

128 Starting Blocks.
One Finish Line.



The 2024 Tournament



Scholar-Athlete Award in 35th Year



Thousands of students voluntarily extend their classroom day by taking part in extracurricular activities, often improving their academic achievements in the process. The value that such programs play in the total education of a high school student is highlighted through the MHSAA/Farm Bureau Insurance Scholar-Athlete Award, which will award \$2,000 scholarships to 32 top student-athletes and recognize over 2,000 other outstanding individuals in 2023-24.

Underwritten by Farm Bureau Insurance, the Scholar-Athlete Award is now in its 35th year, and presents scholarships to students in every MHSAA enrollment classification. The scholarships may be used at any institution of higher learning.

"It is amazing to see the number of young people who are proven achievers in academics and activities," said Mark Uyl, executive director of the MHSAA. "At a time when our educational system is coming under fire, the Scholar-Athlete Award is something that proves how important athletics are to the development of a well-rounded person."

Students applying for the Scholar-Athlete Award must be graduating during the 2023-24 school year, carry a 3.5 grade-point average, and have previously won a letter in a varsity sport that the MHSAA sponsors postseason competition.

Applicants will also be required to show involvement in

other school/community activities and submit an essay on the importance of sportsmanship in educational athletics.

Application materials can be found on MHSAA.com. Scan the code below to access the page.

Each MHSAA member school is allowed to nominate a number of student-athletes based on the size of the school. Class A schools can nominate six boys and six girls, Class B four boys and four girls, Class C three boys and three girls and Class D two boys and two girls. The first 30 scholarships will be awarded based on this graduated scale, with two additional scholarships intended for minority applicants.

A committee composed of school administrators from across the state will select regional and statewide winners.

Farm Bureau Insurance, a long-time supporter of MHSAA activities, also sponsors other educationally oriented programs.

The 32 scholarship recipients will be recognized at the MHSAA Boys Basketball Finals at the Breslin Student Events Center in East Lansing in March 2024.



Let The Games Begin!

It has been said that without referees, umpires, judges and officials, our games are simply recess. In many parts of our state, we need more MHSAA registered officials to make sure the game experiences for our students continue uninterrupted.

Registered officials come from all walks of life. These women and men are teachers, business owners, doctors, lawyers, first responders and law enforcement officers.

They give back to students because they often had great experiences as a student-athlete and simply want to "stay in the game" to allow kids of today that same privilege.

How can you join this team or help grow the ranks of officials? If you are interested in officiating, go to MHSAA and click on the OFFICIALS button. All the information you need is right at your fingertips.

If you have no interest in becoming an official, you can still help the cause. When attending your next game, simply cheer for your team and remain quiet when a call is made that you see differently. Common decency and respect are harder to find in these current times, and you can help support officials by just leaving them alone!

Let's continue to come together and support everyone involved in school sports at a time when these events are needed now more than ever.

Enjoy the games.



— Mark Uyl
MHSAA Executive Director

Fans:

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Bad behavior at high school athletic events
has gotten OUT OF CONTROL.

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Always be respectful, encouraging and positive.

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Student Advisory Council Aids MHSAA

Eight student-athletes who will be juniors at their schools during the 2023-24 academic year have been selected to serve two-year terms on the Michigan High School Athletic Association's Student Advisory Council.

The Student Advisory Council is a 16-member group which provides feedback on issues impacting educational athletics from a student's perspective, and also is involved in the operation of Association championship events and other programming. Members of the Student Advisory Council serve for two years, beginning as juniors. Eight new members are selected annually to serve on the SAC, with nominations made by MHSAA member schools. The incoming juniors will join the group of eight seniors-to-be appointed a year ago.

Selected to begin serving on the Student Advisory Council in 2023-24 are: **Cale Bell**, Sault Ste. Marie; **Drew Cady**, Oxford; **Macy Jenkins**, Milford; **Isaiah Kabban**, Harbor Beach; **Ella Knudsen**, Leland; **Kaylee Kranz**, Clinton; **Joey Spada**, Kalamazoo Central; and **Anna Zoet**, Grandville Calvin Christian.

Those eight new members were selected from 105 applicants. That number of applicants was the fourth-most ever, with the last four years featuring the four highest totals.

The first Student Advisory Council was formed for the 2006-07 school year. With the addition of this class, members will have represented 137 schools from 50 leagues plus independent schools that do not play in a league. Combined, the new appointees have participated in 16 MHSAA sports, and all eight will be the first SAC members from their respective schools.

The Student Advisory Council generally meets seven times each school year, and once more for a 24-hour leadership camp. In addition to assisting in the promotion of the educational value of interscholastic athletics, the Council dis-



2023-24 Student Advisory Council

First Row: Macy Jenkins, Milford; Ella Knudsen, Leland; M'Khi Guy, Muskegon; Isaiah Kabban, Harbor Beach; DaNia Womack, Dearborn Advanced Tech Academy. **Second Row:** Madie Werner, Bay City All Saints; Anna Zoet, Grandville Calvin Christian; Christian Sanders, Detroit Renaissance; Kaylee Kranz, Clinton; Cale Bell, Sault Ste Marie; Drew Cady, Oxford; Dawsen Lehew, Marcellus; Ben Sytsma, Grand Rapids Christian; Kannon Duffing, Manchester; Claire Gorno, Gaylord; Joey Spada, Kalamazoo Central.

Student Advisory Council Belief Statement

As the voice of Michigan's student-athletes, the Student Advisory Council's role is to convey the message of how high school sports are supposed to be played. We are responsible for helping the MHSAA maintain a positive and healthy atmosphere in which interscholastic athletes can thrive.

*We believe **athletes** should be competitive, sportsmanlike and excel academically. We believe **students** in the stands should have fun, but not take the focus away from the game. We believe **coaches** should act as teachers, helping student-athletes develop while still keeping high school sports in perspective. We believe that **parents** should always be positive role models and be supportive of their child's decisions. We believe **officials** commit their own time to high school sports and respect should always be shown and given to them.*

The most important goal for student-athletes is to enjoy high school sports while keeping a high level of respect between all those involved in the games.

cusses issues dealing with the 4 S's of educational athletics: scholarship, sportsmanship, safety (including health and nutrition) and the sensible scope of athletic programs. There also is a fifth S discussed by the group – student leadership.

This school year, the Council will hand out championship trophies at Finals events, deliver a message about sportsmanship during Summits, and provide feedback to the MHSAA Representative Council

on proposed rule changes.

The new additions to the SAC will join the Class of 2024 members who were selected a year ago: **Kannon Duffing**, Manchester; **Claire Gorno**, Gaylord; **M'Khi Guy**, Muskegon; **Dawsen Lehew**, Marcellus; **Christian Sanders**, Detroit Renaissance; **Ben Sytsma**, Grand Rapids Christian; **Madie Werner**, Bay City All Saints; and **DaNia Womack**, Dearborn Advanced Tech Academy.



Every Season.
Every Platform.



Boys Basketball Finals
March 16

Girls Basketball Finals
March 23

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MHSAA Tournament Finals Coverage includes:

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& Diving, L.P. Boys Swimming & Diving, Individual
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Plus Boys and Girls Basketball Semifinals.

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Audio Home of MHSAA Finals!

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This Week In High School Sports - Weekly Podcast

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