



michigan high school athletic association

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*The Only Official Interpretations Are
Those Received In Writing*

The Most Efficient Method of Communication With the MHSAA on Eligibility Questions

Athletic Directors should gather all information necessary on a question and then call or write the MHSAA. Coaches or parents calling the MHSAA on eligibility matters can create confusion and delay. (Parents or coaches subsequently inform the AD, who then calls the MHSAA to verify and then "gets back" to the parent or coach.) AD's or Principals are encouraged to contact the MHSAA Office directly.

Please follow this efficient path of communication

Remember, only written eligibility interpretations are official. Have new students complete the New Student Transfer Information Form to gather detailed eligibility information for internal school review. **Do not mail the New Student Transfer form to the MHSAA.**

ON THE COVER

Competitive Cheer, Ice Hockey, Bowling and Wrestling are just some of the sports highlighting the busiest season of championship action at the MHSAA. Consult MHSAA.com to keep updated on all the schedules, results, ticket information and coverage.

(Photos by Visual Image Photography)

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Board of Education
Tawas Area Schools
Appointee

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Superintendent
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Class C-D — Upper Peninsula

Ken Dietz*

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

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Director of Athletics
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Class A-B — Southeastern Michigan

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Arnetta Thompson*

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Grand Rapids Union High School
Appointee

Mark Woodson**

Director of Student Development and Athletics
Romulus High School
Appointee

Wendy Zdeb**

Principal
Rochester High School
Appointee

*Term Expires December 2009

**Term Expires December 2010

Any individual who is a representative of a member school (faculty member or Board of Education member) may become a candidate for the MHSAA Representative Council. Please contact the MHSAA Executive Director for an outline of procedures.

MHSAA Staff

Randy Allen, Assistant Director

Tony Bihn, Director of Information Systems

Jordan Cobb, Assistant Director, Information Systems

Andy Frushour, Marketing & Special Programs Coord.

Nate Hampton, Assistant Director

John R. Johnson, Communications Director

Rob Kaminski, Publications and Web Site Coordinator

Camala Kinder, Administrative Assistant

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Thomas L. Minter, Assistant to Executive Director

Peggy Montpas, Accounting Manager

Andrea Osters, Program & Development Assistant

Thomas M. Rashid, Associate Director

John E. Roberts, Executive Director

Laura Roberts, Receptionist

Mark Uyl, Assistant Director

Jamie VanDerMoere, Administrative Assistant

Faye Verellen, Administrative Assistant

Debbie Waddell, Executive Assistant

Tricia Wieferich, Administrative Assistant

Kathy Vrugink Westdorp, Assistant Director

Karen Yonkers, Executive Assistant

Not all the facts presented to the Executive Committee and Representative Council as part of requests to waive eligibility regulations are included in the reports of those meetings, either because of the volume of material reviewed or the confidentiality requested by schools for their students, parents or faculty.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

East Lansing, November 5, 2008

Members Present:

Jim Derocher, Negaunee
Keith Eldred, Williamston
Vic Michaels, Detroit
Dan Flynn, Escanaba
Linda Myers, Morley

Staff Members Present:

Tom Rashid
Jack Roberts (Recorder)

Executive Committee Authority and Responsibility

- The Executive Committee reviewed its authority under Article VII of the MHSAA Constitution and specifically its responsibility to consider each application for waiver of an eligibility requirement on its individual merits, determining if the regulation serves the purpose for which it was intended in each case or if the regulation works an undue hardship on any student who is the subject of a request for waiver. (These underlying criteria may not be restated for every subject of these minutes.)

The Executive Committee was reminded that it was the responsibility of each member school involved to provide sufficient factual information about the specific request for the Executive Committee to reach a decision without further investigation. If information is incomplete, contradictory or otherwise unclear or has been received too late to be studied completely, the Executive Committee may deny the request for waiver or delay action. Such requests may be resubmitted to the Executive Committee with additional information at a subsequent meeting or appealed to the full Representative Council.

It is possible that some of the information presented as facts to the Executive Committee by school personnel and others may be inaccurate. However, to avoid constant repetition in this report of phrases such as "it was alleged" or "it was reported," no attempt is made in the intro-

duction of each waiver request to distinguish between truth, allegation, hearsay, opinion, summary or conclusion. If any information provided to the Executive Committee is inaccurate, any decision of the Executive Committee to grant waiver of a regulation shall be null and void.

The Executive Committee is not authorized to approve waiver based on alleged or actual differences between schools based on "environment," demographics, curriculum or extracurricular offerings. A determination of undue hardship is a matter addressed to the discretion of the Executive Committee within the educational philosophy and secondary role of voluntary extracurricular competitive athletics in the academic environment. The Executive Committee will avoid making exceptions that would create precedent that effectively changes a rule without Representative Council action or local board of education adoption, which would exceed Executive Committee authority. The contract the MHSAA has with member schools obligates the MHSAA to not change rules during the school year.

Students for whom waiver of a particular regulation is approved must be eligible in all other respects under all sections and interpretations of the regulations prior to their participation.

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.

Burt Lake-Northern Michigan Christian Academy and Harbor Springs-Harbor Light Christian High School (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in boys and girls track & field between these two schools which have not sponsored the sport previously and whose combined enrollment of 79 students will place new teams in the Division 4 tournaments. Northern Michigan Christian will be the primary school. Support from future opponents was received.

Burton-Faith High School, Burton-Valley Christian Academy and Flint-The Valley School (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in boys golf and boys and girls soccer between these three schools whose combined enrollment is 123 students. Faith sponsored golf previously and will be the primary school for boys golf. Valley Christian sponsored boys and girls soccer and will be the primary school for soccer. Teams will continue placement in the Division 4 Boys and Girls Soccer and Boys Golf Tournaments. Support from the Inner State Athletic Conference was received.

Burton-Valley Christian Academy and Flint-The Valley School (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in baseball between these two schools whose combined enrollment is 73 students, continuing placement of a team in the Division 4 tournament. Valley Christian will be the primary school and

previously sponsored baseball in a cooperative program with Flint-Michigan School for the Deaf (whose future involvement is uncertain). The schools are not in a league, but support from three future opponents was received.

Eben Junction-Superior Central, Rock-Mid Peninsula and Munising High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee tabled a partially completed application for the addition of Mid Peninsula to a cooperative agreement in baseball which has existed between Superior Central and Munising since 2005. Superior Central would remain the primary school. The combined enrollment of 485 students would continue placement of a team in the Division 3 tournament. Support from future opponents was requested but not received.

Grand Rapids-Ottawa Hills High School (Regulation I, Section 1) – A request to waive the enrollment regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who previously played for the Grand Rapids-Ottawa Hills/Union hockey cooperative program which was discontinued on Oct. 31, 2008 due to low participation. The student's family has moved to Ohio while the student continues to be enrolled at Ottawa Hills High School. The school requested that the student be allowed to participate on the Grand Rapids-Creston/Central cooperative team which continues to operate. All four schools are of the same district.

The Executive Committee cited consistent past precedent that a school's dropping of a sport is not to be the basis for approving waiver of enrollment or transfer rules. This request for waiver was not approved.

Harris—Bark River-Harris and Wilson-Nah Tah Wahsh PSA High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in boys and girls track & field and boys and girls golf between these two schools whose combined enrollment of 241 students will continue placement of each team in Upper Peninsula Division 3 tournaments. Bark River-Harris sponsored the sports previ-

ously and will be the primary school. Support from the Skyline Conference and the Central UP League was received.

Ironwood-L. L. Wright and Bessemer-A. D. Johnston High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee tabled a partially completed application for the addition of girls soccer to a cooperative agreement in boys soccer which has existed between these schools since 2007. The combined enrollment is 501 students. An MHSAA Girls Soccer Tournament is not presently conducted in the Upper Peninsula. The Ironwood Board of Education is expected to vote on the matter soon and A. D. Johnston will submit signatures indicating its Board's recent approval. Support from future opponents was requested but not received.

Lansing Christian and Holt Lutheran High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in boys track & field between these two schools whose combined enrollment of 249 students will continue placement of a team in the Division 4 tournament. Lansing Christian sponsored track & field previously and will be the primary school. Support from the Southern Michigan Activities Association was received.

Onekama and Bear Lake High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of baseball to cooperative programs which exist between these schools in several sports. Onekama will be the primary school. Neither school sponsored baseball previously. The combined enrollment of 219 students will place a new team in the Division 4 tournament. Support from the West Michigan D League was received.

Pickford, Detour and Cedarville High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of Detour High School to a cooperative program in baseball and softball which already exists between Pickford and Cedarville High Schools. Pickford will remain the primary school. The combined enrollment of 323

students will create a new placement of the teams in the Division 3 Baseball and Softball Tournaments. Support from future opponents was received.

Athens High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 60 (public school of residence) was made on behalf of a 12th-grade foreign exchange student from International Experience-USA, a CSIET-approved program. The host family lives in the Colon School District. The mother is employed by the Athens School District. The natural children graduated from Athens High School.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Battle Creek-Lakeview 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 Battle Creek-Central High School while living with his father. To begin the 2008-09 school year, the student moved to the residence of his mother in the Lakeview School District. The parents never married, but an otherwise completed Educational Transfer Form was submitted along with a birth certificate indicating both parents.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Battle Creek-Lakeview High School (Regulation I, Section 9[D]) – A request was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility on the 91st school day of enrollment. The mother is incarcerated and the father's whereabouts unknown. The student previously lived with her grandfather, attended Grand Rapids-Ottawa Hills High School and participated in athletics. Over the summer there were problems between the student and her grandfather and the student moved to the residence of an aunt in the Lakeview School District, enrolling on Oct. 6, 2008.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver, beginning with the student's 91st scheduled school day of enrollment at Lakeview High School commencing Oct. 6, 2008.

Bay City-Central High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who attended Bay City Western and Bay City-All Saints High Schools for 9th and 10th grades then attended a boarding school in New York from November 2007 to July 2008. The student has returned to Michigan and has moved into the residence of an aunt in the Bay City-Central attendance area to get away from the crowd she was associating with previously.

Based on the documentation submitted, the Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Capac High School (Regulation I, Section 9[D]) – A request was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility on the 91st school day of enrollment. The student previously attended Algonac High School where she participated in athletics. The student enrolled at Capac High School on Oct. 6, 2008.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver, beginning with the student's 91st scheduled school day of enrollment at Capac High School commencing Oct. 6, 2008.

Essexville-Garber High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who previously lived with his mother in Clarkston and was enrolled at Clarkston High School. The student has moved to the residence of his father in the Garber School District and enrolled there to begin the 2008-09 school year. The parents never married, but an otherwise completed Educational Transfer Form was submitted along with documentation identifying the father.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Flint-Beecher High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who attended Beecher High School while living with her grandmother and others dur-

ing the 9th and 10th grades because the mother abandoned the student and her sister in 2005. The student was expelled for disciplinary reasons in the middle of the 10th grade during the 2007-08 school year and attended Mt. Morris Adult High School. The student reenrolled at Beecher on Oct. 29, 2008.

The Executive Committee tabled the request for waiver and requested staff seek additional information to clarify the situation.

Flint-Beecher High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who previously lived with her mother in the Flint-Hamady School District and was enrolled at Hamady High School. The student has moved to the residence of her father in the Beecher School District and enrolled there to begin the 2008-09 school year. The parents never married, but an otherwise completed Educational Transfer Form was submitted along with a birth certificate indicating both parents.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Flint-Beecher High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of 10th- and 11th-grade siblings who lived with their mother in the Flint School District and attended Flint Southwestern High School. The students have moved to the residence of their father in the Beecher School District. The parents never married, but otherwise completed Educational Transfer Forms were submitted along with a Child Support Order Modification from the 7th Circuit Court indicating the father and the students.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Grand Rapids-Union High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who attended the 9th grade at Union High School. The student moved to the residence of his father in the Hesperia School District and enrolled there to begin the 2008-09 school

year. The student has returned to the residence of his mother in the Union attendance area, enrolling on Oct. 20, 2008. The parents never married, but an otherwise completed Educational Transfer Form was received and parental documentation has been requested.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver pending receipt of adequate parental documents to MHSAA staff.

Houghton Lake High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 9th-grade student who previously lived with his mother in the Houghton Lake School District except for one month to begin the 2008-09 school year when the student moved to the residence of his father in Alma and enrolled there. The student has returned to the residence of his mother in the Houghton Lake School District and reenrolled there on Oct. 6, 2008. The parents never married, but an otherwise completed Educational Transfer Form was submitted along with a birth certificate indicating both parents.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Iron Mountain 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 Niagara High School in Wisconsin while living with her father. To begin the 2008-09 school year, the student moved to the residence of her mother in the Iron Mountain School District. The parents never married, but an otherwise completed Educational Transfer Form was submitted along with a birth certificate indicating both parents.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Jackson-Northwest High School (Regulation I, Section 9[D]) – A request was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility on the 91st school day of enrollment. The student attended Northwest Schools until the 8th grade when he moved with his mother and siblings to Florida. The father remained in

the Northwest School District. The student wishes to graduate from Northwest, and returned to live with his father while the mother and siblings remain in Florida. The student enrolled at Northwest High School on April 7, 2008.

Noting the length of attendance in Florida and the absence of a compelling reason for the transfer, the Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Kent City-Algoma Christian High School (Regulation I, Section 9[D]) – A request was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility on the 91st school day of enrollment. The student previously attended Rockford High School and enrolled at Algoma Christian on Oct. 27, 2008 because she preferred the school environment at Algoma Christian.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Lincoln Park High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who previously attended Wyandotte-Our Lady of Mt. Carmel High School before enrolling at Lincoln Park High School to begin the 2008-09 school year. Mt. Carmel has restructured to a consolidated preschool through 12th grade school with one administrator. The student's family preferred the administrative structure and environment at Lincoln Park High School.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Ludington High School (Regulation I, Section 9[D]) – A request was made on behalf of a 9th-grade student to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility on the 91st school day of enrollment. The student attended Scottville-Mason County Central High School to begin the 9th grade and enrolled at Ludington on Oct. 3, 2008. The student participated in soccer at Mason County Central.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver, beginning with the student's 91st scheduled school day of enrollment at Ludington High School commencing Oct. 3, 2008.

Muskegon Catholic Central High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who attended Muskegon Catholic Central for the 9th grade and Muskegon-Western Michigan Christian for two days on Sept. 2 and 3, 2008, and did not participate in a game or scrimmage at Western Michigan Christian. The student reenrolled at Muskegon Catholic Central on Sept. 4, 2008. The student played sports previously in the 9th grade.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Newaygo High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student whose guardianship has been placed outside of the parents because of their inability to provide for educational necessities. The student attended Greenville High School for the 9th and 10th grades while living with his father and then attended Cedar Springs High School in the 11th grade while living with his mother. The student now resides with legal guardians in the Newaygo School District, enrolling there to begin the 2008-09 school year.

Based on documentation submitted, the Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Port Huron Northern High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who attended Richmond High School for the 9th and 10th grades and whose father is the school public safety liaison officer assigned to Richmond High School. The student resides in the Port Huron Northern attendance area and has changed schools because of harassment he has received as a result of his father's role as a police officer in the Richmond area.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Saginaw-Heritage High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who attended Saginaw Township Schools since

the 2nd grade before moving to Grand Blanc and enrolling there in August 2005 for the 9th and 10th grades. The student enrolled at Heritage High School to begin the 2008-09 school year on Sept. 5, 2008, due to a publicized problem with a teacher/coach at Grand Blanc.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

St. Clair High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 60 (public school of residence) was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who attended school and lived in Memphis, then moved with his father to the St. Clair district and attended school there and remained in school there when he and his father moved to Capac. In the late spring of 2008, the student moved without his father to Montana to attempt to play amateur hockey. He has returned to live with his parents (now reconciled) who still live in the Capac attendance area; and the student is returning to St. Clair High School.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

St. Joseph High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who previously attended Bridgman High School and enrolled at St. Joseph High School on Oct. 8, 2008 because of bullying and harassment at Bridgman which led to the student entering counseling. While the student's father lives in the St. Joseph attendance area, the student has resided for nine years with her mother only, who lives in Bridgman.

While the student could be eligible under exception 8 if she relocated to her father's residence in St. Joseph, the student's history of residing with her mother makes this less desirable. The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver for this one time only under the transfer regulation.

Sparta High School (Regulation I, Section 9[D]) – A request was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility on the 91st school day of enrollment. The

student attended Sparta High School for the 9th grade before enrolling at East Kentwood High School to begin the 2008-09 school year. The student reenrolled at Sparta on Sept. 29, 2008. The student participated in athletics as a 9th grader at Sparta but did not participate at East Kentwood.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver, beginning with the student's 91st scheduled school day of enrollment at Sparta High School commencing Sept. 29, 2008.

Vassar High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who previously lived with her mother in Indiana. Custody has been changed to that of the father who lives in the Vassar School District, and the student enrolled at Vassar on Oct. 30, 2008. The parents never married, but an otherwise completed Educational Transfer Form was submitted along with a Child Support Order Modification from the 54th Circuit Court indicating the father and the student.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Watersmeet High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who has lived on his own for three years, attending the Sherman Indian Boarding School in California for the 11th grade in the 2007-08 school year. The student has not lived with his parents (Oklahoma City) for the past eight years due to their alcohol abuse and an unstable home environment. The student moved to Michigan from California in late May 2008 and is residing with a family in Watersmeet.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Wayne Memorial High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who is a

Ward of the Court placed in a group foster home in the Wayne Memorial attendance area for the 11th grade in the 2007-08 school year. The student attended Wayne Memorial for two weeks to begin the 2008-09 school year and then enrolled at Allen Park High School because a family in Allen Park was intending to adopt the student. The adoption fell through and the student has returned to the group home in Wayne after 18 days of attendance at Allen Park High School from Sept. 3-26, 2008.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

West Branch-Ogemaw Heights High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of 10th- and 11th-grade siblings who lived with their father and attended Boyne Falls High School. The students have moved to the residence of their mother in the Ogemaw Heights School District. The parents never married, but otherwise completed Educational Transfer Forms were submitted along with birth certificates indicating both parents.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Subvarsity Waiver Requests Meeting All Conditions of Section 9(B) – The Executive Committee approved immediate eligibility at the subvarsity level only for the following transferring 9th- or 10th-grade students (after entering 9th grade, before completing 10th grade) **who have not previously participated in an interscholastic scrimmage or contest in any MHSAA sport at the high school level** (whether MHSAA member schools or not) and who do not qualify for one of the 15 stated exceptions to the transfer regulation and have transferred for reasons having nothing to do with athletics, discipline or family finances and would not require Executive Committee evaluation or comparison of school demographics or curriculum (next page):

Requesting High School	Grade	Former High School	Date of Enrollment	Length of Subvarsity Eligibility Status
Detroit-University Prep	10	Detroit-Community	Sept. 19	Jan. 19, 2009
Howard City-Tri County	9	Lakeview	Fall 2008	Jan. 19, 2009
Midland-Bullock Creek	10	Midland	Sept. 2	Jan. 19, 2009
Okemos	9	Gwinn	Oct. 21	2008-09 School Year
Vicksburg	10	Kalamazoo Christian	Sept. 2	Jan. 19, 2009

Eastpointe-East Detroit High School (Regulation II, Section 6) – A request to waive the 600-mile round-trip travel limitation was made to allow students from Japan to wrestle MHSAA member schools in folkstyle wrestling. Competitions have yet to be established but would be part of a cultural exchange between Japanese and Michigan wrestlers during the 2008-09 wrestling season.

The request for waiver was not approved.

Beverly Hills-Detroit Country Day High School (Regulation II, Section 10[A]) – A request was made to waive the first allowable contest date in 2009-10 to permit an eight-team soccer tournament to begin one day earlier, on Friday, Aug. 21, 2009 rather than Saturday Aug. 22, 2009. The starting dates were changed in May 2008 to take effect Aug. 1, 2009. Previously, the regulation stated that a contest could be held “seven days after the first practice” which previously began on Monday the week of Aug. 15. The start of practice was changed to begin on the 16th Wednesday before Thanksgiving and to allow a contest for all fall sports “after seven days of practice for the team and not before ten calendar days.” The tournament has existed for 31 years on this same weekend which does not involve playing on Sunday.

The Executive Committee deferred this request to the Representative Council, asking that the Council review all fall sports practice policies for 2009 to determine if they can be adjusted so that all fall sports contests can begin on a non-school week-day rather than a Saturday.

Capac High School (Regulation II, Section 11) – Pursuant to Interpretation 221, a request to waive the three-player rule for the 2008-09 school year was made on behalf of the boys and girls bowling

coach who is employed at the Bowling Center of Holly Meadows in Capac as a youth instructor for grades 4 through 8. The program involves four weeks of instruction prior to league competition and involves students from three school districts including Capac.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver for this coach of boys and girls bowling for the 2008-09 school year.

Flint-Kearsley High School (Regulation II, Section 11) – Pursuant to Interpretation 221, a request to waive the three-player rule for the 2008-09 school year was made on behalf of the girls bowling coach who is also the director of a Saturday morning youth bowling program that involves over 100 students age 5-20 from three school districts including Kearsley.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver for this coach of girls bowling for the 2008-09 school year.

Wayne Memorial High School (Regulation II, Section 11) – Pursuant to Interpretation 221, a request to waive the three-player rule for the 2008-09 school year was made on behalf of two boys bowling coaches. One is the owner and operator of several bowling centers in the area and the other is an instructor and manager at the same facility. The coaches would have incidental supervisory contact with students in the Wayne-Westland Community Schools.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver for these two coaches of boys bowling for the 2008-09 school year.

Lansing Christian and Holt Lutheran Schools (Regulation III, Section 1[D]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in boys track & field between these two member junior

high/middle schools. Lansing Christian sponsored track & field previously and will be the primary school. An application was approved earlier in these minutes for a boys track & field program at the high school level.

Regulation III, Section 1(C) – Pursuant to Interpretation 246, waiver of the enrollment regulation was approved for the following junior high/middle schools to permit 6th-grade students to participate with and against 7th and 8th graders for the sports listed in-the 2008-09 school year only:

Battle Creek-Calhoun Christian – Boys & girls basketball, girls volleyball

Eau Claire – Boys basketball

Hillman – Boys & girls track & field

Martin-East Martin Christian – Boys basketball

Novi-Franklin Road Christian – All sports

Pentwater – All sports

Pickford – Girls basketball

Tekonsha – Boys & girls basketball, boys & girls track & field

Traverse City Christian – Boys basketball

Twining-Arenac Eastern – Boys basketball

New Member Schools – Pursuant to the MHSAA Constitution adopted by member schools and according to procedures for MHSAA membership adopted by the Representative Council on March 27, 1997, the Executive Committee approved membership for the following schools:

Ann Arbor-Clonlara High School is a private high school in its 41st year of operation. The facility is a non-traditional school setting with an open floor plan using casual groupings along with several small enclosed rooms for selective privacy. There are 32 students in grades K-12, 18 students in grades 9-12. The school has no traditional competitive fields or outdoor courts and has only a small multi-use room that may serve some physical education activities. Clonlara with its current enrollment and school focus has no plan to sponsor any level of competitive sport. Application was made to afford

students future opportunities for sport participation in cooperative arrangements with other Ann Arbor schools. The signed 2008-09 Membership Resolution was received Aug. 1, 2008. A Good Sportsmanship Statement and Preliminary Enrollment Declaration were also received. If a 2009-10 Membership Resolution is received prior to Oct. 2, 2009, and provided all other rules are complied with, the school will be eligible for MHSAA tournaments for the 2009-10 school year. Clonlara School may enter into cooperative agreements and participate fully in these programs in its first year of membership (2008-09) provided applicable deadlines and all other regulations are met.

Detroit-Plymouth Education Center (PEC) Preparatory High School is a charter high school on the east side of Detroit founded by the Plymouth United Church and chartered through Central Michigan University. Currently there are approximately 790 students attending K-8, and 110 students in the 9th grade which is the first year of the new high school. Future plans include building a new high school building with a full size regulation basketball court on the same grounds where the elementary and middle schools are located. Currently, a middle school size gym with some seating and a wood floor may be suitable for subvarsity competition. The school intends to sponsor several sports in the years ahead. In 2008-09 it will compete in 9th grade boys and girls basketball and track & field. The signed 2008-09 MHSAA Membership Resolution was received Sept. 9, 2008. The Athletic Department Handbook, including Code of Conduct and Preliminary Enrollment Declaration, have been received. If a 2009-10 Membership Resolution is received prior to Oct. 2, 2009, and provided all other rules are complied with, the school will be eligible for MHSAA tournaments for the 2009-10 school year. The projection is that PEC Preparatory High School will not enter MHSAA Basketball Tournaments until it has an 11th grade in 2010-11, but it may enter in track & field in the spring of the

2009-10 school year.

Committees – The Executive Committee finalized the appointment of members and meeting dates for committees which meet after Jan. 1, 2009, and the consolidation of the Volleyball and Basketball Site Selection Committees into one committee meeting in May of the previous school year to determine tournament sites for three sports.

Representative Council – The Executive Committee reviewed the Dec. 5 Representative Council meeting agenda and discussed candidates for the appointed position.

Updates – Litigation, legislation and finance reports were given by the executive director.

Next Meeting – The next meeting of the Executive Committee is Thursday, Dec. 4, at 1 p.m. in East Lansing.

OFFICIAL REPORT OF THIRD MEETING OF BOARD OF CANVASSERS East Lansing, October 20, 2008

I, whose signature appears below, declare the following to be nominees for, or members-elect of, the Representative Council or the Upper Peninsula Athletic Committee of the Michigan High School Athletic Association, Inc., as a result of ballots received in accordance with the provisions of Article IV, Section 6, of the Constitution, or as authorized by the Upper Peninsula Athletic Committee at its meeting on Oct. 3, 1941.

UPPER PENINSULA ATHLETIC COMMITTEE

CLASS D SCHOOLS

(Special Election – 1-Year Term)

Total number of legal ballots received . . .	20
David Duncan, Cedarville	8
Sheryl L. O. MacArthur, Engadine . . .	1
George Stockero, Chassell	5
Leon Sutherland, Ontonagon	6
Illegal or incomplete ballots received .	1

No majority – names of David Duncan and Leon Sutherland submitted to schools

OFFICIAL REPORT OF FOURTH MEETING OF BOARD OF CANVASSERS East Lansing, November 5, 2008

I, whose signature appears below, declare the following to be nominees for, or members-elect of, the Representative Council or the Upper Peninsula Athletic Committee of the Michigan High School Athletic Association, Inc., as a result of ballots received in accordance with the provisions of Article IV, Section 6, of the Constitution, or as authorized by the Upper Peninsula Athletic Committee at its meeting on Oct. 3, 1941.

UPPER PENINSULA ATHLETIC COMMITTEE

CLASS D SCHOOLS

(Special Election – 1-Year Term)

Total number of legal ballots received . . .	21
David Duncan, Cedarville	12
Leon Sutherland, Ontonagon	9
Illegal or incomplete ballots received .	1

**Elected by majority of votes –
David Duncan**

BOARD OF CANVASSERS (Signed)

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

REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL MEETING

East Lansing, December 5, 2008

Members Present:

Jim Derocher, Negaunee
Keith Eldred, Williamston
Vic Michaels, Detroit
Renee Bird, Tawas City
Ken Dietz, Watervliet
Lafayette Evans, Detroit
Eric Federico, Gibraltar
Dan Flynn, Escanaba
Rudy Godefroidt, Hemlock
Scott Grimes, Grand Haven
Kyle Guerrant, Lansing
Chip Hansen, East Jordan
Kris Isom, Adrian
Karen Leinaar, Benzonia
Linda Myers, Morley
Pete Ryan, Saginaw
Fred Smith, Buchanan
Arnetta Thompson, Grand Rapids
Wendy Zdeb, Rochester Hills

Also Present:

Ed Sikorski, Ann Arbor
Jim Thelen, Lansing
Bill Zaagman, Lansing
Steve Newkirk, Clare

Staff Members Present:

Randy Allen
Tony Bihn
Jordan Cobb
Andy Frushour
Nate Hampton
John Johnson
Gina Mazzolini
Tom Minter
Tom Rashid
Jack Roberts (Recorder)
Mark Uyl
Kathy Westdorp

Welcomed to his first meeting was newly elected Council member Steve Newkirk of Clare who will audit the meeting until it reconvenes later in the day for the election of officers for 2009. Also attending his first meeting as the representative of the Superintendent of Public Instruction was Kyle Guerrant.

Accounts of Meetings – Motion by Pete Ryan, supported by Fred Smith, to approve the following accounts of meetings: Representative Council meeting of May 4-6, 2008; Executive Committee meetings of May 3, June 11, Aug. 11, Sept. 3, Sept. 29 and Nov 5, 2008; Upper Peninsula Athletic Committee meeting of Sept. 17, 2008; and Board of Canvassers meetings of Sept. 15, Sept. 30, Oct. 20 and Nov. 5, 2008. Adopted.

REPORTS

Legislation – Bill Zaagman of Governmental Consultant Services, Inc. discussed the effect of term limits and the recent election on the makeup of the Michigan Legislature and its leadership, and updated the Council regarding legislation.

Litigation – Attorneys Jim Thelen and Ed Sikorski updated the Council on

the status and issues of two cases with the Michigan Court of Appeals, one with the MHSAA as the appellant and the other as the appellee. The executive director provided a general report regarding the status of negotiations to settle fees, expenses and interest awarded by the U.S. District Court in the sports seasons litigation.

Administration – The executive director provided a brief sport-by-sport review of fall tournaments. Staff reports were provided regarding services to student-athletes, athletic directors, coaches and officials.

The information technology report revealed how hardware improvements have increased the capacity of the MHSAA to serve the electronic needs of its constituents. Details of fall and winter online rules meetings for coaches and officials showed great participation and significant time and money savings for both coaches and officials. The director of information services provided sample pages to demonstrate the administrative tools for schools and registered officials to help them assure that required responsibilities are completed on time.

The executive director reviewed the 2008 Update Meeting Opinion Poll, high-

lighting responses to questions related to discussion and action items on the Representative Council's agenda.

OLD BUSINESS

Calendar Changes – 2009-10 – It was reported that the calendar changes approved by the Representative Council May 5, 2008 for the 2009-10 school year have evoked two requests for consideration:

1. The MHSAA Executive Committee suggests consideration that the practice requirements for the fall sports of cross country, boys soccer, girls swimming & diving and girls volleyball be changed to “seven separate days of practice for team and not before nine calendar days (Friday, Aug. 21, 2009),” in order to move the first contest from an August weekend to a non-school day Friday.

Motion by Keith Eldred, supported by Pete Ryan, to advance all fall sports but football to a Tuesday start of practice and retain the seven practice days over ten calendar days. Defeated. Motion by Vic Michaels, supported by Renee Bird, to change the requirement to seven practice days over nine calendar days for the fall sports of boys and girls cross country, boys soccer, girls Lower Peninsula swimming & diving and girls volleyball, and for the spring sports of boys and girls track & field, baseball, softball, Lower Peninsula girls soccer and boys and girls lacrosse. Adopted.

2. The Wolverine Conference suggests that the earliest date for junior high/middle school practices be earlier than Aug. 31 in 2009. This has been referred to the Junior High/Middle School Committee's January meeting and may be returned to the Council with a recommendation in March.

Scheduling Alternatives – Pursuant to the Representative Council's earlier request, the focus of this school year has been to discuss the advantages and disadvantages of increasing the offset of girls and boys basketball seasons from the current one week to as many as five weeks. Feedback to date shows that larger schools

are more satisfied with the current schedule than are smaller schools.

The Representative Council requested that as input is sought more widely from the membership, opinions also be sought regarding the pros and cons of having the boys season precede the girls season by one or more weeks.

Academic Eligibility – During the 2007-08 school year, the *MHSAA Handbook* was examined with the goal of making it as usable by administrators and as fair to students, regardless of the academic structure of the school (e.g., semester or trimester). This has resulted in many editorial and some substantive changes in the 2008-09 *Handbook*. Action on two major issues was delayed for more study and constituent discussion throughout the fall of 2008.

Motion by Scott Grimes, supported by Pete Ryan, to change the minimum academic standard for eligibility to “66 percent of credit load potential for a full-time student” and to change the period of ineligibility following a deficiency at the end of a term to “the next trimester, or 60 scheduled school days in schools not operating under a trimester system.” Adopted. The Representative Council will review and approve all *Handbook* references not later than the May 2009 meeting for an effective date of Aug. 1, 2009.

Council members asked that the next aspect of the academic eligibility rules to be examined, as early as this winter and spring, should be the minimum frequency of academic checks for current eligibility.

Out-of-Season Limitations – The Council reviewed proposals to modify rules addressing out-of-season support by schools and involvement by school coaches that had been developed over two task force meetings and discussed throughout the state during the fall of 2008. It was noted that every idea for change that was subject of a question on the 2008 Update Meeting Opinion Poll received a favorable response from at least a small majority of attendees. Council members asked that the membership be more widely surveyed regarding the specific proposals before the Council considers any as an action item at its March or May meetings.

6th-Graders – In May, the Representative Council approved a request by the Junior High/Middle School Committee that a task force be appointed to consider all aspects of allowing participation by 6th-grade students at MHSAA member school junior high/middle school programs. The task force report was shared throughout the state during the fall of 2008. It will be reviewed next by the Junior High/Middle School Committee which will be advised of the reservations that have been expressed by the task force itself, constituents across the state and the Representative Council.

Limited Team Membership – Gina Mazzolini reviewed the three different applications of the Limited Team Membership rule (Regulation I, Section 13) which exist for MHSAA sports, and she reviewed recent years' proposals from MHSAA committees and coaches groups for further revisions. These proposals have tended to request increasingly stringent rules to further decrease the amount of non-school participation allowed high school students in the same sport during the high school season. No action was requested or taken by the Council at this time.

Baseball/Softball Finals Venue – Last May, the MHSAA Representative Council requested staff to provide a report at this meeting regarding various options that may exist for conducting the Baseball and Softball Semifinals and Finals, including how different venues might affect the format of having boys and girls together, the tournament schedule including rounds preceding the Semifinals, and finances. Motion by Ken Dietz, supported by Scott Grimes, to maintain the same format and schedule and to continue the MHSAA Baseball and Softball Semifinals and Finals at Bailey Park in Battle Creek, contingent upon several factors, including continuing improvement of facilities and maintenance, and continuing levels of financial support to help reimburse participating team expenses. Adopted.

Football – The Representative Council was provided a comprehensive review of football for fewer than 11 players across the nation and in Michigan's history. A survey conducted in the fall of

2008 indicates there may be sufficient interest for at least one division in the MHSAA Football Playoffs for teams playing under rules for fewer than 11 players. Information meetings are planned for Jan. 12 in Escanaba, Jan. 13 in Indian River and Jan. 29 in East Lansing to assess more directly the interest of some member schools and the concerns of others and to review the requirements of facilities, rules, regular-season scheduling and several possible approaches to a playoff format. Invitations to attend the meetings have been sent via email to all Class C and Class D MHSAA member schools. This topic will be discussed by the MHSAA Football Committee in February and considered by the Representative Council at its March meeting, possibly as an action item for effect in the 2010 season.

Rescheduling and Refund Policy – Motion by Dan Flynn, supported by Karen Leinaar, to approve the following proposal: "Because of the increasing number of school and community activities requiring access to facilities used for interscholastic athletic events, and to reduce academic conflicts and also expenses for both participating schools and spectators, eliminate the Sunday exception in the 'Rescheduling and Refund Policy' dated December 2002 and published in the *MHSAA Handbook* (p. 106)." Adopted. This change, and others that will be required in the *MHSAA Handbook* as a result of this change, are to be effective Aug. 1, 2009.

RECOGNITION

During a luncheon break, the executive director and President Jim Derocher honored the two outgoing members of the Representative Council: appointed member Linda Myers, who served a total of five years, and Vice President Keith Eldred, whose 26-year tenure is the longest in Representative Council history for a statewide position.

NEW BUSINESS

Women in Sports Leadership Award

– There were six candidates for the Women in Sports Leadership Award, reduced from nine nominees by the MHSAA Awards Committee. These were presented to the Representative Council

for a vote. The name(s) of the recipient(s) will be released at an appropriate time and the recipient(s) will be honored during the 2009 Girls Basketball Final Tournament.

Charles E. Forsythe Award – There were six candidates for the Charles E. Forsythe Award, reduced from eight nominees by the MHSAA Awards Committee. These were presented to the Representative Council members for a ballot vote. The name(s) of the recipient(s) will be released at an appropriate time and the recipient(s) will be honored during the 2009 Boys Basketball Final Tournament.

Ice Hockey – Motion by Eric Federico, supported by Karen Leinaar, to approve the Ice Hockey Committee recommendation to adopt new MHSAA tournament overtime procedures as follows: “In MHSAA tournament games at all levels where the score is tied at the end of regulation play, four sudden-victory regular overtime periods of eight minutes in length will be played to determine a winner. If the game remains tied after the initial four overtime periods, additional eight-minute sudden-victory overtime periods of four-on-four will be played until a winner is determined. Existing policies regarding rest periods and ice making will be followed, as well as playing rule procedures regarding penalties. In tournament games where suspension and/or resumption of play, postponement or rescheduling issues arise, decisions will be made on a case-by-case basis between the MHSAA and host tournament management.” Adopted. This health and safety related change will be in effect for the 2009 MHSAA Ice Hockey Tournament.

MHSAA Tournament Trophies – The trophy recommendations of the MHSAA Trophy and Medal Committee were presented by the associate director. Motion by Kris Isom, supported by Chip Hansen, to approve the proposal from ESCO, as revised for 2009-10 through 2011-12. Adopted.

Meeting Expenses – Expenses for this meeting were approved at the specified hotel rate for accommodations, the IRS-specified meal allowance and a 30¢ per mile mileage allowance round-trip.

Future Meetings – The next meeting of the Representative Council will be held

on Friday, March 27, 2009, 8:15 a.m. at the MHSAA in East Lansing. The spring meeting of the Representative Council will be held May 3-5, 2009, at Treetops Sylvan Resort in Gaylord. The fall meeting will be held on Friday, Dec. 4, 2009, at the MHSAA building in East Lansing.

It was noted that the MHSAA Constitution requires that the MHSAA Annual Business Meeting be conducted not later than the third Friday following Thanksgiving each year. Historically, this has been held in conjunction with the MASSP Fall Conference which in October of 2009 moves to a venue where the MHSAA does not conduct meetings. Motion by Fred Smith, supported by Linda Myers, to conduct a brief MHSAA Annual Business Meeting at a regularly scheduled Update Meeting on a rotating basis year to year. Adopted.

2009 Action Plan – The executive director reviewed the 13 points of the 2009 Mission Action Plan of the MHSAA. There was special focus on four points:

- The comprehensive review of MHSAA tournament administration will focus on Finals venue expenses, non-traditional tournament scheduling in several sports and the first ever Hoop Fest in conjunction with the MHSAA Basketball Finals at Michigan State University.
- The MHSAA will continue to increase the number of productions and the distribution systems and improve the quality of presentations on the MHSAA Network and MHSAA.tv.
- Beginning with the 2009-10 school year, there will be a redesigned MHSAA Website for more visual appeal and more user-centered navigation and content, and an online store; and there will be progress toward subcontracted or crowdsourced collection of schedules, scores, photos and video clips.
- The first ever Reaching Higher Basketball Experiences will be conducted for boys and girls, now tentatively scheduled on April 26, 2009.

Finance – The executive director provided a confidential review of the revised 2008-09 budget and considerations for future revenue enhancements and expense reductions.

Motion by Ken Dietz, supported by Arnetta Thompson, to (1) approve an extension and expansion of the MHSAA Basketball Tournament agreement to require the Rawlings basketball at all levels of the MHSAA boys and girls tournaments beginning with the 2009-10 school

year through the 2013-14 school year; and (2) approve Rawlings as the official ball provider for all levels of the MHSAA Football Playoffs beginning in 2009-10 through the 2013-14 school year. Adopted.

The meeting was adjourned.■

REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL MEETING

East Lansing, December 5, 2008

Members Present:

Jim Derocher, Negaunee
Scott Grimes, Grand Haven
Vic Michaels, Detroit
Ken Dietz, Watervliet
Lafayette Evans, Detroit
Eric Federico, Gibraltar
Dan Flynn, Escanaba
Rudy Godefroidt, Hemlock
Kyle Guerrant, Lansing
Chip Hansen, East Jordan
Kris Isom, Adrian
Karen Leinaar, Benzonia
Steve Newkirk, Clare
Pete Ryan, Saginaw
Fred Smith, Buchanan
Arnetta Thompson, Grand Rapids
Wendy Zdeb, Rochester Hills

Also Present:

Keith Eldred, Williamston
Linda Myers, Morley

Staff Members Present:

Randy Allen
Tony Bihn
Jordan Cobb
Andy Frushour
Nate Hampton
John Johnson
Gina Mazzolini
Tom Minter
Tom Rashid
Jack Roberts (Recorder)
Mark Uyl
Kathy Westdorp

Member Absent:

Renee Bird, Tawas City

Election of Officers – Officers elected to serve through the fall 2009 meeting of the Representative Council were President Jim Derocher, Vice President Scott Grimes and Secretary-Treasurer Vic Michaels.

The president appointed Dan Flynn to serve on the Executive Committee on a regular basis during 2009, and the fifth position filled on a rotating basis by other Council members.

The president named Chip Hansen to join the president, secretary-treasurer and Eric Federico on the Audit and Finance Committee.

Appointed Members – According to the MHSAA Constitution, “It is the annual responsibility of the Council to ascertain that the Council elective process has provided for the representation of females and minorities. If, in the judgment of the Council, these results have not been achieved, said Council shall appoint not to exceed four Representative Council members-at-large for two-year terms.”

Wendy Zdeb was appointed for a second two-year term.

Mark Woodson, Athletic Director at Romulus High School, was appointed for a two-year term.

The meeting was adjourned.■

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

East Lansing, December 4, 2008

Members Present:

Jim Derocher, Negaunee
Keith Eldred, Williamston
Vic Michaels, Detroit
Dan Flynn, Escanaba
Lafayette Evans, Detroit

Staff Members Present:

Tom Rashid
Jack Roberts (Recorder)

Executive Committee Authority and Responsibility

- The Executive Committee reviewed its authority under Article VII of the MHSAA Constitution and specifically its responsibility to consider each application for waiver of an eligibility requirement on its individual merits, determining if the regulation serves the purpose for which it was intended in each case or if the regulation works an undue hardship on any student who is the subject of a request for waiver. (These underlying criteria may not be restated for every subject of these minutes.)

The Executive Committee was reminded that it was the responsibility of each member school involved to provide sufficient factual information about the specific request for the Executive Committee to reach a decision without further investigation. If information is incomplete, contradictory or otherwise unclear or has been received too late to be studied completely, the Executive Committee may deny the request for waiver or delay action. Such requests may be resubmitted to the Executive Committee with additional information at a subsequent meeting or appealed to the full Representative Council.

It is possible that some of the information presented as facts to the Executive Committee by school personnel and others may be inaccurate. However, to avoid constant repetition in this report of phrases such as "it was alleged" or "it was reported," no attempt is made in the introduction of each waiver request to distinguish between truth, allegation, hearsay, opinion, summary or conclusion. If any information provided to the Executive Committee is inaccurate, any decision of the Executive Committee to grant waiver

of a regulation shall be null and void.

The Executive Committee is not authorized to approve waiver based on alleged or actual differences between schools based on "environment," demographics, curriculum or extracurricular offerings. A determination of undue hardship is a matter addressed to the discretion of the Executive Committee within the educational philosophy and secondary role of voluntary extracurricular competitive athletics in the academic environment. The Executive Committee will avoid making exceptions that would create precedent that effectively changes a rule without Representative Council action or local board of education adoption, which would exceed Executive Committee authority. The contract the MHSAA has with member schools obligates the MHSAA to not change rules during the school year.

Students for whom waiver of a particular regulation is approved must be eligible in all other respects under all sections and interpretations of the regulations prior to their participation.

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 post-season 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.

Cooks-Big Bay de Noc High School (Regulation I, Section 1[D]) – A request to waive the enrollment limit of less than 100 students was made to permit 8th-grade girls to participate in basketball. The February 2008 Enrollment Declaration Form lists 102 students.

The Executive Committee noted that this enrollment limit has been established by the Representative Council and subsequently was reviewed by the Council, that it has been applied without exception in more extreme cases than this, and that it would be unfair to grant an exception during the middle of the school year in which more compelling situations have not been given relief. The request for waiver was not approved.

Shepherd-Morey Public School (Regulation I, Section 1[D]) – A request to waive the enrollment minimum of 50 students was made to permit 7th-grade students to participate in basketball. The February 2008 Enrollment Declaration Form lists 52 students (not 51 as noted).

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Eben Junction-Superior Central, Rock-Mid Peninsula and Munising High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of Rock-Mid Peninsula to a cooperative agreement in baseball which has existed between Superior Central and Munising since 2005. Superior Central will continue as the primary school. The combined enrollment of 485 students will continue placement of the team in the Division 3 tournament. Support from all members of the MPC was received.

Ironwood-L. L. Wright and Bessemer-A. D. Johnston High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of girls soccer to a cooperative program in boys soccer which has existed between these schools since 2007. The combined enrollment is 501 students. L. L. Wright will be the primary school. Support from future opponents was received.

Berkley High School (Regulation I, Section 7) – A request to waive the previous academic credit record regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who earned credit for three of seven classes in the second semester of the 2007-08 school year. The student was unable to fulfill academic responsibilities as she was required to care for her infant sibling while her father was recovering from a work-related accident and the mother went to work to cover family bills.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Allegan High School (Regulation I, Section 9[D]) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who attended Allegan High School for the 9th grade and participated in baseball. The student had difficulty coping with his father's death in December 2007 and enrolled at Gobles High School to begin the 2008-09 school year. When things did not work out, the student reenrolled at Allegan. The school requested that if immediate eligibility is not granted, eligibility on the 91st school day be granted due to compelling circumstances.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver effective with the student's 91st scheduled school day of enrollment at Allegan High School.

Breckenridge High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who lived with his mother and attended Ithaca High School. The student has moved to the residence of his father in the Breckenridge School District, enrolling at Breckenridge on Oct. 13, 2008. The parents never married, but an otherwise completed Educational Transfer Form was submitted with documentation from the Gratiot County Friend of the Court indicating the father and the student.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Capac High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a

10th-grade student who previously attended Crosswell-Lexington High School while living with her mother. The student moved to the residence of her father in the Capac School District and enrolled to begin the 2008-09 school year. The parents never married, but an otherwise completed Educational Transfer Form was submitted with a birth certificate indicating both parents.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Cheboygan High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who attended Cheboygan High School for the 9th and 10th grades and began the 2008-09 school year in North Carolina, residing with his parents and siblings. In December 2007, the father's job was downsized, at which time he accepted employment in North Carolina. The student and elementary school age siblings finished the 2007-08 school year at Cheboygan before joining the father in North Carolina. The student, siblings and mother have returned to Cheboygan and the student intends to reenroll at Cheboygan High School on Dec. 1, 2008.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Coopersville High School (Regulation I, Section 9[D]) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made to permit eligibility on the 91st school day of enrollment on behalf of an 11th-grade student who previously attended Grand Rapids-West Catholic before enrolling at Coopersville on Oct. 3, 2008.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver, beginning with the student's 91st scheduled school day of enrollment at Coopersville High School commencing Oct. 3, 2008.

Delton-Kellogg High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who began the 9th grade at Brighton High School while living with her parents. She moved to Arizona in February 2008 after her younger sister died after a lengthy ill-

ness. When the student moved to Arizona, she first lived with her step-grandmother and eventually with her grandfather with whom the student was to have no contact. After a time it was determined that the student should move to Delton and reside with her other grandmother who had cared for the student previously during the sister's illness. The student changed schools and enrolled at Delton-Kellogg on Nov. 17, 2008.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Detroit-Communication and Media Arts High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 59(c) which states that a transfer student who changes residence in a multi-school district and enrolls at a citywide school is eligible only at the original school or the school of his or her residence. Communication and Media Arts High School is a citywide high school and the closest public school to the student's new residence. The student previously attended Cass Technical High School.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Detroit-Finney 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 Chadsey High School along with two brothers who were all involved in a serious altercation at Chadsey that resulted in the students being suspended, arrested and placed on probation. The student enrolled at Finney High School to begin the 2008-09 school year.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Detroit-Renaissance High School (Regulation I, Section 9[D]) – A request was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility on the 91st school day of enrollment. The student previously attended Detroit-Cass Tech High School before enrolling at Renaissance on April 10, 2008.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Elk Rapids 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 Mancelona High School while living with her mother. The student moved to the residence of her father in the Elk Rapids School District and enrolled on Nov. 10, 2008. The parents never married, but an otherwise completed Educational Transfer Form was submitted with an Affidavit of Parentage from the Department of Community Health.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Ellsworth High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 9th-grade student who attended Ellsworth Schools her entire career before enrolling at East Jordan High School to begin the 2008-09 school year and participating in volleyball. The student was a victim of threats by other female students at Ellsworth which resulted in her enrollment at East Jordan. The students who were doing the bullying have left Ellsworth, one enrolling at East Jordan. The student reenrolled in Ellsworth Schools on Dec. 1, 2008.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Farmington Hills North Farmington High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student whose mother is deceased and whose father is not listed on the student's birth certificate. Since middle school, the student lived with his grandfather who passed away on Oct. 1, 2008. The student previously attended Dearborn Heights-Robichaud High School. The student now resides with cousins who live in the North Farmington High School attendance area and enrolled on Oct. 23, 2008.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Flint-Beecher 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 Flint Southwestern High School while living with his mother. The student moved to the residence of his father in the Beecher School District and enrolled Nov. 26, 2008. The parents separated 14 years ago in 1994, have lived apart since that time.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver, one time only, upon completion of an Educational Transfer Form.

Gaylord-St. Mary Cathedral High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who previously attended Orchard Lake-St. Mary's High School before being dismissed from the school on Sept. 19, 2008. The student has moved to the residence of his grandparents in Gaylord, enrolling on Sept. 24, 2008.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Grand Rapids-Creston High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who attended Grand Rapids-Union High School for the 9th grade. To begin the 2008-09 school year, the student enrolled at Creston High School because his sister was forced to change schools from Union to Creston due to behavioral problems and concerns for her safety. The parents preferred to have both students attend the same school.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Holland High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student whose mother will be sent to the United Kingdom for a year as a job requirement. The student will be enrolling in school in the UK and Holland High School will accept credit for courses taken there. The student will not participate in athletics. The student will be returning to Holland with his father only in late March while the mother and sister will remain in the UK. The student wishes to participate in baseball upon his return

and remain to graduate from Holland High School in 2010.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver for this one time only.

Jackson High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 76 which states that 270 calendar days are required for a home-schooled student to qualify as a transfer student whose school ceased to operate. The student attended Jackson High School previously for the 10th grade, beginning in 2006-07, before being home schooled in March 2008 for 120 days. The student reenrolled at Jackson High School on Nov. 24, 2008.

On the basis of the limited information available, the Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Jackson-Vandercook Lake High School (Regulation I, Section 9[D]) – A request was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility on the 91st school day of enrollment. The student previously attended Hanover Horton High School, enrolling at Vandercook Lake on Oct. 24, 2008. The student's stepfather is an alumnus; the student attended Vandercook Lake Schools in grades K-4 and has an older brother who enrolled there on Jan. 28, 2008.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Kalamazoo-Loy Norrix High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request was made on behalf of a 9th-grade student to waive the transfer regulation to permit immediate eligibility or eligibility in exhibition heats of swimming and diving meets. The student previously attended Kalamazoo Central High School and participated in 9th grade football. The student enrolled at Loy Norrix on Nov. 10, 2008 because his parents could no longer transport the student to school and he could ride the school bus to Loy Norrix.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Kalamazoo-Phoenix High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who attended Phoenix High School for the 9th grade and enrolled at Kalamazoo Central High School for three days (Sept. 12-15, 2008) until reenrolling at Phoenix High School.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Kentwood-East Kentwood High School (Regulation I, Section 9[D]) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made to permit eligibility on the 91st school day of enrollment on behalf of a 10th-grade student who previously attended Kentwood-West Michigan Lutheran High School and participated in athletics. The student enrolled at East Kentwood on Oct. 3, 2008.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver effective with the student's 91st scheduled school day of enrollment at East Kentwood High School commencing Oct. 3, 2008.

Lake Odessa-Lakewood High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who attended Saranac High School for grades 9-11 while living with his mother and father. Due to a domestic dispute in 2007, the student and his father moved out and have since become homeless. The father and student are living in separate residences with friends within the Lakewood School District. The student enrolled at Lakewood High School at the start of the 2008-09 school year.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Lake Orion High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who attended Clarkston High School for the 9th and 10th grades while residing with his parents. The student ran afoul of the law which led to the separation of his parents, at which time the student moved with his mother and enrolled at Lake Orion High School on Jan. 27, 2008. On April 14, 2008, the student enrolled in the Diamond

Ranch Academy residential program in Utah. The student has now returned to Lake Orion to live with his mother who is not divorced (Exception 2), reenrolling at Lake Orion High School on Nov. 3, 2008. The school requested waiver of the language of Exception 2 that a student not living with a parent must return to the “parents, the single parent if divorced, or only living parent” who already reside in that district.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Lansing-Eastern High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who lived with his mother in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The father is in the military and has relocated to the Lansing-Eastern attendance area from California. The student has moved into the father’s residence, enrolling at Eastern to begin the 2008-09 school year. The parents never married, but an otherwise completed Educational Transfer Form was submitted with documents from the California Friend of the Court indicating the father and the student.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Mason High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student whose mother is deceased and whose father is serving in the military overseas in Iraq. Since the 8th grade, the student lived with an aunt and uncle in Traverse City and attended St. Francis High School. The aunt and uncle are moving to Wisconsin and the student has moved in with his grandparents into a home the father owns in Mason. The father will return to Mason in December.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Mattawan High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who previously attended Benton Harbor High School while living with his mother. The student moved to the residence of his father in the Mattawan School District and enrolled on

Oct. 1, 2008. The parents never married, but an otherwise completed Educational Transfer Form was submitted without documents indicating the parents.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Michigan Center High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who lives in Michigan Center and previously attended Michigan Center High School since the 9th grade except for two school days (Sept. 3 and 4, 2008) when the student attended Napoleon High School to begin the 2008-09 school year and did not participate in athletics. The student reenrolled at Michigan Center on Sept. 5, 2008.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Michigan Center High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who lives in East Jackson and has attended Michigan Center High School since the 9th grade except for nine school days to begin the 2008-09 school year (Sept. 2-12, 2008) when the student enrolled at East Jackson High School. The student reenrolled at Michigan Center on Sept. 15, 2008.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Midland-Bullock Creek High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 9th-grade student whose father died in March 2007 and who has not had contact with his mother in several years. To begin the 2008-09 school year, the student lived with an aunt and uncle in Bay City and attended Bay City-All Saints High School and played subvarsity football. Early in November the student moved in with family friends in the Bullock Creek School District who will be seeking guardianship through the probate court in January 2009. The student enrolled at Bullock Creek High School on Nov. 11, 2008.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Milan High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who previously lived in Maryland with his father and attended school there for three years. The student moved to the residence of his mother in the Milan School District and enrolled to begin the 2008-09 school year. The parents never married, but an otherwise completed Educational Transfer Form was submitted along with a birth certificate indicating both parents.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Newaygo High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – Based on documentation submitted, on Nov. 5, 2008 the Executive Committee did not approve a request for waiver of the transfer regulation made on behalf of a 12th-grade student whose guardianship has been placed outside of the parents because of their inability to provide for educational necessities. The student attended Greenville High School for the 9th and 10th grades while living with his father and then attended Cedar Springs High School in the 11th grade while living with his mother, and then attempted to again live with his father. The student now resides in the Newaygo School District with a classmate's family that he has known since attending Cedar Springs and who became legal guardians in October 2008. The student enrolled at Newaygo High School to begin the 2008-09 school year. Additional information was submitted regarding the circumstances of the student's residential changes, including a history of alcohol and drug abuse by the parents. Over the summer, the father asked the current guardians to take the student into their home in Newaygo.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

North Branch High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who previously attended Oxford Schools her entire career until her parents moved to Indiana in August 2008, at which time the student

moved to North Branch to reside with her grandmother and commuted to Oxford High School. Because of the distance, the student moved in with friends. On Oct. 12, 2008, the student joined her parents in Indiana and now has moved back to her grandmother's home, enrolling at North Branch High School on Oct. 29, 2008. The student has never participated in athletics.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Northville High School (Regulation I, Section 9[D]) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made to permit eligibility on the 91st school day of enrollment on behalf of a 10th-grade student who previously attended Novi-Detroit Catholic Central High School and enrolled at Northville High School on Oct. 20, 2008.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Portland-St. Patrick High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who has attended St. Patrick Schools her entire career except for one day on Nov. 3, 2008 when the student enrolled at Portland High School. The student reenrolled at St. Patrick on Nov. 5, 2008.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Ravenna High School (Regulation I, Section 9[D]) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who previously attended Grand Rapids-Forest Hills Northern High School while residing with his parents and younger sister who was diagnosed with a blood disease in July 2007. Due to the emotional burden of being unable to help in his sister's illness, the student moved in with family friends in the Ravenna School District, enrolling there in October. The school requested immediate eligibility, and if not approved, eligibility on the 91st school day of enrollment due to compelling circumstances.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver effective with the student's 91st scheduled school day of enrollment at Ravenna High School.

Richland-Gull Lake 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 Plainwell High School before enrolling at Gull Lake on Oct. 20, 2008 due to harassment and bullying. The student sought professional medical help who recommended the student change schools.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Saginaw-Heritage High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who previously attended Saginaw-Nouvel Catholic Central High School while living with his parents in the Saginaw High School District. The parents have lost their jobs and now commute to Cleveland, Ohio for employment. The student now lives with an aunt in the Saginaw-Heritage School District. A younger brother, who also attends Nouvel, will be enrolling at Heritage at the end of the football season.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Saginaw-Arthur Hill High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who previously attended Bridgeport High School and participated in athletics. The student enrolled at Arthur Hill High School on Nov. 6, 2008 due to harassment and taunting that infringed upon her safety at Bridgeport High School.

Based on the information submitted, the Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Saugatuck High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who previously attended Fennville High School and participated in basketball. The student was the victim of cyberspace threats and enrolled at Saugatuck High School on Sept. 8, 2008. The student wishes to participate in subvarsity basketball.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Sterling Heights-Parkway Christian High School (Regulation I, Section 9[D]) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made to permit eligibility on the 91st school day of enrollment on behalf of a 12th-grade student whose father has an aggressive form of cancer. The student previously attended Warren-Zoe Christian through the 8th grade and then enrolled at Warren-Cousino to begin the 9th grade when Zoe merged to form Parkway Christian. The student reenrolled at Parkway Christian on March 17, 2008. The school requested that, due to compelling circumstances, the student be granted eligibility on the 91st school day of enrollment.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver effective with the student's 91st scheduled school day of enrollment at Parkway Christian High School.

Tekonsha High School (Regulation I, Section 9[D]) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who previously attended Ithaca High School while living with his father. The student moved in with a half-brother, half-sister and their mother in Tekonsha, enrolling Oct. 9, 2008.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver effective with the student's 91st scheduled school day of enrollment at Tekonsha High School commencing Oct. 9, 2008.

Warren-Cousino High School (Regulation I, Section 9[D]) – A request was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility on the 91st school day of enrollment. The student previously attended Warren-Mott High School before enrolling at Cousino High School on Sept. 30, 2008.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver, beginning with the student's 91st scheduled school day of enrollment at Cousino High School commencing Sept. 30, 2008.

Westland-Lutheran High School Westland (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 83 (two

semesters of eligibility and then no more) was made on behalf of 10th-grade student who was a foreign exchange student through a CSJET-approved program when he attended Garden City High School for two semesters in the 9th grade (2007-08) and did not participate in athletics. The student enrolled at Lutheran Westland to begin the 2008-09 school year and has changed to an F1 Visa, intending to complete his high school education in the United States.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Subvarsity Waiver Requests Meeting All Conditions of Section 9(B) –
The Executive Committee approved

immediate eligibility at the subvarsity level only for the following transferring 9th- or 10th-grade students (after entering 9th grade, before completing 10th grade) **who have not previously participated in an interscholastic scrimmage or contest in any MHSAA sport at the high school level** (whether MHSAA member schools or not) and who do not qualify for one of the 15 stated exceptions to the transfer regulation and have transferred for reasons having nothing to do with athletics, discipline or family finances and would not require Executive Committee evaluation or comparison of school demographics or curriculum:

Requesting High School	Grade	Former High School	Date of Enrollment	Length of Subvarsity Eligibility Status
Auburn Hills-Avondale	10	Royal Oak	Sept. 2, 2008	Jan. 19, 2009
B.H.Cranbrook Kingswood	10	Troy	Sept. 2, 2008	Jan. 19, 2009
Coleman	9	Sanford-Meridian	Sept. 15, 2008	Jan. 19, 2009
Detroit-Urban Lutheran	10	Detroit-Cass Tech	Sept. 2, 2008	Jan. 19, 2009
Flint-Powers Catholic	9	Flint-Central	Nov. 4, 2008	2008-09 School Year
Holland	9	Streamwood, IL	Oct. 28, 2008	2008-09 School Year
Holland-West Ottawa	9	Chicago-Christian Fenger	Nov. 3, 2008	2008-09 School Year
Kent City-Algoma Christian	9	Greenville-Grattan Academy	Nov. 3, 2008	2008-09 School Year
Linden	9	Trenton	Nov. 24, 2008	2008-09 School Year
St. Johns	9	Haslett-Summit Christian	Oct. 6, 2008	Oct 6, 2008 - 91st school day
St. Joseph	9	Muscatine, Indiana	Nov. 17, 2008	2008-09 school year
Saline	9	Saline-Washtenaw Christian	Nov. 17, 2008	2008-09 School Year

Center Line High School (Regulation II, Section 11) – Pursuant to Interpretation 221, a request to waive the three-player rule for the 2008-09 school year was made on behalf of the boys bowling coach who is one of ten coaches in a Saturday youth league at Bonanza Lanes in Warren. The league consists of up to 200 bowlers age 5-20, some of whom are students enrolled in Center Line Schools who compete on three different teams; three bowled this past year for Center Line High School. Two of the coach's elementary age children also participate in the league. The coach would have incidental supervisory contact with students in the Center Line Public Schools.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Flat Rock High School (Regulation II, Section 11) – Pursuant to Interpretation 221, a request to waive the three-player rule for the 2008-09 school year was made on behalf of the boys bowling coach whose family has coordinated a Saturday Junior Bowling Program at Flat Rock Lanes. The league consists of up to 120 bowlers age 4-21 from nine school districts and two schools, including students from Flat Rock High School. The coach would have incidental supervisory contact with students in the Flat Rock Community Schools.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Okemos High School (Regulation II, Section 11) – Pursuant to Interpretation 221, a request to waive the three-player rule for the 2008-09 school year was made on behalf of the boys swimming coach who is also employed by the Haslett Community Education program as the director of the Blue Marlin community swim program. The program consists of 60 participants in grades 1-12 from six school districts including Okemos. Fifteen Okemos students in grades 7-12 are involved in the program.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Manistee-Catholic Central, Free Soil and Manistee-Trinity Lutheran Middle Schools (Regulation III, Section 1[D]) – The Executive Committee approved the application for reinstatement of a cooperative agreement between these member schools in boys and girls basketball, girls volleyball and football.

Enrollment at Free Soil and Trinity Lutheran had fallen below 15 students, resulting in the dissolution of the previous agreement. Manistee-Catholic Central Middle School sponsored these sports previously and will be the primary school.

Next Meetings – The next meetings of the Executive Committee are scheduled for Wednesday, Jan. 14, 2009, at 8:30 a.m. in East Lansing (with the Classification Committee meeting at 1 p.m.); Thursday, Feb. 12, 2009, at 8:30 a.m. in East Lansing (with the Audit & Finance Committee meeting to follow); Thursday, March 26, 2009, at 8:30 a.m. in East Lansing (with the Representative Council meeting on March 27); Wednesday, April 22, 2009, at 8:30 a.m. in East Lansing (with the Audit & Finance Committee meeting to follow); and Sunday, May 3, 2009, at 8:30 a.m. in Gaylord (with the Representative Council meetings May 3-5). ■

RAWLINGS TO BE OFFICIAL MHSAA PLAYOFF FOOTBALL

Beginning with the 2009 season, the MHSAA will welcome Rawlings as the official game ball provider for all levels of its Football Playoffs. The agreement capped a process that began with a November 2007 Audit and Finance Committee request and ended with Representative Council approval on Dec. 5, 2008.

Every football-sponsoring MHSAA member high school will be provided with two Rawlings balls of their choice prior to kick off of the '09 season. Subsequently, two balls will be provided to all playoff qualifiers in 2010, and one ball of each school's choice will be provided to playoff qualifiers in 2011, 2012 and 2013.

MHSAA staff was asked in the fall of 2007 to research policies and procedures of other state high school associations – as well as the interest of manufacturers – to supply footballs for the MHSAA Football Playoffs. This topic was discussed by the Audit and Finance Committee again in April 2008, with more information requested.

Findings confirmed that all neighboring high school associations and the majority of other states across the country had endorsed a football, most requiring the use of a particular model or models for all levels of their playoff series; and it was discovered that manufacturers' interest in a football endorsement exceeded their interest in any other sport.

Proposals were requested and submitted throughout the summer and early fall, culminating with Representative Council approval of Rawlings as the official supplier for all MHSAA Football Playoff contests at its Dec. 5 meeting. Any model of Rawlings football that meets National Federation rules may be used by participating teams.

Rawlings makes the endorsed football of California (three sections), Kentucky, Maine, Missouri, Montana, New York and Vermont.

Rawlings also provides the official ball for the MHSAA Girls and Boys Basketball Tournament, extending to all levels – Districts through Finals – in 2010 through 2014. ■



REPORT OF ACTIVITIES OF THE MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, INC. SCHOOL YEAR - 2007-08

PUBLICATIONS - Monthly *Bulletin* distributed to junior and senior high schools and registered officials; *Officials Directory* and *School Directory* and calendars prepared; Association *Handbook* distributed to junior and senior high schools; rule books for football, basketball, track, swimming, wrestling, gymnastics, soccer, softball, spirit, ice hockey, boys lacrosse, girls lacrosse, volleyball, and baseball distributed to schools and registered officials; blanks and forms were distributed to schools. *Mentor* was published and distributed to coaches and officials. The *Officials Guidebook* was published for distribution to all prospective officials. The *Coaches Guidebook* was published online. The *Competitive Cheer Manual* was published for the 15th time..

RULES MEETINGS/CLINICS - General meetings and rules meetings held in baseball/softball, competitive cheer, football, basketball, bowling, swimming and diving, tennis, track and field, golf, wrestling, gymnastics, volleyball, soccer, and ice hockey for coaches and registered officials. The Officials Awards and Alumni Banquet honored 20-, 30-, 40-, 45- and 50-year officials. Special meetings were conducted for coaches association presidents and league and conference executives. Tournament managers meetings were held in most sports. Meetings were held with representatives of local officials associations. In-service programs for officials assignors and sessions to train the basketball, football, volleyball, wrestling, soccer, baseball and softball trainers of approved officials associations were conducted. Regional Captains Clinics were conducted for students. Mini-grants were provided for Sportsmanship Summits and Women in Sports Leadership and general student-athlete leadership. The first Student Advisory Council was appointed and the first SCOPE Awards presented to member schools.

COMMITTEES - More than 490 different individuals served on the following Association committees during the 2007-08 school year:

Representative Council	Classification	Scholar/Athlete
Executive Committee	Competitive Cheer	Ski
Upper Peninsula Athletic Committee	Competitive Cheer Judges Selection	Soccer
Athletic Equity	Cross Country/Track & Field	Soccer Off. Selection (Boys)
Awards	Cross Country Site Selection	Soccer Off. Selection (Girls)
Baseball/Softball	Football	Swimming
Baseball/Softball Umpires Selection	Football Playoff Officials Selection	Tennis
Basketball	Golf	Tennis Seeding (Boys)
Basketball Tournament (Boys)	Golf Managers	Tennis Seeding (Girls)
Basketball Tournament (Girls)	Gymnastics	Track & Field Standards
Basketball Officials Selection (Boys)	Gymnastics Officials Selection	Track Managers
Basketball Officials Selection (Girls)	Hockey	Volleyball
Board of Canvassers	Hockey Officials Selection	Volleyball Off. Selection
Bowling	Junior High/Middle Lacrosse (Boys)	Wrestling
	Lacrosse (Girls)	Wrestling Head Referees
	Officials Review	Wrestling Managers
		Wrestling Off. Selection

PARTICIPANTS – There were 306,924 participants on interscholastic athletic squads of the 768 member high schools during the 2007-08 school year. The MHSAA membership also included 814 junior high/middle schools.

REGISTERED OFFICIALS - There were 12,630 officials registered in one or more sports during the year.

UPDATE MEETINGS - Meetings for 993 people were conducted during the fall in Traverse City, Frankenmuth, Kalamazoo, Lansing, Gaylord, Warren, Comstock Park, and Marquette.

CAP SEMINARS - There were 963 participants who completed one or more courses in the Coaches Advancement Program at sites throughout the state during the 2007 school year.

ATHLETIC DIRECTORS IN-SERVICE - 744 athletic directors participated in the Athletic Directors In-Service programs at 13 sites throughout the state during the fall of 2007. ■

2008-09 MHSAA BUDGET

The following budget for operation of the Michigan High School Athletic Association, Inc., for the 2008-09 school year was considered and approved at the May 2008 Representative Council Meeting.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION	\$2,868,493
GENERAL PRINTING	175,651
GENERAL OFFICE EXPENSES	957,385
GENERAL MEETINGS	94,900
COACHES & OFFICIALS	246,229
BASEBALL TOURNAMENTS	230,000
BASKETBALL TOURNAMENTS (Net of Funds Retained by Hosts)	370,000
BOWLING TOURNAMENTS	48,000
COMPETITIVE CHEER	105,000
CROSS COUNTRY MEETS	105,000
FOOTBALL PLAYOFFS	1,300,000
GOLF TOURNAMENTS	70,000
GYMNASTICS MEETS	25,000
HOCKEY TOURNAMENTS	250,000
LACROSSE TOURNAMENTS	50,000
SKI MEETS	27,000
SOCCER TOURNAMENTS	205,000
SOFTBALL TOURNAMENTS	225,000
SWIMMING MEETS	50,000
TENNIS TOURNAMENTS	90,000
TRACK MEETS	245,000
VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENTS	295,000
WRESTLING TOURNAMENTS	550,000
RADIO/TELEVISION	10,000
TOTAL BUDGET FOR 2008-09	\$8,592,658

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

OFFICIATING'S FUTURE

This is the third in a six-part series "Taking Stock," addressing six major issues of school sports in Michigan over the past two decades.

Let's face facts. The problems of 20 years ago are still with us. We still need more and better officials.

The fact that the problems persist does not mean there has not been progress:

- We registered 2,510 more officials last year than 20 years before (+24 percent); and all of them have been subject of criminal history checks.
- We processed more schools' ratings of officials last year in one season than we did 20 years before for the entire school year.
- We have training programs for local officials association officers and trainers and assignors that did not occur 20 years ago.
- In registering, rating and training, we utilized technology last year that hadn't been invented 20 years ago.

Online rules meetings in just three sports – track & field last spring and soccer and volleyball last fall – conserved coaches and officials enough miles to circle the Earth at the equator more than a dozen times. It saved more than 10,000 gallons of gas. It kept more than \$37,000 in wallets and purses of coaches and officials.

This winter online rules meetings were introduced as an option for basket-

ball, ice hockey and wrestling. This spring and thereafter, the online rules meeting option will exist for all MHSAA sports.



The most exciting feature of the future may be online video training, a free and easy means for individual officials or local officials associations to access a huge video library organized by sport, rule and point of emphasis through the MHSAA Website.

That the problems of quantity and quality in sports officiating persist reflects an expanding interscholastic athletic program – more sports and more levels of teams in each sport – and a program whose coaches, athletes and spectators continue to expect more of officials each year. This is how things should be. **Everybody** is getting better! It's **good** news. ■

And, we quote —

The difference between the old ballplayer and the new ballplayer is the jersey. The old ballplayer cared about the name on the front. The new ballplayer cares about the name on the back.

— Steve Garvey

MHSAA PERSPECTIVE

WE WANT YOU!

Over the years, we've conducted all kinds of promotions here at the MHSAA to encourage people to help out the kids involved in after school educational sporting activities by becoming a coach or a game official. Some of the themes have been: "Can You Fill These Shoes?," "Pick Up A Whistle," "Get Back In The Game," "Upgrade Your Seats To The Front Row," and "Think You Can Do Better? – We Dare You!"

Keeping the awareness level high of the ongoing need for coaches and officials through print, radio and television messages, and public address announcements at regular season and tournament games could be termed successful. It's an investment you make without being able to measure the return; that is, until I got a telephone call a few weeks ago.

My new friend's name in Russell and he lives on the West side of the state. He called me the Monday after the MHSAA Network had televised the four title matches in the Girls Volleyball Tournament and a Semifinal game in the Football Playoffs over the previous weekend to tell me he enjoyed watching the games and had seen all of the promotions which aired about recruiting coaches and officials. He wanted to let me know we were missing the mark.

Now for someone to call our office and tell us how to do our jobs isn't unusual. It's something that goes with the territory. But Russell was absolutely right. We were missing a great opportunity to get the word out about a great void that needs to be filled in school sports.

Russell explained how he had worked for years with local schools as a volunteer in game and meet administration, particularly at track meets. Well, that rang a bell with me being only a few years removed from having our son involved in middle and high school track and cross country. Russell said that we needed to be asking for volunteers to help out at their local school events on the chain gang in foot-

ball, keeping the scorebook in basketball, taking tickets, running concession operations, being a team or game official host, and the list goes on and on.

Sometimes, the booster clubs at schools help out with some of these activities. We worked concessions, tore down and set up start and finish line markings, kept time and passed out finish sticks among other things; and also helped out in other sports with other duties while our son was in school. It was expected of all parents to do what they could when they could to help support the program.

But the strength of booster clubs varies from school to school, and bodies are becoming harder and harder to find to help out – especially at sub varsity and junior high/middle school events. You can ask most athletic administrators and they'll tell you just that. They'll also tell you that some of these folks will have their hands out wanting something each and every time they "volunteer."

It used to be that when you were growing up you saw the same folks game after game handling certain duties at your local high school games; they continued doing so when we were actually playing; and as we returned as alumni, they were still there. And they did it all for the love of the game.

That spirit of volunteerism is needed now more than ever in high school sports. At a time when gate receipts are declining at local regular season games; and a time when athletic departments are being encouraged to not just maintain, but expand the extracurricular offerings available to young people; volunteers are needed to help make these games possible.

All it takes is a call to your local school athletic director to find out if you can help. If you have the time and there's more than one school in your community, don't be afraid to call a second, or even a third school. The need will vary from program to program, but the need is there.

So Russell, consider this the start of

perhaps one of the most important “We Want You!” campaigns since James Montgomery Flagg created the posters with Uncle Sam encouraging military recruits during World War I. We not only want people to volunteer their time and talents to help out at their local school athletic events – we need them now more than ever. ■

— John Johnson
MHSAA Communications Director

NOTE: This commentary aired on the radio program “MHSAA Perspective,” carried by more than 40 radio stations across the state, and can be heard on-demand on the MHSAA Internet Broadcast Network – www.mhsaanetwork.com.

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

OUT-OF-SEASON RULES: The Work Continues

Reflecting on his early experience in the national legislature, future president John Quincy Adams wrote to his father, former president, about his frustrations. “The great art of legislation at this place,” he said, “is to **do** a thing by assuming the appearance of **preventing** it. To **prevent** a thing by assuming that of **doing** it.”

This appears to be an apt description of today’s legislatures which on all levels seem unable to effectively address so many issues that so seriously affect our planet and its people.

And I wonder if the same forces are at work as we address the serious issues of school sports, none of which is more difficult or more definitive of school sports than the degree to which schools may support and coaches may be involved out of

season with their students in an athletic setting.

Have our past and current rules merely **appeared** to solve problems?

Do our proposals for change **pretend** to prevent out-of-season abuses by non-school coaches by allowing our own school coaches to perform those abuses?

And if, finally, we reach consensus for change, is it merely one where, as Israeli statesman Abba Eban said, “everyone agrees to say collectively what no one believes individually?”

Finance guru Warren Buffet has said that sometimes the toughest thing for an investor to do is to do nothing. We’ve got a lot of work to do on this issue, but it may be that our toughest decision will be to do little or nothing at all. ■

ELIGIBILITY ADVANCEMENT REMINDERS

School administrators, counselors and coaches are reminded to present advanced eligibility opportunities to over-age junior high/middle school students. MHSAA Regulations prohibit 7th- and 8th-grade students who become 15 years of age before Sept. 1 to participate in interscholastic sports competition at their respective grade level. The same is true of 16-year-old 9th-graders in a 10-12 high school system if the birthday occurs before Sept. 1.

If the local school administration and parents can agree and arrange, these over-age students can be advanced athletically and participate in the 9-12 program, even if it is in a separate building.

The students will be limited to four years of high school eligibility and must maintain the requirement to be passing work in at least four full credit courses.

Eligibility Advancement Application forms are available on the MHSAA Website at mhsaa.com and are also included in the *MHSAA Handbook*. ■

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

AGAINST ALL ODDS

The theory of cognitive dissonance asserts that we all hold beliefs, and that when the beliefs we hold dear confront the realities we sometimes encounter, we are more likely to change our mindset than our behavior, because thoughts are easier to change than actions.

The classic case is smoking. The smoker hears repeatedly of the health risks, but decides that it is more important to smoke to reduce stress and/or avoid weight gain than to worry about heart disease and/or cancer. Or the smoker will frame smoking as an everyday risk, like the chance of being injured or killed in a car accident.

Such rationalizations allow people to keep their behaviors consistent with their beliefs, albeit revised beliefs, thus reducing “cognitive dissonance.”

There is great potential for cognitive dissonance in sports because of the depth of our loyalties and the height of our passions. Year after year “hope springs eternal” from professional, college and high school pre-season training camps. “Perhaps this is finally the year,” we mutter; in spite of all the odds. That sort of cognitive dissonance is fine; it’s fun (although less so for recent Chicago Cubs fans).

Not so endearing is the cognitive dissonance, in fact the blatant hypocrisy, when in spite of mounting evidence, positive character outcomes are ascribed to sports participation. Some studies reveal student-athletes are more likely to abuse alcohol than non-participating students. Other studies suggest student-athletes score lower on tests for moral reasoning and ethical judgment than non-participating students.

The disconnect between mission and outcome is nowhere more obvious, or more relevant to us who serve school sports, than in Division I intercollegiate basketball and football. There can be little dispute that money drives decision-making far more than the educational mission of the sponsoring institutions.

There is no other possible explanation for when, where and how these programs are conducted, promoted and televised and for how the players are treated and the coaches are compensated. It is interstate com-

merce, big business, not intellectual development or character education. This is not to be critical; it’s simply factual.

There are some people who would drive high school sports in this same direction. This includes athletic footwear companies, television sports analysts and agents. And more dangerously, this sometimes includes high school coaches and some local, state and national high school athletic administrators who assert, in the face of contrary evidence from the intercollegiate level, that we can promote nationalism, commercialism and elitism in school sports without the mission of school sports creeping closer to our college counterparts who have little pretense about the educational mission for intercollegiate athletics.

These zealous school sports coaches and administrators will rationalize and develop arguments to support a new mindset – like “everybody’s doing it” or “if you can’t beat them, join them.”

This is today’s **trend** in school sports. It is not yet certain that it is the dismal **destiny** of education-based athletics. ■



GUEST CONTRIBUTOR

WE ARE HIGH SCHOOL

The following is an excerpt from remarks presented by New York State Public High School Athletic Association Executive Director Nina Van Erk at the New York State Athletic Administrators Conference and the NYSPHSAA Central Committee meeting earlier this school year.

This is an opportunity that I truly cherish as I am able to share my personal beliefs and philosophy pertaining to the education based athletic programs we all are responsible for.

I have always had the desire to submit an essay for National Public Radio's Show, *For This I Believe*. As you could imagine I travel a great deal and have taken a liking to NPR in my effort to stay abreast of current events and politics.

As I put thought to the focus of my remarks I crafted a list of what I considered meaningful, current and hopefully thought provoking topics.

We, together represent the collective leadership of the interscholastic athletic program in New York State. I believe that we are at the cross road of our education based athletic program. A few years ago, in a conversation with my brother, I shared with him that I thought **high school athletics has taken on a false sense of importance**. I never had verbalized that thought before and frankly it was frightening to me. I thought – this is terrible – I am so involved, entrenched and dedicated to high school athletics.

Look what has happened in the past year. In Nevada a student athlete faked his recruitment to a Division I powerhouse and convince his school's athletic administrator to hold a press conference highlighting his signing of a bogus letter of intent.

A wrestling coach from a member school manipulated the selection of the starting weight class by stacking the deck with 15 chips – all containing the same weight class.

Frivolous law suits have been brought forth by parents. The parents of an ice hockey player, who did not make the JV team as a junior, sued the school and the Section when their son did not make the varsity team in his senior year. Another parent sued as a result of their student being

suspended from school for vulgar and threatening comments to a teacher. His father claimed that his college scholarship depended on his playing outfield and pitching for his high school baseball team.

These stories grab the headlines of local and national news. This has become nature of the beast.

This evolvement, I believe, can be attributed to certain situations. First, there was the "every child gets a trophy" era. It was that revolutionary concept that began to disintegrate the concept of self assessment and work ethic amongst our youngsters. In my opinion, this led to the sense of entitlement of today's athletes and parents – everyone wants an exception – everyone wants a break. I would suggest that the hardest part of your positions is dealing with the parents in your community. I hear from parents through email and phone calls. I credit the "question authority generation" for our current parental problems. But look around – most of the parents are part of our generation – we just so happen to be the authority they are questioning.

But I suggest there is hope. Interscholastic athletics is **worth** fighting for. Simply put, **today's** kids deserve the opportunity to participate in our interscholastic athletic program.

So how can we preserve what we love about interscholastic athletics? How do we protect the outside influences from eroding the essential core of our programs? I believe there are three strategies to address this issue; passion, courage and identity.

The first answer is our collective passion for athletics.

For over ten years, I have shared my personal philosophy regarding our influence over the interscholastic athletic program. I call it **Passion vs. Power**. I do not believe **power** gets anything done. Power is an ego based concept. Power is pushy. Power is not productive. On the other hand

there is **passion**. Passion is real. Passion is emotional. Passion motivates and inspires. Passion allows us to commit and dedicate. Passion is thoughtful and insightful. Passion creates influence and it is that influence that creates change.

We are compelled to provide for **appropriate change** in interscholastic athletics. In the summer of 2006 I shared some of following remarks at the Central Committee meeting and they are still meaningful today. We need to have the courage to change. Not simply change for the sake of change, but for the betterment of our interscholastic athletic programs in our high and middle schools. Today's student athletes and athletic programs are so very different from 20 years ago. We have to acknowledge their importance yet restrict ourselves when we are tempted to encourage that false sense of importance.

We have been blessed with the responsibility of administering high school athletics and consequently it is our duty to provide the absolute very best education based opportunity for our student athletes.

During the last few years we had the courage to move forward and not remain complacent. We had the insight to evaluate our practices and policies by seeking opportunities for improvement. We had the courage to step out of our comfort zone to make improvements in our programs and championship events. We had the courage to change when the change enhanced competition while making opportunities more equitable. We had the courage to change, to further the mission of high school athletics.

The last remaining strategy to protect our programs lies within all of us. We need to articulate the notion that interscholastic athletics are different. We need to stand up for what we believe in while focusing on our identity.

I have the privilege of attending numerous National Federation of High School Associations meetings throughout the year.

At two meetings – one for the NFHS Strategic Plan, the other for the NFHS Executive Directors Professional Development workshop – I was fortunate to listen to Dr. Rich Luker speak. He addressed the current issues of high school athletics across our nation. He stressed that

we need to “market” our programs to our target audience, our audience of community. The conversation he had with us was a mixture of a visionary approach sprinkled with a business concept.

But he said four little words that were the most meaningful to me. I immediately decided that these four words were going to be the focus of my remarks today: **We Are High School**.

We Are High School: We are about school community, not all star teams. We are about healthy local rivalries, not national championships. We teach citizenship, competency, civility and commitment.

We Are High School: We establish effective Codes of Conduct. We hold athletes and coaches accountable for THEIR actions and behavior. We focus on the values of sportsmanship.

We Are High School: We strike the balance between academics and athletics.

We care for the safety of student athletes. Last spring I received an email from a wrestling coach. He wrote with his concern over the increase in participation in club sports during the high school season. He cited that his team members and those at nearby schools participate in practice six days a week and then head off to club practices on two of those evenings and Sundays. He struggles in his attempt to educate parents on the need for rest and recovery, but his comments fall on deaf ears because the parents feel they are doing what is right for their child. Another coach shared that in his practices he works to develop not only skills but stresses the importance of respect, loyalty and good sportsmanship. He reluctantly suggested these important values are being compromised by some clubs.

We Are High School: We teach and model integrity. We console, we mentor, we parent. Unfortunately the trend for parents today is to peer and not parent.

We Are High School: We set standards of fairness. We teach diversity. We encourage the acceptance of the weaknesses in others while training students to maximize their strengths and the strengths of others so that a common goal can be achieved.

We are about memories. Think about your own high school athletic experiences.

I must admit that I rarely attend regular season contests. In early February, a friend invited me to watch her 7th grade daughter play in a Modified Basketball Game at Red Hook High School, the district in which I reside. It was the last home game of the season and all the spectators were given a small game program. This special touch – a memory was created. **We Are High School.**

We need to ensure that all stakeholders understand the concept of: **We Are High School.** We are the last remaining pure aspect of sport. Let's share this notion at every opportunity we have.

As we begin the 2008-2009 school year let us work together to protect and enhance the notion of **We Are High School** so future generations may reap the benefits of the programs that we respect and love so dearly. ■

2008 FALL COACH EJECTION LISTING

City	School	Coach	Sport
Battle Creek	Calhoun Christian School	John Garay	Boys Soccer
Battle Creek	Central HS	Mike Vansyckle	Football
Birmingham	Seaholm HS	Jason Gambone	Volleyball
Canton	Plymouth Christian Acad.	Larry Machonga	Boys Soccer
Charlevoix	Charlevoix HS	Doug Waha	Football
Clinton Township	Chippewa Valley HS	Gerry Haggarty	Boys Soccer
Croswell	Croswell Lexington MS	Phillip Ochoa	Football
Ferndale	Ferndale HS	Steve Motter	Boys Soccer
Gaylord	Gaylord HS	Sean Byram	Boys Soccer
Gobles	Gobles HS	Jim Moore	Boys Soccer
Grand Rapids	Kenowa Hills HS	Scott Greene	Boys Soccer
Grand Rapids	West Catholic HS	Denny Briggs	Boys Soccer
Holt	Holt HS	Aaron Smith	Boys Soccer
Jackson	Jackson Christian School	Christopher Hein	Boys Soccer
Jackson	Jackson HS	James Flack	Boys Soccer
Kalamazoo	Loy Norrix HS	Matt McCullough	Boys Soccer
Lansing	Eastern HS	Jeff Davis	Boys Soccer
Merrill	Merrill HS	Tony Monk	Football
Monroe	Monroe HS	Steve Pollzie	Football
Muskegon	Reeths-Puffer HS	Ben Ritsema	Boys Soccer
North Muskegon	North Muskegon HS	Jeremy Tjapkes	Boys Soccer
Otisville	LakeVille Memorial HS	Maurice Lopez	Boys Soccer
Paw Paw	Paw Paw Middle School	Don Moorhead	Football
Pinckney	Pinckney HS	Joel Lindblade	Boys Soccer
Quincy	Quincy HS	Dave Bach	Football
Romulus	Romulus HS	Ryan Horton	Boys Soccer
Roseville	Roseville HS	Ron Baller	Boys Soccer
Royal Oak	Royal Oak HS	Dave Potter	Football
Sault Ste Marie	Sault Area HS	Jerry Azevedo	Boys Soccer
Sterling Heights	Sterling Heights HS	Patrick Latorre	Boys Soccer
Sterling Heights	Utica Ford II HS	Chris Allston	Boys Soccer
Sterling Heights	Utica Ford II HS	Tony Casselli	Boys Soccer
Temperance	Bedford HS	Andrew Kish	Boys Soccer
Three Oaks	River Valley HS	Shawn Beach	Boys Soccer
Warren	DeLaSalle Collegiate HS	Thaier Mukhtar	Boys Soccer

SCHOOLS WITH THREE OR MORE OFFICIALS REPORTS Fall 2008

School	City	No. of Reports
Monroe HS	Monroe	6
Royal Oak HS	Royal Oak	6
Huron HS	Ann Arbor	5
Loy Norrix HS	Kalamazoo	5
Eastern HS	Lansing	5
Stoney Creek HS	Rochester Hills	5
Central HS	Battle Creek	4
Carman-Ainsworth HS	Flint	4
Freeland HS	Freeland	4
Holt HS	Holt	4
Mattawan HS	Mattawan	4
Rochester HS	Rochester Hills	4
Southgate Anderson HS	Southgate	4
Ferndale HS	Ferndale	3
Flushing HS	Flushing	3
Grand Blanc HS	Grand Blanc	3
Grandville HS	Grandville	3
Hastings HS	Hastings	3
Comstock HS	Kalamazoo	3
Kalamazoo Central HS	Kalamazoo	3
Lapeer West HS	Lapeer	3
Lawton HS	Lawton	3
Churchill HS	Livonia	3
Franklin HS	Livonia	3
Marquette HS	Marquette	3
New Haven HS	New Haven	3
Lakeville Memorial HS	Otisville	3
Portage Central HS	Portage	3
Rockford HS	Rockford	3
Roseville HS	Roseville	3
South Lyon HS	South Lyon	3
Lincoln HS	Ypsilanti	3

OFFICIALS REPORTS SUMMARY FOR FALL 2008

Sport	Concern	Praise	Player Ejection	Coach Ejection	Other Ejection	Taunting	Sportsmanship
Boys Soccer	283	13	259	26	2	0	17
Football	125	56	111	8	0	2	8
G.Swimming	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Volleyball	7	3	0	1	0	0	5

Distribution of Reports

Reports of Concern	No. of Schools	Reports of Praise	No. of Schools
1	182	1	54
2	54	2	8
3	19	3	1
4	9		
5	4		
6	2		

FEWER-THAN-11-PLAYER FOOTBALL TO BE EXPLORED BY MHSAA

The Michigan High School Athletic Association is conducting a series of meetings in January to determine interest on the part of its smallest schools for a football format utilizing fewer than 11 players. The meetings are at Escanaba High School on Jan. 12 at 1 p.m., in Indian River at the Cheboygan-Otsego-Presque Ile Educational Service District building on Jan. 13 at 10 a.m., and in East Lansing at the MHSAA office on Jan. 29 at 9:30 a.m.

The Representative Council authorized the meetings at its Dec. 5, 2008 meeting, following a review of a survey conducted of member schools in the fall. Every Class D and C school in the MHSAA membership has been invited to attend.

The meetings will review the formats used in other states for fewer than 11 players. Twenty-one state associations conduct postseason tournaments under three different formats. The nine-player game

takes place in Maine, Minnesota and North Dakota; eight-player football exists in Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, Oklahoma, Oregon, Washington and South Dakota; and the six-player version is played in Colorado, Montana, New Mexico and Texas.

Rules differences between the 11 player and the reduced-player formats, the impact of the game on neighboring schools, and a potential MHSAA-sponsored reduced-player football playoff will also be discussed at the meetings. Feedback will be reported to the MHSAA Football Committee and the Representative Council at upcoming meetings.

In the 1930s, approximately 75 small schools sponsored six-player football in Michigan. Sponsorship declined throughout the 1950s as smaller school districts consolidated, giving way to eight-player and eventually to 11-player teams. ■

ANNUAL LEAGUE AND CONFERENCE LEADERSHIP MEETING

Wednesday, Feb. 18, 2009
MHSAA Building – East Lansing

Forum for discussing progress and sharing opinions on topics that the Representative Council also addresses. Information and materials are provided in advance and at the meeting for future discussion and input from leagues and schools.

Registration is limited. Forms and information have been mailed to League Secretaries. Contact Camala Kinder at 517-332-5046 or ckinder@mhsaa.com prior to Jan. 30, 2009.

*The Only Official Interpretations
Are Those Received In Writing*

2009-10 MHSAA COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP NOMINATIONS

A procedure has been adopted and recently refined by the Representative Council to select MHSAA committee members. In the early spring of 2009, all superintendents, principals, athletic directors, coaches and board of education members who desire to serve on MHSAA committees may submit their names for nomination. This is a summary of the make-up and responsibilities of MHSAA standing committees:

DESCRIPTION OF MHSAA COMMITTEES

SPORT COMMITTEES

Baseball/Softball, Basketball, Bowling, Competitive Cheer, Cross Country/Track & Field, Football, Golf, Gymnastics, Ice Hockey, Boys Lacrosse, Girls Lacrosse, Skiing, Soccer, Swimming & Diving, Tennis, Volleyball, Wrestling

1. Consist of a balance of administrators and varsity coaches in the particular sport, plus the president of the coaches association for that sport.
2. Responsible for:
 - (a) recommending to the Representative Council changes regarding MHSAA regulations relative to the sport.
 - (b) recommending to the staff procedures, sites, and assignments for the MHSAA tournament in that sport.

Note: Some sport committees serve multiple functions including officials selection, tournament sites, and seeding.

TOURNAMENT COMMITTEES

Girls & Boys Basketball, Cross Country/Track & Field Site Selection, Track & Field Standards, Volleyball

1. Consist of administrators.
2. Responsible for selecting sites and assigning teams for all levels of MHSAA tournaments in the particular sport.

SEEDING COMMITTEES

Girls Tennis Area Seeding Directors, Boys Tennis Area Seeding Directors

1. Consists of tournament managers and varsity coaches.
2. Responsible for determining seeded players and their positions in each flight and for assisting tournament managers in conducting the tournament draw.

OFFICIAL SELECTION COMMITTEES

Baseball and Softball, Boys and Girls Basketball, Competitive Cheer, Football, Gymnastics, Ice Hockey, Boys Soccer, Girls Soccer, Volleyball, and Wrestling

1. Consist of tournament managers, athletic directors and coaches.
2. Responsible for selecting officials for most levels of tournaments in most sports.

OTHER STANDING COMMITTEES (Established and appointed by the Representative Council for specific purposes)

1. **Athletic Equity Committee** - Committee is to meet once a year to recommend to the Representative Council annual objectives designed to encourage participation by more women and minorities in interscholastic coaching, officiating and administrative positions.

2. **Awards Committee** - This committee meets once as a group and corresponds throughout the year to extend nominations, establish policies and procedures and to nominate and screen candidates for four MHSAA awards: Forsythe, Bush, Norris, and Women in Sports Leadership.
3. **Classification Committee** - The committee meets annually to study and make recommendations to staff and Council regarding policies and procedures of classifying schools for tournaments and elections. It consists of two representatives each from MASB, MASA, MASSP, and MIAAA, plus other appointees to assume adequate representation of all sizes and types of schools.
4. **Board of Canvassers** - Comprised of a superintendent, two high school principals, one junior high/middle school principal, and one athletic director. Members are responsible for counting the ballots for the election of Representative Council members and members of the Upper Peninsula Athletic Committee. Generally, the committee meets only once, but in the event of ties or runoffs, the entire committee or a portion of the committee returns for the purpose of counting runoff ballots.
5. **Junior High/Middle School Committee** - This committee is comprised of junior high/middle school principals and athletic directors to review rules and regulations as they pertain to junior high/middle schools.
6. **Officials Review Committee** - This committee meets for the purpose of reviewing issues and concerns related to all officials in order to put forth recommendations to the MHSAA Representative Council which may guide the evolution and development of officials services and programs.
7. **Scholar-Athlete Committee** - Established to administer the MHSAA Scholar-Athlete program, this committee consists of approximately 80 people to review award applications.
8. **Trophy & Medal Committee** - This committee of two superintendents, two principals and one coach meets when convened to recommend to the Council trophies and medals to be distributed at MHSAA postseason tournaments. ■

CRITERIA FOR NOMINATION AND SELECTION OF MHSAA COMMITTEE MEMBERS

There are several criteria to consider before completing the Nomination Form:

1. Coaches must be employed by the school and be able to obtain release time from school.
2. The nominee should have at least two years of experience in the position currently holding.
3. Most committees require only a one meeting date commitment at the MHSAA building in East Lansing. Committee meetings are held during the work week.

Appointments to committees are based on the following criteria:

1. Committees should have male, female, and minority membership which reflects the total pool of available personnel.
2. Committees should maintain geographic and class size representation.
3. Some administrators will be appointed to sport committees.
4. The coaches association president/secretary of each sport is appointed to that sport committee, if the person is a school employee. If the President/Secretary is not a school employee, the Association must send a designee who is an administrator, faculty member or board of education member of an MHSAA member school.

Names of nominees will be submitted to the Representative Council for selection.

Over 750 people will be selected from the list of nominees submitted to serve on MHSAA committees.

— USE THE FORM ON THE NEXT PAGE —

MHSAA COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP NOMINATION FORM

Member school superintendents, principals, athletic directors, board of education members and coaches are eligible to be a member of any one of the following MHSAA committees for the 2009-10 school year. If you desire to place yourself as a nominee complete this form and mail it to the MHSAA office by March 31, 2009. **THE PRINCIPAL MUST sign this form for it to be considered a valid nomination for athletic directors and coaches.** Schools may choose to use this form for more than one nomination. The following form lists the committee and the month in which the meeting will be held. Please print the nominee's name and title (**specify boys or girls if a coach**) on the appropriate line.

Committee	Meeting Month	Nominee's Name & Title
Board of Canvassers	September	Ms/Mr
Athletic Equity	October	Ms/Mr
Awards	October	Ms/Mr
Gymnastics	October	Ms/Mr
Boys Tennis Seeding	October	Ms/Mr
Ski	November	Ms/Mr
Baseball/Softball Site Selection	November	Ms/Mr
Golf	November	Ms/Mr
Basketball Rules	December	Ms/Mr
Track & Field Standards	December	Ms/Mr
Volleyball Rules	December	Ms/Mr
Tennis	January	Ms/Mr
Baseball/Softball Rules	January	Ms/Mr
Classification	January	Ms/Mr
Cross Country/Track & Field Reg.	January	Ms/Mr
XC/TR & FD Site Selection	January	Ms/Mr
Football	January	Ms/Mr
Junior High/Middle School	January	Ms/Mr
Wrestling	January	Ms/Mr
Boys Lacrosse	Jan. & May	Ms/Mr
Girls Lacrosse	Jan. & May	Ms/Mr
Scholar-Athlete	February	Ms/Mr
Soccer	February	Ms/Mr
Swimming & Diving	February	Ms/Mr
Competitive Cheer	March	Ms/Mr
Bowling	March	Ms/Mr
GBB/BBB/GVB Site Selection	May	Ms/Mr
Ice Hockey	May	Ms/Mr
Girls Tennis Seeding	May	Ms/Mr

City/School _____ School ID No. _____

Principal (Signature) _____

RETURN TO MHSAA NO LATER THAN MARCH 31, 2009

New Regulation for MHSAA Hockey Tournament Overtimes in 2009

Schools are reminded that overtime procedures for MHSAA Hockey Tournament games will change effective with the 2009 Tournament. For all MHSAA tournament games that finish regulation tied, sudden victory overtime will take place beginning with a maximum of four 8-minute periods, after which if the game is still tied a series of 4-on-4 sudden victory overtime periods will be played to determine a winner. Carry-over penalties will apply. Complete details on administrative procedures for the new hockey overtime rules are in the MHSAA Tournament Managers Materials and the Participating School Tournament Information (PSTI) files on the MHSAA Website. The new overtime procedures apply for all MHSAA Tournament games from Pre-Regional through the Finals. Regular-season games do not use the tournament overtime procedures. ■



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