



**Coaching Requirements and Deadlines**  
**COACH MUST COMPLETE • AD ATTEST • BY THE DEADLINE**  
**Head Coach Rules Meeting Requirement has NOT Changed**

**2026-27**

<b>FALL SPORTS 2026</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>End Date</b>
Football, Girls Volleyball, Soccer, Field Hockey	<b>Mon, July 20</b>	<b>Thurs, Sept 10</b>
Cross Country, Golf, Tennis, Swim & Dive	<b>Mon, July 27</b>	<b>Thurs, Sept 10</b>
School Attests: All Fall HS & JH/MS head coaches have valid CPR and subvarsity & assistant coaches have met MHSAA rules meeting requirements. New varsity head coaches must complete CAP Level 1 or 2.		<b>Thurs, Sept 10</b>

<b>WINTER SPORTS 2026-27</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>End Date</b>
Basketball, Hockey, Competitive Cheer, Wrestling	<b>Mon, Oct 5</b>	<b>Thurs, Dec 10</b>
Bowling, Gymnastics, Skiing, Swim & Dive	<b>Mon, Oct 12</b>	<b>Thurs, Dec 10</b>
School Attests: All Winter HS & JH/MS head coaches have valid CPR and subvarsity & assistant coaches have met MHSAA rules meeting requirements. New varsity head coaches must complete CAP Level 1 or 2.		<b>Thurs, Dec 10</b>

<b>SPRING SPORTS 2027</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>End Date</b>
Baseball, Softball, Boys Lacrosse, Soccer, Boys Volleyball	<b>Mon, Feb 1</b>	<b>Thurs, Apr 15</b>
Golf, Girls Lacrosse, Tennis, Track & Field	<b>Mon, Feb 8</b>	<b>Thurs, Apr 15</b>
School Attests: All Spring HS & JH/MS head coaches have valid CPR and subvarsity & assistant coaches have met MHSAA rules meeting requirements. New varsity head coaches must complete CAP Level 1 or 2.		<b>Thurs, Apr 15</b>

◆ **REGULATION II, SECTION 3(B)** - High schools must attest by each season’s established deadline that all head coaches at all levels of each high school team have a valid, current Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) certification. The established deadline for coaches (regardless of level) shall be the latest date set for the completion of the MHSAA rules meeting for the sport. A person who is the head coach for more than one sport during the school year must meet the deadline for the first of those sports. It is expected that schools will impose the penalty of Section 8(B) on head coaches who do not meet this requirement.

◆ **REGULATION IV, SECTION 3(B)** - Junior high/middle schools must attest by each season’s established deadline that all head coaches at all levels of each junior high/middle school team have a valid, current Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) certification. The established deadline for coaches (regardless of level) shall be the first contest date for the sport. A person who is the head coach for more than one sport during the school year must meet the deadline for the first of those sports. It is expected that schools will impose the penalty of Section 8(B) on head coaches who do not meet this requirement.

◆ **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 after July 31, 2016, 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.

◆ **REGULATION II, SECTION 3(D)** - Starting with the 2024-25 school year, high schools shall attest by each season’s established deadline that all high school teams (varsity and subvarsity) have an emergency action plan specific to their practice and contest locations. These plans shall be posted, documented, and rehearsed at least once per season. Schools are expected to impose the penalty of Section 8(B) on high school head coaches (varsity and subvarsity teams) who do not meet this requirement.

◆ **REGULATION II, SECTION 8(B)** - Each head coach of a varsity team in a sport under MHSAA jurisdiction shall complete (in person or online) the MHSAA rules meetings for that sport for the current school year prior to the deadline if meetings are provided and attendance is required. If the head coach does not complete a rules meeting prior to the 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.

◆ **REGULATION II, SECTION 8(C)** - Schools shall attest that all assistant and subvarsity coaches have completed an MHSAA rule meeting (online or in person) for that sport for the current school year prior to the deadline. Assistant or subvarsity coaches who coach more than one sport during a school year must fulfill the requirement each season unless the sport is the same and the coach had completed the MHSAA sport-specific rules meeting earlier in the school year for that sport (e.g., JV boys and JV girls soccer coach). It is expected that schools will impose the penalty of Section 8(B) on assistant or subvarsity coaches who do not meet this requirement by the deadline.