



Mark Uyl, Executive Director | Jon Ross, Director of Broadcast Properties

1661 Ramblewood Drive • East Lansing, MI 48823-7392 • 517.332.5046 • Fax 517.332.4071 • www.mhsaa.com

To: Managers and sports directors of radio stations & audio web outlets

From: Mark Uyl, Executive Director
Jon Ross, Director of Broadcast Properties

Subject: Declaration of Clearance for MHSAA tournament contests

Date: August 10, 2026

NEW THIS YEAR: The MHSAA will no longer produce audio broadcasts of championship events in football and basketball. Outlets wishing to broadcast these events must do so themselves.

The MHSAA will again offer a rights fee waiver program for the school year to network affiliates wishing to originate postseason tournament events. Stations qualify for this year-long rights fee waiver by meeting all the conditions below:

- Airing at least :60 (sixty) seconds of MHSAA public service announcements per week. (Approved PSAs can be downloaded here: <https://www.mhsaa.com/i-am/media-members/public-service-announcements>).
- Airing the weekly “This Week in High School Sports” program at least once a week. **The program will be available every week during the Football and Basketball seasons.** “This Week in High School Sports” is an MP3 downloadable file that will be available by Tuesday afternoon each week. “This Week in High School Sports” is five (5) minutes in length, and network stations will be invited to submit stories and sound bites.
- Submitting their Declaration of Clearance and paying a one-time administrative fee of \$100 for the 2026-27 school year **no later than Sept. 30.**

Membership does have its privileges. Affiliates' broadcast rights fees will be waived for MHSAA postseason events, and they may reposition their broadcasts to sell as podcasts, downloads, and CDs with no additional fees.

The [Declaration of Clearance Form for 2026-27 is now online](#). To assist us in our preparations, we encourage you to submit the Declaration of Clearance form **no later than Sept. 30** and help provide valuable statewide recognition for the student-athletes who participate in MHSAA tournaments. If you wish to join the network at a later date or clear selected programming, you will be given the option to do so, but you will not receive a rights fee waiver.

This is a reminder to all stations that you must have an online account with the MHSAA to apply to cover tournament games. The entire process is now online, and those stations which are not members of the MHSAA Network are required to prepay their rights fees by credit card in advance before they will be approved for broadcast. Please contact our office so we can register you – jon@mhsaa.com.

There are no significant changes to the Multimedia Regulations for 2026-27 that affect audio broadcasts.

- You are responsible for your own transmission arrangements. Schools are not required to have telephone lines or internet access for outlets.
- 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.
- Some have asked about adding your audio broadcast to the automated NFHS Network livestream. That is allowed, per the host school's permission, and is generally pretty straightforward. Information on that process can be found here:
<https://support.nfhsnetwork.com/s/article/How-to-Add-Announcer-Audio>.

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.

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