



Executive Director's Update

Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association

33 Forge Parkway Franklin, MA 02038 | 508-541-7997 | miaa.net

An Update from Executive Director Robert Baldwin

Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association

January 25, 2024

2024 MIAA Annual Meeting

The 2024 MIAA Annual Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 9, 2024 at Gillette Stadium. More information, including registration details will be forwarded in February.

Middle Level Waiver and Coop Application Deadlines

The spring 2024 middle level waiver and cooperative application deadline is March 28, 2024.

Student Eligibility–Spring Waiver Deadline

As a reminder, the deadline for spring student eligibility waiver submissions is Monday, April 1, 2024. This is a firm deadline and late waivers will not be accepted.

Winter 2024 Power Rankings

The first power rankings for winter 2024 sports were released to schools and published [on the MIAA web site](#) on Friday, January 12. Updated power rankings will be released each Tuesday and Friday through the remainder of the winter 2024 regular season. Athletic directors are asked to make sure their schedules and results are accurate and up to date on Arbiter on a nightly basis throughout the school year. The power rankings and tournament seedings depend on complete and accurate data from all MIAA schools.

Un-Played Contests ~ Forfeits and No-Contest Determinations

Please [click this link](#) to request a determination of a "Forfeit" or "No Contest" for an un-played contest.

All sections must be completed thoroughly. This information will be reviewed by a Seasonal Seeding Committee consisting of the chair or designee from each in-season sport and TMC representatives. Tournament Directors and Executive Liaisons may be present but are non-voting members. All decisions made by the Seasonal Seeding Committee are final.

Once a determination is made, it will be shared with the schools included on this form.

Every attempt should be made to reschedule the contest on the next available date.

NOTE: This form does not need to be filed in the case of forfeits due to a canceled season (Rule 18), over scheduling (Rule 34.6), or ineligible player (Rule 86).

MIAA Winter State Tournament Venues

- Alpine Ski – Wachusett Mountain
- Basketball – Tsongas Center
- Gymnastics – Algonquin Reg. HS
- Ice Hockey – TD Garden
- Indoor Track – Reggie Lewis Center
- Nordic Ski – Prospect Mtn. Vermont
- Swimming & Diving – MIT
- Wrestling – Salem High School

Suspended Game and Overtime Procedures

In an effort to support our Athletic Directors, below is a document that outlines all MIAA suspended game and overtime procedures. This document is intended to assist Athletic Directors and Game Officials with the suspended game policies and overtime procedures of the MIAA and NFHS. [Click here](#) to access the document.

MIAA Wrestling Tournament

Please be reminded that schools must have all of their weigh-in data and results entered on FloArena up through the last meet. The accuracy of this information is critical to seeding each of the twelve sectional tournaments. Please be sure to carefully review the MIAA Wrestling Tournament Format ([click here](#)) for tournament entry information, qualifying criteria and more!

Indoor Track Tournament

There will be five informational Ring Central meetings for all Athletic Directors and Coaches. During the meetings, Tournament Directors will discuss various topics for the upcoming tournament, including the athletic.net registration process, important deadlines, site logistics and the **NEW** Meet of Champions/New England Championships entry process.

It is extremely important that each school attend a meeting to ensure all pertinent information is received. Please note, if you cannot attend your specific division meeting, please use the additional meetings as an opportunity to obtain as much information as possible. Please see the meeting links and start times below:

January 30th

Division 5 - 5:00pm

- <https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1456630502>

January 31st

Division 3 = 5:00 pm

- <https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1479200175>

Division 2 – 6:00 pm

- <https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1485087352>

February 1st

Division 1 – 5:00 pm

- <https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1444930546>

Division 4 – 6:00 pm

- <https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1499814543>



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MIAA Rule Change Proposals

Reminder! MIAA Rule Change Proposals must be submitted to Phil Napolitano (pnapolitano@miaa.net) by June 1, 2024. The form can be found by [clicking here](#).

Team Manager Training Video for Swim

On Monday a training webinar on the use of Team Manager for swimming was held. This is the software that will be used to send in your entries for the MIAA Sectional and State Meets. It was recorded and has now been placed on the [Swim page](#) on the MIAA website.

Please refer to the [Team Manager Webinar](#) video for instructions on how to enter your team, athletes, times, ages etc. There are links on the swim webpage to instructions and software information.

If you are still having issues with Team Manager, reach out to your league representative or someone you may know in your league who uses the software. As a last resort you may reach out to coach Andrew DiGiacomo at andrew.digiacom@yahoo.com.

Emails were sent out this morning containing the meet file for your sectional meet. I highly recommend you do not wait to start entering athletes and times. The more you enter now the less you will have to do later.

The entry deadline for Sectionals is Monday February 5th at 4:00pm. Refer to the [Swim & Dive Format](#) on the MIAA website for all post season details.

Football Scheduling Fall 2024

In the Fall of 2024, Labor Day is early, 9/2/24 and Thanksgiving is late, 11/28/24. As has been the case in the past, this creates an extra weekend in the qualifying period before the beginning of the state tournament. The extra week is labeled "Week 1A". Schools can schedule a maximum of 8 games in the 9-week period between Labor Day and the cutoff date. The football cutoff date is Sunday, 11/3/24 which is only to allow for postponed games (from Fri. or Sat.) on the final weekend. Schools cannot schedule games on the cutoff date. The Fall 2024 football weekly schedule is posted on the [Football Page](#) or at this [link](#).

NFHS Uniform Rules for 2024 – Basketball and Football

During the annual NFHS rule change writing process, specific sports work to plan for future rule changes and/or equipment changes. During this time of budget development with your schools, please take a moment to read upcoming sport rule changes. Pay particular attention to the basketball and football uniform changes for 2024 that may impact current purchases. [NFHS Future Rule Changes](#).

NFHS Rule Change Proposals

Each year the NFHS Rule Change Proposal process begins with submissions of possible rule changes through the NFHS website. The Rule Change Proposal timeline and schedule of deadlines can be found [here](#). If you wish to submit a rule change, that may be submitted [here](#). The success of all NFHS rules for high school athletes depends on the collective work and input from coaches, officials, and administrators from across the country.

MIAA Sports Theme Week

The 2023-2024 MIAA Student Advisory Committee has designed and implemented a 'Sports Theme Week' with the goal of increasing student support and attendance at all athletic events, not just the popular sports. We hope this information is passed along to your student-leaders who can encourage participation in this 'school spirit' driven initiative. [Click here](#) to access the flyer.

Esports

Esports is a great opportunity for students in your school who spend time with competitive gaming. The MIAA has successfully offered esports for 5 years in collaboration with PlayVS, holding state championship events in the fall and spring. The Fall season is underway but there will be another season beginning in February 2024. This is the perfect time to investigate starting a team at your school. Please consider beginning this very exciting opportunity! If you would like more information, you can reach out to Richard Pearson at the MIAA office (rpearson@miaa.net), inquiring at the PlayVS website [here](#) or email MA PlayVS representative Parker Duwelius at parker.duwelius@playvs.com.

Sherman A. Kinney Award: *For outstanding contributions to the sport of high school basketball.*

Each year, the Sherman A. Kinney Award is presented to an individual who has made a significant contribution to the sport of basketball in the school or community, has consistently served as a positive role model for young student athletes; whose actions consistently exemplify the tenets of the MIAA Sportsmanship Philosophy; and has provided long term service in the sport of basketball in the school or community. Please [CLICK HERE](#) to submit a nomination. Nominations are due February 9, 2024.

MIAA Coach of the Year Award

Coach of the Year Award Nominations – Due June 30

This award seeks to recognize and honor "teacher coaches" from each MIAA sponsored sport. Nominations will be accepted through June 30 and must be submitted via [THIS LINK](#). Anyone can submit a Coach of the Year Award nomination and follow up communication will be sent to nominees to help provide any missing or additional details.



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There are many outstanding role models serving as coaches across Massachusetts. Please consider nominating a coach that has positively impacted students.

NFHS Spirit of Sport and Heart of the Arts Awards

Each year, the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) recognizes representatives from fine arts programs through the [National High School Heart of the Arts Award](#), as well as individuals who exemplify the core mission of education-based athletics through the [National High School Spirit of Sport Award](#). The MIAA is currently accepting nominations for each of these awards. One nominee for each award will be selected to represent Massachusetts for consideration at the sectional and national levels. The deadline to submit a nomination of these awards is Monday, January 29.

2023 MIAA Awards Banquet

On December 6, 2023, the recipients of the MIAA Coach-of-the-Year Award, MIAA Distinguished Service Award, NFHS Sectional and National Coach of the Year Awards and the NFHS State Award for Outstanding Service were honored at the annual MIAA Awards Banquet. Congratulations to all award recipients for their dedicated careers in education-based athletics and the positive impact they have made on the lives of students. Please [CLICK HERE](#) for full list of honorees for the 2022-23 school year and additional award information.

Student and Coach Disqualification Forms

The [MIAA Student Contest Disqualification Form](#) and [MIAA Coach Contest Disqualification Form](#) were updated for the 2023-24 school year. Please make sure to have these new forms available at all interscholastic contests and discard any previous versions of the forms. When a student or coach is disqualified from a contest, these forms must be completed by the game official and submitted to the athletic director in charge of the contest, or designee, **before leaving the site**. Please reference MIAA Handbook Rule 49 for additional school requirements when a student or coach is disqualified from a contest.

Student-Athlete of the Month Award

Nominations are being accepted for the MIAA Student-Athlete of the Month Award. This award recognizes two student-athletes on a monthly basis (from September through May) who display excellence in the areas of academics, athletics and community service. Students in grades 9-12 who attend MIAA member schools are eligible to receive the award. To nominate a Student-Athlete of the Month please [click here](#).

MSAA Professional Development Workshops

MIAA's sister organization, the Massachusetts School Administrators' Association (MSAA), is hosting several

tremendous [professional development opportunities](#) this academic year.

The MSAA has listened to its members and created a tremendous list of PD offerings for the coming year. Please send this link to your school Community and support their attendance at these great events. Any questions, please call us- hope to see you soon.

Upcoming Events

- January 26 – MIAA Student Ambassador Huddle at MIAA Office
- March 1 – Student Leadership Workshop

Coaches Education Classes

- February 3 – Virtual
- March 5 – Madison Park High School
- March 9 - Virtual

Calendar

- January 30.....Ice Hockey Committee – Virtual
- January 30.....Soccer Committee
- January 31.....Student Advisory Committee
- January 31.....Basketball Committee – Virtual
- February 6.....Tennis Committee – Virtual
- February 7.....MIAA Board of Directors – Virtual
- February 12.....Sports Medicine Committee – Virtual
- February 14.....DAC Committee - Virtual
- February 14.....Volleyball Committee – Virtual
- February 29.....TMC Committee

Thanks for your continued support!

Robert Baldwin



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