



Make the Right Call

Become an MHSAA
Registered
Game Official



MHSAA
michigan high school athletic association

Stay In The Game

Participation in high school athletics does not have to end with graduation. There are numerous opportunities to continue activity in any one of the 24 sports sponsored by the Michigan High School Athletic Association. One of the best ways to maintain interest and participation is becoming an official.

There are over 11,000 registered high school officials in the state of Michigan. Officiating is a rewarding way to remain active with high school sports and to earn extra money doing something you love. It is an enjoyable, productive way for recent high school graduates and college students to earn spending money. The hours are somewhat flexible and contracts can be accepted based on day-to-day availability, scheduling officiating around a class or work availability.

Officiating Offers . . .

- An opportunity to meet people and make new friends.
- The possibility of touching the lives of young people at a time when they most need positive leaders.
- Personal growth through the many lessons athletics bring.
- A way to make a little extra money.
- The ability to work events that may include future giants of sport.
- A chance at turning this into an employment break.
- An opportunity to work MHSAA tournament and Finals events.

Those interested in a meaningful, worthwhile experience can simply call the MHSAA, mail the Request Form included in this brochure, or e-mail the request to register@mhsaa.com.

Michigan High School Athletic Association
1661 Ramblewood Drive
East Lansing, MI 48823-7392
517/332-5046
www.mhsaa.com
e-mail: register@mhsaa.com

Request for MHSAA Officials Registration Materials

SEND LEGACY APPLICATION

In 2001-02, 16-year-old juniors in high school may participate in the Legacy program which allows officiating at the subvarsity level with their mentor.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Zip Code: _____

My interest is in the following sports:

- | | | | | |
|--|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Football | <input type="checkbox"/> Softball | <input type="checkbox"/> Volleyball | <input type="checkbox"/> Ice Hockey | <input type="checkbox"/> Track/Cross Country |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Baseball | <input type="checkbox"/> Wrestling | <input type="checkbox"/> Basketball | <input type="checkbox"/> Soccer | <input type="checkbox"/> Swimming and Diving |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Competitive Cheer | | | | |



michigan high school
athletic association

RETURN TO: Officials Registrar, MHSAA, 1661 Ramblewood Dr., East Lansing, MI 48823

Becoming A Registered Official

The **registration year** – not the officiating year – extends from July 1 through June 30. Registering to be an MHSAA game official is as easy as following these steps.

- 1 Return the Request Form found on the back panel of this brochure; call the MHSAA at (517) 332-5046, or go to the Officials section of the MHSAA Web Site under www.mhsaa.com/administration. Be sure to indicate which sports you are interested in officiating.
- 2 New officials will receive a registration form, an *Officials Guidebook*, a guidebook test, and tests for the sports in which they wish to register. All tests are open-book exams, designed to familiarize the applicant with MHSAA protocol and specific interscholastic sport rules.
- 3 Complete and return the registration form and tests with the proper fees as explained in your registration packet. To become registered, a grade of 70 percent or higher must be attained on all tests. The cost of registration includes a processing fee and an additional fee for each sport.
- 4 Registration will be confirmed upon successful completion of all exams issued to the applicant and full payment of entry fees. When registering in more than one sport, registration will not be confirmed in **any** sport until requirements to register for **all** sports are completed.
- 5 Officials who register by the **July 1** deadline will be listed in the published *Officials Directory* and will receive the monthly *MHSAA Bulletin*. All officials, regardless of their registration date, will be listed in the on-line officials directory within the first week following completed registration.
- 6 All registered officials will receive an identification card, at least one MHSAA officials' emblem, the rule book for each registered sport, and the case book and officials manual if applicable. In addition, they will receive all issues of the MHSAA publication *Stripes*.

How Do I Find Contests To Work?

Each MHSAA registered official is an independent contractor responsible for arranging his/her own games. However, involvement in an Approved Officials Association will provide leads because the local association is often contacted by athletic directors for assistance in filling sub-varsity contests.

Especially in the beginning you may be called to “fill in” for officials when conflicts develop or to accept contracts resulting from date changes or additions to a schedule.

To help facilitate your start in officiating, we encourage you to become involved with a local association. Such networks open opportunities for officiating and provide structures for study and learning. In 2005-06, in order to receive MHSAA Tournament invitations in some sports, Approved Association membership will be required.

How Many Sports Can I Officiate?

The MHSAA registers officials for 19 of the 24 sports for which it sponsors tournaments. Individuals may register in as many of these sports as they desire. Once again, the MHSAA recommends that individual officials be active members in a local Approved Officials Association, to take advantage of the clinics and training throughout each of the various sport seasons.



Code for Athletic Officials

Created 1947, Revised 1988, 1998

- Register with the MHSAA each year on a timely basis (by July 1) and attend all required meetings. Work no interscholastic contests with officials who do not hold current registration in the sport.
- Join and actively participate in an Approved Association for officials.
- Accept contracts for and officiate only contests for which you are qualified and experienced. Execute and honor contracts in a timely and ethical manner. Complete reports and follow-up all obligations resulting from a contest.
- Be prepared, physically and mentally, to officiate according to the principles and philosophy promoted by the MHSAA.
- Refrain from use of tobacco or alcohol within sight of players and spectators and avoid use of alcohol any time before a contest on the day of the contest.
- Cultivate professional relationships with partners, players, coaches, administrators and spectators. Refrain from comment to the media.
- Commit to a personal lifestyle which avoids sexual misconduct, use of illicit drugs, and public abuse of alcohol and will not in other ways impinge upon your perception in the community to fulfill the obligations and standards of the MHSAA “Code for Athletic Officials.”
- Officiate according to the rules and manuals adopted for MHSAA competition. Admit and correct one's own errors, hold to correct but unpopular decisions, and support the decisions of other officials.
- Exercise self-control at all times. Guard against baiting or taunting which may generate a loss of poise or demeanor which can erode the professionalism expected of officials in even the most difficult circumstances.
- Hold to and maintain the basic tenets of officiating which include honesty, integrity, neutrality, respect, sensitivity, professionalism, discretion and tactfulness.