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Mark Uyl, Executive Director | Brent Rice, Assistant Director

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#### Assigners and Association Leaders:

As we prepare for the start of the 2022-23 school year, the MHSAA remains focused on and committed to the recruitment and development of officials. Registration numbers have begun to return to pre-pandemic levels; but as most of you have experienced, this level of officials is not sustainable in any of our sports. That is why the MHSAA will now be offering registration in *up to two sports* for the registration fee. The hope is that even if we do not grow brand new officials at the level we'd prefer, we may be able to incentivize current single-sport officials to take on an additional sport in another season.

The MHSAA also convened a group of Recruiting and Mentorship Coordinators from around the state to develop a statewide recruiting campaign to be instituted by local associations. This year's theme is "Empty Sports Nesters" – primarily focusing on the recruitment of the parents of current high school athletes or recent graduates. Campaign initiatives include the use of targeted social media, pre-season parent meetings, PA scripts, posters, video vignettes and recruitment cards. The MHSAA will make available to associations several resources which can be customized and co-branded for local circumstances.

Included in this packet is your annual registration. You will see that some minor changes to the forms' layouts. This is in anticipation of moving to an online registration system for Registered Assigners and Local Approved Associations in the near future. Some additional changes in the Officials Program will be discussed further at the **July 16<sup>th</sup> meeting**. We also welcome any recommendations from you for topics to discuss. If you have a topic you'd like addressed, please email me at [brent@mhsaa.com](mailto:brent@mhsaa.com) (Subject Line "AALM Topic") with your idea(s). I will do my best to consolidate topics and include your requests in the meeting agenda.

#### A reminder of important deadlines for Registered Assigners and Local Approved Associations:

- Registration deadline (without a late fee) for both assigners and associations – July 16, 2022
- Submission of Assigners and Association Leadership attendance confirmation sheet – August 1, 2022
- Tournament Recommendations and MIGS (Fall Sports) – September 15, 2022
- Tournament Recommendations and MIGS (Winter Sports) – December 15, 2022
- Tournament Recommendations and MIGS (Spring Sports) – April 15, 2023
- Submission of Association Recruitment Drive Information – May 31, 2023

I believe that we are positioned to reverse course of this decade-long slide, but it will require the steady contributions from MHSAA staff, schools, assigners, association leaders and officials. We didn't get to this position overnight, and we certainly won't get out of it overnight. Thank you for your part in promoting officiating for school sports. I look forward to working with you to recruit new officials and support our current officials. Good luck to you for the 2022-23 school year.

Sincerely,



Brent Rice

# RESOLUTION

for recognition as an MHSAA

## REGISTERED ASSIGNER

Resolution year – August 1, 2022 through July 31, 2023

**THIS RESOLUTION, ALL SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS AND REGISTRATION PAYMENT ARE DUE ON OR BEFORE JULY 16, 2022.**

35 This application is for a:  New Registration or  Renewal Registration

An individual that is hired, endorsed or appointed by an MHSAA league, conference or school to perform officials assigning services when that individual is not a full-time employee of the league, conference or school for which he/she assigns is required to become an MHSAA Registered Assigner in order to perform assigning services for MHSAA-member schools. This includes so-call “sub-assigners.” Initial registration and/or renewals are approved annually at the discretion of the MHSAA and are not automatic. No school may utilize the services of an assigner that has not been approved for registration during the current school year.

Please ensure that the contact information provided on this form matches what is currently listed in your MHSAA.com account and that the email addresses used for the MHSAA and Arbiter are the same. Contact information is NOT transferred between MHSAA and Arbiter, and failure to use the same email address for both sites may disable functionality in one or both.

### Assigner Information

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ MHSAA ID #: \_\_\_\_\_

Home #: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell #: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Arbiter Group Name (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Arbiter Group ID (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

All Primary Assigners and Sub-Assigners (except those Sub-Assigners exclusively assisting a Primary Assigner) are eligible to manage an Arbiter account in which the MHSAA will cover the per-official fees associated with the assigning of MHSAA high school contests. *Assigners utilizing Arbiter as a subgroup of the MHSAA must allow access of the group’s roster of officials by the MHSAA’s super group.*

### ASSIGNER COMPENSATION STRUCTURE

Registered Assigners shall be paid by either (a) a league, conference or school or (b) the members of an approved association who elect or hire an individual to assign for them but shall not collect fees for service from both. Turn-back fees paid to an assigner by an official do not violate this concept.

I am compensated for officials’ assignment services for MHSAA member schools by:

Leagues, conferences or schools

Local Approved Associations

Other (must explain) \_\_\_\_\_



**ANNUAL REGISTRATION COSTS**

Annual Registered Assigner Application:	\$30.00	\$30.00
Late Fee (if submitted after <b>July 16, 2022</b> ):	\$30.00	\$
		\$
	Total Amount Due	\$

Registration for in-person Assigners and Association Leadership Meeting  
 Details of in-person meeting (in-person attendance will be limited to the first 75 registrants. In-person attendance is not mandatory)  
 MHSAA Office, East Lansing  
 Saturday, July 16, 2022 – 9:30 a.m. to approximately 12:30 p.m.

- I **WILL** be attending the meeting in person
- I **WILL NOT** be attending the meeting in person (but will be attending virtually)

Please make payment by check or money order made out to the **MHSAA** and submit to:  
**Michigan High School Athletic Association**  
 1661 Ramblewood Dr.  
 East Lansing, MI 48823

**REGISTERED ASSIGNER RESOLUTION**

I certify that all information contained in the Resolution and included in any attend documents is accurate and current for the **2022-23** school year. I acknowledge that I have read and will follow all published Professional Conduct Standards for Registered Assigners and I understand that any violation of these standards after being approved may result in the loss of my registered status after review by MHSAA staff, as outlined in the Disciplinary Procedures for MHSAA Officials and Registered Assigners in the *MHSAA Officials Guidebook*.

I will annually apply for registration with the MHSAA as a Registered Assigner, adhere to applicable federal, state, and local laws and ordinances and attend this year's Assigners and Association Leadership Meeting either in-person, via simulcast or through recorded footage and submit an attendance confirmation form before August 1, 2022 or ten days after registration, whichever is later.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Registered Assigner (Print Name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Date

**SUBSTANTIVE CHANGES  
COMING FOR  
IMPLEMENTATION IN THE  
2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR.**



## **STANDARDS FOR REGISTERED ASSIGNERS**

It is expected that MHSAA Registered Assigners follow all published professional conduct requirements outlined in the Standards listed below. Any violation of these standards will place the Registered Assigner at risk of losing his or her registered status after review by MHSAA staff, as outlined in the Disciplinary Procedures for MHSAA Officials and Registered Assigners.

1. Registered Assigners may schedule only MHSAA Registered Officials for all contests involving MHSAA member schools.
2. Registered Assigners shall conduct their assigning business in a professional manner becoming of their position, and shall not demean or ridicule officials either publicly or privately.
3. Registered Assigners shall not attempt to interfere, undermine or sabotage the relationships between other assigners and officials or other assigners and schools, leagues or conference by disparaging word or action.
4. Registered Assigners may require membership by an official in a Local Approved Association for that sport in order to be assigned games under control of the assigner, but shall not require membership in any particular officials association.
5. Registered Assigners may not discourage the communication between officials and leagues, conferences or schools; or discourage or intimidate officials from accepting games directly from schools at any time, either along with or in combination with games received from an assigner; nor shall Registered Assigners discourage, intimidate or threaten officials from accepting games or assignments from other assigners at any time.
6. Registered Assigners may not withdraw school contest contracts extended to officials or reassign them to another official, except in cases of personal emergency which will not permit an official to officiate on the contest day once that sport season has begun except under the direction of the hiring school; nor withhold assignments from officials based upon gender, race, ethnicity or religion.
7. Registered Assigners shall not require an official to pay a fee to participate in a specific camp, clinic or training activity to be trained, evaluated and/or considered for assignments under the control of the assigner; however, requirements for officials' involvement in free events, for the same reasons, are permitted.
8. Registered Assigners shall be paid by either (a) a league, conference or school, or (b) the members of an approved association who elect or hire an individual to assign for them, but shall not collect fees for service from any combination of the two. Assigners may not collect fees for assignments with MHSAA member schools from officials directly. Turn-back fees paid to an assigner by an official do not violate this concept.
9. Registered Assigners may not accept funds earmarked for officials' game fees from a league, conference, school or facility and then pay officials directly for games officiated. Payment to officials for contests officiated shall come directly from the school or through the school via a third-party electronic payment service.
10. In the event a Registered Assigner, league, conference or school does not utilize the MHSAA contract (hard copy or electronic agreement) for officials, all comments, actual and implied, and all terms and conditions which appear on the published MHSAA contract, shall be acknowledged and will be applicable to any MHSAA Registered official.