

OFFICIATE MICHIGAN DAY



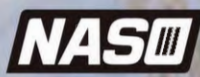
July 27, 2013 | Grand Rapids



DeVos Place

Grand Rapids

Saturday, July 27, 2013



# Welcome



Greetings Sports Officials!

On behalf of the Michigan High School Athletic Association Representative Council and staff, I am pleased to welcome you to the largest gathering of high school sports officials in Michigan's history.

But this event is about more than quantity. "Officiate Michigan Day" also takes advantage of this week's National Association of Sports Officials Summit 2013 to assemble the highest quality presenters imaginable. The MHSAA is grateful to NASO and the commitment of many of the Summit speakers to extend their time in our beautiful state to promote greater expertise among their brothers and sisters in sports officiating.

And we also thank you – for your attendance and engagement today and for your commitment to sports officiating in Michigan, particularly in our school-sponsored, student-centered programs, which is an aspect of American tradition and culture that is seen in very few other countries of the world.

Our students, schools and society need your essential contribution to learning about fair play and sportsmanship — a precursor to good citizenship. It's great to have you on our team.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John E. Roberts". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

JOHN E. ROBERTS  
Executive Director

## TODAY'S SCHEDULE

7:30-9am	Registration
9:15-9:50 am	Opening General Session: <b>Jack Roberts (MHSAA)/Barry Mano (NASO)</b>
10-11 am	Sport Breakout Session 1
11:10 am-12:10 pm	Sport Breakout Session 2
12:10-12:30 pm	Visit the Vendors & Pick Up Lunch
12:30-1:30 pm	Lunch Workshops
1:45-2:45 pm	Sport Breakout Session 3
2:55-3:55 pm	Sport Breakout Session 4
4-4:30 pm	Closing General Session: <b>Jerry Markbreit (4-Time Super Bowl Referee)</b>

# *Officiate Michigan Day At A Glance*

## ***Sport Breakout Session Speakers & Clinicians:***

**Baseball:** Dave Yeast (NCAA), Rich Fetchiet (CBUA), Dick Runchey (NCAA), Justin Klemm, Darren Spagnardi (Professional Baseball Umpire Corporation)

**Basketball:** Joe Crawford (NBA), Bill Kennedy (NBA), Steve Javie (NBA), Tom Lopes (IAABO)

**Competitive Cheer:** Juli Brown, Candy Cox, Jane Plaisted, Jayne Sabaitis, Stacy Smith, Cindy Tyzo (MCJA)

**Football:** Carl Paganelli, Sr. (Arena Football League), Perry Paganelli (NFL), Carl Paganelli, Jr. (NFL), Dino Paganelli (NFL), Ron Torbert (NFL), Dick Honig (Big Ten), Jim Augustyn (Big Ten), Dave Chesney (Big Ten), Mike Dolce (Big Ten), Alex Kemp (Big Ten)

**Gymnastics:** Angela Madden, Alaina Sharp (MHSGCJA)

**Boys Lacrosse:** Bert Smith (WMLOA), Roger Pattee (MichLOA)

**Girls Lacrosse:** Anne Drummond (US Lacrosse)

**Ice Hockey:** Terry Gregson (NHL), Dan O'Halloran (NHL)

**Soccer:** Ross Meloan (NISOA), Joe Manjone (NISOA), John VandeVaarst (NISOA)

**Softball:** Kevin Ryan (ASA)

**Track & Field:** Eric Zemper (USATF), Don Collins (CIF)

**Volleyball:** Joan Powell (NCAA)

**Wrestling:** Jim Ramirez (Big 12-Big Ten)

## ***Lunch Workshops:***

**23 Most Powerful Lessons in Officiating** (Bill Topp- NASO)

**Arbiter Sports Q & A** (Arbiter Sports Staff)

**Association Roundtable: Making Good Associations Great!**  
(Panel Discussion)

**Female Officials Recruitment & Issues** (Joan Powell, Gina Mazzolini, Kathy Westdorp)

**Leadership Officiating-People Skills & Communication** (Dave Yeast, Former NCAA Coordinator of Umpires)

**Legal and Tax Issues for Officials** (Don Collins- CIF)

**Life in the NBA** (Joey Crawford, Bill Kennedy and Steve Javie)

**MHSAA Staff Roundtable** (Nate Hampton, Tom Rashid, Randy Allen, Andy Frushour)

**Michigan's "First Officiating Family"** (Carl, Perry, Carl and Dino Paganelli- NFL)

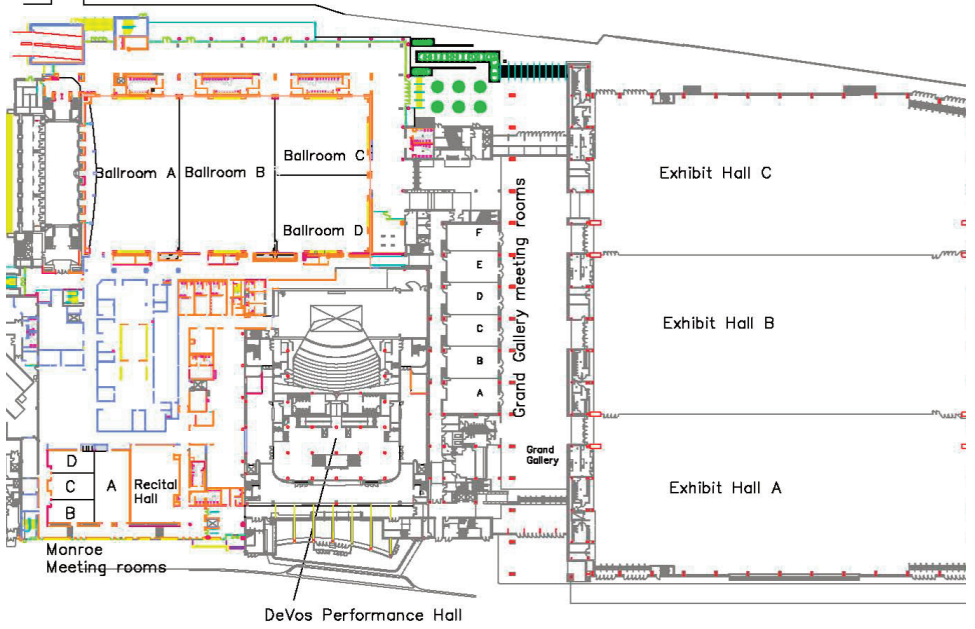
**Officiating 101 for New or "Newer" Officials** (Panel Discussion)

**Officiating and the Media** (Panel Discussion)

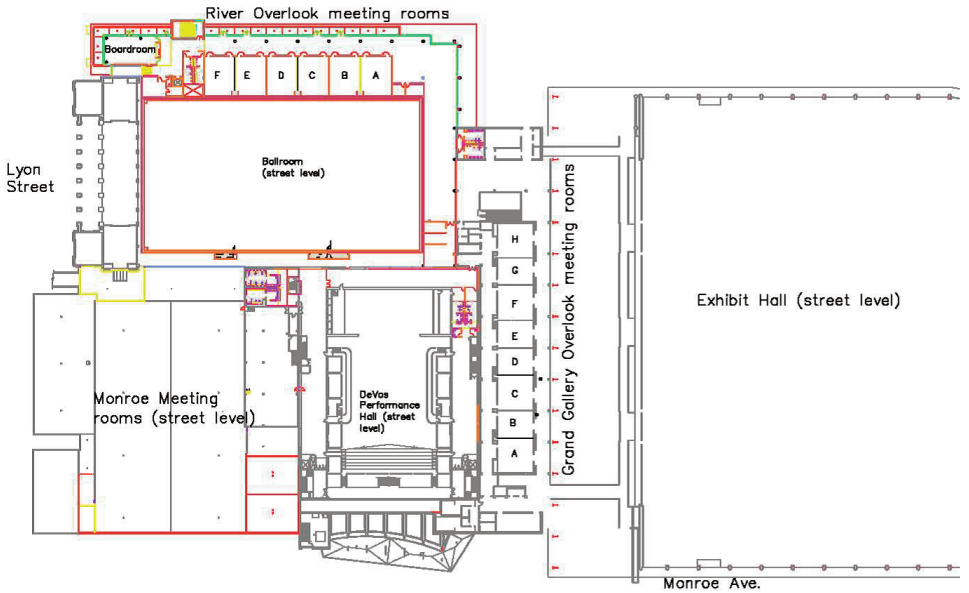
**Outside Views on High School Officiating** (Panel Discussion)

**The Assigner & Official Relationship** (Rich Fetchiet- CBUA)

# DEVOS PLACE CONVENTION CENTER (STREET LEVEL)



# DEVOS PLACE CONVENTION CENTER (OVERLOOK LEVEL)



# What, When, Where

## Opening General Session — 9:15-9:50 a.m.

### SPEAKERS

*Moderator:* Mark Uyl  
*Speakers:* Jack Roberts, MHSAA Executive Director  
Barry Mano, NASO President

**ROOM**  
**Ballrooms A-B**

## Sport Breakout Session I — 10-11 a.m.

### Baseball—Ballroom C

Dave Yeast  
Rich Fetchiet

### Basketball—Ballroom D

Bill Kennedy  
Joe Crawford

### Competitive Cheer— Gallery Overlook A

Juli Brown  
Candy Cox  
Jayne Plaisted  
Jayne Sebatis  
Stacy Smith

### Football—Ballroom A-B

Carl Paganelli Sr.  
Perry Paganelli  
Carl Paganelli Jr.  
Dino Paganelli

### Gymnastics— Gallery Overlook B

Alaina Sharp  
Angela Madden

### Boys Lacrosse— Gallery Overlook D

Bert Smith  
Roger Pattee

### Girls Lacrosse— Gallery Overlook C

Anne Drummond

### Ice Hockey— Gallery Overlook F

Terry Gregson  
Dan O'Halloran

### Soccer—Grand Gallery C-D

Joe Manjone

### Softball— Gallery Overlook G-H

Kevin Ryan

### Track & Field— Gallery Overlook E

Don Collins

### Volleyball— Grand Gallery A-B

Joan Powell

### Wrestling— Grand Gallery E-F

Jim Ramirez

## Sport Breakout Session II — 11:10 a.m.-12:10 p.m.

### Baseball—Ballroom C

Dick Runchey  
Rich Fetchiet

### Basketball—Ballroom D

Tom Lopes

### Competitive Cheer— Gallery Overlook A

Juli Brown  
Candy Cox  
Jayne Plaisted  
Jayne Sebatis  
Stacy Smith

### Football: Position Breakouts

### Referees—River Overlook A-B

Todd Geerlings  
Alex Kemp

### Umpires—River Overlook C-D

Carl Paganelli Jr.  
Jim Augustyn

### LOS- HL/LJ—Ballrooms A-B

Dave Chesney  
Mike Dolce

### Back Judges—River Overlook E-F

Perry Paganelli  
Dino Paganelli

### Gymnastics— Gallery Overlook B

Alaina Sharp  
Angela Madden

### Boys Lacrosse— Gallery Overlook D

Bert Smith  
Roger Pattee

### Girls Lacrosse— Gallery Overlook C

Anne Drummond

### Ice Hockey— Gallery Overlook F

Terry Gregson  
Dan O'Halloran

### Soccer—Grand Gallery C-D

John Van de Vaarst

### Softball— Gallery Overlook G-H

Kevin Ryan

### Track & Field— Gallery Overlook E

Eric Zemper

### Volleyball— Grand Gallery A-B

Joan Powell

### Wrestling— Grand Gallery E-F

Jim Ramirez

# What, When, Where

## Lunch Workshops — 12:30-1:30 p.m.

TOPIC	ROOM
<b>23 Most Powerful Lessons in Officiating</b> <i>Bill Topp- NASO</i>	Ballrooms A-B
<b>Arbiter Sports Q &amp; A</b> <i>Arbiter Sports Staff</i>	River Overlook A-B
<b>Association Roundtable: Making Good Associations Great!</b> <i>Panel Discussion</i>	Grand Gallery E-F
<b>Female Officials Recruitment &amp; Issues</b> <i>Joan Powell, Gina Mazzolini, Kathy Westdorp</i>	River Overlook C-D
<b>Leadership Officiating- People Skills &amp; Communication</b> <i>Dave Yeast, Former NCAA Coordinator of Umpires</i>	Ballroom D
<b>Legal and Tax Issues for Officials</b> <i>Don Collins- CIF</i>	River Overlook E-F
<b>Life in the NBA</b> <i>Joey Crawford, Bill Kennedy and Steve Javie</i>	Gallery Overlook G-H
<b>MHSAA Staff Roundtable</b>	Grand Gallery A-B
<b>Michigan's "First Officiating Family"</b> <i>Carl, Perry, Carl and Dino Paganelli- NFL</i>	Grand Gallery C-D
<b>Officiating 101 for New or "Newer" Officials</b> <i>Panel Discussion</i>	Gallery Overlook D
<b>Officiating and the Media</b> <i>Panel Discussion</i>	Gallery Overlook C
<b>Outside Views on High School Officiating</b> <i>Panel Discussion</i>	Gallery Overlook B
<b>The Assigner &amp; Official Relationship</b> <i>Rich Fetchiet- CBUA</i>	Ballroom C

## Sport Breakout Session III — 1:45-2:45 p.m.

### Baseball—Ballroom C

Justin Klemm  
Darren Spagnardi

### Basketball—Ballroom D

Tom Lopes  
IAABO Staff

### Competitive Cheer— Gallery Overlook A

Juli Brown  
Candy Cox  
Jayne Plaisted  
Jayne Sebatis  
Stacy Smith

### Football—Ballroom A-B

Dick Honig  
Ron Torbert

### Gymnastics— Gallery Overlook B

Alaina Sharp  
Angela Madden

### Boys Lacrosse— Gallery Overlook D

Bert Smith  
Roger Pattee

### Girls Lacrosse— Gallery Overlook C

Anne Drummond

### Ice Hockey— Gallery Overlook F

Terry Gregson  
Dan O'Halloran

### Soccer—Grand Gallery C-D

Ross Meloan

### Softball— Gallery Overlook G-H

Kevin Ryan

### Track & Field— Gallery Overlook E

Eric Zemper

### Volleyball— Grand Gallery A-B

Joan Powell

### Wrestling— Grand Gallery E-F

Jim Ramirez

## Sport Breakout Session IV — 2:55-3:55 p.m.

### Baseball—Ballroom C

Dave Yeast  
Rich Fetchiet

### Basketball—Ballroom D

Bill Kennedy  
Joe Crawford  
Steve Javie

### Competitive Cheer— Gallery Overlook A

Juli Brown  
Candy Cox  
Jayne Plaisted  
Jayne Sebatis  
Stacy Smith

### Football: Position Breakouts

### Referees—River Overlook A-B

Todd Geerlings  
Alex Kemp  
Dick Honig

### Umpires—River Overlook C-D

Carl Paganelli Jr.  
Jim Augustyn

### LOS- HL/LJ—Ballrooms A-B

Dave Chesney  
Mike Dolce

### Back Judges—River Overlook E-F

Perry Paganelli  
Dino Paganelli  
Ron Torbert

### Gymnastics—Gallery Overlook B

Alaina Sharp  
Angela Madden

### Boys Lacrosse— Gallery Overlook D

Bert Smith  
Roger Pattee

### Girls Lacrosse— Gallery Overlook C

Anne Drummond

### Ice Hockey— Gallery Overlook F

Terry Gregson  
Dan O'Halloran

### Soccer—Grand Gallery C-D

NISOA Staff

### Softball— Gallery Overlook G-H

Kevin Ryan

### Track & Field— Gallery Overlook E

Don Collins

### Volleyball— Grand Gallery A-B

Joan Powell

### Wrestling— Grand Gallery E-F

Jim Ramirez

## Closing General Session — 4-4:30 p.m.

### SPEAKER

### ROOM

Jerry Markbreit (4-Time Super Bowl Referee)

Ballrooms A-B

# Answering the Call

**Before any of the MHSAA's 11,000 officials can make a call, they have to answer one. We thank you for doing that, and now call on you again to recruit new family members and retain current personnel.**

*“Life is a game with many rules but no referee. Small wonder, then, that so many play dirty, that so few win, that so many lose.” – Joseph Brodsky, Russian Poet and Essayist*

To varying degrees, the world of athletics mirrors society. There are winners and losers. There are participants who look for ways to skirt the rules. However, in considering Mr. Brodsky's quotation above, there is one glaring difference between sports and life: our games do have referees. Because of that, dirty play is less rampant and our games have more winners than losers, for the scoreboards only tell part of the story. There are lessons in winning and losing within the framework of enforced rules, lessons which equip young people with the tools to make society a little better in the future.

In life, the deck is stacked in favor of the players. According to one 2010 census, there were 1.8 police officers per 1,000 citizens in Michigan, a ratio which ranked 40th in the United States.

In contrast, during the 2012-13 school year, there were 36.3 registered MHSAA officials per 1,000 high school participants. Maybe, just maybe, that's why school sports are at odds with Brodsky's depiction of society; there are simply more cops on the beat.

At the very least, officials play a vital role in the existence of school sports. The games can't go on without these men and women, and the MHSAA annually seeks improved recruitment and retention methods to promote growth of this group so integral to the health of its product.

So who are these people whose best work goes unnoticed; of whom perfection is the expectation; and who automatically alienate 50 percent of interested parties each time they make a decision? Who applies for this job? Why are some suited for the task, and others not? Asking why people leave the officiating life can often reveal just as many clues as talking to those who stay.

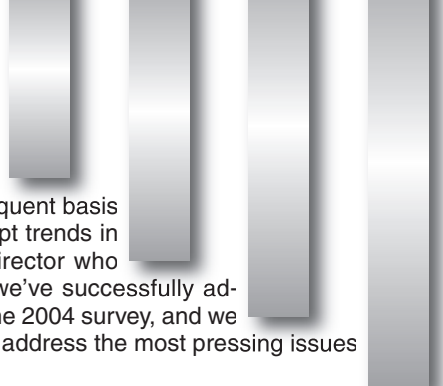
In 2004, the MHSAA conducted a survey targeting former officials to reveal their reasons for leaving the avocation and ask what might be done to bring them back.

The top three reasons people hung up their whistles or other tools of the trade were as follows: 1) career change/job demands; 2) poor sportsmanship by coaches and fans; 3) local association politics. Time spent away from family was also cited as a prime reason for leaving the games.

Eight years later, in a survey last August, the MHSAA again called upon former officials to generate data aimed to assist in recruiting new officials or luring back “retired” veterans.

Of more than 600 respondents, the consensus of comments indicated a shift in culture. Career and personal demands no longer topped the chart as reasons for leaving. Today's barometer indicates that local association politics (the ability to receive games and advance through the ranks) and a lack of adequate training for new, younger, officials rank as the prime reasons for people exiting the game relatively early in their quest.





“It is imperative to survey our constituents on a frequent basis so we can react to the various factors which prompt trends in the industry,” said Mark Uyl, MHSAA assistant director who oversees the state’s registered officials. “I think we’ve successfully addressed some issues based on the findings from the 2004 survey, and we have analyzed the 2012 questionnaire at length to address the most pressing issues accordingly.”

The majority of the slips filling the suggestion box from that survey: 1) provide increased training opportunities for new officials; 2) work with local associations to create more opportunities for new people to receive a greater number of games; 3) allow officials to rate schools and coaches, and develop programs for peer evaluation, rather than receiving ratings from coaches only.

At times, it seems, the biggest roadblock to officials’ advancement is officials themselves, resulting from a collision of two eras.

When it comes to younger officials proclaiming a lack of training opportunity and game assignments, how much of it is a reflection of societal change? Newer officials are raised in a world of instant gratification; from fast food, to satellite TV, to smart phones and the Internet, they are of the culture that gets anything it wants, when it wants.

Older officials, who tend to be the assigners, have an understanding of what it takes to work the highest levels of a sport. They know what they’ve been through to move up the ranks, and they know who they’ve moved up with. It becomes a matter of trusting the known, and being suspicious of the unknown. Yes, at times, the industry can be a “good ol’ boy network.”

The challenge is to make sure the new kids are aware of existing training opportunities and the investment needed for advancement, while opening the veterans’ eyes to a pool of new talent and identifying those best suited to lead the neophytes.

“Again, I think this is an area that’s improving as we try to encourage our leaders around the state to take ownership in the development of our young officials,” Uyl said. “We constantly encourage our associations to nominate ‘new blood’ for our tournaments, and I think associations can take pride in turning out young people who are knowledgeable, physically fit and passionate about this business we’re in. It’s a people business, first and foremost, so it’s paramount that our own kind work together.”

In any line of work, people want to be rewarded for their efforts, or, at the very least, appreciated by their peers. If it’s motivation, education and affirmation that officials are seeking, there is no better place to be than in Grand Rapids during the next few days.

Welcome to your event. You are wanted, needed and appreciated.

— Rob Kaminski  
*MHSAA Website and Publications Coordinator*

# Meet Your Partners

**Jim Augustyn:** Recently retired from the Big Ten as one of the top replay officials in the country following the 2013 Sugar Bowl; prior to the past decade as a replay official, “Augie” was one of the top football umpires in the Big Ten from 1986-2000; worked 22 bowl games, including three national championship games; also worked in the MAC, GLIAC and MIAA.

**Craig Anderson:** Illinois High School Association Assistant Executive Director with responsibilities for the officials department, officials education and athletic directors advisory committee; also oversees football, wrestling and baseball; served on the Illinois Athletic Directors Association Board of Directors, the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association and IHSA’s Athletic Administrator Committee and Legislative Commission; former high school athletic director.

**Juli Brown:** MHSAA Competitive Cheer judge since 1999, having worked numerous MHSAA Final, Regional and District tournament events over the past decade; currently serves as the Recording Secretary for the Michigan Cheer Judges Association (MCJA).

**Dave Chesney:** Current Big Ten line judge; has worked five BCS Bowl games including the 2011 BCS National Championship Game (Oregon vs Auburn); former Arena League, XFL and MAC football official. Assistant Supervisor of Officials for the Arena Football League. Longtime school administrator, athletic director, coach and teacher.

**Don Collins:** Executive Director of the San Francisco section of the California Interscholastic Federation; Member Information and Consultation Program, Referee, NASO and NASO-ON contributor; longtime basketball and track and field official and lawyer; NASO Board member.

**Candy Cox:** Executive Director of Michigan Cheer Judges Association; MHSAA Competitive Cheer judge for 20 years. Trainer for MHSAA and MCJA. Officiated MHSAA Finals since 1995. Member of MCJA, LMCCOA and SMOCCA. Mentor for MCJA.

**Joe Crawford:** NBA referee since 1977; entered 2012-13 season having officiated 2,449 regular season and 293 playoff games, including 47 NBA Finals; his 293 playoff and 47 NBA Finals are the most among active NBA officials; officiated the 1986, 1992 and 2000 NBA All-Star Games.

**Mike Dolce:** Current head linesman in the Big Ten; has worked the BCS Bowl Games in 2013, 2012, 2011 (National Championship Game), 2010 and 2008; worked NFL Europe, the Arena Football League and the Indoor Football League; also officiated basketball, baseball and ice hockey at the high school level.

**Anne Drummond:** MHSAA Girls Lacrosse official since 2008; in six years of officiating she has umpired youth through NCAA Division I; member of West Michigan Lacrosse Association and currently the training and rating chair for that organization.

**Clark Evans:** COO of ArbiterSports since 2012; previously led the ArbiterSports sales team since 2004 and the customer service team since 1997; managed RefPay sales and operations since 2011.

**Rich Fetchiet:** Coordinator of Baseball Umpires for the Big Ten, Big 12, Conference USA, MAC, Missouri Valley, Horizon, Summit and Big East Conferences; former college baseball umpire who worked three College World Series assignments, including the plate umpire for the 1999 National Championship game; international baseball experience includes the Pan American Games and Olympics in 1996; inducted into the College Baseball Hall of Fame in

2012, and was the IBA "Umpire of the Year" in 1997; also worked college football for 22 years, the last 13 seasons in the MAC.

**Todd Geerlings:** GLIAC (1986-2001), MAC (2002-2004), Big Ten (2005-present) football official; MHSAA official since 1981; worked one MHSAA Football Final and two MHSAA Basketball Finals; worked NCAA Division II Semifinal (1997) and National Championship (2000); MAC Championship (2003); Eight NCAA bowl assignments; Superintendent for Hastings Area Schools.

**Terry Gregson:** NHL Senior Vice President and Director of Officials since 2009; former NHL referee from 1981 until 2004; refereed eight Stanley Cup Finals and one All-Star game; worked 1982 World Championships in Helsinki, Finland; served on the NHLOA executive board for 20 years; Officiating Development Alliance member; 2012 NASO Gold Whistle Award Winner.

**Dick Honig:** Attended Detroit Mackenzie HS and the University of Michigan where he played shortstop on the 1962 NCAA College World Series Team. Founded Honig's Whistle Stop, Inc., in 1984; officiated NCAA Division 1 basketball for 22 years (1978-2000); involved in Division 1 football since 1974 (10 years in MAC, 22 years on-field in Big Ten, and currently in 8th year with replay in Big Ten). Worked 17 NCAA bowl including the 2000 BCS National Championship (Oklahoma beat Florida State).

**Steve Javie:** Former NBA referee from 1986 to 2011. Current referee analyst for ESPN.

**Alex Kemp:** Current Big Ten referee; has worked five NCAA bowl games including the 2011 BCS National Championship Game (Oregon vs Auburn); former Arena League, MAC and GLIAC football official. Outstanding clinician and speaker.

**Bill Kennedy:** In 15th season as an NBA official; entered 2012-13 having worked 865 regular season and 53 playoff games; has officiated four NBA Finals games since 2009-10; former CBA and WNBA official; former Arizona high school basketball official for 15 years; frequent volunteer and lifetime member with the Boys & Girls Club of Phoenix.

**Justin Klemm:** Named Executive Director of the Professional Baseball Umpire Corporation in January 2008 after joining PBUC as a field evaluator/instructor in June of 2004; guides a staff of six field evaluators and medical for all 16 domestic minor leagues; responsible for all personnel moves including the hiring, leave of absence and releases for 220 Minor League Umpires; during four years at the Triple-A level, was awarded two Arizona Fall League invites and worked numerous regular-season games at the Major League Level.

**Tom Lopes:** Executive Director of the International Association of Approved Basketball Officials (IAABO) and supervisor of officials for the Northeast Conference; former Division 1 basketball official who worked 20 consecutive NCAA tournaments and three Final Fours; 1997 Naismith men's college basketball official of the year; Executive Director of the Collegiate Basketball Officials Association; retired educator and administrator.

**Angela Madden:** MHSAA Gymnastics judge since 1998, having worked numerous MHSAA Final and Regional tournaments over the past decade; leading member of the Michigan High School Gymnastics Coaches and Judges Association (MHSGCJA).

**Joe Manjone:** Has officiated soccer and basketball for parts of five decades, and still works high school soccer; worked baseball and softball in parts of four decades; presently rules interpreter, state championship, soccer officials camp coordinator and soccer officials man-

# Meet Your Partners

ual editor for the Alabama High School Athletic Association; recently appointed Section 3 representative to the NFHS Soccer Rules Committee.

**Barry Mano:** NASO Founder and President; Referee Enterprises, Inc., Founder and President; Referee magazine Publisher; former NCAA Division I basketball official; Officiating Development Alliance member.

**Jerry Markbreit:** Assistant Supervisor of NFL Officiating; retired NFL referee; former NFLRA Executive Director; worked Super Bowls XVII, XXI, XXVI and XXIX; 2007 NASO Gold Whistle Award recipient; former NASO Board member.

**Dr. Ross Meloan:** Longtime NISOA member and one of the top soccer clinicians and instructors in the country; alumnus of Murray State University, has worked in higher education with experience in student affairs, the registrar's office, and counseling and testing since 1977; Director of Franklin College from 1975-77 and 18-year veteran of the Career Services Office.

**Kevin Merkle:** Associate Director of Minnesota State High School League; Director of Officials along with direct responsibilities for football, boys basketball and baseball; former high school athletic director and coach; officiated high school and college basketball for over 30 years; has also worked baseball and softball; serves on NFHS Football Rules Committee and recently completed term as chairperson for the NFHS Officials Advisory Committee.

**Dan O'Halloran:** NHL referee recently completed 21st season; worked 2003 All-Star Game, 2007, 2008, 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013 Stanley Cup Final; worked 2010 Winter Olympics in Vancouver where he was selected to work the Canada vs USA Gold Medal Game.

**Carl Paganelli, Sr.:** Supervisor of Officials for Arena Football League; former Supervisor of Officials for the Mid-American Conference, XFL, AF2, and the GLIAC; currently evaluates officials for the MEAC; officiated for 40 years, 20 at the collegiate level; also worked the World League and the USFL. Along with David Parry, Coordinator of Officials for the Big Ten, he introduced a pilot program combining Replay Officials between the Big Ten and the MAC during 2007 and 2008.

**Carl Paganelli, Jr.:** NFL official who has worked the playoffs since 2000, including four NFC Championship Games and three Super Bowls (XXXIX, XLI, XLVI); began officiating career with the MHSAA in 1978; worked college football in NCAA Division III, Division II, MAC and Big Ten; professional career started in 1987 with the Arena Football League; also worked seasons in the Canadian Football League and NFL Europe en route to becoming an NFL umpire in 1999.

**Dino Paganelli:** Completed seventh season as an NFL back judge in 2013, culminating with his first Super Bowl assignment (Baltimore vs. San Francisco) in New Orleans; prior to joining the NFL staff, Dino worked in the Big Ten, NFL Europe and the Arena League.

**Perry Paganelli:** NFL official for 16 years, working playoff games which included three Conference Championship Games and Super Bowl XLI; before the NFL, came up the ranks working games in the Arena Football League, MIAA, GLIAC, MAC and Big Ten.

**Roger Pattee:** Has worked numerous MHSAA Finals and Regionals; rules interpreter for MichLOA and has assisted with MHSAA boys lacrosse training and rules sessions; also a high school basketball referee.

**Jane Plaisted:** LMCCOA founding member and Treasurer; MCJA Board Member; MCJA Official of the Year 2006; LMCCOA Official of the Year 2011; MHSAA Rules Committee; MHSAA Officials Committee; MHSAA/MCJA Trainer; State Official; presenter for MCJA/CCCAM conferences.

**Joan Powell:** NCAA National Coordinator of Volleyball Officials; former President of Professional Association of Volleyball Officials; team leader for the U.S. women's national team competing at World Grand Prix and the Olympics in 2008; more than 20 years of experience as a USA Volleyball national official and more than 30 years of experience as a collegiate national official; has worked numerous NCAA Semi-final and Final matches; former head volleyball coach at Coronado (Colo.) High School; NASO Board member.

**Jim Ramirez:** Coordinator of Officials for the Big Ten, Big 12 and Mid-American conferences. Officiated 16 consecutive NCAA Division I Wrestling Championships; inducted into the National Wrestling Hall of Fame in June 2010; author of "The Art of Officiating Collegiate Wrestling;" highly acclaimed clinician and speaker; prior to his involvement in college wrestling, he was a decorated high school official in Kansas and Oklahoma.

**Dick Runchey:** After retiring from the field in 1998 after a 30 year career as an umpire, currently selects, assigns, evaluates, observes, trains and supervises umpires for the International Baseball Federation, is a Regional Advisor for the NCAA Umpire Program and Chairman of the Amateur Baseball Umpires Association; spent three years in the Minor Leagues and 23 years as an umpire in College and International Baseball; worked five College World Series, 19 D-I Regionals, 1992 Olympics, 1988 World Championships and the 1987 Pan American Games.

**Kevin Ryan:** ASA Supervisor of Umpires since 2006; ASA softball umpire from 1980-2004; umpired in six ASA Men's Major Fast Pitch, one ASA Women's Major Fast Pitch, one ASA Men's Over-40 Fast Pitch National Championship and one ISF World Championship; honorary member of the Indiana ASA Hall of Fame; member of the Michigan ASA Hall of Fame and The Amateur Softball Association of America Hall of Fame.

**Jayne Sabaitis:** MHSAA Competitive Cheer judge since 1996 and has worked numerous MHSAA Final, Regional and District tournament assignments during that time; currently serves as an At-Large Representative for the Michigan Cheer Judges Association (MCJA).

**Alaina Sharp:** Long-time MHSAA gymnastics official who teaches high school chemistry and coaches cross country at Parma Western High School.

**Bert Smith:** Has worked numerous MHSAA Finals and Regionals; trainer, assigner and mentor of many officials in the West Michigan Lacrosse Officials Association.

**Stacy Smith:** President of the Michigan Cheer Judges Association and head coach of the Caledonia competitive cheer program; former coach at Plainwell High School, where the team won the 2000 MHSAA Class B Competitive Cheer title; founding member of the Competitive Cheer Coaches Association of Michigan; as an MCJA Board Member, helped develop the officiating careers of many novice cheer judges; MCJA officials trainer and a member of LMCCOA.

**Darren Spagnardi:** Employed by the Professional Baseball Umpire Corp. to observe, instruct and evaluate Minor League Baseball umpires; prior to joining PBU, umpired in the Gulf Coast, New York-Penn, South Atlantic, Carolina, Southern and International leagues from

# Meet Your Partners

1996-2004; worked part-time in the Major Leagues during his four years at the Triple-A level; currently umpires on the staff of several NCAA conferences.

**Ralph Swearngin:** Georgia High School Association Executive Director; former NFHS Softball Rules Committee Chair; NFHS Football Rules Committee member; National Christian College Athletic Association Hall of Fame member; former high school football official in Georgia and California for 22 years; former college basketball and baseball coach.

**Bill Topp:** Referee Enterprises, Inc., Vice President, publishing and management services; former high school football official; former NCAA Division I and high school baseball umpire; former small college and high school basketball official; 2000 NCAA Division III World Series umpire; Officiating Development Alliance member.

**Ron Torbert:** NFL side judge since 2009, has received playoff assignments in each of his two eligible seasons; became Big Ten official in 2006 after six years in the GLIAC and one in the MAC; worked 2007 as an NFL Europe official; also Vice President and General Counsel for Barton Malow Company, a national construction management and general contracting firm headquartered in Southfield, Michigan.

**Cindy Tyzo:** MHSAA Competitive Cheer judge since the sport began in the 1994-95 school year; member of the original group of officials that started this sport; worked numerous MHSAA Final, Regional and District cheer meets; strong teacher and mentor; served in various leadership capacities with the Michigan Cheer Judges Association (MCJA).

**John VandeVaarst:** Director of Operations for the National Interscholastic Soccer Officials Association (NISOA); has worked for many years with the National Federation Soccer Committee, and is NISOA's liaison to the NFHS and is integral to the high school soccer rules making process.

**Ernie Yarbrough:** Associate Director of the Georgia High School Association; coached high school and college football, basketball, baseball and softball for 22 years; twice earned All-America honors while playing football at San Diego University and Cal State-Pomona; officiated high school and college basketball for 30 years, including high school championship games in three states; American Basketball League supervisor of officials from 1996-99.

**Dave Yeast:** ArbiterSports Vice President; former NCAA National Coordinator of Baseball Umpires and Amateur Baseball Umpires Association Board Member; former NCAA Division I umpire; former Missouri Valley and Conference USA Supervisor of Baseball Umpires; worked two NCAA College World Series and the 1996 Olympics; former Officiating Development Alliance member and NASO Board member, 2005-08.

**Eric Zemper, Ph.D.:** Accomplished track and field official who has served as head starter for many NCAA and USATF national championships, and the referee for several Big 10 championships; has worked three Olympic Games, and currently is an International Technical Official for the International Association of Athletics Federations, one of three such officials from the U.S., and one of 49 in the world; former Michigan State University cross country and track letterwinner, is the current president of the MSU Finish Line Club and is the director of the MSU Varsity Alumni 'S' Club.

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