student-athlete participates – regardless of the number of teams – remains the

most popular method among schools assessing fees, with that rate at 43 percent of schools. Schools charging a one-time standardized fee per student-athlete showed a slight decrease to 28 percent, while assessing fees based on tiers of the number of sports a student-athlete plays (for example, charging a larger fee for the first team and less for additional sports) and assessing fees based on the specific sport being played (some being more expensive than others) both showed slight upticks to 15 and 5 percent, respectively.

The amounts of most fees remained consistent during 2017-18: the median annual maximum fee per student at \$150, the median annual maximum family fee at \$300 and the median per-team fee at \$75 – all for at least the fourth straight year. The median fee assessed by schools that charge student-athletes once per year held steady at \$125 for the second straight school year.

The survey for 2017-18 and surveys from previous years can be found on the MHSAA Website by clicking on Schools – Administrators – Pay-To-Play Resources, or by scanning the code here.

**2017-18 Survey Results**



## Bowling, Boys Lacrosse Post Record-Setting Attendance

**T**wo sports repeated in setting postseason attendance records during the 2017-18 school year, as 1,390,590 total fans attended Michigan High School Athletic Association postseason competitions for which attendance is recorded.

The MHSAA Bowling Tournament – including Regionals and Finals for girls and boys, set an attendance record for the seventh consecutive season this past winter with 14,422 fans. Boys lacrosse, which also begins postseason play at the Regional level, set a record for the second straight season this spring with 12,759 fans – including a record 7,344 for Regional games.

The MHSAA annually tracks attendance for all sports except golf, skiing and tennis – for which admission typically is not charged.

The 2017-18 grand total of just under 1.4 million fans was a decrease of 6.8 percent from 2016-17. However, a couple of circumstances likely factored into the majority of that decline.

The first two weeks of 11-player football play-offs generally are among the highest-drawing events every school year – and last year's saw a 19 percent decrease from 2016-17, as Pre-District games were played in unseasonably frigid weather across the Lower Peninsula and District Finals were played amid storms in many parts of the state.

Also, the Individual Wrestling Finals saw a 33 percent decrease in attendance after moving to Ford Field in Detroit from its previous home at The Palace of Auburn Hills. However, that decrease is misleading; the event went from three days and five sessions (with tickets required for each session) at The Palace to a two-day, three-session event at Ford Field. The average attendance per session this past winter actually increased by 892 fans from 2016-17.

Despite the District level decreases, football remained the highest-drawing tournament sport sponsored by the MHSAA, with 352,946 fans attending during the 2017 Playoffs including 60,435 combined for the 11 and 8-Player Finals – the most at that level of the tournament since the 2009 season. The MHSAA added a second division of 8-player playoffs last fall; however, that additional championship game contributed only a small amount to the overall 68-percent increase in attendance from the 2016 Finals.

Boys Basketball drew the second-most fans in 2017-18 – 311,494 – keyed in part by a 5-percent increase at the Regional level. Girls Basketball remained the most highly attended girls sport with 158,546 fans – including 104,243 at the District level, the second-highest total at that level of the tournament since 2009-10. Volleyball was the second-highest attended girls sport this past school



MHSAA File Photo

MHSAA Tournament fans packed bowling houses around the state last winter, setting an attendance record for the seventh straight season during the Regional and Final rounds of competition as 14,422 came through the doors.

year, with 105,414 fans making for an overall increase of nearly 3 percent from the 2016-17 tournament – with increases in attendance enjoyed at the District, Regional, Quarterfinal and Finals levels.

Two more girls sports saw increased attendance in 2017-18. Girls Swimming & Diving enjoyed increases at both the Diving Qualification and MHSAA Finals levels for a total of 4,946 fans – a 7-percent increase from 2016-17. Girls Gymnastics also enjoyed increased attendance at both levels of its postseason for a grand total of 2,314 fans – the most for that sport since 2002-03 and an increase of 7 percent as well from the previous season.

Two more sports also set MHSAA Finals records. The Softball Finals, held in conjunction with the Baseball Finals at Michigan State University, drew 6,860 fans to set a record for the second straight season (and baseball drew its most Finals fans since the 2006 season). The Team Wrestling Finals – contended for the first time at Wings Event Center in Kalamazoo – enjoyed a 19-percent increase from 2016-17 with an audience of 9,469 fans that broke the record set at the conclusion of the 2004-05 season.

Also of note:

- Although girls lacrosse saw a slight dip in overall attendance to 5,538 fans this spring, that total still was the third-highest since the MHSAA began sponsoring a postseason tournament for the sport in 2004-05.
- Boys Soccer Districts drew 15,438 fans, the sport's fourth straight increase at that level and the most to watch Districts since 2008-09.
- The Girls & Boys Cross Country Finals drew 10,445 fans, an increase of nearly 3 percent and the highest total in six seasons.

## Officiate Michigan Day II: Celebration of Officiating



*James C. McCloughan, who received the Medal of Honor in 2017 for his military service in Vietnam as a combat medic with the U.S. Army, delivered a powerful address to close Officiate-Michigan Day II.*

John Johnson, MHSAA

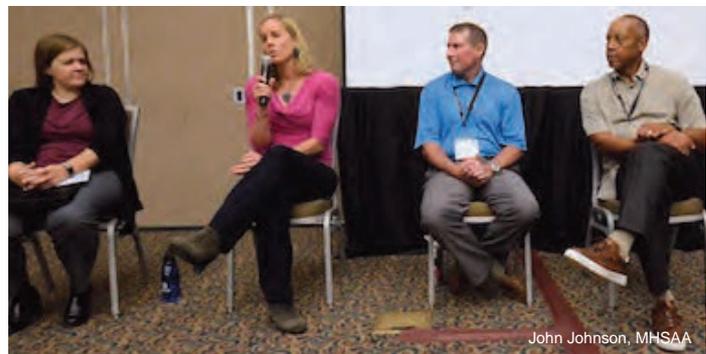
**M**ore than 500 Michigan officials, from beginners to veterans with decades of experience, gathered Aug. 4 at the Lansing Center for “Officiate Michigan Day II” – an opportunity to learn and train with experts in the avocation and share their passion for playing an irreplaceable role in high school sports.

They were greeted by MHSAA Executive Director and past College World Series baseball umpire Mark Uyl, and sent forth at the conclusion by retired wrestling official James C. McCloughan, who received the Medal of Honor in 2017 for his military service in Vietnam as a combat medic with the U.S. Army.

In between, attendees took in multiple sport-specific training sessions. Lunchtime panels provided opportunities to learn and interact on a number of topics, from effective communication to training and mentoring new officials.

“I hope to get a lot of things from a lot of experienced officials,” said Lansing’s Ken Black Jr., a first-year official, as he prepared to dive into the day’s opportunities. “This is my first year doing it, and I want to digest everything they have to say and go from there.”

The first Officiate Michigan Day was conducted in July 2013 as part of the run-up to the National Association of Sports Officials conference in Grand Rapids. NASO will bring its conference back to Michigan in 2021, with Officiate Michigan Day III to be part of those festivities.



John Johnson, MHSAA

From left, Rachael Stringer, Margaret Domka, Jeff Servinski and Lamont Simpson explain “Climbing the Ladder” of the officiating ranks.

Listen to “Be The Referee” on [MHSAA.com](https://www.mhsaa.com)



## “The Official View” Hits MHSAA SecondHalf Each Week

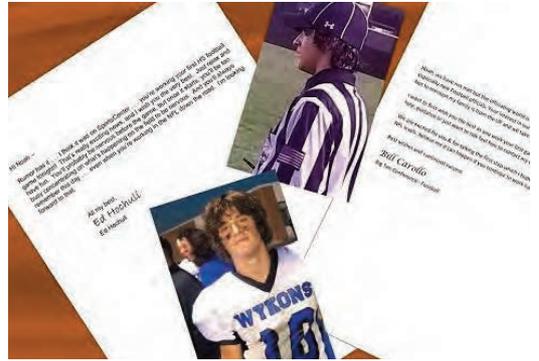
One of the top priorities for the officiating sector of MHSAA efforts is the retention of those who register each year. With that in mind, new Assistant Director Brent Rice has created “The Official View,” a weekly installment on MHSAA.com’s feature site, SecondHalf, aimed at showcasing the human interest side of those who call athletic contests.

Along with features, the weekly post will include rules discussion and officiating policies to keep officials informed and engaged.

Following are a couple examples. The first features a Legacy official. The recruitment and development of younger officials is also paramount to securing the future of school sports.

**Noah Lewis (right)**, out of Iron River, plays wingback and cornerback for West Iron County. This past Thursday night he served as a head linesman for a subvarsity game with close monitoring from his dad from the sidelines and the rest of the crew.

However, letters from NFL veterans Ed Hochuli and Bill Carollo also provided him some unexpected sage advice. Hochuli told Noah to “Just relax and have fun,” while Carollo offered to be there for Lewis for guidance or to provide a listening ear.



Another edition highlighted a crew in the Upper Peninsula who flew to contests when the distance would require a lengthy drive. At left, pilot **Dean Lefebvre** flies his football crew to its Week 2 varsity game, Negaunee at Calumet. The crew also included, just above, Dean Nelson, Rich Lundholm, Paul Angeli and Andrew Lewis.

Email [brent@mhsaa.com](mailto:brent@mhsaa.com) with future story ideas.

## Officials Associations Benefit from NASO Membership

The MHSAA is proud to continue to provide the Platinum program of the National Association of Sports Officials (NASO) “Association Advantage” for all MHSAA Local Approved Associations (previously known as NASO-ON). The MHSAA is providing this Platinum program membership to all local Approved Associations in assisting these groups with association meeting preparation, association governance and effective, time-tested techniques on how to make good associations great.

“Approved Associations are the lifeblood of high school and middle school officiating,” said Mark Uyl, MHSAA assistant director. “So many critical elements of our officiating program that includes recruiting new officials, retaining current officials and training all officials happens at the local Approved Association level. Our overall program gets stronger when each Approved Association has all the tools possible to be an effective educational hub for all officials in those local areas. We are pleased to be providing this service to all Michigan Approved Associations with our trusted and valued partner, NASO.”

All Platinum Association Advantage member associations will receive the all-new monthly electronic newsletter *Click*, the revamped monthly printed newsletter *Advisor*, access to the Association Advantage website, a subscription to *Referee* magazine and a discount on supplies. Groups may choose to upgrade their membership with additional options and levels to include additional insurance, member benefits and training options. Contact the MHSAA office or NASO (262-632-5448).



## Rules of the Games

Sharpen your skills with the following rules questions/case plays for volleyball, soccer and football. Answers appear in red on page 35.

### Football

1. On an extra point attempt, A16 throws a pass that is intercepted by B7 in the end zone. As B7 takes two steps, he drops the ball and it is recovered in the end zone by A66. What is the correct ruling on this play?
  - a. Score 2 points for Team A; since Team B never brought the ball outside the end zone, it remained in play and the fumble, and subsequent recovery, results in 2 points for A.
  - b. No points are scored. The try ended as soon as the ball was intercepted by Team B, creating an immediate dead ball. Nothing can happen on a try once B gains possession.
  - c. Score 1 point for Team A; since Team B never brought the ball outside the end zone, it remained in play and the fumble, and subsequent recovery, results in 1 points for A as this is considered to be a “defensive safety”.
2. Team A has a 4th and 6 from their own 20 yard line and aligns in punt formation. At the snap, Team A commits a foul for an illegal formation. Punt returner B30 catches this long punt on his own 40 yard line and returns the ball 10 yards to the 50. Which options does Team B have with the illegal formation foul by rule?
  - a. Team B may accept the foul for illegal formation and have it enforced from the previous spot. Repeat the down, 4th down and 11 from their own 15 yard line.
  - b. Team B may decline the penalty and take possession of the ball 1st and 10 from the 50 yard line.
  - c. Team B may accept the foul for illegal formation and have it enforced from the succeeding spot. 1st and 10 for Team B on the Team A 45 yard line.
  - d. All of the above are options for Team B.
3. R1 is running downfield with the ball on a punt return when teammate R2 executes a blindside block against K1 who is pursuing the runner. This blindside block is made with forcible contact and the first contact was made by R2 with his shoulder pad into K1’s side (not in the back). The covering official should....
  - a. Legal play as the block was not in the back; this is a legal football play.
  - b. Foul for an illegal blindside block as the forcible contact was not initiated first with the hands.
  - c. It is entirely up to the covering official’s judgment whether or not this is a foul for excessive contact.



### Boys Soccer

1. A team shows up to the field with illegal jerseys. What should the official do?
  - a. Do not start the game until the team has legal uniforms.
  - b. As long as the official can distinguish between the two teams, start the game.
  - c. As long as the official can distinguish between the two teams, start the game. The official should also inform the MHSAA of the illegal uniforms.
2. For the first violation by a team, a player is found guilty of failure to wear required equipment or is wearing illegal equipment. What is the correct ruling?
  - a. The player must leave the field.
  - b. The player must leave the field and is issued a yellow card.
  - c. The player must leave the field and the coach is issued a yellow card.

3. Player A receives a caution in the 10th minute of the game.
  - a. Player A does not have to come out of the game.
  - b. Player A must come out of the game, and a substitute can take his spot. The cautioned player may return to the game at the next legal substitution opportunity.
  - c. Player A must come out of the game, and a substitute can take his spot. The cautioned player must sit out at least 10 minutes.



## Volleyball

1. Upon arriving on the court, the referees notice that the attack line is partially a shadow line through a large mascot painted on the floor. They inform the host management that the attack line shall be solid, one clearly visible color and the situation rectified.
  - a. Correct procedure. (2-1-5)
  - b. Incorrect procedure.
2. A libero shall not:
  - a. Complete an attack if, at the moment of contact, the ball is completely above the height of the net.
  - b. Block or attempt to block.
  - c. Set the ball using overhead finger action while on or in front of the attack line extended, resulting in a completed attack above the height of the net.
  - d. All of the above. (9-5-6a, b, c)
3. The penalty for discovery of a player wearing an illegal uniform during a set is as follows:
  - a. Requires an unnecessary delay assessed the team. If the player remains in the set, the team must call a time-out to make the uniform legal. If there are no time-outs remaining, a loss of rally/point shall be awarded to the opponent.
  - b. Subsequent violations by the same team necessitate loss of rally/point awarded to the opponent.
  - c. When a player wearing an illegal uniform attempts to enter the set, unnecessary delay shall be assessed the team. The player may not enter the set until the uniform is made legal.
  - d. All of the above. (4-2-2)



Football Answers: 1. b. (8-3-2); 2. d. (6-1-9); 3. b. (9-4-3n).  
 Soccer Answers: 1. c. (4-1-g). 2. c. (4-3, 18-1-1f). 3. b. (8-1).  
 Volleyball Answers: 1. a. (2-1-5); 2. d. (9-5-6a, b, c); 3. d. (4-2-2).

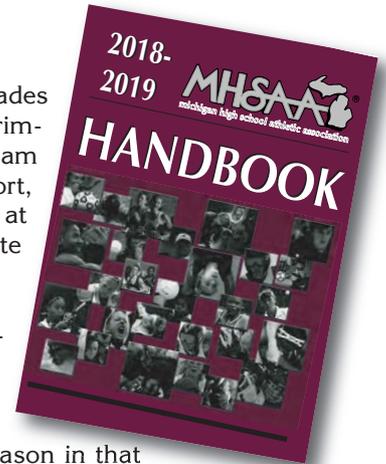
## Prepare Now for 2019-20 Transfer Changes

### SUMMARY OF SPORT-SPECIFIC TRANSFER RULE

A “sport-specific” transfer rule proposal has been adopted by the MHSAA Representative Council for 2019-20. The effective date is Aug. 1, 2018. It has two major components:

1. **More Lenient** –  
Students in grades 9 through 12 who have not participated in an interscholastic scrimmage or contest on a school-sponsored team in Michigan or elsewhere in an MHSAA sport one season may transfer from one school to another with no delay in eligibility at any level in that sport the next season. No MHSAA action is required.
2. **More Restrictive** –  
Unless one of the 15 stated Exceptions applies, students in grades 9 through 12 who have participated in an interscholastic scrimmage or contest in an MHSAA sport on a school-sponsored team in Michigan or elsewhere during the previous season for a sport, and then transfer to an MHSAA member school, are ineligible at all levels of that sport at that school through the next complete season in that sport, including the MHSAA tournament.

Students who transfer during a season in which they are participating, and do not meet one of the 15 stated Exceptions, are ineligible at all levels of that sport for the remainder of that season, including the MHSAA tournament; and they remain ineligible at all levels of that sport through the next complete season in that sport, including the MHSAA tournament.



The revised rule means a transfer student has . . .

- **immediate eligibility** in a sport **not played** the previous season for that sport and (unless one of the 15 Exceptions applies)
- **no eligibility** for the upcoming season in a sport actually **played** the previous season in that sport (participated in an interscholastic scrimmage or contest).

If the administration of the student’s new school requests in writing on a timely basis, the MHSAA Executive Committee **may** approve a waiver that reduces the period of ineligibility to 90 scheduled school days at the new school. The Executive Committee also has authority to approve immediate eligibility.

The effective date is Aug. 1, 2018, with implementation felt during the 2019-20 school year. **That is, what students do during the 2018-19 school year will determine their eligibility for 2019-20 should they transfer high schools and not meet one of the 15 stated exceptions.**

↑ ↑

For more information on the New Sport Specific Transfer Regulation, See [MHSAA.com](http://MHSAA.com)  
Click on “Schools,” then click on “Administrators” or “Parents” or “Coaches”  
From any of those pages, see the “Regulations Summary” in the upper right corner

**The Only Official Interpretations are Those Received in Writing**

## Teams Practicing Out-of-State Required to Submit Out-of-State Travel Form

The tradition of taking a team on a “spring trip” for practice only is a separate issue from sanctioning a competition. Any school which conducts practice sessions out of state at a site more than 600 miles round-trip must submit to the MHSAA office a Travel Form for Out-of-State Practice at least 30 days in advance of departure. This does not allow schools to compete in a scrimmage, practice or competition with a team from another school.

The following interpretation was adopted at the May 2004 Representative Council meeting and became effective for the 2004-05 school year:

“When a school-sponsored team, or group of students which resembles the school team, intends to conduct practice sessions out of state at a site

more than 600 highway miles round-trip from that school, the Travel Form for Out-of-State Practice is required. For the purpose of this Section, it shall be considered a practice for a school team if a school coach in that sport is present with any number of players from that school's team, other than his/her family members.”

MHSAA catastrophic insurance does not cover such events.

The form can be found on the MHSAA Website. Pursuant to action of the Representative Council in May 2003, all schools which complete this form will be listed in *benchmarks* at the end of the school year.

A list of schools which completed the form in 2016-17 appears below.

### Schools Submitting Out-of-State Travel Forms for 2017-18

#### WINTER

##### GIRLS BASKETBALL

Howard City Tri-County  
Walled Lake Northern

#### SPRING

##### BASEBALL

Ada Forest Hills Eastern  
Adrian  
Belding  
Benzie Central  
Birch Run  
Blanchard Montabella  
Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook  
Kingswood  
Chelsea  
Coldwater  
Concord  
Coopersville  
DeWitt  
Eaton Rapids  
Essexville-Garber  
Grand Rapids Catholic Central  
Grand Rapids Kenowa Hills  
Grand Rapids NorthPointe  
Christian  
Grand Rapids Northview  
Grant  
Holland  
Holland Christian

Holland West Ottawa  
Holt  
Hudsonville  
Jenison  
Lakewood Lake Odessa  
Lawrence  
Mt. Pleasant Sacred Heart  
Muskegon Mona Shores  
Muskegon Reeths-Puffer  
Northville  
Oxford  
Petersburg Summerfield  
Petoskey  
Plymouth  
Pontiac Notre Dame Prep  
Portland  
Saginaw Swan Valley  
Salem  
Saline  
Sterling Heights Stevenson  
Utica  
Utica Eisenhower  
Vassar  
Vermontville Maple Valley  
Warren De La Salle  
Wyoming  
Zeeland West

##### SOFTBALL

Allendale  
Bay City Central  
Bay City Western

Chelsea  
Eaton Rapids  
Essexville-Garber  
Flint Kearsley  
Frankfort  
Fremont  
Grand Rapids Northview  
Hemlock  
Holland  
Hudsonville  
Ithaca  
Jenison  
Muskegon Reeths-Puffer  
Portland  
Rockford  
Saginaw Swan Valley

##### BOYS GOLF

Grand Rapids NorthPointe  
Christian  
Kalamazoo Christian

##### GIRLS SOCCER

Saline

##### TRACK & FIELD

Fruitport

##### GIRLS TENNIS

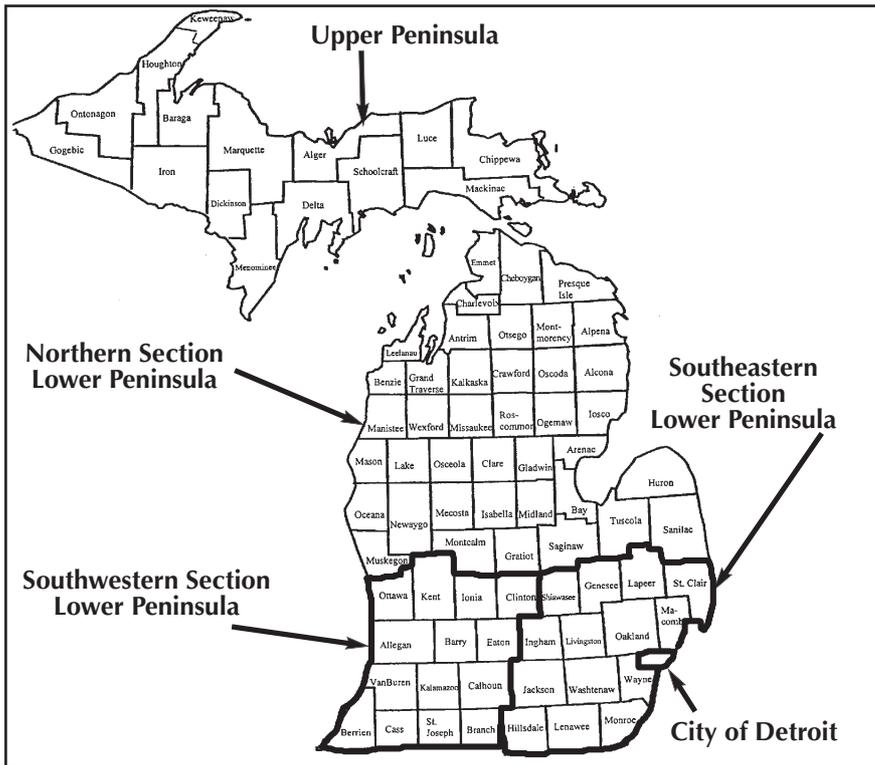
Muskegon Mona Shores

### STUDENT ILLUSTRATOR WANTED

The MHSAA is seeking a student illustrator/artist for *benchmarks* during each school year. If your school has a talented, artistic individual looking for a platform to display his or her talents, this is the perfect opportunity. Interested candidates should send samples of their work to editor Rob Kaminski at [benchmarks@mhsaa.com](mailto:benchmarks@mhsaa.com). The illustration will relate to the theme of each *benchmarks* issue as determined by MHSAA staff. Call Rob at 517-332-5046 for further details.

## Representative Council and Upper Peninsula Athletic Committee Elections

Map of Representative Council Sections



Ballots for Representative Council elections will be mailed to principals of member schools from the MHSAA office Aug. 31, 2018. The ballots will be due back in the MHSAA office Sept. 21, 2018.

Eight positions for membership on the Representative Council will be up for election this fall. Vacancies for two-year terms beginning December 2018 will occur as follows: Class A-B Northern Section L.P., Southwestern Section L.P. and Southeastern Section L.P.; Class C-D Northern Section L.P. and Upper Peninsula; Statewide At-Large; Junior High/Middle School, elected on a statewide basis; and Private and Parochial High Schools.

In addition to the above named Representative Council positions, there are two Upper Peninsula Athletic Committee positions to be voted on in September. A representative of the Class D schools and an Athletic Coach position will be elected by Upper Peninsula schools.

Look for the ballots and return them in time to be counted by the Board of Canvassers. Be sure you mark your ballot correctly and signatures are affixed in the proper places. Ballots must have two (2) signatures to be considered valid.

Details of the Representative Council composition may be found near the beginning of the MHSAA Handbook.

Following the due date of Sept. 21, 2018, the Board of Canvassers as provided in Article IV of the Constitution of the Michigan High School Athletic

Association, will meet on Sept. 25, 2018 and declare the winners for the various vacancies.

In accordance with the approved nomination and election procedures, listed candidates have submitted their desire to run for a position by March 15, 2018. They have included an approval to serve from their respective superintendent or principal and have certified their qualifications to run for the office which they seek. No write-ins will be possible because each candidate must be approved by March 15 in order to run for a position on the Representative Council.

Following are the declared candidates and the vacancies which will occur in December 2018:

### REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL CANDIDATES FOR SEPTEMBER 2018 ELECTION

#### Northern Section, Lower Peninsula - Class A and B Schools

- Peter Ryan, CMAA, Athletic Director, Saginaw Township Community Schools

#### Southwestern Section, Lower Peninsula - Class A and B Schools

- Chris Riker, CAA, Athletic Director, Portage Northern High School
- Zac Stevenson, CMAA, Athletic Director, Battle Creek-Lakeview High School

## MHSAA Representative Council

### Dave Derocher\*\*

Faculty Member  
Reese High School  
Class C-D — Northern Lower Peninsula

### Scott Grimes\*\*, President

Assistant Superintendent of Human Services  
Grand Haven Public Schools  
Statewide At-Large

### Vicky Groat\*\*

Principal/Athletic Director  
Battle Creek St. Philip High School  
Appointee

### Kyle Guerrant (ex-officio)

Deputy Superintendent, Finance Operations  
Michigan Dept. of Education, Lansing  
Designee

### Don Gustafson\*

Superintendent  
St. Ignace Area Schools  
Junior High/Middle Schools

### Courtney Hawkins\*

Athletic Director  
Flint Beecher High School  
Appointee

### Kris Isom\*

Athletic Director  
Adrian Madison High School  
Class C-D — Southeastern Michigan

### Sean Jacques\*\*

Assistant Principal/Athletic Director  
Calumet High School  
Class C-D — Upper Peninsula

### Justin Jennings\*

Superintendent  
Muskegon Public Schools  
Appointee

### Karen Leinaar\*

Athletic Director  
Bear Lake High School  
Statewide At-Large

### Vic Michaels\*\*, Secretary-Treasurer

Director of Physical Education & Athletics  
Archdiocese of Detroit  
Private and Parochial Schools

### Chris Miller\*

Athletic Director  
Gobles High School  
Class C-D — Southwestern Michigan

### Steve Newkirk\*\*

Principal  
Clare Middle School  
Junior High/Middle Schools

### Chris Riker\*\*

Athletic Director  
Portage Northern High School  
Class A-B — Southwestern Michigan

### Peter C. Ryan\*\*, Vice President

Athletic Director  
Saginaw Township Community Schools  
Class A-B — Northern Lower Peninsula

### John Thompson\*\*

Athletic Director  
Brighton High School  
Class A-B — Southeastern Michigan

### Al Unger\*

Athletic Director  
Kingsford High School  
Class A-B — Upper Peninsula

### Alvin Ward\*

Administrator of Athletics  
Detroit Public Schools  
Detroit Public Schools Position

### Pat Watson\*\*

Principal  
West Bloomfield High School  
Appointee

\*Term Expires December 2019

\*\*Term Expires December 2018

### Southeastern Section, Lower Peninsula - Class A and B Schools

- Brad Bush, Athletic Director/Assistant Principal, Chelsea High School
- Greg Lattig, CMAA, Athletic Director, Mason High School
- Orlando Medina, Athletic Director, Harrison Township-L'Anse Creuse High School
- John Thompson, CMAA, Athletic Director, Brighton Area Schools

### Upper Peninsula - Class C and D Schools

- Sean Jacques, Athletic Director, Calumet High School

### Northern Section, Lower Peninsula - Class C and D Schools

- Dave Derocher, CMAA, Faculty Member, Reese High School
- Adam Stefanski, CAA, Athletic Director/Assistant Principal, Mackinaw City Public Schools

### Statewide At-Large

- Scott C. Grimes, Assistant Superintendent, Grand Haven Area Public Schools
- Andrew Laboe, Athletic Director, Kalamazoo-Loy Norrix High School

### Junior High/Middle Schools

- Steve Newkirk, Principal, Clare Middle School

### Private and Parochial High Schools

- Vic Michaels, Director of Physical Education & Athletics, Archdiocese of Detroit

### UPPER PENINSULA ATHLETIC COMMITTEE

### Athletic Coach

- Mike Berutti, Principal/Athletic Director/Football Coach, Iron River-West Iron County High School

### Class D Schools

- Jack Kumpula, Athletic Director, Lake Linden-Hubbell High School

## Failure to Rate Officials

Member schools of the Michigan High School Athletic Association have agreed through Regulation II, Section 7(B) to rate officials in several of the sports for which the MHSAA conducts a postseason tournament and to be subject to penalties when a school fails to rate any officials in a sport that requires it.

Recent surveys indicate schools value the opportunity to rate officials and do not want that opportunity eliminated.

Most officials would prefer an evaluation process over ratings by participating schools; but

under our current system, officials need schools to rate them so they can amass the number of ratings necessary to be considered for advancement and tournament assignments.

On March 23, 2001, the MHSAA Representative Council adopted the policy of publishing the names of schools which fail to rate any officials in a sport and to do so as soon as possible following the season

Following are schools failing to rate officials for the 2017-18 school year.

### Failure to Rate Officials - Fall 2017

<b>Football</b> Detroit-Voyageur College Prep	<b>Girls Volleyball</b> Benton Harbor-Countryside Acad. Detroit-Delta Prep	Detroit-Denby Tech & Prep Detroit Leadership Academy
--	--	---

### Failure to Rate Officials - Winter 2018

<b>Boys Basketball</b> Auburn Hills-Oakland Christian Center Line-Macomb Christian Constantine Dearborn Riverside Academy-West Dearborn Heights-WISE Academy Detroit-Cornerstone Leadership Detroit-Westside Christian Acad Grand Rapids-Union Jackson Prep & Early College Melvindale ABT Pontiac Arts & Technology Acad. Swartz Creek-Valley School Ubly Wyandotte-Roosevelt	<b>Girls Basketball</b> Auburn Hills Christian Burt Lake-N. Michigan Christian Dearborn-Henry Ford Academy Dearborn Riverside Academy-West Dearborn Heights-WISE Academy Detroit-Delta Prep Acad. Melvindale ABT Pontiac Arts & Technology Acad. Stockbridge Swartz Creek-Valley School Walker-W. Mich Acad for Science Warren-Lincoln Watervliet-Grace Christian	<b>Girls Competitive Cheer</b> Port Huron Northern Riverview Ypsilanti Community  <b>Ice Hockey</b> Portage Central Waterford Mott  <b>Wrestling</b> Bridgeport Hamtramck Marcellus Saginaw Ann Arbor-Washtenaw Tech
--	--	--

### Failure to Rate Officials - Spring 2018

<b>Baseball</b> Bath Detroit Communication Media Arts Harper Woods-Chandler Park Academy Kingsford	<b>Girls Lacrosse</b> Livonia-Ladywood Wixom-St. Catherine  <b>Girls Soccer</b> Beverly Hills-Groves Grosse Pointe North Montague	<b>Softball</b> Detroit-Voyageur College Prep Quincy Taylor-Trillium
---	--	---

## 2017-18 Officials Reports Listing

### (High Schools that received 3 or more negative Reports)

In accordance with the May 1996 Representative Council adoption of the "Comprehensive Sportsmanship Package" the names of schools that received three or more "concern" or "ejection" Officials Reports in the school year are listed in this report.

Ypsilanti Community	23	Portage Central	10	Milford	8
Port Huron	15	Dearborn	9	Salem	8
Wyoming	13	East Kentwood	9	Waterford Mott	8
Saginaw	12	Monroe	9	Wayne Memorial	8
Waterford Kettering	12	Mt Pleasant	9	White Lake Lakeland	8
Grosse Pointe South	11	Traverse City Central	9	Allen Park	7
Walled Lake Western	11	Warren DeLaSalle	9	Belleville	7
Birmingham Groves	10	Big Rapids	8	Clinton Township Chippewa Valley	7
Detroit Martin Luther King	10	Carleton Airport	8	Farmington Hills Harrison	7
Flint Kearsley	10	Davison	8	Holt	7
Lansing Sexton	10	Garden City	8	Ida	7
Muskegon Reeths-Puffer	10	Holly	8	Lake Orion	7
New Boston Huron	10	Imlay City	8	Livonia Clarenceville	7

Northville	7	Bloomfield Hills	4	Harrison	3
Bridgeport	6	Brighton	4	Hart	3
Cedar Springs	6	Bronson	4	Hazel Park	3
Chelsea	6	Charlevoix	4	Howard City Tri-County	3
Clarkston	6	Clio	4	Howell	3
Dearborn Divine Child	6	Dearborn Heights Crestwood	4	Jackson Northwest	3
Dearborn Fordson	6	Detroit Cesar Chavez Academy	4	Jonesville	3
DeWitt	6	Detroit U-D Jesuit	4	Kalamazoo Hackett	3
East Lansing	6	Detroit Universal Academy	4	Lansing Eastern	3
Flint Southwestern	6	East Grand Rapids	4	Livonia Churchill	3
Grandville	6	Flushing	4	Livonia Franklin	3
Harrison Township L'Anse Creuse	6	Gibraltar Carlson	4	Lowell	3
Holland West Ottawa	6	Grand Blanc	4	Mason	3
Hudsonville	6	Grand Rapids Forest Hills Northern	4	Midland Dow	3
Jackson	6	Grand Rapids Ottawa Hills	4	Montague	3
Lansing Everett	6	Grand Rapids Union	4	Muskegon Catholic Central	3
Lapeer	6	Grosse Pointe North	4	Muskegon Oakridge	3
Leslie	6	Kingsford	4	Muskegon Orchard View	3
Linden	6	L'Anse	4	Newberry	3
Monroe St Mary Catholic Central	6	Lansing Catholic	4	Niles	3
Muskegon Mona Shores	6	Lawton	4	Novi	3
New Baltimore Anchor Bay	6	Lincoln Park	4	Oak Park	3
South Haven	6	Macomb Lutheran North	4	Onsted	3
St Joseph	6	Manistee	4	Oscoda	3
Wyandotte Roosevelt	6	Melvindale	4	Paw Paw	3
Wyoming Kelloggsville	6	Midland	4	Plymouth	3
Battle Creek Central	5	Midland Bullock Creek	4	Pontiac	3
Bay City John Glenn	5	North Farmington	4	Port Huron Northern	3
Bloomington	5	Owosso	4	Portage Northern	3
Brooklyn Columbia Central	5	Parma Western	4	Romulus Summit Academy North	3
Buchanan	5	Petersburg-Summerfield	4	Roscommon	3
Burton Madison Academy	5	Petoskey	4	Saginaw Arthur Hill	3
Coldwater	5	Richland Gull Lake	4	Saginaw Heritage	3
Dearborn Edsel Ford	5	River Rouge	4	Shelby	3
Dexter	5	Rochester Adams	4	Southgate Anderson	3
Frankenmuth	5	Romeo	4	St Johns	3
Genesee	5	Saginaw Swan Valley	4	St Louis	3
Grand Rapids Kenowa Hills	5	Schoolcraft	4	Sturgis	3
Grant	5	South Lyon	4	Suttons Bay	3
Hartland	5	Southfield Arts & Technology	4	Tawas	3
Kalamazoo Central	5	St Clair Shores South Lake	4	Taylor Kennedy	3
Macomb Dakota	5	Swartz Creek	4	Taylor Truman	3
Macomb L'Anse Creuse North	5	Troy	4	Three Rivers	3
Marysville	5	Utica Eisenhower	4	Trenton	3
Mattawan	5	Vandercook Lake	4	Unionville-Sebewaing	3
Muskegon	5	Warren Woods Tower	4	Utica Ford	3
North Branch	5	Wyoming Lee	4	Waldron	3
Orchard Lake St Mary's	5	Adrian Lenawee Christian	3	Walkerville	3
Pinckney	5	Allendale	3	Warren Michigan Collegiate	3
Quincy	5	Ann Arbor Pioneer	3	Warren Regina	3
Rochester Hills Stoney Creek	5	Battle Creek Lakeview	3	West Bloomfield	3
Royal Oak	5	Bay City Central	3	Whitehall	3
Shepherd	5	Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook-Kingswood	3		
St Clair Shores Lakeview	5	Byron	3		
Stockbridge	5	Byron Center	3		
Temperance Bedford	5	Calumet	3		
Traverse City Christian	5	Cassopolis	3		
Traverse City West	5	Charlotte	3		
Williamston	5	Clinton Township Clintondale	3		
Wyoming Godwin Heights	5	Coloma	3		
Adrian	4	Detroit Edison Public School Academy	3		
Allegan	4	Ecorse	3		
Allen Park Cabrini	4	Ewart	3		
Alma	4	Fenton	3		
Ann Arbor Huron	4	Fife Lake Forest Area	3		
Battle Creek Harper Creek	4	Galesburg-Augusta	3		
Benton Harbor	4	Gaylord	3		
Berkley	4	Grand Rapids Forest Hills Central	3		
Berrien Springs	4	Grayling	3		
Birmingham Seaholm	4	Hamtramck	3		

## 2017-18 Officials Reports Summary

Sport	Level	Concern	Praise	Player Ejections	Coach Ejections	Other Ejections	Sportsmanship
Boys Baseball	Varsity	128	11	71	43	2	12
Boys Baseball	Junior Varsity	46	2	21	18	3	4
Boys Baseball	Freshman	7	1	5	2	0	0
Boys Baseball	8th Grade	3	0	0	2	1	0
Boys Basketball	Varsity	107	24	51	26	2	28
Boys Basketball	Junior Varsity	50	2	29	13	2	6
Boys Basketball	Freshman	19	0	8	6	0	5
Boys Basketball	8th Grade	8	0	4	3	0	1
Boys Basketball	7th Grade	4	0	0	3	1	0
Boys Basketball	7th and 8th Grade	1	0	1	0	0	0
Boys Lacrosse	Varsity	26	0	22	1	1	2
Boys Lacrosse	Junior Varsity	13	0	12	0	0	1
Boys Football	Varsity	192	51	159	7	2	24
Boys Football	Junior Varsity	56	7	44	3	0	9
Boys Football	Freshman	16	0	16	0	0	0
Boys Football	8th Grade	4	0	2	2	0	0
Boys Football	7th Grade	2	0	0	2	0	0
Boys Football	7th and 8th Grade	3	0	0	2	0	1
Boys Football (8-Player)	Varsity	10	7	9	0	0	1
Boys Ice Hockey	Varsity	158	5	132	7	2	17
Boys Ice Hockey	Junior Varsity	18	0	16	2	0	0
Boys Soccer	Varsity	329	9	282	20	7	20
Boys Soccer	Junior Varsity	37	2	30	5	0	2
Boys Soccer	Freshman	6	0	6	0	0	0
Boys Soccer	8th Grade	1	0	0	1	0	0
Boys Soccer	7th and 8th Grade	3	0	1	0	1	1
Boys Swimming & Diving	Varsity	2	1	1	0	0	1
Boys Track and Field	Varsity	2	0	0	0	0	2
Boys Wrestling	Varsity	49	2	37	8	1	3
Boys Wrestling	Junior Varsity	1	0	1	0	0	0
Boys Wrestling	7th and 8th Grade	4	0	3	1	0	0
Boys Wrestling	6th 7th and 8th Grade	5	0	1	3	1	0
Girls Basketball	Varsity	95	17	60	22	1	12
Girls Basketball	Junior Varsity	9	1	2	4	0	3
Girls Basketball	Freshman	3	0	1	2	0	0
Girls Basketball	8th Grade	4	0	1	2	1	0
Girls Basketball	7th Grade	4	0	0	2	1	1
Girls Bowling	Varsity	1	0	1	0	0	0
Girls Competitive Cheer	Varsity	1	0	0	0	0	1
Girls Cross Country	Varsity	1	0	0	0	0	1
Girls Lacrosse	Varsity	8	0	4	2	1	1
Girls Soccer	Varsity	74	1	54	9	0	11
Girls Soccer	Junior Varsity	9	0	7	2	0	0
Girls Softball	Varsity	25	12	4	11	2	8
Girls Softball	Junior Varsity	8	0	1	6	1	0
Girls Volleyball	Varsity	8	4	1	4	1	2
Girls Volleyball	Freshman	2	0	0	1	0	1
Girls Volleyball	6th 7th and 8th Grade	1	0	0	1	0	0

### Distribution of Reports

No. of Schools	Reports of Concern	No. of Schools	Reports of Praise
202	1	104	1
110	2	21	2
75	3	3	3
57	4	1	4
34	5		
25	6		
9	7		
11	8		
6	9		
7	10		
2	11		
2	12		
1	13		
1	15		
1	23		



# AUTOMATED SPORT PRODUCTION

The NFHS Network has partnered with **Pixellot** to offer a new hardware & software solution for automated live event production.

- One-time installation in your athletic venue
- All events can be live broadcasted to the NFHS Network
- Fully automated (*no people required*)

## HOW IT WORKS

- Panoramic 4-camera view captures the whole playing field
- Auto-tracking feature enables cameras to follow the action (panning and zooming)
- No camera operator required
- Score graphics sync with venue scoreboard
- All events stream to your branded school page on [NFHSnetwork.com](http://NFHSnetwork.com)



## HARDWARE

Fixed installation includes:

- **Camera unit** – 4 weatherproof HD cameras in a single mounted unit
- **Scoring device** – plugs into scoreboard for automated score integration into the broadcast
- **Desktop Computer** – for production integration & video processing

## PRICING

- Exclusive pricing only through NFHS Network

Contact Tom Neiman for more information: [tom.neiman@nfhsnetwork.com](mailto:tom.neiman@nfhsnetwork.com)

**MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL  
ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, INC.  
1661 Ramblewood Dr.  
EAST LANSING, MICHIGAN 48823-7392**

**NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Permit No. 887  
Lansing, Michigan**