

Adoption of these regulations, as well as policies, procedures and schedules of MHSAA tournaments, is a choice schools make locally when they consider their option of MHSAA membership. Consistent with rulings of the Attorney General and Michigan Supreme Court, schools are not bound by the decisions of the Executive Committee, but the association may limit participation in the postseason tournaments it sponsors to those schools which choose to apply rules and penalties as promulgated by the MHSAA and adopted by each member school's board of education. The MHSAA exercises no independent authority over schools or students.

Ann Arbor-Huron, Milan and Whitmore Lake High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-1]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in ice hockey (varsity only) between these three schools whose combined enrollment of 2,968 students will move one team from the Division 2 tournament into Division 1. Ann Arbor-Huron sponsored hockey previously and will be the primary school. Support from the Southeast Conference was submitted.

Bark River-Harris and Powers-North Central High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved a wrestling cooperative program (varsity and JV) between these two schools with a combined enrollment of 330 students which will continue placement of a team in the Division 4 tournament. Bark River-Harris sponsored wrestling previously and will be the primary school. Support from future opponents was submitted.

Detroit-Mumford and Detroit-Marygrove High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E-1]) – The Executive Committee approved a subvarsity only cooperative program in boys and girls basketball, football, boys and girls cross country, boys and girls track & field, baseball, girls softball, boys and girls swimming & diving, wrestling and girls volleyball between these two schools of the same district. Marygrove is a new member school of the Detroit Public Schools set to open with the start of the 2019-20 school year. If a subvarsity team is not offered, eligibility will only be in non-scoring heats or events of individual sports, as stipulated in the 2019-20 *MHSAA Handbook*, Interpretation 85. Marygrove estimates a 2019-20 enrollment of 120 9th-grade students. The combined enrollment will be 1,127 students. Mumford will be the primary school. Support from the Detroit Public School League was submitted.

Flint-Kearsley and Linden-Lake Fenton High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-1]) – The Executive Committee waived the April 15 fall sports deadline and approved a cooperative program in girls and boys swimming & diving (varsity only). The combined enrollment of 1,654 students will move one team from Division 3 into the Division 2 tournament. Kearsley sponsored these sports previously and will be the primary school. Support from the Flint Metro League was submitted.

Grand Rapids-West Catholic, Cedar Springs, Coopersville and Grand Rapids Christian High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-1]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of Grand Rapids Christian to the cooperative program in ice hockey (varsity only) which exists between the other three schools. West Michigan Aviation has withdrawn from an agreement with Grand Rapids Christian. The combined enrollment of 3,128 students will move one team from the Division 2 tournament into the Division 1 tournament. West Catholic will continue as the primary school. Support from the OK Conference was submitted.

Holland-West Ottawa, Holland-Black River, Holland Christian and Saugatuck High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-1]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of Saugatuck to the cooperative program in ice hockey (varsity only) which exists between the other three schools and whose combined enrollment of 3,393 students will continue placement of a team in the Division 1 tournament. West Ottawa will continue as the primary school. Support from the OK Conference was submitted.

Cooperative Program Renewals (Regulation I, Section 1[F]) – Pursuant to instructions revised by the Representative Council in December 2006, the MHSAA staff identified Cooperative Team Renewal Forms that require Executive Committee review, including those involving Class A or B schools or three or more schools of any size which indicate large numbers of students trying out or being cut, or a significant win/loss record. All agreements include conference approvals. The Executive Committee approved continuation of the following programs for the 2019-20 school year only:

- a. Midland and Midland-H. H. Dow in Boys Lacrosse: In May 2018, the Executive Committee approved a one-year renewal of the Midland and Midland-H. H. Dow program in boys lacrosse for the 2018-19 school year only. This program was scheduled to return to the Executive Committee for further consideration prior to operating in 2019-20 and beyond.
- b. South Lyon and South Lyon East High Schools in Boys Lacrosse: On Jan. 10, 2018, the Executive Committee determined that the cooperative programs between these two schools of the same district in girls swimming & diving and boys lacrosse should dissolve. This took place after evaluation of the two programs based on cooperative program renewals dating back to 2015. The school district requested that the boys lacrosse cooperative program be permitted to continue for two seasons, through the 2019-20 school year, because participation numbers did not appear to permit South Lyon East to sponsor its own varsity team in the next two seasons. The schools believed that they would need underclassmen when forming separate varsity teams, and this would deplete players for a junior varsity cooperative program. The Lakes Valley Conference discussed these concerns and wrote requesting the cooperative program continue for two seasons, provided the participation numbers do not change. On Sept. 5, 2018, the Executive Committee approved the cooperative program in boys lacrosse for the 2018-19 school year only. The program was required to submit updated boys lacrosse participation numbers in the spring to determine its status for 2019-20.

The Executive Committee approved continuation of the following program through the 2020-21 school year:

- c. Zeeland West and Zeeland East High School in Girls and Boys Swimming & Diving: Twenty-one students participated from each school in girls swimming & diving. Fifteen and thirteen boys swam from each school in boys swimming & diving. Consideration was given to whether enough girls were swimming for each school to have their own teams in the future.

Ann Arbor-Pioneer High School (Regulation I, Sections 4 & 5) – A request to waive the maximum enrollment and participation portions of the eligibility regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who was diagnosed with a serious illness in April 2017. The illness returned in June 2018. The student was withdrawn from some classes, was absent several days due to the treatment of his condition and was unable to accumulate enough credits to graduate. He participated in football and basketball during the 9th and 10th grades before the initial diagnosis in April 2017. The student was unable to play during his 12th-grade year in 2018-19. The student is the subject of an IEP and seeks to play football during his ninth semester in 2019-20.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Burton-Genesee Christian High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who previously attended Davison, participated in boys soccer, and enrolled at Genesee Christian on Jan. 22, 2019. The student left his former school in fear of physical retaliation for activity by other students at the former school.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Central Lake High School (Regulation I, Section 9[C]) – A request was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility in football. While enrolled at Ellsworth, the student was a participant in the football cooperative agreement between the two schools and will be enrolling at Central Lake to begin the 2019-20 school year. Support for eligibility in football from the former school was submitted.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver in football for the 2019-20 school year. The student will not be eligible during 2019-20 for other sports played in 2018-19 while at Ellsworth.

Comstock Park High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfers regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who has moved into the home of his grandmother in Comstock Park because his parents experienced financial and other difficulties in Florida. The student participated in football previously and enrolled at Comstock Park on April 15, 2019.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Dearborn-Divine Child High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 62 (closest nonpublic school) was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who is moving from his father's home in Georgia to his mother's home in Novi. The parents never married, and the student attended Divine Child for the 9th and 10th grades while living with his mother in Novi before moving to his father in Georgia for the 11th grade. An otherwise completed Educational Transfer Form was submitted. The student will be enrolling at Divine Child to begin the 2019-20 school year.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Engadine High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 62 (public school of residence) was made on behalf of 11th- and 12th-grade international students from an Approved International Student Program whose host family has ties to the Engadine Schools including being a graduate. The family currently lives in Engadine but has purchased a new home in the Newberry School District and could be residing there prior to the start of the 2019-20 school year.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Grand Rapids-Kenowa Hills High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 10th-grade student who is returning to Kenowa Hills after attending Grand Rapids-West Catholic for the 9th grade in 2018-19 where the student participated in JV football and rugby. He attended Kenowa Hills Schools through the 8th grade. The student experienced health issues while at his former school and has been working with a clinician due to increased medical issues. The student intends to return to Kenowa Hills to begin the 2019-20 school year.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Johannesburg-Lewiston High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 10th-grade student who attended Johannesburg-Lewiston Schools his entire life except for the second semester of the 9th grade when the student enrolled at Gaylord on March 5, 2019. The student played JV football and basketball at Johannesburg and no sports at Gaylord. He wishes to return to Johannesburg to begin the 2019-20 school year.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Kentwood-East Kentwood High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 62 (public school of residence) was made on behalf of a 10th-grade international student from an Approved International Student Program whose host family lives in the Caledonia School District. The host family has a 12th-grade student who has attended East Kentwood his entire career.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Lake Orion High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – On March 21, 2019, the Executive Committee did not approve a request to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility at the subvarsity level only on behalf of a 9th-grade student who previously attended Oakland Christian until Jan. 28, 2019, when the student enrolled at Lake Orion. The student's father lost his job and could no longer afford tuition. The student participated in football at Oakland Christian and had previously played middle school wrestling and baseball. The school requested eligibility at the subvarsity level, contending that the student was being penalized twice as he is ineligible for JV baseball in the spring of 2019 and JV football in the fall under the new sport-specific transfer regulation. The school requested reconsideration and provided additional information, including that the student has a learning disability, was in need of greater academic support, has been in counseling and is currently on medication.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Millington High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who left Millington after the 9th grade and attended Reese for the 10th grade in 2018-19. The student changed schools in January 2018 because she was the victim of social media encounters that were threatening in nature by a then Millington student which led to charges being filed and a conviction for the perpetrator this spring. The student behind the activity had stolen another student's identity and was not discovered until May of 2018, after which the student was expelled from Millington. The convicted student has been ordered by the court to have no contact with the student. The student played volleyball at Reese in the 2018-19 school year and now wishes to return to Millington after three semesters.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Monroe-St. Mary Catholic Central High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 10th-grade student who experienced bullying and harassment from volleyball teammates and others while a student at Monroe. The student entered homebound schooling at Monroe for two weeks before enrolling at St. Mary Catholic Central in late January to begin the second semester of 2018-19.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Novi High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – On March 21, 2019, the Executive Committee did not approve a request to waive the sport-specific transfer regulation to permit participation in boys basketball during the 2019-20 season on behalf of a 10th-grade student who attended Novi Schools through the 8th grade and received support from reading specialists. The student has an impairment which affects his ability to learn. The student is eligible for a Section 504 plan, which his former school, Novi-Detroit Catholic Central, could not meet. The student participated in nine games of basketball during the 2018-19 school year before enrolling at Novi on Jan. 14, 2019. The school requested reconsideration and provided additional information, including that in addition to the learning disability, the student has been diagnosed with a medical condition. The student has not participated in athletics since January 2019 and seeks to try out for basketball this fall as an 11th-grader.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Pickford High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student whose parents in Florida have been unable to provide a sustained, stable home environment for the student. The mother has health issues resulting in hospitalization and the father's job requires him to be away from home approximately four days per week. The student has been living with friends and relatives who have cared for her. The parents have decided the student should live with her grandparents in Pickford until graduation. The student participated in volleyball and girls basketball during the 2018-19 school year while a student in Florida and will be enrolling at Pickford to begin the 2019-20 school year.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Riverview High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student (2019-20) who attended Riverview as an 8th-grader and began the 9th grade at Trenton in 2017-18. The student was treated as an outsider and experienced bullying by football teammates through the 9th grade and first half of the 2018-19 school year. The student enrolled at Riverview on Dec. 3, 2018. About this same time, the student's older brother experienced a medical tragedy that caused the student to return to Riverview Schools. A younger sibling continues to attend middle school in Trenton.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Tecumseh High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility at the subvarsity level only was made on behalf of an incoming 9th-grade student who had a difficult time with the Project-Based Learning offered then at Tecumseh and enrolled at Adrian-Lenawee Christian for the 9th grade in 2018-19. The student participated in JV volleyball. She attended Tecumseh Schools through the 8th grade. Tecumseh has returned to a more traditional education and the student will be reenrolling to begin the 2019-20 school year.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Approved International Student Programs (AISP) – Exception 4 of Regulation I, Section 9(A) allows immediate eligibility for one academic year for an otherwise eligible international student on either a J-1 or F-1 visa who is placed in a residence in a public high school district or school service area through an MHSAA Approved International Student Program. Pursuant to Interpretation 83, the Executive Committee reviewed the CSIET J-1 and F-1 inbound student programs as well as all member school-operated international student programs and determined that the following are MHSAA approved for the 2019-20 school year:

CSIET F-1 Inbound Listed Programs (See Appendix A)

CSIET J-1 Inbound Listed Programs (See Appendix B)

MHSAA Member School Programs:

- Bloomfield Hills-Brother Rice High School – Maximum of **six (6)** international students (total of J-1 and F-1 visa students) allowed to participate on varsity level interscholastic teams during the **2019-20** academic year.
- Clarkston-Everest Collegiate High School (through Oak International Academies) – Maximum of **five (5)** international students (total of J-1 and F-1 visa students) allowed to participate on varsity level interscholastic teams during the **2019-20** academic year.
- Grand Rapids Christian High School – Maximum of **nine (9)** international students (total of J-1 and F-1 visa students) allowed to participate on varsity level interscholastic teams during the **2019-20** academic year.

- Grand Rapids-NorthPointe Christian High School – Maximum of **five (5)** international students (total of J-1 and F-1 visa students) allowed to participate on varsity level interscholastic teams during the **2019-20** academic year.
- Grosse Pointe Woods-University Liggett School – Maximum of **five (5)** international students (total of J-1 and F-1 visa students) allowed to participate on varsity level interscholastic teams during the **2019-20** academic year.
- Jenison High School (Jenison International Academy) – Maximum of **fifteen (15)** international students (total of J-1 and F-1 visa students) allowed to participate on varsity level interscholastic teams during the **2019-20** academic year.
- Muskegon West Michigan Christian High School – Maximum of **five (5)** international students (total of J-1 and F-1 visa students) allowed to participate on varsity level interscholastic teams during the **2019-20** academic year.
- Pannonia Christian Exchange – Maximum of **five (5)** international students (total of J-1 and F-1 visa students) allowed to participate on varsity level interscholastic teams during the **2019-20** academic year.
- St. Joseph-Michigan Lutheran High School – Maximum of **five (5)** international students (total of J-1 and F-1 visa students) allowed to participate on varsity level interscholastic teams during the **2019-20** academic year.
- Traverse City Area Public Schools – Maximum of **thirty (30)** international students (total of J-1 and F-1 visa students) allowed to participate on varsity level interscholastic teams during the **2019-20** academic year.

NFHS-NCAA College Basketball Academy (Regulation I, Section 11) – A request to waive certain provisions of the amateur status and awards regulations was made to allow individual students and one parent or chaperone (as defined by the NCAA) to receive reimbursement for travel to a regional basketball camp at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign from July 22-28, 2019. In addition, three nights of housing at a hotel would be provided for the parent or chaperone. MHSAA regulations permit **students** to accept meals and non-competitive trips, if accepted in kind, and travel and room and board if such is offered to all participants (Interpretations 118 and 130). The gear may be considered as part of the entry fee which is offered to all students or under the 2018-19 \$25 award limit. The reimbursement for mileage and hotel lodging for the parent/chaperone is outside the scope of MHSAA regulations. The College Basketball Academy is an NFHS-NCAA partnership attempting to better connect Division 1 college basketball recruiting and schools.

The Executive Committee approved this request for MHSAA member school students at this event only for the summer of 2019 only.

Ferndale High School (Regulation II, Sections 6 & 11[H]) – A request was made to waive the 600-mile round-trip travel limitation for participation at an out-of-season during the summer team camp. The boys basketball team sought to participate in the Chicago Summer Showcase event in Rockford, Illinois on either June 22-23 or June 28-30, 2019. The event is a first-of-its-kind NCAA/NFHS-approved activity that originally was to include teams within the MHSAA travel allowance. The interest has been so great that teams from non-bordering states are registering to attend. The NCAA has allowed the NFHS to coordinate two player evaluation periods in June that include this event. Note: Regulation II, Section 11(H) states: “These 15 (or 7) days of competition in the summer with the school’s coaches of the sport present are subject to the same out-of-state travel limits that apply to school teams during the school season under Regulation II, Section 6, except for camps conducted within Michigan.”

The Executive Committee approved this request for MHSAA member school students and coaches for the summer of 2019 only and for this event only.

East Grand Rapids High School (Regulation II, Section 11[H]) – Pursuant to Interpretation 241, a request to waive the four-player rule for the 2019-20 school year was made on behalf of the assistant boys and girls swimming & diving coach who is employed full-time by the East Grand Rapids Aquatics USA Swim Club. The program will have over 260 participants ages 6-18 of whom approximately 100 are East Grand Rapids students in grades 7-12. Approximately 40 participants come from four other schools or districts (Byron Center, Grand Rapids-Catholic Central, Grand Rapids Christian and Forest Hills). A similar request has been approved for this coach and program since 2012-13.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver for this coach for the 2019-20 school year.

Midland-H. H. Dow High School (Regulation II, Section 11[H]) – Pursuant to Interpretation 241, a request to waive the four-player rule for the 2019-20 school year was made on behalf of the head girls swimming & diving coach who is employed full-time by the Midland Dolphins Swim Club. The club is open to the public and, for 2019-20, it is anticipated to include approximately 150 participants ages 5-20. The majority of the swimmers will be students from both Midland Public Schools and also involve college-age students and students from Auburn-Bay City Western and Freeland. It is estimated that 25 swimmers from H. H. Dow High School will participate. There is pool construction in the area that affects this request. A similar request has been approved for this coach and program each year since 2014-15.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver for this coach for the 2019-20 school year.

Midland High School and Midland-Jefferson Middle School (Regulation II, Section 11[H]) – Pursuant to Interpretation 241, a request to waive the four-player rule for the 2019-20 school year was made on behalf of the head girls swimming & diving coach who is an elementary art teacher and employed as a coach of an age group swim club, the Midland Dolphins. The coach is in her fourth year as the high school girls head coach, selected from a limited pool of coaching candidates in 2015. Her primary non-school responsibilities are to beginning swimmers and non-competitive middle school age students that practice approximately four hours per week. She is also the coach of the Jefferson Middle School team, as permitted under Interpretation 242. The Dolphins program has 150-200 swimmers ages 5-18 and anticipates 50-75 students in grades 7-12. Students from four school districts including Midland are involved in the Dolphins program: Bay City, Bullock Creek, Freeland and Mt. Pleasant. While non-school swimming is not the coach's primary source of income, the income is necessary to support the coach's family. The Executive Committee has approved this waiver for this coach since the 2015-16 school year.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver for this coach for the 2019-20 school year.

Portage Northern High School (Regulation II, Section 11[H]) – Pursuant to Interpretation 241, a request to waive the four-player rule for the 2019-20 school year was made on behalf of a newly hired assistant girls and boys swimming & diving coach who is also the head coach of the Portage Aquatics Club which is his principal source of income. The club is open to the general public and includes approximately 200 participants ages 5-18. The program involves participants from several school districts including Portage (Allegan, Battle Creek, Climax-Scotts, Kalamazoo, Kalamazoo Christian, Mattawan, Plainwell, Richland-Gull Lake, Schoolcraft, Three Rivers and Vicksburg). It is estimated that there are 44 students in grades 7-12 involved from the Portage Public Schools; 19 attend Portage Northern and 25 attend Portage Central. A waiver was approved for this same coach for the 2013-14 school year.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver for this coach for the 2019-20 school year.

Mesick High School (Regulation II, Section 15[A]) – A request was made to waive the enrollment limit of 188 students (2019-20 Class D enrollment) to permit participation in the 2019 8-player football tournament. Mesick's 2019-20 enrollment submitted in February 2019 was 193 students, five students over the Class D limit. In 2018, Mesick's enrollment was 201 students and the school finished with a 4-5 record and did not participate in the playoffs in 2019 but did qualify in its first year of 8-player football in 2018 with a 5-4 record. The school reported that its average class size is 47 students but it has an unusually high 10th-grade enrollment of 68 students. In May 2019, the Representative Council increased the 8-player enrollment cap to 215 students, but not effective until the 2020 season. Two schools were given the grace year in 2019: Big Rapids-Crossroads Charter with a 2018-19 enrollment of 201 students (currently 188), and Mesick. Mesick is the only 8-player school not allowed to participate in the 2019 tournament because of its enrollment and requests to be tournament eligible because of the enrollment limit increase planned for the following year.

The Executive Committee approved the request for 8-player football tournament eligibility for the 2019-20 school year.

West Michigan Middle School Conference (Regulation IV, Section 10) – A request was made to allow this league to begin middle school football practice five days earlier than allowed by the regulation, on Wednesday, Aug. 21, 2019. Practice is permitted on the 14th Monday before Thanksgiving (Aug. 26, 2019). The early start date would allow schools the option to have three additional days of practice so they may scrimmage on the Wednesday or Thursday of the last week of August prior to Labor Day in order to have nine practice days prior to the scrimmage. It would also permit schools to not practice on the Friday or Monday of Labor Day. The league offers four seasons of participation with winter sports beginning on Monday, Oct. 14, 2019, and this would permit some time off between fall and winter seasons.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver. The middle schools of this conference may begin practice on Wednesday, Aug. 21, 2019.

MHSAA Multimedia Policies – The Executive Committee approved the 2019-20 MHSAA Multimedia Policies.

MHSAA Officials Guidebook – The Executive Committee approved the 2019-20 MHSAA Officials Guidebook.

Future Meetings – The next meetings of the Executive Committee are scheduled for Thursday, Aug. 1, 2019, at 9 a.m. in East Lansing; Thursday, Aug. 22, 2019, at 9 a.m. in East Lansing (all on site); Wednesday, Sept. 4, 2019, at 9 a.m. in East Lansing; Wednesday, Oct. 2, 2019 at 9 a.m. in East Lansing; Wednesday, Nov. 6, 2019, at 9 a.m. in East Lansing; and Thursday, Dec. 5, 2019, at 1:30 p.m. in East Lansing (Representative Council meets next day).