



michigan high school athletic association

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BULLETIN

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ON THE COVER

MHSAA winter sports action is in full swing. The 2004 Boys and Girls Ski Finals are slated for Feb. 23, while champions will also be crowned in Wrestling and Gymnastics during the winter. Upper Peninsula Individual Wrestling champions will be crowned on Feb. 20-21, while Team Wrestling finals take place March 5-6, with the Lower Peninsula Individual Finals being decided one week later. The Girls Gymnastics Finals are scheduled for March 12-13.

Photos by 20/20 Photographic

MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION
1661 Ramblewood, East Lansing, 48823-7392 • Telephone 517-332-5046
FAX 517-332-4071
mhsaa.com

Members of Representative Council

James Derocher*

Superintendent
Negaunee Public Schools
Class C-D — Upper Peninsula

Ken Dietz**

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

Keith Eldred*, Vice President

Athletic Director
Williamston Middle School
Junior High/Middle Schools

Paul L. Ellinger, President**

Superintendent
Cheboygan Area Schools
Junior High/Middle Schools

Lafayette Evans**

Director of Athletics
Detroit Public Schools
City of Detroit

Eric Federico*

Assistant Superintendent
Gibraltar Schools
Class A-B — Southeastern Michigan

Dan Flynn**

Faculty Member/Coach
Esکانaba High School
Class A-B — Upper Peninsula

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Board Member
Gladwin Public Schools
Appointee

Scott Grimes*

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Grand Haven High School
Statewide At-Large

Leroy Hackley**

Athletic Director
Byron Center High School
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Karen Leinaar**

Athletic Director
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Private and Parochial Schools

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Fred Procter*

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Saginaw Heritage High School
Class A-B — Northern Lower Peninsula

Randy Salisbury**

Principal
Britton-Macon High School
Class C-D — Southeastern Michigan

Michael Shiber*

Superintendent
Rockford Public Schools
Class A-B — Southwestern Michigan

Pam Wong (ex-officio)

Chief of Staff, Michigan Dept. of Education
Lansing
Designee

*Term Expires December 2004

**Term Expires December 2005

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, Systems Administrator
Andy Frushour, Executive Assistant
Jim Ganong, Network Administrator/Technician
Mandi Hoover, Administrative Assistant
Nate Hampton, Assistant Director
John R. Johnson, Communications Director
Heather Jordal, Receptionist
Rob Kaminski, Publications Coordinator
Camala Kinder, Administrative Assistant
Laurie LaClear, Bookkeeper

Sue Lohman, Administrative Assistant
Gina Mazzolini, Assistant Director
Thomas L. Minter, Assistant to Executive Director
Leanne Moore, Administrative Assistant
Thomas M. Rashid, Associate Director
John E. Roberts, Executive Director
Sharla Stokes, Administrative Assistant
Jamie VanDerMoore, Receptionist
Faye Verellen, Administrative Assistant
Debbie Waddell, Executive Assistant
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, Nov. 12, 2003

Members Present:

Paul Ellinger, Cheboygan
Keith Eldred, Williamston
Dan Flynn, Escanaba
Eric Federico, Gibraltar
Mel Atkins, Grand Rapids

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 these minutes 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.

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 was cautioned to 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.

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

Dearborn High School (Regulation 1, Section 9[B]) - Request to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility at the subvarsity level only was made on behalf of a 9th-grade student who enrolled at Dearborn High School on Sept. 5, 2003 after having moved into the district from Rose City. The student

attended Dearborn Heights-Robichaud High School for approximately one week. The student did not participate in any MHSAA tournament sport.

The Executive Committee granted the request for waiver at the subvarsity level only until the first day that classes are held in the second semester of the 2003-04 school year at Dearborn High School.

Farwell High School (Regulation 1, Section 9[B]) - Request to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility at the subvarsity level only was made on behalf of a 9th-grade student who enrolled at Farwell on Oct. 21, 2003, after having attended school in Virginia where she did not participate in athletics.

The Executive Committee granted the request for waiver at the subvarsity level for the remainder of the 2003-04 school year's programs.

Inkster High School (Regulation 1, Section 9[B]) - Request to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility at the subvarsity level only was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who transferred without a change of residence from Detroit-Mackenzie High School, enrolling at Inkster on Aug. 26, 2003. The student did not participate in any MHSAA sponsored sport.

The Executive Committee granted the request for waiver at the subvarsity level only until the first day that classes are held in the second semester of the 2003-04 school year at Inkster High School.

Inkster High School (Regulation 1, Section 9[B]) - Request to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility at the subvarsity level only was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who transferred without a change of residence from Detroit-Rogers High School, enrolling at Inkster on Aug. 26, 2003. The student did not participate in any MHSAA sponsored sport.

The Executive Committee granted the request for waiver at the subvarsity level only until the first day that classes are held in the second semester of the 2003-04 school year at Inkster High School.

Livonia-Stevenson High School (Regulation 1, Section 9[B]) - Request to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility at the subvarsity level only was made

on behalf of a 9th-grade student who attended Redford-Detroit Catholic Central High School until enrolling at Stevenson on Sept. 22, 2003. The student did not participate in any MHSAA sponsored sport practices, scrimmages or contests.

The Executive Committee granted the request for waiver at the subvarsity level only until the first day that classes are held in the second semester of the 2003-04 school year at Stevenson High School.

Midland-Bullock Creek High School (Regulation 1, Section 9[B]) - Request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 9th-grade student who changed residences from his mother's home in the Saginaw School District to his father's home in the Bullock Creek School District, enrolling on Oct. 21, 2003. The parents never married and no father is indicated on the birth certificate. An otherwise completed Educational Transfer Form was submitted along with a "Notice of Income Withholding" from the Saginaw Friend of the Court.

The Executive Committee granted the request for waiver at the subvarsity level for the remainder of the 2003-04 school year's programs.

North Muskegon High School (Regulation 1, Section 9[D]) - Request was made to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility after 90 school days of enrollment on behalf of an 11th-grade student who transferred from Muskegon-Reeths-Puffer High School. The student enrolled at North Muskegon on March 10, 2003.

The Executive Committee granted the request for waiver effective with the student's 91st school day of enrollment at North Muskegon High School.

Port Huron High School (Regulation 1, Section 9) - Request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who relocated from Tennessee where he lived with his father to Port Huron where he lives with his uncle. The student's father relocated to Arizona and is in poor mental health, attempting suicide twice in August 2003. The student's stepmother relocated to Southfield but would not allow the student to reside with her. The student's biological mother resides in Grand Rapids but has not been a part of the student's life since

he was in 8th grade. At that time (Nov. 3, 2003), the student was enrolled in Port Huron Schools. Complicating this request was the fact that the uncle's home is in the Port Huron Northern attendance area; but the student's friends from 8th grade attend Port Huron High School.

The Executive Committee granted the request for waiver.

St. Ignace-LaSalle High School (Regulation 1, Section 9) - Request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically a condition of exception No. 4 was made on behalf of a foreign exchange student placed by American Intercultural Student Exchange. LaSalle High School was unaware until recently that A.I.S.E. was removed from the CSIET approved list for the 2003-04 school year.

The Executive Committee noted that, after review more thorough than any the MHSAA would be able to undertake, this student exchange program had been removed from CSIET's listing to its greatest level of concern - "de-listed" - because of serious problems. The Executive Committee was also informed by staff that this program was unresponsive in September to MHSAA requests for the names of the students and their Michigan placements. The request for waiver was denied.

Union City High School (Regulation I, Section 9) - Request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who moved from Coldwater to the residence of his grandparents on Oct. 25, 2003 to give assistance in the household related to the grandfather's medical problems.

The Executive Committee denied the request for waiver.

Waterford Kettering High School (Regulation 1, Section 9) - Request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who attended Pontiac Central last year and participated in varsity golf there. Since the start of the 2003-04 school year, the student has relocated to a family in the Waterford Kettering District so that he may play high school hockey for his father who is the Waterford Kettering coach.

The Executive Committee denied the request for waiver.

Novi-Franklin Road Christian School (Regulation III, Section 1) - Request was made to waive the enrollment regulation and specifically Interpretation No. 228 to permit 6th-grade boys and girls to participate on 7th- and 8th-grade teams. The high school enrollment for grades 9-12 is 85.

The Executive Committee granted the request for waiver for the 2003-04 school year only.

New Member School - Pursuant to the MHSAA Constitution adopted by member schools and according to procedures for MHSAA membership approved by the Representative Council on March 27, 1997, membership was approved at the junior high/middle and senior high school levels for Byron Center-The Learning Center Academy, a public school academy chartered by Grand Valley State University which currently has 38 students in grades 9-12 and 37 students in the junior high/middle school, grades 7 and 8. The school is interested in a cooperative program in boys basketball with Byron Center-Zion Christian School. Learning Center Academy teams qualify for MHSAA tournaments in the 2005-06 school year provided the school's Membership Resolutions are received on a timely basis for both 2004-05 and 2005-06 and the school is in good standing in all other respects.

Next Meetings - The next meetings of the Executive Committee are scheduled for Thursday, Dec. 4, at 9 a.m. in Mt. Pleasant (followed by Representative Council Meeting Dec. 5); Wednesday, Jan. 21, at 8:30 a.m. in East Lansing; Wednesday, Feb. 25, at 8:30 a.m. in East Lansing (followed by Finance Committee Meeting); Thursday, March 25, at 8:30 a.m. in East Lansing (followed by Representative Council Meeting March 26); Wednesday, April 21, at 8:30 a.m. in East Lansing (followed by Finance Committee Meeting); Saturday, May 1, at 6 p.m. in Thompsonville (followed by Representative Council Meetings May 2-4); and Wednesday, June 9, at 8:30 a.m. in East Lansing. ■

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TELECONFERENCE MEETING

Nov. 24, 2003

Members Present:

Paul Ellinger, Cheboygan
Keith Eldred, Williamston
Dan Flynn, Escanaba
Scott Grimes, Grand Haven

Staff Members Present:

Tom Rashid
Jack Roberts (Recorder)

The Executive Committee was convened by telephone conference call at 1:30 p.m. to receive personnel recommendations of the executive director.

After a description of process and candidates, the Executive Committee approved the

hiring of two assistant directors: Kathy Westdorp, Principal of Grand Rapids-Forest Hills Central High School, and Mark Uyl, Assistant Principal and Athletic Director at Middleville-Thornapple Kellogg High School. ■

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Mt. Pleasant, Dec. 4, 2003

Members Present:

Paul Ellinger, Cheboygan
Keith Eldred, Williamston
Dan Flynn, Escanaba
Vic Michaels, Detroit
Pete Ryan, Saginaw

Staff Members Present:

Tom Rashid
Jack Roberts (Recorder)

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Northport High School (Regulation I, Section 1[D]) - A late request was made to waive the enrollment regulation to allow 8th-graders to participate on high school teams. The high school enrollment has changed from a count in excess of 99 students in February when the school submitted its Enrollment Declaration Form, to a current enrollment of less than 100 students.

The Executive Committee denied the request for waiver.

Wakefield High School (Regulation 1, Section 1[D]) - A late request was made to waive the enrollment regulation to allow 8th-graders to participate on high school teams. The high school enrollment listed in the current MHSAA School Directory exceeds the limit for participation by 8th-grade students.

The Executive Committee denied the request for waiver.

Flint-Beecher High School (Regulation I, Sections 4 & 5) - On Oct. 22, 2003, the Executive Committee denied a request to waive the maximum semesters portions of the eligibility regulation on behalf of a 12th-grade student who has been in foster care and lived with his aunt and others since 1999. The student entered Flint-Northern in the 1999-00 school year, attended Flint-Central for 2000-01 and the first semester of 2001-02, and the district's alternative school for the second semester of 2001-02. In the fall of 2002-03, the student enrolled at Beecher

High School. The student's mother is unstable and the father died when the student was 8 years old.

The school requested reconsideration, and was represented by the superintendent, athletic director, student and an adult family friend. The focus of the appeal was on the lack of a support system for this student in his early years of high school.

The documentation provided to the Executive Committee before and during this meeting was conclusive that, although this student only participated in one semester of high school sports, he had been in attendance and received grades during each of eight semesters prior to the 2003-04 school year, which is the maximum opportunity for eligibility afforded all students. Therefore, the Executive Committee could not determine that application of the rule in this case created an undue hardship on the student or failed to perform its intended purpose. The request for waiver was denied.

Battle Creek-Central High School (Regulation I, Section 7) - Request to waive the previous semester record regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student, in his third year of high school, who was tested and identified recently as a special needs student who was not allowed previously to be tested by his mother. The student is currently repeating the 10th grade.

The Executive Committee denied the request for waiver.

Grand Rapids-Kenowa Hills High School (Regulation I, Section 7) - Request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who was home schooled prior to this school year and enrolled at Kenowa Hills on Aug. 25, 2003. In August, the student demonstrated that he met minimum eligibility requirements (passed four subjects).

The Executive Committee interpreted the facts to permit the student immediate eligibility.

Battle Creek-Central High School (Regulation I, Section 9) - Request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who attended Greater Life Academy in Auburn Hills and enrolled at Battle Creek-Central on Nov. 3, 2003, moving from the residence of his mother to the residence of his father in the Battle

Creek-Central district. The parents never married, but an otherwise completed Educational Transfer Form was submitted along with documents from the circuit court which identified the father.

The Executive Committee granted the request for waiver.

Berkley High School (Regulation 1, Section 9) - Request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who moved from a residence with her mother, attending Mt. Morris-E. A. Johnson High School, to the residence of her father in the Berkley School District, enrolling March 17, 2003. The student's mother has relocated out of state. The student's parents never married, but an otherwise completed Educational Transfer Form was submitted with a birth certificate indicating the father.

The Executive Committee granted the request for waiver.

Detroit-Urban Lutheran High School (Regulation I, Section 9[B]) - Request was made to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility at the subvarsity level only on behalf of a 10th-grade student who attended Detroit-Rogers Academy and enrolled at Urban Lutheran on Aug. 20, 2003. The student did change residences, but not between public school attendance areas. The student did not participate in any MHSAA sponsored sport.

The Executive Committee granted the request for waiver at the subvarsity level only until the first day of classes of the second semester at Urban Lutheran High School.

Edwardsburg High School (Regulation I, Section 9[D]) - Request to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility on the 91st school day of enrollment was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who reenrolled at Edwardsburg on Oct. 15, 2003. The student began 9th grade in South Bend, living with her mother. The student completed an Educational Transfer Form and resided with her father in Edwardsburg and played softball in the spring of 2003. With her father planning on moving to Florida, the student returned to her mother in Indiana. When the father's plans to move changed, the student returned to her father's Edwardsburg residence and reenrolled at Edwardsburg High School.

The Executive Committee denied the request for waiver.

Flushing High School (Regulation I, Section 9[B]) - Request to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility at the subvarsity level only was made on behalf of a 9th-grade student who attended Flint-Hamady until he enrolled at Flushing on Oct. 24, 2003. There was no change of residence. The student did not participate in any MHSAA sponsored sports at Hamady.

The Executive Committee granted the request for waiver at the subvarsity level only for the remainder of the 2003-04 school year.

Hudsonville-Freedom Baptist High School (Regulation I, Section 9[B]) - Request was made to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility at the subvarsity level only on behalf of a 10th-grade student who transferred from Hudsonville High School in early November. The student has not participated in any MHSAA sponsored sports.

The Executive Committee granted the request for waiver at the subvarsity level only through the remainder of the 2003-04 school year.

Ishpeming-Westwood High School (Regulation I, Section 9[B]) - Request to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility at the subvarsity level only was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student whose parents are divorced. The student began the 9th grade at Westwood High School and transferred to Waterford Mott under exception No. 8 of the transfer regulation, moving into his father's residence, completing an Educational Transfer Form and competing in golf this fall. The student reenrolled at Westwood High School on Oct. 28, 2003 and is now living with his mother.

Noting the specific conditions for waiver (no participation), the Executive Committee denied this request.

Jackson-Northwest High School (Regulation I, Section 9[D]) - Request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who attended 9th grade and the first semester of her 10th-grade year at Northwest High School before enrolling at Jackson High School in January 2003. The student "enrolled" for classes at Northwest on Friday, Sept. 26, 2003 but did not begin attending classes until Monday,

Sept. 29, 2003, after immunization records were updated. If eligibility was not granted on the first day of the second semester, the school requested consideration of eligibility on the 91st school day of enrollment.

The Executive Committee granted the request for waiver effective with the student's 91st school day of enrollment at Northwest High School starting Sept. 29, 2003.

Jonesville High School (Regulation I, Section 9[D]) - Request to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility on the 91st school day of enrollment was made on behalf of a 9th-grade student who participated in athletics and attended Litchfield High School before enrolling at Jonesville High School on Oct. 29, 2003. The student continues to reside in the Litchfield School District.

The Executive Committee denied the request for waiver.

Lansing-Eastern High School (Regulation I, Section 9[B]) - A late request to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility at the subvarsity level only was made on behalf of a 9th-grade student who attended Everett High School this fall but did not play football.

The Executive Committee granted the request for waiver at the subvarsity level only provided the school confirms that the student participated in no interscholastic sport this fall and clarifies the date of transfer.

Lansing-Everett High School (Regulation I, Section 9[B]) - A late request to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility at the subvarsity level only was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who attended Sexton High School until he transferred to Everett High School. He did not participate in sports at Sexton.

The Executive Committee granted the request for waiver at the subvarsity level only until a date to be determined after more information is received from the school.

Lowell High School (Regulation I, Section 9[B]) - Request to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility at the subvarsity level only was made on behalf of a 9th-grade student who attended Grand Rapids-Union until he enrolled at Lowell on Sept. 22, 2003. He currently resides with his former stepfather in the Lowell district. The student did not participate in athletics at Grand Rapids-Union.

The Executive Committee granted the request for waiver at the subvarsity level only until the first day of classes of the second semester of the current school year at Lowell High School.

Manistee-Catholic Central High School (Regulation I, Section 9[D]) - Request to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility on the 91st school day of enrollment was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who participated in athletics and attended Onkama High School before enrolling at Manistee-Catholic Central on Nov. 10, 2003. The student continues to reside in the Onkama School District. The parents cited academic, instructional and student discipline concerns with the former school.

The Executive Committee denied the request for waiver.

Novi-Franklin Road Christian School (Regulation I, Section 9) - A late request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 9th-grade student who enrolled Dec. 3, 2003, after attending Walled Lake Central High School. Franklin Road Christian does not have subvarsity teams and requested varsity eligibility for this student who has not participated in any varsity sports.

The Executive Committee denied the request for waiver.

Okemos High School (Regulation I, Section 9) - Request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who attended Lansing-Everett High School and enrolled at Okemos High School on Oct. 13, 2003, moving from the residence of his mother to the residence of his father in the Okemos district. The parents never married, but an otherwise completed Educational Transfer Form was submitted along with a statement from the mother and documents from the circuit court which changed the student's last name to the father's last name.

The Executive Committee granted the request for waiver.

Pentwater High School (Regulation I, Section 9) - Request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who attended Pentwater High School for 9th grade, enrolled at Ludington High School on Aug. 25, 2003 and attended

for three days, and then re-enrolled at Pentwater on Sept. 3, 2003. The parents are divorced and both reside in the Pentwater School District.

The Executive Committee granted the request for waiver.

Reed City High School (Regulation I, Section 9[B]) - Request to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility at the subvarsity level only was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student whose parents are separated. The student moved from Illinois where he was living with his father to the residence of his mother in the Reed City School District, enrolling on Aug. 26, 2003. The student did not participate in any sports as a 9th-grader.

The Executive Committee granted the request for waiver at the subvarsity level only until the first day of classes of the second semester of the current school year at Reed City High School.

Saginaw-Buena Vista High School (Regulation I, Section 9) - A late request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who lives in the Buena Vista School District, attended Arthur Hill High School as a 9th through 11th-grader, and has enrolled as a 12th-grader at Buena Vista High School.

The Executive Committee denied the request for waiver.

Saginaw-Valley Lutheran High School (Regulation I, Section 9[D]) - Request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who was asked to leave Michigan Lutheran Seminary because of academic deficiencies. The student enrolled at Valley Lutheran High School on Oct. 7, 2003. The request was for immediate eligibility in that the transfer was for academic reasons. If immediate eligibility is not granted, the school requests eligibility on the 91st school day of enrollment at Valley Lutheran High School.

The Executive Committee denied the request for immediate eligibility but granted the request for waiver effective with the student's 91st school day of enrollment at Valley Lutheran High School beginning Oct. 7, 2003.

Stanton-Central Montcalm High School (Regulation I, Section 9[D]) - Request to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility on the 91st school day of

enrollment was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who participated in athletics and attended Belding High School for 9th and 10th grades before enrolling at Central Montcalm on Nov. 5, 2003. The student continues to reside in the Belding School District.

The Executive Committee denied the request for waiver.

Taylor-Truman High School (Regulation I, Section 9[B]) - Request was made to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility at the subvarsity level only on behalf of a 9th-grade student who transferred from Detroit-Denby High School on Nov. 11, 2003. The student has not participated in any MHSAA sponsored sports.

The Executive Committee granted the request for waiver at the subvarsity level only for the remainder of the 2003-04 school year.

Troy-Athens High School (Regulation I, Section 9[B]) - A late request was made to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility on the subvarsity level only for the remainder of the 2003-04 school year on behalf of a 10th-grade student who transferred from Madison Heights-Bishop Foley High School in November 2003. The student participated in varsity soccer at Bishop Foley and is changing schools for academic reasons.

Citing the specific conditions for waiver (no participation), the Executive Committee denied the request for waiver.

Warren-Macomb Christian High School (Regulation I, Section 9[B]) - Request was made to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility at the subvarsity level only on behalf of a 10th-grade student who attended Remus-Chippewa Hills High School as a 9th-grader and enrolled at Pontiac Central High School in September 2003. The student then enrolled at Macomb Christian on Nov. 11, 2003. The student's parents are in drug rehabilitation and he resides with another family. The student did not participate in any MHSAA sponsored sport throughout high school.

The Executive Committee granted the request for waiver at the subvarsity level only for the remainder of the 2003-04 school year.

Wyoming-Godwin Heights High School (Regulation I, Section 9) - Request to waive the transfer regulation and specifi-

cally Interpretation No. 72 was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who transferred from Grand Rapids-Central and enrolled at Godwin Heights on Oct. 21, 2003. In June, the student moved with his mother to reside with the student's uncle in Wyoming. The mother had separated from the stepfather in June, fearing for the student's personal safety.

Citing insufficient information, the Executive Committee denied the request for waiver.

Wyoming-Kelloggsville High School (Regulation I, Section 9) - Request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who attended Grandville High School for a brief time at the start of this school year. The student was a 9th-grader at Kelloggsville High School who enrolled at Grandville High School and resided with his father at the grandmother's home in the district in order to care for the ill grandmother. Another family member became available for this responsibility, and the student and father returned to live with the mother in the Kelloggsville district. The student did not participate in athletics at Grandville, but did participate as a 9th-grader at Kelloggsville.

The Executive Committee granted the request for waiver.

Grand Rapids-Kenowa Hills High School (Regulation II, Section 15) - Request was made to permit a 10th-grade student to participate in Division II of the MHSAA Gymnastics Meet in 2004. (Division I is for gymnasts who at any time have competed in USAG Gymnastics Optionals [Level 7 Optional or Level 8] since Jan 1, 2002; and Division II is for all other gymnasts.) This student broke her foot at a high school gymnastics meet on Jan. 25, 2003. She participated in USAG Level 9

once in December 2002.

The Executive Committee denied the request for waiver.

Escanaba-Holy Name Middle School (Regulation III, Section 1) - Request to waive the enrollment regulation and specifically Interpretation No. 228 was made to permit 6th-graders to participate with and against 7th-graders during the 2003-04 school year. There are 44 students enrolled in both the 7th and 8th grades.

The Executive Committee granted the request for waiver for the 2003-04 school year only.

MHSAA Retirement Plan - The IRS has recently issued final regulations setting forth new rules regarding required age 70½ minimum distributions. Documents prepared by legal counsel to amend the MHSAA 401(k) program were presented.

The Executive Committee resolved that the Code Section 401(a) (9) Minimum Distribution Amendment to the Michigan High School Athletic Association, Inc. Employee 401(k) Plan is adopted effective Jan. 1, 2003; and that the executive director or any officer of the corporation is authorized to execute the Amendment and related documents on behalf of the corporation.

Next Meetings - The next meetings of the Executive Committee are scheduled for Wednesday, Jan. 21, at 8:30 a.m. in East Lansing; Wednesday, Feb. 25, at 8:30 a.m. in East Lansing (followed by Finance Committee Meeting); Thursday, March 25, at 8:30 a.m. in East Lansing (followed by Representative Council Meeting March 26); Wednesday, April 21, at 8:30 a.m. in East Lansing (followed by Finance Committee Meeting); Saturday, May 1, at 6 p.m. in Thompsonville (followed by Representative Council Meetings May 2-4); and Wednesday, June 9, at 8:30 a.m. in East Lansing. ■

And We Quote —

"Once the game is over, the king and the pawn go back in the same box."

— Unknown

REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL MEETING

Mt. Pleasant, Dec. 5, 2003

Members Present:

Paul Ellinger, Cheboygan
Keith Eldred, Williamston
Dan Flynn, Escanaba
Melvin Atkins, Grand Rapids
Jim Derocher, Negaunee
Ken Dietz, Hartford
Eric Federico, Gibraltar
Scott Grimes, Grand Haven
Karen Leinaar, Benzonia
Kathy McGee, Flint
Vic Michaels, Detroit
Eunice Moore, Detroit
William Newkirk, Meridian
Fred Procter, Beverly Hills
Pete Ryan, Saginaw
Randy Salisbury, Britton

Members Absent:

Margra Grillo, Gladwin
Michael Shibley, Rockford
Pam Wong, Lansing

Also Present:

Edmund Sikorski, Ann Arbor
Mark Uyl, Middleville
Kathy Westdorp, Grand Rapids
Bill Zaagman, Lansing

Staff Members Present:

Randy Allen
Nate Hampton
John Johnson
Gina Mazzolini
Tom Rashid
Jack Roberts (Recorder)

Accounts of Meetings - Motion by William Newkirk, supported by Eunice Moore, to approve the following accounts of meetings: Representative Council Meeting of May 4-6, 2003; the Executive Committee Meetings of May 3, May 14, June 18, Aug. 13, Sept. 3, Sept. 29, Oct. 22 and Nov. 12, 2003; the Upper Peninsula Athletic Committee Meeting of Sept. 19, 2003; and the Board of Canvassers Meetings of Sept. 12 and Sept. 29, 2003. Adopted.

REPORTS

Litigation - Attorney Edmund Sikorski presented brief reports on the same three cases in which the MHSAA has been a named defendant for several years. Each is agenda driven, meaning the cases will go on long after the plaintiffs have graduated from high school. One involves home school students and was argued before the Michigan Court of Appeals in September; another involves the Michigan Freedom of Information Act, which plaintiffs have appealed to the Michigan Supreme Court; and the third deals with the sports seasons and is before the United States Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals.

Legislation - Bill Zaagman of Governmental Consultant Services, Inc. updated the Council on five legislative matters, including participation by part-time students, sports safety certification for coaches, a coach's code of conduct, the licensing of athletic trainers, and specialty license plates for Detroit's professional teams.

Administration - The executive director provided a brief review of fall tournaments.

Mr. Roberts and Mr. Allen provided a progress report of the sportsmanship mini-grants, currently totaling \$8,460 of a \$12,000 budget for 2003-04. It appears that many more people are being reached at much lower costs through the mini-grant program than statewide summits.

Results of the 2003 Update Meeting survey were reviewed with special attention given to proposals that were supported by a majority of Update Meeting attendees in all classifications and at all meeting locations. Several items will be processed through MHSAA committees with proposals presented to the Representative Council at later meetings.

The administrative staff reported on special meetings that had been conducted since

the Council's last meeting. The topics included:

- competitive cheer status and growth;
- girls gymnastics judging;
- the first MHSAA Bowling Tournament;
- increasing administrator involvement in alpine skiing;
- compliance by Detroit Public School League high schools; and
- policies and procedures for MHSAA lacrosse.

Motion by Karen Leinaar, supported by Kathy McGee, to approve in concept that the MHSAA would conduct and promote clinics for lacrosse officials and provide registration incentives for officials who attend lacrosse clinics or achieve acceptable certification levels by U.S. Lacrosse. Adopted.

Staff reported on efforts to strengthen and expand services to athletic directors, coaches and officials, all of which are works in progress but with renewed attention and effort. Any changes that would take the MHSAA in new directions or require significant new resources will be reported to the Council for its advice and consent.

The executive director introduced the MHSAA's two newest staff members: Mark Uyl, currently athletic director at Middleville-Thornapple Kellogg High School, and Kathy Westdorp, currently principal at Grand Rapids-Forest Hills Central High School.

Mr. Roberts also reported that the MHSAA's longest serving employee, Shirley Hytinen, who retired in 1998, died on Nov. 29, 2003. Ms. Hytinen served the MHSAA for 43 years.

OLD BUSINESS

Officials - In May of 2000, the Representative Council adopted the policy that beginning in 2005-06 for football, basketball and wrestling, and expanding to other sports in subsequent years, MHSAA tournament officials would have to be members of local officials associations. At its May 2003 meeting, the Council tabled a draft of the waiver procedure that the Council had requested and indicated that the matter would be taken up by the Council when the Officials Review Committee had better defined "good standing" in a local association and had considered "extenuating circumstances" among

the matters staff could consider when processing an official's request to be considered for MHSAA tournament assignments without being a member of a local association.

Motion by Keith Eldred, supported by Eric Federico, to adopt with one addition the waiver procedure submitted in advance of this meeting for the Council's review. Adopted. (See page 284 of this *Bulletin*).

Alternative/Backup Tournament Sites - In May 2003, the Representative Council authorized the staff to supplement the site selection committee process by developing and administering alternative/backup sites policies to more effectively address excessive travel that sometimes results at MHSAA Regional Final and Quarterfinal Tournaments. The staff was invited to develop and implement immediately appropriate policies and bring those policies to this Council meeting for review and discussion.

The policy developed by the staff was reviewed and recommended by the site selection committees in hockey, volleyball and boys basketball during the fall of 2003.

During discussion, Council members added that this policy should not supersede special prior arrangements designed to reduce travel in specific districts and regions.

Motion by Karen Leinaar, supported by Pete Ryan, to approve with one modification the policy for team sports alternate or backup sites submitted in advance of this meeting for the Council's review. Adopted. (See page 283 of this *Bulletin*).

NEW BUSINESS

Membership Standing - It is the established policy of the MHSAA that if a school conducts on an interscholastic basis a sport for which the MHSAA provides a postseason tournament, then that school must follow all MHSAA regulations as eligibility minimums and competition maximums even if the school chooses not to enter the MHSAA tournament. The school cannot ignore MHSAA rules in one MHSAA tournament sport and still remain a member in good standing and be eligible for MHSAA tournaments in other sports. At its June 18, 2003 meeting, the Executive Committee affirmed this policy. The Executive Committee also requested that the Representative Council formally adopt the following interpretation which the Executive Committee approved on June 18

on an interim basis: "When an MHSAA tournament is implemented in a sport for the first time, the Executive Committee may waive the basic policy on a case-by-case basis for a limited number of years. The school may not participate in that new MHSAA tournament while waiver is granted."

Motion by William Newkirk, supported by Randy Salisbury, to approve the Executive Committee's recommendation. Adopted.

Designated Receiver/Compliance Coordinator/Official Representative - At its meeting June 18, 2003, the Executive Committee reviewed the idea, in use in several states, of having each school identify at the time of renewing its membership the single person (with phone, fax, e-mail and postal address) for receiving all MHSAA information: ballots, rule books, entry forms, rating forms, supplies, memos, etc. The Executive Committee recommended that the Representative Council adopt similar procedures for the MHSAA beginning in 2004-05.

The Representative Council reviewed how such a policy is applied by the Missouri State High School Activities Association, and it reviewed a summary of Michigan's current mailing policies. It was noted that current policies might best serve the membership, but that the designated receiver concept might make e-mail communications more effective. This matter will be scheduled for a vote at the March 2004 Council meeting.

Tournament Entry Procedures - Currently, the MHSAA uses a procedure where all schools are sent tournament entry materials and must take action to enter MHSAA postseason tournaments. Staff have developed and discussed with constituents an opposite process that would require schools to opt out of tournaments rather than to act to enter tournaments. It is anticipated that the opt-out policy would reduce staff time and printing and mailing costs without a loss of effectiveness in communications and planning; but this matter will be discussed further at MHSAA meetings; and a vote on this new tournament entry procedure will occur not later than the May 2004 Council meeting.

Foreign Exchange Students - Assistant Director Gina Mazzolini reported to the Council on trends in foreign student placements, including "direct placements," and the

policies and procedures of other states with respect to foreign exchange student eligibility.

At the Executive Committee's request, the Council discussed the handling of waiver requests for foreign exchange students who are placed with a host family in one school district but who choose to attend school in a different district because other members of the host family attend school in the other district or because of transportation conveniences or other factors for the host family. The Council was in general agreement of the Executive Committee's processing of waiver requests to the extent that the Executive Committee provide some flexibility when the host family has a significant relationship with a school of a different district prior to the foreign exchange student's placement in that family's residence.

Officials Background Checks - MHSAA staff provided a report of its research into and experimentation with background checks on certain segments of registering MHSAA officials. Motion by William Newkirk, supported by Fred Procter, to approve the MHSAA's moving in the direction of performing background checks on new officials in 2004-05 and on all officials in subsequent years. The major details of these plans are to be approved by the Executive Committee as they are finalized in January and February 2004. Adopted.

Coaches' Examinations - Regulation II, Section 8(B) requires that head coaches who do not attend a rules meeting for their sport must score 70 percent or better on a rules examination. The failure of schools to do this has been discussed by the Executive Committee (August 1999) and the Representative Council (December 1999, November 2000 and March 2001). The Council requested the MHSAA seek 100 percent compliance by persisting with schools in the same way that it does to receive Enrollment Declaration Forms.

At its June 18, 2003 meeting, the Executive Committee reviewed a staff member's report of the extensive MHSAA staff efforts and poor responses of many member schools last spring. The Executive Committee supported the staff's suggestions for increased efforts to communicate the meeting dates and the meeting/exam requirement for head coaches.

The Executive Committee asked the Representative Council to consider the policy of barring from MHSAA tournament coaching for one or more contests those head coaches who fail to comply with the test requirement after one reminder mailing. It is the intent that coaches would be barred from coaching if they do not pass the test after two mailings. It is the intent to bar coaches more quickly, but to continue to be reluctant to prohibit teams from tournament competition because of the inaction of their coaches. This matter is to be voted on by the Council at its March or May 2004 meeting.

Regulation II, Section 9(D) - At its June 18, 2003 meeting, the Executive Committee considered if this section and 2003-04 *Handbook* Interpretation No. 182 prohibit an MHSAA member high school from participating in football against teams made up of students from MHSAA member schools (both with and without football), non-member Christian schools and mostly home schools. The Executive Committee recalled the legitimate purpose of this very old rule, noted many of the original circumstances do not exist at this time, noted also that junior high/middle schools are not prohibited from playing non-school football teams, and determined that it would be helpful for schools in filing subvarsity schedules to have the flexibility to schedule certain community teams in football, as member high schools may do in other sports even at the varsity level.

Therefore, the Executive Committee determined that for the 2003 football season only, member schools could schedule non-school teams in football at the subvarsity level only, and that this topic should be considered further by the Representative Council in December.

Motion by Karen Leinaar, supported by Dan Flynn, to approve the Executive Committee's proposal and to have it incorporated in the 2004-05 *MHSAA Handbook*. Adopted.

Forfeits - Regulation I, Section 13(A) states that a student who participates in non-school competition during his/her school season for a sport must be withheld from the next three days of competition. Even in light of Regulation V, Section 4(B), the Executive Committee confirmed the following interpre-

tation at its June 18, 2003 meeting:

Q During the season, a student participates in a non-school contest in the same team sport for which he/she competes on the school team. Before the school becomes aware of the violation and can implement the suspension of at least three days of competition, the student plays in a school contest in that sport. Must that contest be forfeited?

A No.

Because this is the only time an ineligible athlete may participate without forfeit, the Executive Committee requested review by the Representative Council.

Because this involves an otherwise eligible athlete, the Representative Council was not dissatisfied with this interpretation which was confirmed by the Executive Committee on June 18, 2003. No change was proposed.

Warren-Cousino High School (Regulation V, Section 4[B]) - Request was made to waive the forfeiture requirement for this school's use of an ineligible transfer student who had enrolled at Cousino Jan. 21, 2003. The student had previously attended Detroit-Pershing High School and had not completed a change of residence with his mother before participating in interscholastic basketball games at Cousino. After the student was suspended from the team, he withdrew from Cousino High School.

At its April 16, 2003 meeting, the Executive Committee denied the request for waiver.

The school was represented by its principal, assistant principal and head basketball coach who reviewed the sequence of events. It was the school's position that it should not have to forfeit contests for the fraudulent acts of student-athletes and their parents, especially when the student-athlete makes only a limited contribution to the team.

The Representative Council noted that there was not dispute that the student and his mother had not satisfied the requirements of the transfer regulation prior to his participation one week after his enrollment at Cousino High School. There was concern that the problems in this case may have been exacerbated by allowing a mid-season transfer to

join the team and allowing him to play in contests so quickly. It was noted that the intended purpose of this section of the *Handbook* is to require forfeitures for any use of ineligible students, regardless of the reason; and that exceptions for dishonest acts by students and parents would create worse problems in the administration of athletic eligibility rules. Furthermore, exceptions for students who played less than others would create both practical problems (administration) and legal problems (unequal application of rules). It was noted that the facts in this case are not the most problematic that have been presented nor are the consequences of the forfeitures the most serious that have been presented to the Council in the past when forfeiture has been applied without exception.

Motion by Eric Federico, supported by Eunice Moore, to deny the appeal. Adopted.

Girls Gymnastics - At its May 2003 meeting, the Representative Council declined to approve the 2002-03 Gymnastics Committee recommendation to allow the vaulting table to be used in regular season and MHSAA events in 2003-04 and to have both the vaulting horse and vaulting table available at MHSAA Regional and Final sites for the 2004 tournament series. This action reflected concerns for added expenses for school athletics unrelated to participant safety and the information provided that (a) the vaulting table was used especially for vaults that are not performed at the high school level, and (b) having both the table and horse would crowd facilities, disrupt the flow of meets and result in uneven judging of the event.

On Oct. 15, 2003, the Gymnastics Committee adopted the recommendation that the Council be asked at its Dec. 5, 2003 meeting to allow the vaulting table during the 2003-04 season with these stipulations:

1. A host school that uses the vaulting table must also provide a vaulting horse for those opponents who request it.
2. The MHSAA Regional and Final sites must provide both pieces of vaulting equipment for the 2004 tour-

namment series.

The Representative Council was presented rationale for this change of position, the most persuasive of which was that even average gymnasts prefer the vaulting table and find it an easier piece of equipment on which to perform vaults for interscholastic gymnastics.

Motion by Karen Leinaar, supported by Dan Flynn, to approve the Gymnastics Committee recommendation that the vaulting table be used during the 2003-04 season with the two conditions stipulated. Adopted.

Awards - There were seven nominees for the 15th Women in Sports Leadership Award, and the Awards Committee narrowed the candidates to four, which were presented to the Representative Council. Council members were asked to vote for one candidate. The name of the recipient will be released at an appropriate time and the recipient will be honored during the Awards Banquet of the 2004 Women in Sports Leadership Conference.

There were 13 nominees for the Charles E. Forsythe Award, and the Awards Committee narrowed the candidates to three, which were presented to the Representative Council members for a ballot vote. The name of the recipient will be released at an appropriate time and the recipient will be honored during the 2004 Boys Basketball Final Tournament.

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 26, 2004, 8:15 a.m. at the MHSAA building in East Lansing. The spring meeting of the Representative Council will be May 2-4, 2004, at Crystal Mountain Resort in Thompsonville. The fall 2004 meeting will be held on Friday, Dec. 3, 2004, at the MHSAA building in East Lansing.

The meeting was adjourned. ■

REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL MEETING

Mt. Pleasant, Dec. 5, 2003

Members Present:

Paul Ellinger, Cheboygan
Keith Eldred, Williamston
Dan Flynn, Escanaba
Jim Derocher, Negaunee
Ken Dietz, Hartford
Eric Federico, Gibraltar
Scott Grimes, Grand Haven
Karen Leinaar, Benzonia
Kathy McGee, Flint
Vic Michaels, Detroit
William Newkirk, Meridian
Fred Procter, Beverly Hills
Pete Ryan, Saginaw
Randy Salisbury, Britton

Also Present:

Mel Atkins, Grand Rapids
Eunice Moore, Detroit
Edmund Sikorski, Ann Arbor
Mark Uyl, Middleville
Kathy Westdorp, Grand Rapids

Staff Members Present:

Randy Allen
Nate Hampton
John Johnson
Gina Mazzolini
Tom Rashid
Jack Roberts (Recorder)

Members Absent:

Lafayette Evans, Detroit
Margra Grillo, Gladwin
Michael Shibley, Rockford
Pam Wong, Lansing

Election of Officers - Officers elected to serve through the fall 2004 meeting of the Representative Council were President Paul Ellinger, Vice President Keith Eldred and Secretary-Treasurer William Newkirk.

The president appointed Dan Flynn to serve on the Executive Committee on a regular basis during 2004, with the fifth position filled on a rotating basis by other Council members.

James Derocher and Scott Grimes were invited to serve with the president and secretary-treasurer on the MHSAA Finance Committee for 2004.

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."

Two persons had submitted their names to be candidates for the appointed position, and both names were placed into nomination. By ballot, Leroy Hackley, AD at Byron Center H.S. and MHSAA registered official was appointed to a two-year term on the Representative Council.

Recognition - Council members and staff expressed gratitude to three outgoing members of the Representative Council: Mel Atkins, Eunice Moore and Tom Rashid.

The meeting was adjourned. ■

*The Only Official Interpretations
Are Those Received In Writing*

THE MHSAA WILL SPONSOR BOYS AND GIRLS LACROSSE IN THE SPRING OF 2005

OFFICIALS ARE NEEDED FOR THIS SPRING OUTDOOR SPORT ACT NOW TO REGISTER FOR NEXT SCHOOL YEAR

MHSAA Official Registration Fees Will Be Waived For New and Current MHSAA Officials who complete any one of the lacrosse training clinics listed below. Clinic costs are minimal to cover facility use, rules books and manuals.

(Due to an official shortage in Spring sports, this waiver **does not** apply to officials registered in Baseball, Soccer and Softball in 2003-04.)

Boys Lacrosse Officials Training Clinic

Thursday, Jan. 22, 29, 2004 6-9 p.m. Birmingham Seaholm H.S. (\$25)
Contact: Rick Jackson Web: mhslox.com

Saturday, Feb. 28, 2004 9 a.m.-4 p.m. MHSAA Building, East Lansing (\$20)
Contact: Faye Verellen 517-332-5046 Web: mhsaa.com

Girls Lacrosse Officials Training Clinic

Sunday, Jan. 18, 2004 Noon - 4 p.m. Royal Oak Community Center (\$20)
Contact: Elaine Torvinen 248-541-5845 Web: etorvinen@aol.com

Saturday, Feb. 7, 2004 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at Detroit Country Day School (\$15)
Contact: Pat Hayes 248-644-0199

Saturday, Feb. 28, 2004 9 a.m.- 4p.m. MHSAA Building, East Lansing (\$20)
Contact: Faye Verellen 517-332-5046 Web: mhsaa.com

All clinics are approved by the Michigan Lacrosse Officials Association (MichLOA) and the Michigan Womens Lacrosse Officials Association (MWLOA). Clinic plans include officiating an indoor game in the near future under the supervision of veteran officials and the lacrosse assignor.

Leadership of approved official associations and certified assignors are asked to assist the MHSAA in circulating this material – please duplicate as necessary.

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

DO IT AGAIN

Note: This is a story the author has told many times. On Thanksgiving Day 2003, he placed it in writing for the first time and sent it to his high school choir director on the occasion of his 80th birthday.

Many years ago, a short, balding high school choir director taped the first rehearsal of a very difficult musical composition. The first effort through the piece brought terrible sounds and bewildered looks from students who had lost their way. Three times the director halted the group, pointed to where he was but few of them were, and he restarted them.

At the conclusion of this first run-through, the students groaned, shook their heads, wrinkled their noses. They did not like this selection. "It's too hard," they complained.

Undaunted, the choir director began the arduous task of teaching the composition, breaking it into small pieces, teaching and practicing each of the voice parts separately and then together.

Gradually, over several weeks, he put the voice parts and then the composition's pieces together.

Repeatedly, he asked the choir to do it again. The students would groan, but each time the director would demand a new perfection of rhythm, pitch, volume, diction, emotion.

Finally, when he was nearly satisfied, the director had the choir sing the piece all the way through for an audience, and he taped it again.

The next day at school, the director's entire lesson plan was this. First, he played the tape of the very first rehearsal of several weeks earlier. He tried not to grimace and the students giggled with embarrassment. He made no comment.

Then, he played the tape of the previous night's public performance. He tried not to gloat; and the students, when the last note of their performance ended, broke into applause and cheers.

When they silenced, the director said just this: "Hard work matters. Practice pays off. Attention to detail makes a difference. Teamwork works. Together, people can transform chaos into beauty and discord into harmony."

And then he walked out of the room into his office and closed the door. There was absolute silence in the choir room.

Then a voice from the back of the choir said, "Let's do it again." And they did, all the way through, on their own. And it was even better than the night before.

This is happening in your schools. Make it happen again. And again. ■

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 Web site at mhsaa.com and are also included in the *MHSAA Handbook*. ■

IT'S ABOUT TEAM!

NOT-SO-MEANINGLESS TD

(Editor's Note: The 2003-04 MHSAA Bulletins will include articles illustrating defining moments and/or the value and purpose of high school sports. Please submit articles or contributions to: Rob Kaminski, MHSAA-Bulletins, 1661 Ramblewood Dr., East Lansing, MI 48823, or e-mail to programs@mhsaa.com

The scoreboard read 41-13, but everyone – the players, the coaches, the fans – was a winner at Friday's Bridgeport homecoming football game.

Bridgeport High School junior William Howe scored a touchdown in the final moments of homecoming against Frankenmuth. Howe has a debilitating form of autism, comparable to the Dustin Hoffman character's ailment in "Rain Man." He's worked out with the team all season, suited up for every game, and saw action on a kickoff earlier in the season.

Bridgeport coach John Lagalo says Howe "lives and breathes Bridgeport football."

But, back to what shapes up as the best call from the sidelines all season.

With Bridgeport down 41-7 late in the game, the Bearcats were in the red zone. Lagalo put Howe in at receiver. He dropped a pass. Lagalo's counterpart across the field, Frankenmuth coach Roger Bearss, suggested Lagalo have Hall run the ball.

Bridgeport took the snap. Quarterback Greg Bryce handed it to Howe and escorted him into the end zone as both teams participated in a class act.

It's a moment Howe and fans will remember. Lagalo called the smile on the teen's face and the moment "magical."

"It's everything that high school sports is meant to be," Lagalo said. "We're glad we got to be part of it."

Wins are nice. Losses are part of the game.

But few lessons can compare to the one imparted as Bridgeport's William Howe

strolled across the goal line.

— Saginaw News editorial submitted by Frankenmuth Superintendent Michael Murphy

Although the Frankenmuth Eagles won the Bridgeport Bearcats' homecoming game, 41-13, and clinched an MHSAA playoff berth, fans from both schools will remember what happened at the end of the contest.

Bearcat griddler William Howe, a mentally impaired teenager, score from 10 yards out with 51 seconds left in the game. FHS coach Roger Bearss and his team helped orchestrate the score.

"The officials came to me before the game and told me that this young man may get some playing time near the end of the game," Bearss said of Howe, a wide receiver who wears No. 88.

The Eagles owned a 34-0 halftime lead and led 41-7 with six minutes left to play.

The junior entered the game at the wide receiver position. When Bearss and staff noticed they weren't able to work the ball over to him, Bearss suggested to the Bearcat staff, through the radios and officials, that they line up Howe in the backfield.

"Our kids recognized the situation and I'm really proud of them. They were very classy, the way they cheered him on," Bearss said.

Bridgeport quarterback Greg Bryce accompanied Howe into the end zone while the Eagles "attempted" to tackle him. Bryce and teammates then celebrated the touchdown with Howe.

Frankenmuth's defense was in total agreement in making the special moment happen; the Eagle D had not allowed a fourth quarter touchdown all season.

— Frankenmuth News story submitted by Frankenmuth resident Angela Petroskey



WESTDORP, UYL TO JOIN MHSAA STAFF

The MHSAA recently announced the hiring of two assistant directors, Middleville Thornapple-Kellogg assistant principal and athletic director **Mark Uyl** and Grand Rapids Forest Hills Central High School principal **Kathy Westdorp**.

Uyl will begin duties with the MHSAA in late January, while Westdorp will phase into her position throughout the coming months.

Uyl will have responsibilities for the administration of several postseason tournaments, and oversight of programming and services to the over 12,000 registered game officials at the high school level in Michigan.

Westdorp also will administer several postseason tournaments, develop and deliver coaches education programming, and handle significant administrative duties.

Uyl is a 1996 graduate of Calvin College, where he was a four-year starter in baseball, serving as a team captain and earning all-conference honors on two occasions. His Bachelor's Degree was earned in History and Physical Education. He received a Master's Degree in Educational Leadership from Grand Valley State University in 2001.

Most of Uyl's educational career has been at Thornapple-Kellogg Schools. He started there as a high school history and physical education teacher after graduating from Calvin, and he also was an assistant football coach. He spent the 2000-01 school year as athletic director at Caledonia High School and Middle School, and then returned to Thornapple-Kellogg as athletic director and assistant principal.

While at Thornapple-Kellogg, Uyl was instrumental in upgrades to the district's athletic facilities, including the installation of an artificial playing surface at the high school football stadium.

As an official, Uyl has been registered in at least three sports with the MHSAA every year since 1992, and worked the Baseball Finals in 1999. He has also served as a collegiate baseball umpire at all levels since 1996, and has professional experience at the minor league level. He is also active with the West Michigan Umpires Association.

"Some would call Mark Uyl one of the up-and-coming high school athletic adminis-

trators in our state – I would simply call him one of the best," said John E. "Jack" Roberts, MHSAA executive director.

Westdorp has served as an enthusiastic and energetic teacher, coach, athletic director, game official and school administrator in the Grand Rapids area for over 20 years.

A West Michigan native, Westdorp is a 1976 graduate of Central Michigan University, where she participated in field hockey. Her educational career then started in the Grand Rapids Public School as a coach in girls volleyball at Central High, where she also taught English and physical education; and a girls track and basketball coach at Creston High. After eight years, she was named director of health and wellness programs for Grand Rapids Public Schools.

In 1987, Westdorp returned to Creston as an assistant principal and director of athletics, where she administered the athletics and activities program until 1995, when she moved into an administrative position at Grand Rapids Forest Hills Central.

Westdorp first served as an assistant principal at Forest Hills Central, where she directed several academic departments, and supervised a variety of student extra-curricular activities. In 1999, she was named principal at the school. While principal, Forest Hills Central was named a Governor's Cup recipient from the State of Michigan for achieving academic excellence. Westdorp also remained active in athletic issues, co-chairing an athletic task force for the school district and serving as president of the Ottawa-Kent Conference, a league consisting of 41 schools.

As a game official, Westdorp has worked softball at the high school level and girls volleyball at the high school and collegiate levels.

Westdorp also holds a Master's Degree in Secondary Education from Michigan State University, and has served as an adjunct professor in graduate studies at Grand Valley State University.

"Accomplished in so many facets of education in general and educational athletics in particular, Kathy Westdorp is indeed an excellent hire for this Association," said Roberts. ■

WHO RECEIVES MHSAA COMMUNICATIONS?

ITEM	CURRENT RECIPIENT
Membership Resolution	Superintendent
Representative Council Ballots	Principal
Tournament Entry Forms	Athletic Director (Tickler to Principal)
Officials Rating Forms	Athletic Director (Tickler to Principal)
Rule Books/Inserts	Athletic Director (Attention Coach)
Memos	Depends on Topic
Wall Calendar	Athletic Director
<i>Handbook</i>	Superintendent, Principal, Athletic Director
<i>School Directory</i>	Superintendent, Principal, Athletic Director
<i>Monthly Bulletin</i>	Superintendent, Principal, Athletic Director
<i>Officials Directory</i>	Principal, Athletic Director
<i>Officials Guidebook/Rating Records</i>	Athletic Director
Enrollment Declaration	Athletic Director (Tickler to Principal)

The MHSAA Representative Council is considering establishment of a "Designated Receiver" for all or some of these communications, or for receiving e-mail from the MHSAA office. What do you think?

The bottom line is that the MHSAA wants to do what provides the most effective communication, regardless of the means for delivering that communication. We will talk about this at the League and Conference Meeting in February and the MIAAA Conference in March before the Council votes to make any changes.

SCHOLAR-ATHLETE AWARD REMINDERS

Throughout February the announcement of the applicants, finalists and scholarship recipients for the 2003-04 MHSAA Scholar-Athlete Award, sponsored by Farm Bureau Insurance, will take place.

- All information will be available through the MHSAA Web site – **mhsaa.com**. The list of applicants will be posted to the Web site by December 31. Schools should review the list and notify the MHSAA office in writing of any corrections by January 15. Corrections submitted by that time will be reflected in the publication honoring all scholarship recipients, finalists and applicants.

- Barring any delays in the judging process, the following announcement schedule will be followed:

- Announcement of finalists -- mid January
- Announcement of fall scholarship recipients -- early February
- Announcement of winter scholarship recipients -- mid February
- Announcement of spring scholarship recipients -- late February

NOTE: All finalists will receive written notification by January 23. This information will be mailed to the building athletic director.

Scholarship recipients will receive a set of forms which must be filled out and sent to the MHSAA along with a color photograph. All other finalists will be informed of their status and will also be required to submit a photo.

2003-04 MHSAA BUDGET

The following budget for operation of the Michigan High School Athletic Association, Inc., for the 2003-04 school year was considered and approved at the May 2003 Representative Council Meeting.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION	\$ 1,867,653
GENERAL PRINTING	166,640
GENERAL OFFICE EXPENSES	1,261,470
GENERAL MEETINGS	134,000
COACHES & OFFICIALS	323,700
BASEBALL TOURNAMENTS	210,000
BASKETBALL TOURNAMENTS (NET)	350,000
BOWLING TOURNAMENTS	30,000
COMPETITIVE CHEER	65,000
CROSS COUNTRY MEETS	115,000
FOOTBALL PLAYOFFS	1,300,000
GOLF TOURNAMENTS	65,000
GYMNASTICS MEETS	25,000
HOCKEY TOURNAMENTS	225,000
SKI MEETS	30,000
SOCCER TOURNAMENTS	220,000
SOFTBALL TOURNAMENTS	235,000
SWIMMING MEETS	55,000
TENNIS TOURNAMENTS	110,000
TRACK MEETS	250,000
VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENTS	235,000
WRESTLING TOURNAMENTS	620,000
RADIO/TELEVISION	30,000
TOTAL BUDGET FOR 2003-04	\$7,923,663

Independent Auditor's Report

Representative Council
Michigan High School Athletic Association, Inc.
East Lansing, Michigan

August 14, 2003

We have audited the accompanying statements of financial position of Michigan High School Athletic Association, Inc. as of July 31, 2003 and 2002 and the related statements of activities and cash flows for the years then ended together with the statement of functional expenses for the year ended July 31, 2003. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Association's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits. The prior year summarized comparative information included in the statement of functional expenses has been derived from the Organization's 2002 financial statements and, in our report dated August 15, 2002, we expressed an unqualified opinion on that financial statement.

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Michigan High School Athletic Association, Inc. as of July 31, 2003 and 2002, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the years then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

(signed) MANER, COSTERISAN & ELLIS, P.C.

STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION
JULY 31, 2003 AND 2002

	ASSETS	2003	2002
CURRENT ASSETS:			
Cash and cash equivalents		\$ 738,502	\$ 333,945
Short-term investments		934,686	937,385
Accounts receivable		198,446	121,185
Prepaid expenses		<u>178,564</u>	<u>154,814</u>
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		<u>2,050,198</u>	<u>1,547,329</u>
PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT, less accumulated depreciation		<u>2,249,904</u>	<u>2,417,811</u>
OTHER:			
Long-term investments - designated		1,240,821	1,000,397
Cash value of life insurance		<u>111,109</u>	<u>95,108</u>
TOTAL OTHER		<u>1,351,930</u>	<u>1,095,505</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		<u>\$ 5,652,032</u>	<u>\$ 5,060,645</u>
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS			
CURRENT LIABILITIES:			
Current portion of long-term debt		\$ 129,563	\$ 112,947
Accounts payable		55,384	20,937
Accrued compensation and related items		74,073	82,478
Deferred revenue - officials' registration fees collected in advance		<u>366,579</u>	<u>345,469</u>
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		625,599	561,831
LONG-TERM DEBT - less current portion		1,049,912	1,179,437
DEFERRED COMPENSATION		<u>87,702</u>	<u>67,711</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES		<u>1,763,213</u>	<u>1,808,979</u>
NET ASSETS:			
Unrestricted:			
Undesignated		<u>2,647,998</u>	<u>2,251,269</u>
Designated:			
Women in sports leadership		165,719	182,202
Insurance replacement fund		839,836	701,086
Building maintenance fund		23,542	21,264
Student services fund		211,724	95,845
TOTAL NET ASSETS		<u>3,888,819</u>	<u>3,251,666</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		<u>\$ 5,652,032</u>	<u>\$ 5,060,645</u>

See notes to financial statement

MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, INC.
STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES
YEARS ENDED JULY 31, 2003 AND 2002

	2003	2002
REVENUES:		
Tournament and meet income	\$ 6,666,962	\$ 6,103,236
Officials' registrations for current school year	476,055	449,957
Investment income (loss)	144,284	(168,229)
Royalties, advertising and sponsorships	314,880	259,834
Bulletins and publications	27,246	37,258
Contributions	106,597	
Miscellaneous	<u>4,314</u>	<u>3,790</u>
Total revenues	<u>7,740,338</u>	<u>6,685,846</u>
EXPENSES:		
Tournaments	6,121,573	5,965,855
Coaches and officials	503,954	571,729
Management and general	<u>477,658</u>	<u>524,821</u>
Total expenses	<u>7,103,185</u>	<u>7,062,405</u>
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	637,153	(376,559)
NET ASSETS:		
Beginning of year	<u>3,251,666</u>	<u>3,628,225</u>
End of year	<u>\$ 3,888,819</u>	<u>\$ 3,251,666</u>

See notes to financial statement

MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, INC.
STATEMENT OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES
YEAR ENDED JULY 31, 2003
WITH COMPARATIVE TOTALS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JULY 31, 2002

	<u>Tournaments</u>	<u>Coaches and officials</u>	<u>Mgt. and general</u>	<u>Total</u>	
				<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>
OFFICE ADMINISTRATION:					
Salaries and wages	\$ 353,884	\$ 131,642	\$ 90,082	\$ 575,608	\$ 535,016
Accounting and audit			13,743	13,743	17,604
Stationery and supplies	25,856	6,270	6,173	38,299	31,333
Maintenance and repairs	52,875	12,821	12,626	78,322	78,889
Telephone	14,114	3,422	3,371	20,907	22,900
Equipment lease	17,905	4,342	4,275	26,522	30,346
Incidentals	21,558	5,227	5,148	31,933	39,497
Postage	87,834	21,298	20,973	130,105	156,188
Payroll taxes	61,716	14,965	14,736	91,417	93,564
Health and life insurance	129,587	31,423	30,942	191,952	216,683
Retirement	121,629	29,493	29,042	180,164	187,037
Utilities	15,830	3,838	3,780	23,448	24,701
Depreciation	139,414	33,806	33,289	206,509	236,182
Data processing expense	<u>12,332</u>	<u>2,990</u>	<u>2,945</u>	<u>18,267</u>	<u>7,961</u>
Total office administration	<u>1,054,534</u>	<u>301,537</u>	<u>271,125</u>	<u>1,627,196</u>	<u>1,677,901</u>
ADMINISTRATION:					
Salary - professionals	496,198	76,075	113,084	685,357	766,667
Travel - professionals	21,352	3,274	4,866	29,492	24,870
Travel, meals and lodging of members	41,752	6,401	9,515	57,668	69,647
National Federation affiliation dues	1,688	409	403	2,500	2,500
Insurance - general	11,889	2,883	2,838	17,610	16,528
Insurance - catastrophic	16,878	4,093	4,029	25,000	25,000
Insurance - liability	45,432	11,017	10,848	67,297	44,660
Litigation expense	105,549	25,594	25,203	156,346	155,581
Officials' liability insurance	27,315			27,315	20,840
Automobile expense	16,197	3,927	3,868	23,992	28,185
Committee meetings	3,089	749	738	4,576	6,292
Web site	9,931	2,408	2,372	14,711	12,735
Meetings - general	11,978	2,905	2,860	17,743	15,529
Clinics and workshops	28,170	6,831	6,726	41,727	28,420
Appropriations - other assoc.	<u>4,387</u>	<u>1,064</u>	<u>1,047</u>	<u>6,498</u>	<u>11,367</u>
Total administration	<u>841,805</u>	<u>147,630</u>	<u>188,397</u>	<u>1,177,832</u>	<u>1,228,821</u>

See notes to financial statement

MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, INC.
STATEMENT OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES
YEAR ENDED JULY 31, 2003
WITH COMPARATIVE TOTALS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JULY 31, 2002

	<u>Tournaments</u>	<u>Coaches and officials</u>	<u>Mgt. and general</u>	<u>Total</u>	
				<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>
GENERAL PRINTING:					
State association bulletins	\$ 79,918			\$ 79,918	\$ 73,380
Officials Guidebook		8,745		8,745	9,068
Forms and blanks	17,550	8,446		25,996	25,791
Films					750
Rule books	158,280			158,280	161,975
Officials Directory		14,651		14,651	13,547
Handbooks	7,417			7,417	7,247
Publications and books	26,659	12,830		39,489	58,419
Book of Champions	12,066			12,066	12,424
Mentor					8,830
Stripes					8,204
General printing	<u>11,457</u>	<u>2,778</u>	<u>2,736</u>	<u>16,971</u>	<u>14,442</u>
Total general printing	<u>313,347</u>	<u>47,450</u>	<u>2,736</u>	<u>363,533</u>	<u>394,077</u>
OTHER:					
Committee meetings	16,986		8,175	25,161	17,176
Taxes	3,654	886	872	5,412	6,449
Interest expense	<u>26,604</u>	<u>6,451</u>	<u>6,353</u>	<u>39,408</u>	<u>50,562</u>
Total other	<u>47,244</u>	<u>7,337</u>	<u>15,400</u>	<u>69,981</u>	<u>74,187</u>
Total operating expenses	2,256,930	503,954	477,658	3,238,542	3,374,986
TOURNAMENT AND MEET EVENT EXPENSE-DIRECT					
	<u>3,864,643</u>			<u>3,864,643</u>	<u>3,687,419</u>
TOTAL EXPENSE	<u>\$ 6,121,573</u>	<u>\$ 503,954</u>	<u>\$ 477,658</u>	<u>\$ 7,103,185</u>	<u>\$ 7,062,405</u>

See notes to financial statement

MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, INC.
STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
YEARS ENDED JULY 31, 2003 AND 2002

	2003	2002
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS:		
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Change in net assets	<u>\$ 637,153</u>	<u>\$ (376,559)</u>
Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets to net cash provided (used) by operating activities:		
Realized and unrealized (gain) loss on investments	(83,643)	238,436
Depreciation 206,509		236,182
Accounts receivable (77,261)		232,531
Prepaid expenses (23,750)		13,242
Accounts payable 34,447		(74,289)
Accrued compensation and related items	(8,405)	(6,566)
Deferred revenue	21,110	21,337
Deferred compensation	19,991	18,682
Total adjustments	<u>88,998</u>	<u>679,555</u>
Net cash provided (used) by operating activities	<u>726,151</u>	<u>302,996</u>
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Purchase of property and equipment	(38,602)	(69,860)
Purchases/sale of investments - net	(154,082)	112,716
Increase in cash value of life insurance	<u>(16,001)</u>	<u>22,295</u>
Net cash provided (used) by investing activities	<u>(208,685)</u>	<u>65,151</u>
Cash flows from financing activities:		
Proceeds from issuance of long-term debt		13,200
Reduction of long-term debt	<u>(112,909)</u>	<u>(110,121)</u>
Net cash used by financing activities	<u>(112,909)</u>	<u>(96,921)</u>
NET INCREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	404,557	271,226
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, beginning of year	<u>333,945</u>	<u>62,719</u>
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, end of year	<u>\$ 738,502</u>	<u>\$ 333,945</u>

See notes to financial statement

MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, INC. NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of accounting - The Association utilizes the accrual method of accounting which recognizes income when earned and expenses when incurred.

Financial statement presentation - The Association is required to report information regarding its financial position and activities according to three classes of net assets: unrestricted net assets, temporarily restricted net assets, and permanently restricted net assets. The Association has no temporarily or permanently restricted activity or net assets.

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, demand deposits and savings accounts maintained at the bank and cash management accounts maintained by investment brokers. Interest bearing cash accounts which result from the transition of long-term investments or the accumulation of interest within the long-term investment accounts are classified as other assets and are included in long-term investments instead of cash since these funds are designated and not available for current operating expenditures.

Investments - The Association records investments at fair value.

Accounts receivable - Accounts receivable are stated at the amount management expects to collect from outstanding balances. Management provides for probable uncollectible amounts through a provision for bad debt expense and an adjustment to a valuation allowance based on its assessment of the current status of individual accounts. Currently no allowance for doubtful accounts is considered necessary. Balances that are still outstanding after management has used reasonable collection efforts are written off through a charge to the valuation allowance and a credit to accounts receivable. Charges in the valuation allowance have not been material to the financial statements.

Property and equipment is stated at cost. Depreciation is computed over the estimated useful life of the assets on the straight-line method. Generally, the Association capitalizes items in excess of \$1,000.

Compensated absences - The liability for compensated absences (accrued annual leave) is accrued at the time such benefits are earned.

Deferred revenue -Revenue from officials' registration fees collected for the upcoming year is deferred and recognized in the period to which it relates.

It is the Association's policy to allow basketball tournament host schools to retain a portion of the tournament revenue to cover direct tournament expenses and to participate in the excess of receipts over expenses. The tournament receipts retained by the host schools under this policy amounted to \$739,981 and \$649,030 in 2003 and 2002, respectively. These amounts are not reflected in the statements.

MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, INC. NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTE 2 - NATURE OF THE ORGANIZATION, RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

Michigan High School Athletic Association, Inc. is a voluntary association of public, private and parochial secondary schools. The Association is exempt from federal income tax under the provisions of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Unrelated business income, if any, is subject to tax. The Association receives substantially all revenue in the state of Michigan.

The Association categorizes its activities into two major program categories described as follows:

Tournaments - Promulgation of eligibility regulations and contest rules, meetings and publications to communicate such regulations and rules, and direct administration and costs related to tournaments for member schools and their students.

Coaches and officials - Registration of contest officials and training programs for registered officials and coaches of member schools.

The Association is required to disclose significant concentrations of credit risk regardless of the degree of such risk. Financial instruments which potentially subject the Association to concentrations of credit risk consist principally of cash, cash equivalents and certain investments. The Association places its cash, cash equivalents and investments with high-credit-quality financial institutions. Although such investments and cash balances exceed the federally insured limits, they are, in the opinion of management, subject to minimal risk.

The process of preparing financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires the use of estimates and assumptions regarding certain types of assets, liabilities, revenues, and expenses. Such estimates primarily relate to unsettled transactions and events as of the date of the financial statements. Accordingly, upon settlement, actual results may differ from estimated amounts.

NOTE 3 - PROPERTY, EQUIPMENT AND OTHER DEPRECIABLE ASSETS

Property, equipment and other depreciable assets consist of the following:

	<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>
Land	\$ 255,606	\$ 255,606
Building and improvements	2,190,797	2,190,797
Furniture, equipment and automobiles	<u>1,087,257</u>	<u>1,096,328</u>
	3,533,660	3,542,731
Less accumulated depreciation	<u>1,283,756</u>	<u>1,124,920</u>
Net property and equipment	<u>\$ 2,249,904</u>	<u>\$ 2,417,811</u>

Depreciation expense amounted to \$206,509 and \$236,182 in 2003 and 2002, respectively.

MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, INC. NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTE 4 - INVESTMENTS

Investments, which are presented in the financial statements at fair value, are comprised of the following:

	Year ended July 31,	
	2003	2002
Short-term investments:		
Money market	\$ 1,849	\$ 1,848
Mutual funds	932,837	935,537
	\$ 934,686	\$ 937,385
Long-term investments:		
Mutual funds	\$ 482,846	\$ 523,425
Money market	757,975	176
Certificate of deposit	_____	476,796
	\$ 1,240,821	\$ 1,000,397
Investment income consists of the following:		
Interest and dividends	\$ 60,641	\$ 70,207
Net realized and unrealized gains (losses)	83,643	(238,436)
	\$ 144,284	\$ (168,229)

NOTE 5 - LONG-TERM DEBIT

Note payable - City of East Lansing Economic Development Corporation (EDC) - The EDC assigned its interest in the note to the bank who purchased the underlying bond issue. The land and related building is mortgaged to secure the note. Interest is currently payable at a variable rate which is 2.72% at year end. The note is payable in amounts ranging from \$8,100 to \$14,200 per month plus interest through July 2016.

	2003	2002
	\$ 1,141,600	\$ 1,238,800
Note payable - bank - secured by equipment, due in monthly installments of \$1,216, including interest at 8.60%, through November, 2005.	31,642	42,951
Note payable - Secured by vehicle, due in monthly installments of \$367 through December 2004.	6,233	10,633
	1,179,475	1,292,384
Less current portion	(129,563)	(112,947)
	\$ 1,049,912	\$ 1,179,437
Year ended		
<u>July 31,</u>		
2004		\$ 129,563
2005		143,702
2006		134,126
2007		128,400
2008		128,400
Thereafter		515,284
		\$ 1,179,475

MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, INC. NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTE 6 - DESIGNATED EQUITY

Designated equity relates to women in sports leadership fund, insurance replacement fund, building maintenance fund and student services fund which amount to \$165,719, \$839,836, \$23,542 and \$211,724, respectively at July 31, 2003 and \$182,202, \$701,086, \$21,264 and \$95,845, respectively at July 31, 2002.

NOTE 7 - RETIREMENT PLANS

Effective January 1, 2002 the Association established a 401(k) which covers substantially all employees. The amount contributed is based on the employees' compensation. Association contributions made to the plans amounted to \$180,164 and \$187,037 for the years ending July 31, 2003 and 2002, respectively.

The Association also maintains a flexible benefit plan available to all employees.

NOTE 8 - SUPPLEMENTAL CASH FLOWS DISCLOSURES

The purchase of three automobiles were financed partially through the trade-in of other vehicles. The total net book value of the vehicles traded in was \$46,932.

Interest paid on the notes payable amounted to \$39,408 in 2003 and \$50,562 in 2002.

NOTE 9 - DEFERRED COMPENSATION

The Association maintains a deferred compensation plan for its executive director. Subject to certain length of service and other conditions, the payments are made over ten years upon retirement. The liability is recorded at its estimated net present value.

NOTE 10 - CONTINGENCIES

There are three lawsuits outstanding in which the Association is a defendant. If the Association should not prevail in one of these cases, it is possible that the judge may award to the plaintiffs part or all of their litigation costs, which plaintiff claims to be approximately \$2,900,000 at October 30, 2002. It is the opinion of management that the actual claims, if any, resulting from the aforementioned litigation would not have a material adverse effect on the capacity of the Association to serve its membership.

NOTE 11 - LEASES

The organization has equipment under operating lease agreements with varying terms. Future lease payments under these agreements are as follows:

2003	\$ 12,849
2004	12,849
2005	9,566
2006	<u>3,141</u>
	<u>\$ 38,405</u>

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Our report on our audits of the basic financial statements of Michigan High School Athletic Association, Inc. appears on page 1. Those audits were made for the purpose of forming an opinion on the basic financial statements taken as a whole. The additional information on pages 14 through 19 is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audits of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

(signed) MANER, COSTERISAN & ELLIS, P.C.

Lansing, Michigan
August 14, 2003

REPORT OF ACTIVITIES OF THE MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, INC. SCHOOL YEAR - 2003-04

PUBLICATIONS - Monthly *Bulletin* distributed to junior and senior high schools and registered officials; *Officials Directory* and *School Directory* and calendars prepared; *Book of Champions* published; *Association Handbook* distributed to junior and senior high schools; rule books for football, basketball, track, swimming, wrestling, gymnastics, soccer, softball, spirit, ice hockey, volleyball, and baseball distributed to schools and registered officials; blanks and forms were distributed to schools. *Stripes* and *Mentor* were published online. 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 10th time.

RULES MEETINGS/CLINICS - General meetings and rules meetings held in baseball/softball, competitive cheer, football, basketball, 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 and 40 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. The 15th Women in Sports Leadership Conference was held. A Statewide Sportsmanship Summit was held.

COMMITTEES - Over 300 different individuals served on the following Association committees during the 2002-03 school year:

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

PARTICIPANTS - There were approximately 296,000 participants on interscholastic athletic squads of the 759 member high schools during the 2002-03 school year.

REGISTERED OFFICIALS - There were 12,133 officials registered in one or more sports during the year.

UPDATE MEETINGS - Meetings for 1,155 people were conducted during the fall in Frankenmuth, Kalamazoo, Lansing, Gaylord, Pontiac, Comstock Park, and Marquette.

PACE SEMINARS - There were approximately 981 participants who completed one or more courses in the Program for Athletic Coaches' Education at sites throughout the state during the 2002-03 school year.

ATHLETIC DIRECTORS IN-SERVICE - 198 athletic directors participated in the Athletic Directors In-Service programs at 10 sites throughout the state during August of 2002. ■

POLICY FOR TEAM SPORTS ALTERNATE OR BACKUP SITES DURING MHSAA TOURNAMENTS

In May 2003, the Representative Council authorized MHSAA staff to supplement the site selection committee process by developing and administering alternative/backup sites policies to more effectively address excessive travel that sometimes results at MHSAA Regional and Quarterfinal Tournaments. The new policies and procedures were to be implemented during 2003-04 and this topic was to be reviewed further by the Council in December 2003.

The policy was reviewed and recommended by site selection committees in hockey, volleyball and boys basketball during the fall of 2003, which provided these comments:

1. Policy is written with "may be used" to afford flexibility among sports and to cover a variety of situations. It is possible another site is not available.
2. It was felt that being non-specific on mileage was best rather than setting a specific number of miles wherein the backup site was activated.
3. Volleyball and Hockey Site Selection Committees did not want to relocate a site simply because a team would have home court or home ice. Relocating in hockey is especially problematic given the costs of ice rental and non-school facilities. In addition, many ice rinks are home to multiple teams.
4. The Basketball Site Selection Committee felt that the past practice should continue of relocating a Quarterfinal site if a team would play on its home floor.
5. Baseball and Softball Quarterfinals are held at fields "out of class." Soccer does not compete in a Quarterfinal round but may have application at the Regional level. Other sports are multiple-team events.
6. When possible, the staff would anticipate one of the two scenarios above and have "what if" plans available prior to the Regional Final.

Here is the policy approved by the Representative Council Dec. 5, 2003:

Sites other than the originally selected location may be used in one of two scenarios at the discretion of the staff member in charge of that sport:

1. A team will be playing on its own home floor at the Quarterfinal level.
2. Two teams slated to play each other have inordinate travel to a Regional Final or Quarterfinal site.

In some instances, an appropriate alternate site may not be found and the original site will be used. This policy does not supersede previously existing arrangements designed to reduce travel in specific Districts and Regionals.■

MANDATORY ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP FOR MHSAA TOURNAMENT OFFICIALS

Waiver Procedure Approved by Representative Council Dec. 5, 2003

Beginning in the 2005-2006 school year, officials in three sports – football, basketball and wrestling – will be required to be members in "good standing" in a local Approved Association in order to be eligible to officiate MHSAA tournament contests. The policy extends to volleyball in 2006-07 and to boys and girls soccer in 2007-08.

There may be some situations that may make it difficult for an individual official to meet the requirements of Approved Association membership. It is the purpose of this document to outline a procedure to govern appeals of the policy adopted by the MHSAA Representative Council in May 2000.

In order to be eligible to officiate in an MHSAA tournament series event, officials shall meet the following general conditions (greater or lesser requirements may be established for items 2 and 3 for specific sports):

1. Attend a current rules meeting for the sport in question.
2. Obtain Approved status (16 ratings) in the sport in question.
3. Achieve a 3-year rating average of 3.0 or better (1.0 is best).
4. Be a member in good standing of an Approved Association as determined by the MHSAA.

All Local Approved Officials Associations must have the same general standards for their members to be "in good standing." The exact level of the standard should be the determination of the individual Local Approved Officials Association.

"In good standing" means that the official is an active member of an approved association, and current in all requirements of that association. Good standing must include at a minimum, but is not limited to, the following:

1. Payment of appropriate association dues;
2. Attendance at 50% or more of association meetings;
3. Completion of any required training or certification;
4. Not delinquent in dues payment or subject to any association discipline;
5. Officiate the minimum number of varsity games as required by the MHSAA.

In the event an official is not a member of an Approved Association, a letter requesting a waiver shall be submitted to the MHSAA Officials Department. In the letter the official shall cite clearly the reasons membership in good standing in an MHSAA Approved Association does not exist. The request must be received by the MHSAA or postmarked prior to the first allowable game date for the sport in question.

The MHSAA will review each request and determine the status of the official. The categories available to consideration by the MHSAA representative are:

1. Residence in a remote area of Michigan which is not in proximity to the meeting place for the Approved Associations within the area.

2. Residence in an MHSAA zone without an Approved Association.
3. Absence of a state-wide Approved Association in the sport that the individual officiates.
4. Other extenuating circumstances which provide compelling reason for the official to not belong to or be a member in good standing of an approved local officials association.

If waiver is provided by the MHSAA representative, it must be with the provision that the official has done one or both of the following:

1. Maintained status as an annually certified member official, meeting current registration and certification requirements of a national association (USSF, etc.) serving the sport under consideration.
2. Provided evidence of completion of a National Federation Officials Education program in the sport under consideration within the previous 12 months.

In the absence of 1 or 2 above, the official may provide evidence of competency and professionalism through other means established by or agreeable to the MHSAA.

The MHSAA representative may waive the requirement, with or without additional conditions, or deny the request for waiver. Waivers or waivers with conditions are applicable to the current season and do not apply to another sport or another school year. ■

CALENDAR CORRECTIONS

Note: Some conflicts occur in the calendars printed in the *MHSAA Handbook* and *MHSAA School Directory* for some sports. Following are the correct dates:

2003-04

Competitive Cheer Entry Date--Feb. 20
 Competitive Cheer Regionals--March 6
 Competitive Cheer Finals--March 13

2004-05

Competitive Cheer Entry Date -- Feb. 18
 Competitive Cheer Regionals--March 5
 Competitive Cheer Finals--March 12

Boys Soccer Districts--Oct. 18-23
 Boys Soccer Regionals--Oct. 26-30
 Boys Soccer Semifinals--Nov. 3
 Boys Soccer Finals--Nov. 6

Additionally, the 2004 Gymnastics Entry Date on the Wall Calendar should be Feb. 27.

MHSAA TOURNAMENT ENTRY CHANGE PROPOSAL

The MHSAA Representative Council will vote in May on a proposal to change the way schools enter MHSAA tournaments. Under the proposal, rather than requiring all schools to submit entry materials to indicate they are in the tournaments, schools will be assumed to be in the tournament unless they opt out.

CURRENT TOURNAMENT ENTRY PROCEDURE (OPT-IN PROCESS)

The MHSAA mails to each school one entry blank for each sport sponsored, indicating to the school its District or Regional Tournament assignment. Also included is a roster form which is to be sent along with the school's Master Eligibility List and completed entry blank to the respective tournament manager. The initial mailing to schools includes many custom printed materials and involves much staff time to prepare and mail with a substantial postage cost.

The tournament information (groupings, District and Regional assignments) on the entry blank is the same data that is posted on the MHSAA Web site months in advance. Schools are already aware of their tournament assignment, location and tournament manager. MHSAA staff and tournament site selection committees determine groupings and locations based on the assumption that all schools that sponsor a sport will participate in the MHSAA tournament.

PROPOSED TOURNAMENT ENTRY PROCEDURE (OPT-OUT PROCESS)

Each season (fall, winter and spring), schools would receive from the MHSAA a single document showing the sports in which they are entered, the tournament grouping assignment and the District/Regional site. They are considered entered in the tournament unless they elect to withdraw by a specified deadline date (perhaps the same as the entry date has been). Schools will be reminded of the requirement to supply the tournament manager with Master Eligibility List and team roster as before by the withdrawal date. A \$50 fee, payable to the host school, will be assessed to schools that withdraw after the deadline date.

Interpretation No. 222 would continue to apply to schools that fail to withdraw by the deadline date or fail to show for tournament competition after the draw, pairings, heats or flights have been set.

PROS

- Eliminates substantial cost of materials, postage and staff time for MHSAA in preparing and mailing entry materials.
- Simplifies entry process for MHSAA and schools. Planning is already done, with all schools sponsoring a sport included in map preparation, site selection committee review and Web postings. The paper process is redundant.
- Eliminates an administrative step for school athletic director.

CONS

- Some schools prefer "opt-in" process and would be uncomfortable with change.
- Schools may forget to withdraw, causing follow-up by tournament manager.

IMPLEMENTATION

It is proposed that implementation occur for some or all team sports in 2004-05 as a "pilot" study. Before the Council votes, it is anticipated that this proposal will be discussed at the MHSAA League and Conference Meeting in February and the MIAAA Conference in March. ■

2003 FALL COACH EJECTION LISTING

City	School	Coach	Sport
Auburn	Bay City Western HS	Deb Kohn	Boys Soccer
Beverly Hills	Wylie E Groves HS	Adrienne Deborg	Boys Soccer
Bloomfield Hills	Brother Rice HS	Bill Schreiber	Boys Soccer
Bloomfield Hills	Lahser HS	Shaun Childress	Boys Soccer
Bridgeport	Bridgeport HS	Ellester Brooks	Girls Basketball
Bronson	Bronson HS	Shawn Hendrickson	Girls Basketball
Brooklyn	Columbia Central HS	Gary Huntley	Football
Brooklyn	Columbia Central HS	Todd Kennedy	Boys Soccer
Brownstown	Woodhaven HS	Kim Maher	Girls Basketball
Canton	Plymouth Christian HS	Greg Harris	Girls Basketball
Capac	Capac HS	Jack Lengemann	Girls Basketball
Caro	Caro HS	Jeff Sauser	Girls Basketball
Clio	Carter Middle School	Gary Owens	Football
Dearborn	Divine Child HS	Dean Kowalski	Boys Soccer
Dearborn	Edsel Ford HS	Jeremy Kurtinaitis	Boys Soccer
Dearborn	Edsel Ford HS	Janet Smith	Girls Basketball
Dearborn	Edsel Ford HS	Adam Stage	Boys Soccer
Dearborn	Fordson HS	Jim Shaw	Boys Soccer
Dearborn Heights	Crestwood HS	Salvatore Piraine	Boys Soccer
Flint	Central HS	Rick Bridgett	Boys Soccer
Garden City	Garden City HS	Bill Torni	Boys Soccer
Grand Ledge	Beagle Middle School	Mike Richey	Girls Basketball
Grand Rapids	Forest Hills Northern HS	Jeff Rapelje	Football
Grandville	Grandville HS	Brian Selk	Boys Soccer
Hillsdale	Hillsdale HS	Ken Keasal	Girls Basketball
Horton	Hanover-Horton HS	Rich Hall	Football
Kalamazoo	Loy Norrix HS	Anthony Stuckey	Girls Basketball
Lansing	Everett HS	Montele Graves	Boys Soccer
Lapeer	Lapeer West HS	Chad Stanek	Boys Soccer
Martin	Martin JHS	Craig Zeinstra	Football
Monroe	St Mary Cath. Central HS	Mark Mignano	Girls Basketball
Newaygo	Newaygo HS	Gilmar Guzman	Boys Soccer
Parchment	Parchment HS	Kirt Brown	Boys Soccer
Redford	Redford Union HS	Andy Mansfield	Boys Soccer
Saginaw	Valley Lutheran HS	Becky Palmer	Girls Basketball
St Joseph	Lake Michigan Cath. HS	Phil Brooks	Football
Waterford	Mt Zion Christian School	Dennis Carter	Girls Basketball
White Pigeon	White Pigeon HS	Jeff Baechler	Girls Basketball
Wyoming	Potter's House Christian HS	John Spooner	Girls Basketball
Ypsilanti	Lincoln HS	Boyd Myers	Football
Ypsilanti	Willow Run HS	Isiah Gaddis	Girls Basketball
Ypsilanti	Ypsilanti HS	Amy Mell	Girls Swimming

SCHOOLS WITH THREE OR MORE OFFICIALS REPORTS — Fall 2003

School	City	No. of Reports
Clio HS	Clio	5
Central HS	Flint	4
Kenowa Hills HS	Grand Rapids	4
Loy Norrix HS	Kalamazoo	4
Adams HS	Rochester	3
Columbia Central HS	Brooklyn	3
Everett HS	Lansing	3
Flushing HS	Flushing	3
Fordson HS	Dearborn	3
Fowlerville HS	Fowlerville	3
Grand Ledge HS	Grand Ledge	3
Lincoln HS	Ypsilanti	3
St Mary Preparatory HS	Orchard Lake	3
Trenton HS	Trenton	3
Woodhaven HS	Brownstown	3

OFFICIALS REPORTS SUMMARY FOR FALL 2003

Sport	Concern	Praise	Player Ejection	Coach Ejection	Other Ejection	Taunting
Boys Soccer	179	6	145	18	1	6
Football	97	36	92	7	0	0
Girls Basketball	36	23	19	16	1	0
Girls Swimming	1	0	0	1	0	0
Totals	313	65	256	42	2	6

Distribution of Reports

Reports of Concern	No. of Schools	Reports of Praise	No. of Schools
1	146	1	55
2	59	2	5
3	11		
4	4		

CHAMPS CLINIC DRAWS A CROWD AT GIRLS BASKETBALL FINALS

To enhance the atmosphere of selected girls tournament finals, the Michigan High School Athletic Association is in its fifth year of conducting youth clinics, entitled CHAMPS (Cooperation, Hard Work, Attitude, Motivation, Participation, Sportsmanship).

The clinics target local female junior high/middle school-aged students and their parents in a morning-long workshop designed to provide game skills and life skills information.

The 2003 Girls Basketball CHAMPS Clinic held Dec. 6 at Central Michigan University (free of charge, underwritten by Farm Bureau Insurance and the Detroit Shock) drew 60 participants and their parents. While the youngsters improved their game skills, their parents heard from different members of the Central Michigan University athletic and physical education staff about sports nutrition, academic eligibility requirements, the proper perspective about high school sports and parental sportsmanship.



Detroit Shock assistant coach Laurie Byrd leads the CHAMPS participants in defensive drills above, and addresses attendees on motivational aspects of the game at right.



John Johnson, Okemos

Participants in the MHSAA's CHAMPS Clinic are recognized at halftime of the Class D Girls Basketball Final at Rose Arena in Mt. Pleasant on Dec. 6.

MIAAA HONORS FOURTH EXEMPLARY ATHLETIC AWARD CLASS

Michigan's professional organization of high school athletic directors, the Michigan Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (MIAAA), recently recognized Saginaw Heritage and Grosse Pointe North high schools as having Exemplary Athletic Programs. Representatives of each school were recognized by the MIAAA and the Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA) at halftime of the MHSAA Class A Girls Basketball Final in Mt. Pleasant on Dec. 6.

The MIAAA, in partnership with the MHSAA, conducted the extensive review program this fall prior to recognizing Saginaw Heritage and Grosse Pointe North as two of Michigan's model high school athletic programs. The schools went through a rigorous screening process, which included an application and a written documentation of the program's strengths. Both schools also hosted a two-day, on-site visit by a MIAAA evaluation team made up of veteran athletic administrators.

The MIAAA Exemplary Athletic Award Program recognizes that outstanding school athletic programs greatly serve students, families, communities and schools. Michigan's athletic administrators realize these exemplary programs occur when partnerships and cooperation exist between all administrators in a school district, as well as among parents, community and student leaders.

The philosophy of the athletic program at Saginaw Township Community Schools is that it is an integral part of the total education program. The purpose of interscholastic athletics is to make a positive contribution to the development of the participants, spectators, school and community. Athletes should strive for educational excellence and playing excellence, as well as staying within the boundaries of good sportsmanship.

Heritage's athletic program offers 24 var-

sity sports, 12 for girls and 12 for boys, and the subvarsity offers 17 different opportunities for girls and 14 for boys, bringing a total of 55 school sponsored teams. Approximately 40 percent of Heritage students participate in at least one sport, with 37 percent playing in two different sports and nine percent participating in three sports, which is the maximum number of teams a Heritage athlete can participate on during a school year. Education is also very important to the athletic program at Heritage as evidenced by athletes having a cumulative GPA of 3.21 over the last five years, which is .35 higher than non-athletes are. According to Pete Ryan, Athletic Director at Heritage, "The staff at Heritage has worked



very hard to increase the GPA of our student-athletes."

With a tradition of athletic excellence, Heritage, which was formed by the merger of Saginaw Eisenhower and Douglas MacArthur high schools in 1988, has been a member of the Saginaw Valley League since 1994. During that time span, Heritage teams have captured 49 conference championships, 32 District championships, and 15 Regional championships and also had 21 MHSAA Final appearances, capturing seven MHSAA titles. Heritage has claimed three boys and three girls Richard Leach trophies, which are given to the most successful school in the Saginaw Valley League based on both Saginaw Valley League standings and MHSAA tournament performances. "Our coaches are dedicated to giving student-athletes the best opportunity possible to succeed," says Ryan "They encourage the athletes to excel in the classroom, on the field and in life."

Since opening its doors 35 years ago, athletics have been an integral part of Grosse Pointe North High School. The athletic program at Grosse Pointe North prides itself on excellence and is a reflection of a community

that prides itself on bringing out the best in its students, parents, school and community. The mission of Grosse Pointe North athletics is to offer a program in educational athletics that provides opportunities for student growth and development through competitive inter-scholastic sports.

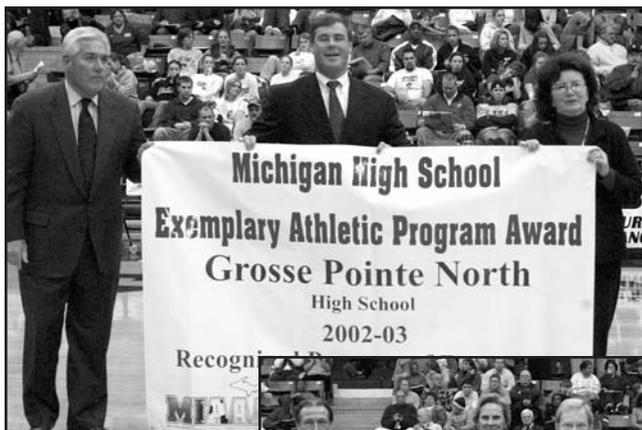
Athletics at North is a highly structured program that seeks to provide a wide variety of opportunities for student involvement. Many desirable outcomes can be expected from a student's involvement in the athletic program at North including: the development of lifelong friendships; learning team work; learning to set goals; learning to strive for excellence; learning to handle victory as well as defeat; learning that dedication and hard work usually produce positive results; learning how to manage time; and developing the qualities of good sportsmanship as a participant and a spectator.

Despite being one of the smallest Class A schools in the 32-team Macomb Area

Conference, Grosse Pointe North is proud of a tradition of competitive success that includes 281 conference championships, 94 conference meet champions, 45 MHSAA District Championships, 76 MHSAA Regional Championships, eight MHSAA Runner-Up Teams, nine MHSAA Championship Teams and several individual MHSAA champions.

When Athletic Director Chris Clark was informed his high school had been named one of two exemplary schools he stated, "We are grateful that the hard work and commitment of the athletes, parents, coaches, staff and administration at Grosse Pointe North has been recognized through such a distinguished award."

Principal Jim Steeby added, "All of us at Grosse Pointe North High School are honored to receive this award in recognition of our school's commitment to educational and athletic excellence." ■



20-20 Photographic

Members of the Grosse Pointe North and Saginaw Heritage athletic departments display Exemplary Athletic Program Award banners presented by the MIAAA at the Girls Basketball Finals in Mt. Pleasant on Dec. 6.



FIRST MHSAA GIRLS BASKETBALL CHAMPS HONORED IN "LEGENDS" PROGRAM

To celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Michigan High School Athletic Association's inaugural Girls Basketball Tournament, the MHSAA honored all four of its first champions through the Association's "Legends Of The Games" program at ceremonies during halftime of the Class C championship game of the Girls Basketball Finals on Dec. 6.

Champions from the initial December 1973 tournament include: Detroit Dominican in Class A; Hudsonville Unity Christian in Class B; Hamtramck St. Ladislaus in Class C; and Ewen-Trout Creek in Class D. Detroit Catholic League powers Detroit Dominican and Hamtramck St. Ladislaus repeated as champions in 1974 and were also honored during the program.

In its seventh year, the Legends program promotes educational athletics by showcasing some of the great teams of past years. Thirty members of those teams were in attendance to receive commemorative plaques during the ceremony.

(The story that follows was written by MHSAA Historian Ron Pesch of Muskegon, for this year's MHSAA Girls Basketball Finals Souvenir Program.)

They can't be called pioneers or trailblazers because girls certainly had played basketball before them. In fact, the sport dates back to 1898 in Michigan and it is even believed the girls game predates the boys at the high school level in the Great Lakes state. Perhaps trendsetters is a better term: a group that changes the perceptions of something old into something popular, fresh, stylish and hot.

The Class of 1973 took an opportunity not previously available to their predecessors and they ran with it. Thirty years later, they are being recognized with a truly appropriate honor as MHSAA "Legends of the Game."

Girls basketball remained popular well into the 1920s. However, the Great Depression forced schools across Michigan to cut sports programs to the bone. In many places, the athletic opportunities for females never rebounded. In 1966, the MHSAA formed the Girls Athletics Committee to look at the growth in girls high school sports in Michigan and across America. The group held its first meeting that October to craft guidelines for schools who offered or planned to offer girls athletic programs. For many coaches it signified the start on the long road back.

A special 15-member committee comprised of 12 girls basketball coaches and three high school principals drew up plans for a three-week tournament divided into four classes styled after the boys tournament.

Instead of six-member teams (with three players on offense and three on defense) traditionally used by the girls in years previous, the committee called for five-member squads with rules that closely paralleled the boys' game. MHSAA member schools selected a December tournament date, and a field of 629 schools planned to participate in the event. Only two years previous, slightly more than 300 schools had girls teams.

On Dec. 15, eight high school teams gathered at four different sites around the state to compete for the first MHSAA basketball championships. Everyone involved dreamed that the recognition would ultimately lead to acceptance as girls as athletes and open up additional possibilities for the participants.

Not surprisingly, the field of the first championship games was dominated by parochial schools, where the game had continued to be played on a regular basis. In Detroit, for example, the Catholic Youth Organization had well-established programs for young ladies, and the group provided an excellent feeder system to the large number of parochial schools in the metro area.

In the first MHSAA Class A Final, hosted at Grand Blanc High School, Detroit

Dominican topped Grand Rapids Christian, 70-43. Sensational outside shooting by Dominican's 5-5 senior guard Melanie Megge and teammate Lynne Chadwick led Dominican to the crown. Members of the East Division of the tough Detroit Catholic League, Dominican earned back-to-back league titles in 1971 and 1972. Megge hit 16 of her game-high 38 points in the final eight minutes of the contest. Teammate Chadwick scored 16 points, many from deep in the corner, helping to break up a tight defensive battle. The game was played before 645 fans. Interestingly, Dominican rallied for 44 second-half points to defeat another East division member, Farmington Our Lady of Mercy, 60-50, in the Semifinals for the rights to advance to the title game.

In Class B, Hudsonville Unity Christian jumped out to a 33-30 halftime lead, then fought off an intense Saginaw MacArthur press to snag a 49-45 victory in a game played at East Kentwood High School before a crowd of nearly 1,000. In this battle of HUC size versus Saginaw quickness, Cindy Masselink and Deb Aukeman emerged with 17 and 16 points, respectively, to lead the Crusaders. Masselink tallied four quick points to start the final quarter, giving the Crusaders a 43-35 lead. A lay-up by Kim Hansen and a pair of free throws by Marcia Visser upped the margin to a commanding 12-point lead.

The Class C Final saw center Linda Balabuch score 27 points, and guard Donna Travis net 24 as Hamtramck St. Ladislaus defeated Blissfield, 67-43, before 350 in the crowd at Owosso High School. The Lassies, defeated once during the year by Detroit Dominican, were also members of the East Division of the Detroit Catholic League. St. Ladislaus opened up a 14-0 lead in the first four minutes, held a 29-17 advantage at the half, and never looked back.

"It's the greatest thrill of my coaching career and just a magnificent thing for the girls," stated St. Ladislaus coach Gloria Soluk. "It was really exciting to visit the different towns, staying overnight and living together as a team."

For the Ewen-Trout Creek squad, a trip to the Class D Finals meant a 600-mile road trip from the Upper Peninsula to Alma High School. Trailing 13-6 in the first quarter, ETC shifted to a full-court press and rolled to a 57-48 win over North Muskegon to become the MHSAA's first Class D champ. North Muskegon, pulled within four with a minute-and-a-half to play, but Ewen-Trout Creek held off the surge for the win. Sandy Lannet led the winners with 17 points and 14 rebounds, while teammate Jamie Fleming added 14 points and 16 boards. Linda Kariainen and Sandy Manning added 13 and 12 points, respectively, for the U.P. squad.

One of the more unique features of the 1973 MHSAA tournament was that it allowed flexibility in scheduling that first year. In the case of both Detroit parochial schools, their seasons were only partially complete at the time they won MHSAA titles. The teams still had half a season to play as the Detroit Catholic league elected not to begin regular-season play until November. In the case of Dominican, the team had a perfect 11-0 mark through MHSAA tournament play, and ended the season with a 20-2 record. St. Ladislaus cruised through the rest of the season undefeated, and added the Catholic League championship later in the season.

Two of the four squads repeated as champions one year later. The following fall, despite losing Megge, center Paulette Hendricks and guard Mary Jo Fisher to graduation, Dominican grabbed its second consecutive Class A title with a thrilling 59-58 win over league rival Farmington Our Lady of Mercy.

The MHSAA Final was the season's fourth meeting between the two Detroit-area all-girls schools. Dominican trailed in the series, two games to one, as the squads squared off in the title game before 1,700 fans at East Kentwood High School. The teams split in the regular season, then Mercy ousted Dominican in the semifinals of the Detroit Catholic League playoffs.

In the MHSAA championship game, Dominican led, 41-37, at the end of three periods of play, but found itself trailing by four points with 3:20 left. Dominican rallied to within a

point, 56-55, with 52 seconds to play on a pair of free throws by 5-4 freshman guard Betsy Essian. Judy Lennard, who scored 12 points in the last half, gave the defending champs a slim one-point lead, 57-56, with a field goal 13 seconds later, then Essian capped the win with two more free throws with six seconds left. Chadwick led the Dominican attack with 14 points and 10 rebounds, while Nancy Hannenberg came off the bench to score 10 point in the second half.

St. Ladislaus extended its winning streak to 42 straight (including regular-season victories over both Class A finalists, Detroit Dominican and Farmington Our Lady of Mercy) and earned its second consecutive Class C crown with a 59-45 win over Ontonagon in 1974 before 2,400 fans at East Kentwood High School.

St. Ladislaus found little challenge in the championship game, as the Lassies opened up a 22-0 lead before Ontonagon got on the board. Linda Balabuch led the winners with 28 points. Donna Travis, who scored 30 points in the team's 84-58 semifinal win over Mason County Central, finished with 13 in the title game.

Few on those first teams could have anticipated the growth of the sport over the last 30 years. As an example, the MHSAA Girls Basketball tournament topped the 200,000 mark in attendance for the second time during the 2002 season. The three-week total spectatorship of 205,322 surpassed the 1999-00 mark of 203,411. At District tournaments alone, the 142,833 fans in attendance broke the old record of 125,449 set in 1999-00.

In the seven years the Semifinals and Finals took place in Mt. Pleasant, the girls tournament has enjoyed record crowds for single sessions and all sessions, and topped with a three-day record of 21,606 fans in 1999.

Girls basketball has enjoyed immense growth in the past 30 years, and those in attendance from the inaugural championship teams in 1973 can be proud of what they started.

Photos of those in attendance appear below. ■



▲ Detroit Dominican

Hamtramck St. Ladislaus ▼



▲ Hudsonville Unity Christian

Ewen-Trout Creek ▼



2004 Lower Peninsula Boys Swimming and Diving Finals

LOWER PENINSULA BOYS DIVING QUALIFICATION SITES Tuesday, March 9, 2004

- 1 -1 Pioneer HS --Ann Arbor --Dennis Hill, Mgr.
- 2 -1 Lake Orion HS-- Lake Orion -- William Reiss, Mgr.
- 3 -1 TBD
- 4 -2 Andover HS--Bloomfield Hills--Marty Simmonds, Mgr.
- 5 -2 DeWitt HS--DeWitt--Teri Reyburn, Mgr.
- 6 -2 East Grand Rapids HS--East Grand Rapids--Butch Briggs, Mgr.

LOWER PENINSULA FINAL BOYS SWIMMING & DIVING SITES Friday-Saturday, March 12-13, 2004

Swimming Preliminaries at Noon Friday; Diving Preliminaries and Semifinals follow last heat of swim prelims. Finals for swimming and diving begin at Noon Saturday

DIVISION 1 at University of Michigan, Ann Arbor -- Chris Onsted, Mgr.

DIVISION 2 at Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti -- Sam Jalet, Mgr.

UPPER PENINSULA FINAL SWIMMING & DIVING SITE FOR BOYS & GIRLS Saturday, February 21, 2004

OPEN DIVISION at Marquette High School--Mark Mattson, Mgr.

2003-04 Boys and Girls Swimming Qualifying Times

EVENT	GIRLS D1	GIRLS D2	BOYS D1	BOYS D2
200 MEDLEY RELAY	1:57.79	2:03.19	1:44.39	1:48.19
200 FREESTYLE	2:02.19	2:06.99 9	1:50.39	1:53.99
200 IND. MEDLEY	2:18.69	2:23.19	2:04.99	2:10.59
50 FREESTYLE	:25.69	:26.29	:22.99	:23.39
100 BUTTERFLY	1:02.69	1:04.99	:55.99	:58.59
100 FREESTYLE	:56.19	:57.99	:49.99	:51.59
500 FREESTYLE	5:27.89	5:38.99	5:00.99	5:12.99
200 FREE RELAY	1:44.99	1:47.99	1:32.99	1:35.79
100 BACKSTROKE	1:03.39	1:05.59	:57.19	:59.99
100 BREASTSTROKE	1:11.79	1:13.99	1:03.79	1:05.99
400 FREE RELAY	3:51.59	3:59.99	3:25.39	3:30.99

2004 GIRLS COMPETITIVE CHEER REGIONALS

(March 6)

No.	Class	School	City	Manager
1	A	Mattawan High School	Mattawan	Ken Mohney
2	A	Southgate Anderson High School	Southgate	Dave Pinkowski
3	A	Rochester HS	Rochester Hills	Michael Watson
4	A	Mt. Pleasant High School	Mt. Pleasant	Jim Conway
5	A	Christian HS	Grand Rapids	Dick VanderKamp
6	B	St Joseph HS	St Joseph	Eric Gohlke
7	B	Grosse Ile HS	Grosse Ile	James Okler
8	B	Ladywood High School	Livonia	Sal Malek
9	B	Otsego HS	Otsego	Don Knight
10	B	Comstock Park HS	Comstock Park	Janet Gillette
11	C	Climax-Scotts HS	Climax	Kevin Langs
12	C	Leslie HS	Leslie	Scott Farley
13	C	Michigan Center HS	Michigan Center	Mike Clear
14	C	Brown City HS	Brown City	Gary Iwinski
15	C	Shelby HS	Shelby	Steve Guy

2004 COMPETITIVE CHEER FINALS

(March 13)

Class	Facility	City	Manager
All Classes	DeltaPlex	Grand Rapids	

2004 GIRLS GYMNASTICS REGIONALS

(March 6, 2004)

No.	School	City	Manager
1	Northern HS	Portage	Carl Latora
2	Canton HS	Canton	Sue Heinzman
3	Adams HS	Rochester	Jason Rapp
4	Farmington HS	Farmington	Dennis Noe

2004 GYMNASTICS FINALS – March 12-13

Class	School	City	Manager
All classes	Plymouth HS	Canton	Sue Heinzman

2004 LOWER PENINSULA INDIVIDUAL WRESTLING FINALS

March 11-13

Site	City	Manager/Coordinator
The Palace of Auburn Hills	Auburn Hills	Ron Nagy, Manager Scott Strickler, Coordinator

2004 UPPER PENINSULA INDIVIDUAL WRESTLING FINALS

February 20-21

Site	City	Manager
Menominee HS	Menominee	Dale VanDuinen

2004 LP TEAM WRESTLING MASTER REGIONAL PAIRINGS

February 25

DIVISION 1

Region 101 at Bay City Western

Auburn Bay City Western District 107 vs. Davison District 109

Flushing District 108 vs. Alpena District 101

Region 102 at Grand Haven

Hudsonville District 103 vs. Rockford District 105

Grandville District 104 vs. Grand Haven District 102

Region 103 at Lansing Eastern

Lansing Eastern District 114 vs. Portage Central District 116

East Kentwood District 106 vs. Battle Creek Central District 115

Region 104 at Lansing Everett

Lansing Everett District 113 vs. Saline District 128

South Lyon District 127 vs. Howell District 112

Region 105 at Rochester

Waterford Kettering District 117 vs. West Bloomfield District 122

Grand Blanc District 111 vs. Troy District 118

Region 106 at Clinton Township Chippewa Valley

Clinton Township Chippewa Valley District 119 vs. Sterling Heights District 121

Harrison Township L'Anse Creuse District 120 vs. Port Huron District 110

Region 107 at Royal Oak Kimball

Grosse Pointe North District 124 vs. Dearborn District 130

Detroit Catholic Central District 125 vs. Royal Oak Kimball District 123

Region 108 at Temperance Bedford

Wayne Memorial District 129 vs. Temperance Bedford District 132

Romulus District 131 vs. Novi District 126

DIVISION 2

Region 109 at Mt. Pleasant

Gaylord District 134 vs. Mt. Pleasant District 136

Muskegon Mona Shores District 135 vs. Sault Ste. Marie District 133

Region 110 at Sparta

Lowell District 138 vs. Byron Center District 140

Grand Rapids Catholic Central District 139 vs. Sparta District 137

Region 111 at Thornapple Kellogg

Allegan District 142 vs. Vicksburg District 144

Stevensville Lakeshore District 143 vs. Lake Odessa Lakewood District 141

Region 112 at Mason

Mason District 146 vs. Dexter District 163

Lansing Waverly District 147 vs. Coldwater District 145

Region 113 at Flint Kearsley

Clio District 149 vs. Lapeer West District 151

Holly District 150 vs. Owosso District 148

Region 114 at St. Clair Shores Lakeview

Mt. Clemens District 157 vs. Center Line District 159

St. Clair Shores Lakeview District 158 vs. Algonac District 152

Region 115 at Beverly Hills Wylie E. Groves

Bloomfield Hills Lahser District 154 vs. Warren Fitzgerald District 156

Birmingham Groves District 155 vs. Auburn Hills Avondale District 153

Region 116 at Allen Park

Allen Park District 161 vs. Monroe Jefferson District 164

Wyandotte Roosevelt District 162 vs. Canton Plymouth District 160

2004 LP TEAM WRESTLING MASTER REGIONAL PAIRINGS

February 25

DIVISION 3

Region 117 at Oscoda

Cheboygan District 166 vs. Oscoda District 169
Houghton Lake District 168 vs. Gladstone District 165

Region 118 at Durand

Alma District 177 vs. Durand District 184
Essexville Garber District 178 vs. Beaverton District 170

Region 119 at Howard City Tri-County

Howard City Tri-County District 171 vs. Muskegon Orchard View District 173
White Cloud District 172 vs. Manistee District 167

Region 120 at Stanton Central Montcalm

Wyoming Godwin Heights District 175 vs. Williamston District 185
Stanton Central Montcalm District 176 vs. Allendale District 174

Region 121 at Vermontville Maple Valley

Vermontville Maple Valley District 194 vs. Dowagiac District 196
Hamilton District 195 vs. Constantine District 193

Region 122 at Goodrich

Yale District 180 vs. Goodrich District 183
Otisville Lakeville District 182 vs. Caro District 179

Region 123 at Hanover-Horton

Dundee District 190 vs. Napoleon District 192
Brooklyn Columbia Central District 191 vs. Flat Rock District 189

Region 124 at Madison Heights Lamphere

Macomb Luthran North District 186 vs. Melvindale District 188
Madison Heights Lamphere District 187 vs. Richmond District 181

DIVISION 4

Region 125 at Rogers City

Ishpeming District 198 vs. Rogers City District 200
Manistique District 199 vs. Gwinn District 197

Region 126 at Manton

Manton District 202 vs. Sanford Meridian District 206
Mio AuSable District 203 vs. Kingsley District 201

Region 127 at Kent City

Kent City District 205 vs. Martin District 213
Carson City Crystal District 212 vs. Hesperia District 204

Region 128 at Saginaw Valley Lutheran

Unionville-Sebewaing District 208 vs. Mayville District 210
St. Louis District 209 vs. Saginaw Michigan Lutheran Seminary District 207

Region 129 at Galien

Watervliet District 215 vs. White Pigeon District 217
Galien District 216 vs. Bangor District 214

Region 130 at Bronson

Bronson District 219 vs. Hudson District 222
Olivet District 220 vs. Athens District 218

Region 131 at Blissfield

New Haven District 226 vs. Lutheran HS Westland District 228
Harper Woods Lutheran East District 227 vs. Blissfield District 223

Region 132 at Springport

Michigan Center District 221 vs. Byron Area District 225
Springport District 224 vs. New Lothrop District 211

2004 TEAM WRESTLING TOURNAMENT FINAL PAIRINGS

March 5-6
Kellogg Arena Battle Creek

QUARTERFINALS
(Friday, March 5)

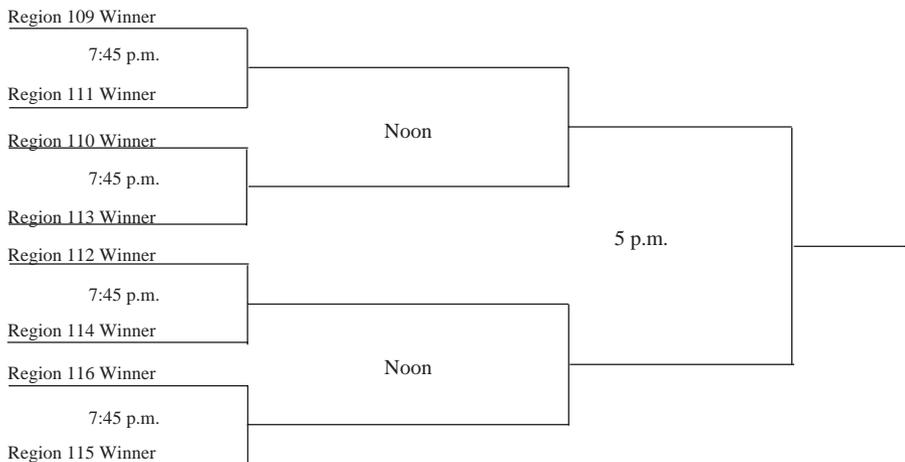
SEMIFINALS
(Saturday, March 6)

FINAL
(Saturday, March 6)

DIVISION 1



DIVISION 2



2004 TEAM WRESTLING TOURNAMENT FINAL PAIRINGS

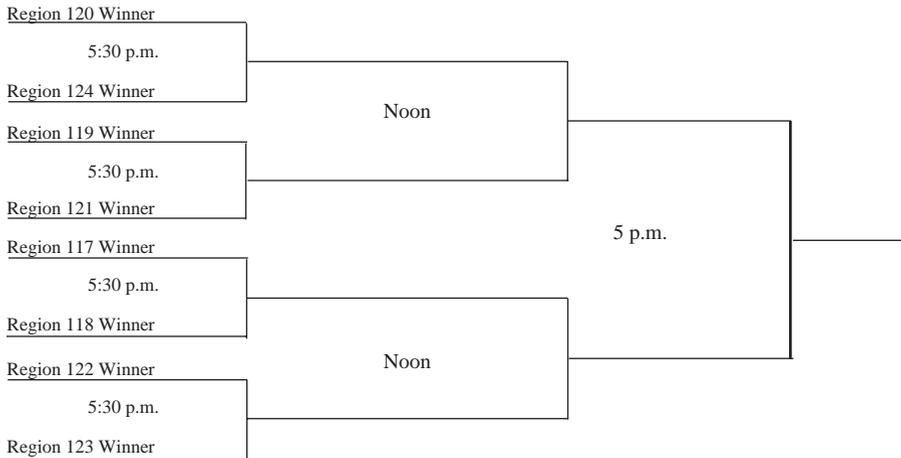
March 5-6
Kellogg Arena Battle Creek

QUARTERFINALS
(Friday, March 5)

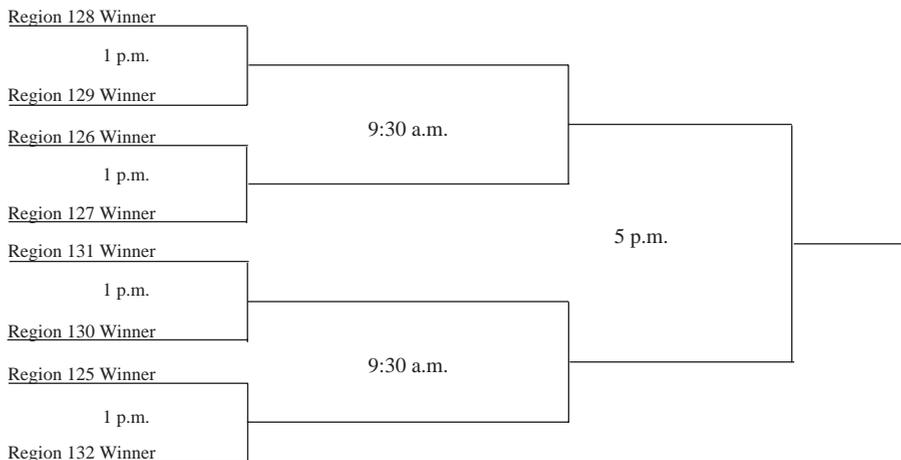
SEMIFINALS
(Saturday, March 6)

FINAL
(Saturday, March 6)

DIVISION 3



DIVISION 4



Athletic Equity Committee Meeting

East Lansing, October 9, 2003

Members Present:

Malinda Baker, Leroy
Lorin Cartwright, Ann Arbor
Deloris Elswick, Grosse Ile
Justin Gluesing, Escanaba
Sharon Hammerschmidt, Detroit
Donna Hathaway, Grand Rapids
Barry Hobrla, Lowell

Kathy Hutfilz, St Louis
Dewayne Jones, West Bloomfield
Vonnie Killmer, Saginaw
Doris Rodgers, Lathrup Village
Deb Traxinger, Grand Ledge

Staff Member Present:

Nate Hampton (Recorder)

Following the welcome and introduction of committee members, the committee was reminded of its authority and responsibility. Noting that all recommendations will be directed to the Representative Council or a specific sport committee for action.

EQUITY COMMITTEE AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITY

The Equity Committee, as with any other MHSAA Standing Committee, has the duty and responsibility to discuss matters of specific interest relating to equity opportunities for women and minority men and women and to then make recommendations of action to the Representative Council that involve all levels and positions within the governance of the MHSAA.

Goals are to include, but are not limited to:

1. Gather statewide data to define equity problems, direct actions and to monitor progress.
2. Promote through motivation, support and training competent coaches, officials, athletic directors, and governing board members regardless of race, ethnicity, or sex.
3. Sensitize and encourage organizations and employers to affirmatively seek women and minorities for athletic leadership training, placement, and promotion.
4. Promote the benefits of athletics and athletic leadership to students, educators, parents, and community.
5. Improve communication between the school districts, the Michigan High School Athletic Association, governing boards, professional associations, and higher education regarding the need for balanced staffing of athletic programs.

The meeting continued with a review of recommendations made to the Representative Council by the Equity Committee from its start in 1986 to the present, along with the 2002 recommendations to the Council at its 2003 May meeting.

LITIGATION UPDATE

MHSAA Executive Director John E. Roberts provided information relating to current litigations that involve the MHSAA. While there are no new litigations, Mr. Roberts's discussions centered on the following:

- The Breighner case involving freedom of information relating to the sport of skiing. This case now resides with the Michigan Supreme Court and is awaiting court response. The Michigan Court of Appeals held the MHSAA is not subject to the Michigan Freedom of Information Act.
- The Reid case involving the parents of six home schooled students suing several MHSAA member schools and the MHSAA for participation opportunities for home schooled students. The Washtenaw County Circuit Court ruled against the parents who have appealed. Oral argument occurred Sept. 4, 2003.
- The gender equity case now in its fifth year. This case is now residing with the US Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals awaiting an oral argument date.
- While many issues are on appeal, one major finding of Kalamazoo US District Court is not. That girls who participate in MHSAA Competitive Cheer may be counted as athletes.

In 2002, the US Department of Education established a commission on Opportunity in Athletics in response to critics of Title IX enforcement. The commission met last fall and issued its findings early in 2003. One of the eight questions given to the commission asked: "How should activities such as cheerleading or bowling factor into analysis of equitable opportunities?" The MHSAA suggested in a written statement to the commission that the very presence of this question reflects some biases. The MHSAA asked the commission to put personal biases and outdated notions aside, and then to listen to today's girls and hear what they want, reminding the commission that this is indeed the spirit of Title IX. To listen and accommodate! The commission's final report did mention the efforts of national organizations that reported to the committee.

"In addition, some of the national organizations reporting to the Commission have indicated an expansion in the types of activities they recognize as sports opportunities for students. The NCAA, for instance, recognizes nine sports as emerging sports for women, including bowling and squash. Similarly, the NAIA recognizes women's wrestling as an emerging sport. The NFHS lists 13 emerging sports and state athletic associations may include even more. For instance, the Michigan High School Athletic Association recognizes competitive cheer as a sport and recently added a state championship in bowling.

"Thus, emerging sports, including cheerleading and bowling as well as many others, may help schools meet their commitment to offer athletic participation opportunities to their students that meet the requirements of Title IX"

Mr. Roberts also reported on the continuing discussion as to the appropriateness, effectiveness and emerging responsibility for conducting officials background checks.

2002 MEETING MINUTES

The committee reviewed the 2002 Equity Committee minutes, the May Representative Council Meeting minutes, and the National Federation of State High School Association's Equity Committee minutes.

The committee's discussion continued with the following topic item:

- After reviewing a recently released MHSAA video on high school sport specialization "We Got Games," the committee commented on the value and quality of this work and made special note that the work of the MHSAA in its video and printed materials have made great strides in demonstrating a desired diversity with the inclusion of women and minorities in positive positions and roles.
- **2003 Update Meeting Survey:** The committee reviewed this year's Update Meeting Survey as it has done in previous meetings.
- **Basketball Officials and Coaches Communication Committee (BOCCC) Position Paper:** The committee was made aware of the good effort on the part of BCAM and several basketball official associations to generate dialogue on the game behavior of coaches and officials. The Position Paper was reviewed by the committee and informed that the Position Paper was presented at all 2003 Basketball Rules Meetings and included in the mailing of all National Federation Basketball Rules Books to officials and coaches.
- **Primetime scheduling practice/competition:** The committee revisited this topic from last year with the same concerns that there are still many schools and athletic departments where girls teams and boys teams do not share the primetime practice and competition facilities. The committee recommends that the MHSAA make suggestions and/or recommendations to member schools through either a Bulletin article or pamphlet and ask the MIAAA to consider this a conference topic.
- **MHSAA registered officials:** The committee was presented with data on the following page that demonstrated the diversity (male/female) of the 12,301 registered officials.

	Male		Female		Unsure		Total
Volleyball	1,412	61.74%	853	37.30%	22	0.96%	2,287
Competitive Cheer	12	6.49%	172	92.97%	1	0.54%	185
Softball	2,647	91.66%	223	7.72%	18	0.62%	2,888
Gymnastics	9	8.26%	99	90.83%	1	0.92%	109
Soccer	1,186	90.67%	101	7.72%	21	1.61%	1,308
Ice Hockey	597	98.03%	5	0.82%	7	1.15%	609
Wrestling	582	99.15%	4	0.68%	1	0.17%	587
Swimming	263	73.26%	90	25.07%	6	1.67%	359
Track	776	89.20%	88	10.11%	6	0.69%	870
Baseball	2,776	97.88%	49	1.73%	11	0.39%	2,836
Basketball	4,801	91.78%	383	7.32%	47	0.91%	5,231
Football	2,805	98.70%	19	0.67%	18	0.63%	2,842
Totals	17,866	88.84%	2,086	10.37%	159	0.79%	20,111

*Unsure = officials who did not indicate "male" or "female" when registering.

Following review of the data, the committee discussed ways that the MHSAA and its member schools might recruit more female officials across all sports. Suggestions included:

- Continue current efforts
- Continue to reach out to colleges and universities
- Continue to enlarge the Legacy Program
- Recommend to athletic directors and principals via their professional organizations to include officiating opportunities in building instruction programs and intramural programs
- Contact trade organizations that invest in transitional training for its members and employees (UAW/Automakers)
- Contact career and recreational counselors
- Gender makeup of 2003-04 committees: Staff shared accumulated data that demonstrates the gender makeup of 2003-04 committees. Following review of the data there was discussion relating to the data with special emphasis on the number of individuals that decline committee invitations. While not all declinations are women, many are. The committee made several suggestions as to how to solicit better commitment to MHSAA committee service.
 - Speak to MIAAA, MASP, MASSP and MASB on the value, representation and need

for allowing teachers/coaches/administrators to serve

- The MHSAA should review committee dates to stay away from traditional school holidays, state advertised testing dates or others that will reduce the likelihood of school release
- Reproduce this data and discussion in a *Bulletin* article.

COOPERATIVE PROGRAMS

The committee examined the most recent list of high school and junior high/middle school cooperative programs, noting the current policies and criteria required to establish a cooperative program and how schools have used cooperative programs to offer more participation opportunities to students. The committee noted the recent Representative Council discussions on large schools forming cooperative programs that, in many cases, these cooperative programs do provide participation opportunities to students that may not otherwise have opportunities; but Council should remain cautious and watch closely multiple large school programs.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

There were no recommendations to the Representative Council from the Equity Committee.

The meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m. ■

Gymnastics Committee Meeting

East Lansing, October 15, 2003

Members Present:

John Cunningham, Canton
Deb Davis, St. Johns
Michele DeHaan, Lowell
Deanna Fakhouri, Troy
Nancy Gregory, Brighton
Becky Lioi, Waterford
Lisa Rickaby, Adrian
Keith Vree, Rockford
Suzy Walsh, Portage

Members Absent:

Diane Langhorne, Fre
Melanie Miller, Lansing

Staff Members Present:

Suzanne Martin (Recorder)
Debbie Waddell

The 2003 Gymnastics Committee met in the MHSAA Building to determine 2004 Regional qualifying scores and team assignments, review the 2003 L.P. Finals Tournament, and discuss the possible use of the vaulting table along with the vaulting horse.

QUALIFYING SCORES

The Committee reviewed scores posted at each 2003 Regional site in each event along with the number of competitors in each event. The Committee also took into consideration the number of participants in each event who did not perform up to the qualifying score at Regionals to determine whether qualifying scores are too high. The Committee determined that Regional qualifying scores on each event and the team qualifying score will not be changed. The qualifying scores for 2003-04 will be as follows: vault 7.7, bars 7.0, beam 7.4, floor exercise 7.9 and team 118.0.

MHSAA TOURNAMENT SITES, DATES AND TIMES

Regionals - Saturday, March 6, 2004, 10 am

Region 1 - Portage-Northern HS
Region 2 - Plymouth HS
Region 3 - Rochester Adams HS
Region 4 - TBD

LP Finals - Plymouth High School, Friday, March 12-13, 2004. Team Competition begins at 4 p.m. Friday. Individual Competition takes place Saturday with Division 1 beginning at noon.

UP Finals - It was determined by the Upper Peninsula Athletic Committee, and reinforced by previous policy, that since only

four schools in the U.P. sponsor gymnastics, there will no longer be a U.P. gymnastics Finals. Schools in the Upper Peninsula sponsoring a gymnastics program will be assigned to the closest Lower Peninsula Regional. Each team and/or individual gymnast must meet Lower Peninsula qualifying scores in order to compete.

REGIONAL SITES

When reviewing the number of competitors in each event at previous years' sites, it was noted that for several years the Canton Regional has many more participants than any other site.

After a great deal of discussion regarding host site possibilities and changes in school assignments, it was determined that some schools could be assigned to Region 1 if Portage-Northern hosts. This determination was made on the basis of geographics and an attempt to assign a more equitable number of competing teams to each Regional site.

MHSAA TOURNAMENT PROCEDURAL CHANGES

Based on concerns expressed by a number of judges who have officiated at the Finals tournament over the past several years, many suggestions were made to assist in the judge-to-judge communication process as well as judge-to-coach communications.

The following changes came from committee members' input that represent judges and coaches and reflect a genuine effort to review current procedures and make changes where they felt it would assist coaches and judges carry-out their duties more responsibly.

The changes are as follows:

- Allow a coach 10 minutes after his/her last gymnast has completed her routine on an event to file an inquiry. This must take into consideration when the score sheets are available at the score table for the coaches to review.
- Require score table personnel to write down the time in which the last competitor's score sheets were tallied and the time in which the Inquiry Form was submitted.
- Require the Judges Selection Committee to select and contract each judge for at least two of the three Finals sessions.
- Provide an extensive pre-meet session for all judges selected to work the Finals meet. The request included that the meeting be held before Regional weekend.
- Contract two meet referees for each of the three tournament Finals sessions.
- Prohibit video cameras on the competition floor at Regionals or Finals.

It was also suggested that an "I" be placed after a score on the scoreboard when a score has been changed due to an Inquiry. This suggestion was made to benefit spectators and parents who have access to the public score board. The suggestion was not favored by the majority of the committee.

DRAW FOR ORDER OF COMPETITION AT FINALS

For the second consecutive year, the Committee reviewed the procedure for how the order of competition on each event is determined for the Finals. This review was requested and based on complaints that the

same teams follow each other within each event. After a discussion of when and why teams were grouped by Regions, it was determined that such had been in place for more than a decade with no real significance other than popularity at the time of its inception.

A new blind draw was made by assigning a number to each of 12 possible team qualifiers. From that point each number was drawn randomly and placed in an event. This procedure will take place annually.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

A special request is being made for the Representative Council to review Recommendation No. 1 at its December 2003 Council Meeting.

1. By State Association adoption, allow the vaulting table to be used at regular season, invitational and MHSAA Tournament meets beginning with the 2003-04 season.
 - a. A host school that uses the vaulting table must also provide a vaulting horse for those opponents who request it
 - b. The MHSAA Regional and Final sites must provide both pieces of vaulting equipment for the 2004 Tournament series (9-0 in favor)
2. Require the Lower Peninsula gymnastics Finals host to provide a spring floor (9-0 in favor).
3. Allow the Gymnastics Judges Selection Committee to contract two Meet Referees at each session of the Finals Tournament (9-0 in favor) ■

*Please See Important Vaulting Table Requirements for
2003-04 Season on Following Page*

VAULTING TABLE APPROVED FOR CURRENT GIRLS GYMNASTICS SEASON

The MHSAA Representative Council on Dec. 5, 2003, approved a recommendation of the Gymnastics Committee at its Oct. 15, 2003 meeting, that the vaulting table be used in the 2003-04 season with these stipulations:

1. A host school that uses a vaulting table must also provide a vaulting horse for those opponents who request it.
2. MHSAA Regional and Final sites must provide both pieces of vaulting equipment for the 2004 Tournament series.

At its May 2003 meeting, the Representative Council had declined to approve the 2002-03 Gymnastics Committee recommendation to allow the vaulting table to be used in regular season and MHSAA events in 2003-04 and to have both the vaulting horse and vaulting table available at MHSAA Regional and Final sites for the 2004 tournament series. This action reflected concerns for added expense for school athletics unrelated to participant safety and the information provided that (a) the vaulting table was used especially for vaults that are not performed at the high school level, and (b) having both the table and horse would crowd facilities, disrupt the flow of meets and result in uneven judging of the event.

However, the attitude in high school coaching and judging ranks changed as student-athletes, coaches and judges gained experience with the vaulting table.

During the past year, equipment has been designed to "retro fit" for the vaulting table at a much lower price than the cost of a new complete vaulting table.

Vaulting tables are now found in gymnastics clubs and schools throughout the state, providing many athletes, coaches and judges with experience. Even average gymnasts have been learning to vault on the table and finding that they prefer the table over the horse because it provides a bigger area on which to place their hands. They find it much easier and feel it is somewhat safer, although this is simply an attitude, without any statistical basis at this time.

Judges have found that they are capable of judging vaults performed on the table, and also capable of judging vaults performed on the table and on the horse at the same meet.

Facilities have become creative in setting up both the vaulting table and the horse in a way that does not disrupt the flow of participation or judging.

Ski Committee Meeting

East Lansing, November 6, 2003

Members Present:

Derek Anderson, Marquette
Jim Bartlett, Nub's Nob Ski Area (Advisory)
Woody Brackney, Fenton
Catherine Erickson, Roscommon (MASSP)
Ed Grice, Boyne Mountain (Advisory)
Brewster McVicker, Petoskey (MIAAA)
Karen Leinaar, Benzonia
Nancy Malinowski, Farmington Hills

Sue Miller, Charlevoix (MHSSCA)
Allen Nelson, Flushing
Tami Niemi, Clarkston
Renee Rhoades, Howell
Jack Wood, Greenville

Staff Members Present:

Gina Mazzolini (Recorder)

The MHSAA Ski Committee met on November 6, 2003 at the MHSAA office. The committee was reminded of its responsibility and of the process for rule changes. After a brief welcome and introductions, the following action was taken.

MODIFY THE LIMITED MEMBERSHIP REGULATION

The committee proposes that alpine ski apply the limited team membership rule to each skier from the point of his/her team's first participation in a contest or scrimmage, rather than the student's first participation as a school team member.

EXPAND THE DEFINITION OF THE NEW FOUR START REGULATION

The definition should read: The committee proposes that if a student-athlete is in attendance at his/her team's high school meet, slipping courses or carrying coats, but not racing for points, his/her participation as auxiliary team member will qualify as a "Start."

WAIVER FOR FOUR MEET REQUIREMENT

The committee proposes that if a student does not have four starts to qualify for entry into the MHSAA Regionals or Finals, the school administrator may request a waiver.

If a substitution needs to be made for a skier who is injured, academically ineligible or other reasonable cause, and there are no other team members with four starts, the school administrator may request, in writing, a waiver for participation of a team member

without four starts. The administrator would need to state the commitment of the skier to his/her high school team and list the high school meet which the individual attended.

SELECTION OF 2004 REGIONAL SITES

1. Schuss Mountain - Traverse City Central
2. Mt. Holly - Flushing
3. Alpine Valley - Orchard Lake St. Mary's
4. Mt. Ripley - Houghton/Hancock/Chassell
5. Crystal Mountain - Benzie Central/Manistee
6. Pine Knob - Detroit Country Day

2004 FINAL SITES

Class A - Nub's Nob
Class B-C-D - Boyne Mountain

Reminder: The MHSAA Ski Committee will select courses based on information shared with the committee. Venues need to create a safe environment for all participants. If this can't be done, the venue will not be selected to host.

APPROVED SCHOOL ASSIGNMENTS

The committee made adjustments in the proposed alignments and then approved the school assignments to the six Regional Tournaments.

MOVE REGIONAL MEETS ONE WEEK EARLIER

The committee approved a proposal that, beginning with the 2004-05 school year, the alpine ski Regionals will be held the second Thursday before President's Holiday on Monday (in essence, this is one week earlier than the current Regional date).

PROPOSED 2005 REGIONAL SITES

1. Marquette Mountain - Marquette HS
2. Pine Knob - Clarkston HS
3. Mt. Brighton - South Lyon HS
4. Nub's Nob - Harbor Springs HS
5. Schuss Mountain - Bellaire/Elk Rapids HS
6. Timber Ridge - Kalamazoo Hackett HS

PROPOSED 2005 FINAL SITES

- Class A - Boyne Mountain
Class B-C-D - Marquette Mountain

DISCUSSION ITEMS - NO ACTION

1. 55 mm riser rule
2. Setting minimum requirements for a venue
3. Develop chart for skis and bindings in order to be in compliance with 55 mm riser rule
4. Focus on high school team concept, not individual
5. Develop partnership with CUSSA
6. Develop a list of TD's
7. Safety issues
8. Official's education

RECOMMENDATIONS TO REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

1. Apply the limited team membership rule in alpine ski to each skier from the point of the team's first participation in a contest or scrimmage (11-0 in favor).
2. Stipulate that if an athlete is in attendance at his/her team's high school meet, slipping courses or carrying coats but not racing for points, his/her participation as auxiliary team member will qualify as a "Start" (8-2-1 in favor).
3. Allow a school administrator to request a waiver if a student does not have four starts to qualify for entry into the MHSAA Regionals or Finals (11-0 in favor).
4. Beginning with the 2004-05 school year, conduct the alpine ski Regionals on the second Thursday before President's Holiday on Monday (10-2 in favor). ■

It's About TEAM! Banners Available

Foto1 Imaging, the officially licensed provider of MHSAA banners, is offering member schools the chance to purchase It's About TEAM! banners. These quality vinyl banners come complete with grommets and hemmed edges for extra durability, and can be customized with your school's name and logo. A sample of the banner appears at right.

Visit www.foto1.com/mhsaa/ or call 734-665-3686 ext. 125 for details.



HAPPY HOLIDAYS
from the MHSAA Staff

Volleyball Committee Meeting

East Lansing, November 11, 2003

Members Present:

Kim Argiri-Slone, Fraser
Tim Bearden, St Clair Shores
John Blankenship, Frankenmuth
Susan Calvo, Flint
Jeff Champion, Adrian
Eve Claar, Ann Arbor
Teresa Cole, Mio
Kathi Frank, Onsted
Blake Hagman, Kalamazoo
Steve Hoke, Hastings
Cody Inglis, Suttons Bay
John Knuth, Crosswell
Jean LaClair, Bronson
Ed Maloney, Ann Arbor

Pam Metcalf, Reading
Sally Paulus, Midland
Cheri Ritz, Wayland
Roger Rush, Leroy
Debbie Spranger, Warren
Kathy Trenary, Mendon
Sherri Warner, New Lothrop

Members Absent:

Chuck Bennin, Pickford
Jean Blievernicht, Southfield
Melissa Bradley, Frankfort

Staff Members Present:

Gina Mazzolini (Recorder)

The MHSAA Volleyball Committee met on Nov. 11, 2003, at the MHSAA office. The committee was reminded of its responsibility and the process for rule change. After a brief welcome and introductions, the following action was taken:

ELIMINATE THE POTENTIAL FOR INTIMIDATION DURING WARMUP

The committee determined that the non-hitting team shall not line the edge of the court while the opponent is hitting. The non-hitting team may observe from its team bench area or another non-playable area.

ADOPT 3/5 MATCH FORMAT USING RALLY SCORING IN THE MHSAA POSTSEASON TOURNAMENT

The committee adopted a proposal to play 3/5 match, 25 points in games 1-4 and 15 points in the deciding game of MHSAA tournaments. The committee recommends the same for regular-season dual meets and, at the sub-varsity of regular-season play, the committee recommends 2/3 match to 25 points.

RECOMMEND THE USE OF TWO REFEREES AT ALL LEVELS OF HIGH SCHOOL MATCHES

The committee determined it could not mandate two officials at the sub-varsity level for various reasons; however, it wanted to make a strong recommendation that all

schools attempt to do so.

MODIFY 2004-05 VOLLEYBALL SEASON

The committee rejected a proposal to allow volleyball practice to begin on Monday rather than Thursday the week before Thanksgiving and to allow schools to begin competition one week earlier than currently listed for the 2004-05 season only.

CREATE A THURSDAY/FRIDAY ROTATION AT THE FINAL TOURNAMENT

The committee adopted a proposal that beginning with the 2005 tournament, the MHSAA rotate the daily schedule of Classes D and A with C and B. Therefore in 2004, Classes D and A would play on Thursday and Classes C and B would play on Friday. In 2005, Classes C and B would play on Thursday and Classes D and A would play on Friday. Continue the rotation throughout the years (Classes D and A on Thursday in even years and Classes C and B on Thursday in odd years)

DISCUSSION ITEMS - NO ACTION

1. Mandatory warm up procedure
2. Warm up times at Finals
3. Multiple Semifinal sites
4. Assignment of Regional officials
5. White polo shirt for officials

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

1. The committee adopted a proposal to play 3/5 matches, 25 points in games 1-4 and 15 points in the deciding game of MHSAA tournaments. The committee recommends the same for regular-season dual meets and, at the sub-varsity of regular-season play, the committee recommends 2/3 match to 25 points (20-1 in favor).
2. The committee determined it could not mandate two officials at the sub-varsity level for various reasons; however, it wanted to make a strong recommendation that all schools attempt to do so (21-0 in favor).
3. The committee adopted a proposal that beginning with the 2005 tournament, the MHSAA rotate the daily schedule of Classes D and A with C and B (18-2 in favor). ■

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS OF MHSAA TOURNAMENT ASSIGNMENTS

- Q Why is our team assigned to the District Tournament at X when our school is clearly located closer to the District Tournament at Y?
- A District assignments are based on geographical groupings of schools. The host school may or may not be near the center of that grouping, as all schools which have adequate facilities and wish to host will be included in any rotation of host sites.
- Therefore, a school that is the easternmost of one District Tournament grouping may be further from the host site of that District Tournament than the host site of the District Tournament grouping adjacent to the east.
- One sometimes must look at the entire state and all the District Tournament groupings for a class to see how this fits together.
- Q How is it possible our team is assigned to the District Tournament at X when the other high school of our school district is assigned elsewhere?
- A As the nearly equal number of schools are grouped for District Tournaments, school district boundaries are not considered. Farmington, Troy, Rochester, Livonia and many other multi-school districts, especially of highly populated areas, may frequently see their schools going in different directions for MHSAA District Tournament play.
- Q Why do the schools in our District or Regional Tournament change from year to year and sport to sport?
- A New schools join the MHSAA, existing schools relocate, and the sports offered by schools change, all of which affect District and Regional assignments. Changes in school enrollments cause many schools each year to change classification. This not only will affect the school groupings for District or Regional Tournaments of each of those school's old and new classifications or divisions, it may also cause a chain reaction, bumping other schools up or down in classification or division and in or out of various District or Regional Tournaments.

Lacrosse Committee Meeting

East Lansing, November 19, 2003

Members Present:

Clark Bell, Troy
Bob Dowd, Troy
Aaron Frank, Birmingham
Patricia Hayes, Birmingham
Judy Hehs, Bloomfield Hills
Mike Jolly, Warren
Erin Kelley, Lansing
Rich Kimball, Jackson
John O'Brien, Grosse Pointe

Rick Schmidt, Holt
Elaine Torvinen, Royal Oak

Members Absent:

Jerry Fouch, Grand Rapids

Staff Members Present:

Tom Rashid (Recorder)
Tom Minter

COMMITTEE GOALS

The goals of the Committee were reviewed: Plan an MHSAA girls and boys lacrosse Tournament in the Spring of 2004-05, develop rules for conducting regular season lacrosse as qualifications to the MHSAA post season tournament, bring sufficient quantity and quality of lacrosse officials into the MHSAA and promote the growth of lacrosse among MHSAA member schools. Final decisions will be made by the Representative Council in May of 2004.

INTRODUCTORY INFORMATION

Considered by many to be a cross between hockey and soccer, organized interscholastic lacrosse competition has been conducted among many member schools under the direction of the Michigan Scholastic Lacrosse Association (MSLA) for boys (63 teams) and the Michigan Women's Scholastic Lacrosse Association (MWSLA) for girls (30 teams). A few of these teams resemble MHSAA Cooperative Programs and a few resemble community teams. Most all of MHSAA Regulation I and Regulation II have been previously adopted by the schools in these organizations, thus creating a significant starting point for the MHSAA. Previous MHSAA Study Group Meetings held in 2002 were also beneficial in this regard.

Significant differences in the playing rules, equipment, field diagrams and the number of teams sponsored between Boys and Girls lacrosse were compared to differences even greater than those of softball and baseball. Some plans and rules will not be the same, others will be identical. Girls

lacrosse does not permit any physical contact. Protective equipment is limited to a goalie helmet and a requirement for eye goggles effective in 2004-05, although schools are voluntarily wearing eye protection this spring 2003-04. Boys lacrosse permits "hitting" and requires protective equipment of helmets, shoulder pads, and gloves. The sticks used in both games are different by rule. The ball, smaller than a baseball, is identical for both boys and girls lacrosse.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

First Practice: Second Monday after March 1 (March 14, 2005), same as all spring sports. No number of required practices need to be designated.

First Contest: 11 days after first practice (March 25, 2005), same as girls soccer.

Number of Scrimmages: Four, no more than two prior to first game, same as most sports

Number of Contests: 18 days of competition, no more than one game per school day, no more than three in one week. Adopt non-school day multi team "reduced competition with shortened game time" concept as used in soccer.

Playing Rules: Adopt the playing rules used currently for interscholastic lacrosse. Boys-National Federation of State High School Associations; Girls-United States Lacrosse (endorsed by NFHS).

OFFICIALS

Lacrosse in the regular season will use two officials, three will be assigned to

MHSAA Final rounds. Currently in Michigan there are less than 60 boys officials and 20 girls officials actively working the sport. Considerable activity will be necessary to enlist more officials to serve this growing sport. Currently US Lacrosse offers a training curriculum (manuals, and two videos) and a certification program for officials in boys and girls lacrosse. There are planned training sessions in Southeast Michigan scheduled, coordinated in part by committee members Clark Bell (boys) and Elaine Torvinen (girls). The differences in the two games are so significant that only one person currently works both sports and the expectation that officials would work both is unlikely.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL ON LACROSSE OFFICIALS

The MHSAA will promote attendance at the January officials training program through reasonable means including mhsaa.com, STRIPES, and mailing to officials association leadership to encourage involvement of non baseball and softball officials to attend the training programs and plan on registering for lacrosse in the spring and summer of 2004-05.

The MHSAA, in concert with the two existing officials associations, will promote and assist in conducting a lacrosse officials training program sometime in the spring of 2003 at the MHSAA Offices so officials may register on a timely basis for the 2004-05 school year. The expenses for speakers and meals at the spring training program would be absorbed in the first year by the MSHAA, with as nominal costs as possible to the prospective official.

The MHSAA will waive all official registration fees in the first year (2004-05 only) for officials who complete a January or spring training program or who are a current US Lacrosse Certified official. The MHSAA may consider extending a reduction into the 2004-05 school year to increase the pool of officials after the first year.

As an additional component, schools that sponsor lacrosse will be asked to identify and provide information on up to 2 individuals who may be contacted by the officials associations and the MHSAA to become registered officials. Additional efforts should be made

with regard to a coaching shortage in the sport which may affect school response to the call for officials.

ITEMS DISCUSSED IN PART-RECOMMENDATIONS TO REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL TO BE DETERMINED

NATIONAL GOVERNING BODY; ALL-STAR ACTIVITY

There will be a need to evaluate some existing activity in lacrosse to determine if compliance exists with MHSAA regulations affecting officials, coaches and students.

US Lacrosse has a rating system for officials that in girls lacrosse involves observation of officials at a National All Star Game played each year on Memorial Day weekend. Concern was expressed that participation in the event may violate Regulation II, Section 13 (A) which prohibits MHSAA officials and others from being involved. The printed material on this program will be reviewed to determine exactly what is involved.

FUTURE MEETING DATE CHANGES

Committee members requested meeting dates be changed due to conflicts with spring breaks. The meetings have been rescheduled to Thursday, Feb 5, 2004 and Tuesday, March 30, 2004 both at 9:30 am in the MHSAA Offices.

MHSAA TOURNAMENT ORGANIZATION - TO BE DETERMINED

Currently girls lacrosse (MWSLA) has crowned three champions with 10 teams placed in each division based upon the team's skill level and strength of program. Currently boys lacrosse (MSLA) has two champions with plans this spring to divide schools into two equal divisions with three schools opting to play up. A seeding committee seeds teams in the first round, the top teams in each of four regions receive a first round bye. The MSLA also conducts a smaller "Developmental Championship" tournament for 8-9 novice teams on the same weekend as their finals.

The MSLA has experimented with other formats including a Class A and Class BCD Championship format over the years and

divisions based on strength of program. A recommendation for consideration by the Representative Council in May and schools prior to May, 2004 regarding MHSAA Tournament Organization and Classification is to be determined.

Finals Date: Either the second Saturday of June (June 11, 2005) when there are no other MHSAA Championships scheduled, or on the third Saturday of June (June 18, 2005) when baseball, softball and girls soccer are scheduled. Committee members favored the later date noting the reduction in the number of weeks of the season with the mid-March practice start, spring breaks, Memorial Day and weather concerns as detractors from completing a schedule. Logistics Questions: Separate or same sites for boys and girls? Separate or same weekends? Finals at same location, Friday final one year alternating the next year?

CLASSIFICATION CONSIDERATIONS TO BE DETERMINED

- Base number of divisions upon MHSAA Tournament policy on page 85 of the MHSAA Handbook provide to the committee.
- Placement of established and successful programs by a tournament selection committee in Division I; new or emerging programs in Division II.
- Consider a two or four year plan for this original tournament organization similar to the two tier system used when hockey first became an MHSAA sport.
- Continue the current practice of seeding teams in the MSLA Tournament and first round of the MWSLA Tournament.

CONSIDERATIONS FOR OUT-OF-SEASON REGULATIONS

Currently both the MSLA and the MWSLA allow for seven players to be coached in the off season during the school year, as opposed to the three players in all other MHSAA sports.

Neither MSLA nor MWSLA have regulations in place for **summer**. The committee should consider treating lacrosse like soccer: a school team is created when seven players and a coach are present – this "school team" would be limited to 15 days of competition in the summer as is the case with other sports such as basketball, hockey and volleyball where a "school team" is created with three players; football and soccer use seven players.

Out of Season During the **School Year:** Currently, the MSLA and MWSLA use a seven player limit during the school year. Consider the three player rule be applied to lacrosse as it is to all other sports.

COOPERATIVE PROGRAMS

Extend the application process and MHSAA rules on cooperative programs to existing and future lacrosse cooperative programs.

TRAVEL LIMITATION

Some members of the committee voiced a concern that the travel restriction of 300 miles one way will restrict teams greatly from competition against schools in the east and mid-west where lacrosse is quite popular and many long standing, traditional tournaments are held. ■

HELP THE MEDIA HELP YOUR SCHOOL

Tips for a successful relationship with your local media

One of the things that defines high school sports as unique from all other levels of youth sports is the daily media coverage of our games.

For most of our participants, this is the only time in their lives their name will be in the newspaper, or the only time their name will ever be called by a local radio or television announcer for playing the games they love.

As athletic administrators, we have a role in seeing that our student-athletes are recognized for their efforts by providing the details of our athletic events to the media, and by properly accommodating media when they attend our events.

First, it should be stated that no single school or single sport has a right to receive media coverage. Even in the smallest communities, automatic coverage is not a given. Media outlets are driven by advertising dollars, circulation, viewership/listenership numbers, and by providing coverage of what interests most of the community they serve. Regardless, schools need to service all sports equally in terms of their promotion to the media.

In discussing coverage issues with the media each summer, we have found the same themes to be sounded, themes which will help schools receive the maximum coverage possible.

BEFORE THE SEASON

- Be sure you provide a list of schedules, including starting times, for all sports for the upcoming season well in advance of the first event. Some smaller newspapers may also run subvarsity schedules -- check with your sports editor to see if the outlet is interested in the information. You should also check to see if e-mailing the information is preferred.
- Once team rosters are available, provide that information to your local outlets. Having a roster handy will increase the chances of your students' names being

spelled correctly in stories.

- Find out the timetable your local outlets have for receiving event reports on game nights. Be sure the individuals responsible for calling in results know the deadlines, and the consequences if they don't meet them. Find out if submitting results for information-intensive sports like swimming and track can be done by e-mail.

FOR HOME EVENTS

- Set up a working press area that is protected from the elements. Make sure it has counter space for notebooks, laptop computers and broadcasting equipment; electrical outlets; and access to telephones. Press boxes are called that for a reason. Don't turn what should be a working area into a skybox for school administrators, boosters and other non-workers.
- Be sure you provide visiting media access to your facilities on a reasonable timetable. This includes marking off seats for media who have made advance arrangements with you, so they are not made to arrive early to be guaranteed working space; and providing them the time following a contest if they are on deadline to write their report, and transmit it by telephone back for the following day's paper. Every effort should also be made to accommodate those media who do not call in advance; but it would not be inappropriate for you to request that courtesy if they plan on making return trips to your school.
- Providing rosters and statistics about your team is an appreciated courtesy.
- While not required, complimentary coffee, soda, or bottled water in the press area is appreciated.

- Some photographers may wish to set up strobe lighting in your indoor venues. Such lighting, properly set up, does not affect play. Be sure the strobes are not set up in a manner which creates a safety hazard with cords and light stands being in the way of spectators. Camera-mounted strobes and wall/ceiling-mounted strobes are allowed at MHSAA postseason tournament venues in several sports.

- Be sure photographers visiting your venue are aware of where they can – and cannot – work. For example, photographers should always be positioned outside the free-throw lane in basketball.

FOLLOWING AN EVENT (HOME OR AWAY)

- Unless you are absolutely certain a media outlet was at the event, be sure it is given a telephone call. Television stations often send a single camera out on a given night with the assignment of getting footage of several games. You can't assume they were there at game's end.

- Be sure the call is made to your local media in a timely manner. The closer you call to deadline, the more chances increase of getting a shorter report, or not having your score on the TV report's graphics. Call as soon as the game is over.

- Be sure you have accurate information about both teams. This includes first and last names for key players, season records, and key statistics. Schools which make up such information quickly get found out by their local media.

- Be sure the coach is available for interviews. After a brief cooling-off period, the coach should be prepared to meet with the local media. Some coaches oblige interviews as they're walking off the playing surface, but it would not be impolite to ask a reporter to wait until after the coach has had a brief postgame meeting with the team.

- Be sure you call, win or lose. Don't earn a reputation with you local media for calling only when you win; the only losers in that case are your kids.

MEDIA RESPONSIBILITIES

This is a two-way street in many respects. However, with dozens of schools in its coverage area sometimes, it is difficult for a media outlet to get out and cover all the schools and teams. Some of the media's responsibilities when covering your events include:

- Calling in advance. You can best plan for servicing media at games when you know they're coming. In your preseason communication with your local media, request their help by asking them to call you in advance when they know they're coming to your venue.

- Compliance with game management. The more you can do to communicate in advance with the media what the do's and don'ts are at your athletic venues, the more you reduce the likelihood of questions being raised or confrontations taking place. The media does have the responsibility to respect game management when such requests are initially made in a respectful manner.

The school-media partnership, providing student-athletes and teams with recognition for their once-in-a-lifetime participation in educational athletics, is what helps make our games unique. Cooperation and good sportsmanship on both sides of this partnership will give our youngsters memories for their scrapbooks which will last forever. ■

Editor's Note - This article was condensed into a flyer distributed to all schools, members of the media, and to MHSAA tournament managers in all sports.

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