



**2022-23 MHSAA SUMMARY OF REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL ACTION**  
**May 12, 2023**

This summary does not include all Council action. Minutes of the Dec. 2, 2022, and March 24, 2023, meetings were published at MHSAA.com. Minutes of the May 7-8, 2023, meeting have been sent to all superintendents; and all high school and junior high/middle school principals, athletic directors and citywide athletic directors have been emailed a link to a download location at MHSAA.com. Changes take effect Aug. 1, 2023, unless otherwise indicated.

**High School and Middle School Regulations**

- A. Regulation I, Section 1(D) – Allow high schools with less than 125 students to request an Executive Committee waiver with cause and rationale to allow the use of 8<sup>th</sup>-grade students in all sports except football, ice hockey and wrestling. Schools with less than 75 students can make this same request with cause and rationale to use 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>-grade students in all sports except football, ice hockey and wrestling.
- B. Regulation I, Section 10, Interpretation 108 – Additional language was added to read as follows:  
108. It is a violation of the undue influence regulation if coaches or their representatives call, send questionnaires, cards, electronic messages, letters or connect (“follow”, “friend request”, direct message, etc.) with students on any social media platform which includes any public sites, private sites and direct messages of any kind with students either at another high school (once a student begins the 9<sup>th</sup> grade) or with any student who has not yet enrolled in a high school or participated in an athletic practice or competition as a high school student. It is also a violation of the undue influence regulation if coaches or their representatives visit prospective athletes and their families at their homes or other locations.
- C. Regulation II, Section 3 – Member schools no longer are required to register non-faculty coaches with the MHSAA.
- D. Regulation II, Section 6 – Contests with Out-of-State Schools – The following changes were made to this regulation to simplify the travel and out-of-state competition rules.
- 1) MHSAA member schools may travel into any border area and compete regardless of miles traveled which includes Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota and Ontario.
  - 2) For competition occurring within Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin and Ontario, MHSAA member schools may compete regardless of the travel distance for any participating team as long as all schools present

are members in good standing of an NFHS member state high school association.

- E. Regulation II, 11(H) – Additional language was added to read as follows regarding school-sponsored open gyms out-of-season, during the school year:
- a. Diversity of students – open to all students of that school (it is not required that an open gym be open to the general public). A school-sponsored open gym may only include students from that school. High school open gyms may only include high school students participating with and against other high school students of the same school. Middle school/junior high open gyms may only include middle school/junior high students of the same school.
- F. Regulation IV, Section 3(B) – All head coaches at the junior high/middle school level must have a valid CPR certification beginning with the 2024-25 school year.
- G. Regulation V, Section 3(C) – This change will allow, when video exists, MHSAA staff to review a bench-clearing situation or incidents where team members enter the area of competition during an altercation (court, field, mat, etc.). Identified individuals (team members, coaches, other staff) that enter these areas to participate or engage in such an altercation may be assessed additional penalties by MHSAA staff (ejections/suspensions) based on the video evidence in light of published MHSAA Due Process procedures.

### Junior High / Middle Schools

**Cross Country & Track and Field** – The MHSAA-sponsored zone events in these two sports have been approved to extend beyond the initial two-year pilot program phase in 21-22 and 22-23. These events are now permanent in cross country and track & field along with expansion to two sites per zone with each site hosting a large school (boys and girls division) and a small school (boys and girls division) grouping. Division assignments would be based on the high school enrollment connected to that junior high/middle school. (e.g. D1 & D2 large schools, D3 & D4 small schools)

### Officials

The minimum amount paid when an official arrives on site before receiving notice that a contest has been canceled due to an act of God has been increased from 1/3 of the contract fee to 1/2 of the contracted fee.

### Sports

**Baseball** – Require that the trophy presentation for the Regional Champions be done at the conclusion of the quarterfinal game. Both teams will be presented with their championship trophies at the conclusion of the competition for the day. The quarterfinal losing team will be presented first, followed by the quarterfinal winning team. This would be effective immediately for 2023.

**Bowling** – Common first day of practice and first competition dates for both UP and LP schools were set. The Council approved a change in the MHSAA bowling tournament format with a move to 8 regions in each of the 4 Divisions, with the top 2 teams and the top 7 individuals per gender advancing to the Finals. Also approved was the change to the MHSAA Team Finals match-play to a head-to-head, best-of-five Baker game format. Finally, the adoption of the Phantom II oil pattern for MHSAA tournament competition was approved.

**Girls Competitive Cheer** – The restricted period in girls competitive cheer is now defined as the end of winter sports (current policy) until the Monday following Memorial Day instead of the 3rd Saturday in June. Also approved was a delay in the first practice date by one week starting in 2024-25.

**Cross Country / Track & Field** – Eliminated regulations and prohibitions on head attire and temporary body adornments during competition.

**Golf** – Students are now required to participate in at least four (4) high school competitions (9- or 18-hole events) prior to representing their school in the MHSAA Golf Tournament.

**Girls Gymnastics** – Approval was granted to include Xcel levels Sapphire and Diamond to be a part of the divisional structure criteria. The policy would read as follows: A gymnast who has EVER competed in a non-school competition at the USAG level or above, USAIGC Intermediate Optional Level, USAIGC Open Optional Level or Y Program at Level 8, AAU-Michigan qualifying meet judges at Level I or competed at AAU Xcel Sapphire level OR a gymnast who has competed in USAG Optional 7 or USAIGC Developmental Optional Level or AAU Xcel Diamond level or Level 7 equivalent Y program since January 1, 2021.

**Boys Lacrosse** – Allow use of the 5<sup>th</sup> quarter rule for an individual effective for the spring of 2023.

**Girls Lacrosse** – Separate the top two seeds in each District using the Michigan Power Rating formula (MPR), mirroring the draw model currently used in Boys and Girls Basketball starting with the 2023 spring season.

**LP Swimming & Diving** – The Final schedule, along with required breaks, was approved for both days of the Final meet. Approval was also granted to adjust the qualifying time calculation to increase participation and field size across all three divisions for Boys and Girls Swim Finals.

**LP Tennis** – Allow Regional #1 Doubles Finalists to Qualify for the MHSAA Finals. The #1 Doubles Finalists on a non-qualifying team may advance to the MHSAA Finals if their team's #1 Singles player also qualifies.

**Volleyball** – Separate the top two seeds in each District using the Michigan Power Rating formula (MPR), mirroring the draw model currently used in Boys and Girls

Basketball starting with the 2024-25 season. Also approved was recognition of MIVCA's Miss Volleyball during the Division 1 Finals starting in 2023.

**Wrestling** – Allow two additional dual meet competitions to be added to the wrestling contest dates