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To: Managers & sports directors/editors of media outlets

From: Mark Uyl, Executive Director

Jon Ross, Director of Broadcast Properties

Subject: 2025-26 MHSAA Multimedia Regulations

Date: July 16, 2025

As we approach the upcoming school year, we'd like to take a few moments to remind you about MHSAA regulations which apply to audio and video coverage of regular-season high school sporting events and MHSAA postseason tournaments.

There are no substantive changes to the regulations for this year, but we would like to emphasize a couple of points:

- No media outlet is ever allowed in a team locker room during MHSAA Tournament events.
- Athletes/coaches/officials are NOT allowed to wear a microphone or any other wearable recording technology during gameplay.
- Video highlights from an MHSAA Tournament game cannot exceed 3 minutes (head-to-head competition) or 20 minutes (non-dual event).

For outlets wishing to distribute audio or video of MHSAA Tournament events, you are reminded that you must have an online account with the MHSAA to be able to apply for the rights to those games. The entire process is now online, and outlets are required to prepay their rights fees by credit card in advance before they will be approved for broadcast. For questions or help with registration, please contact our office - jon@mhsaa.com.

Audio outlets on any platform may apply for a tournament rights fee waiver by becoming a member of the MHSAA Network. Network affiliates are obligated to carry a minimum number of network originations from the Girls and Boys Basketball Finals, air the weekly "This Week in High School Sports" program and pay an annual administrative fee to receive a rights fee waiver for any tournament games they wish to originate. More information will be sent to audio outlets in August.

Live video streaming of regular-season games will be allowed in the following ways:

- Through the NFHS Network
- Through a school-controlled web platform (such as a school's YouTube or Facebook page)
- Through an approved local media outlet provided the home/host school is a member of the NFHS Network. (<u>List of members here</u>).

## A few other notes:

- All audio outlets must apply for Tournament Media Credentials to avoid the need to issue passes on a per event basis. More information can be found on the Credentials page of the MHSAA Website https://www.mhsaa.com/live/media-credentials
- The online Broadcast Application form will provide you an opportunity to submit the names of your staff members going to a tournament center to the tournament manager. Please fill this out even if you have Tournament Media Credentials.
- If you arrive at a site without having made an application with the MHSAA office to originate a contest, tournament managers have been instructed not to allow such outlets to originate.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact this office. We appreciate your support of interscholastic athletics and look forward to serving you in the year ahead.