



# Executive Director's Update

Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association

33 Forge Parkway Franklin, MA 02038 | 508-541-7997 | [miaa.net](http://miaa.net)

**An Update from Executive Director Robert Baldwin**  
Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association

**August 22, 2024**

## Save the Dates – Fall Informational Meetings (formerly MIAA District Workshops)

The launching of our new website, the continuation of our Executive Director's Update, and the attendance of MIAA Liaisons at league and/or district meetings are ways to provide you with pertinent information, while trying to respect your time.

In our on-going attempt to make our communication more effective and efficient, the MIAA will be conducting a series of fall informational meetings in regional areas of the Commonwealth with a virtual option as well.

These meetings will begin at 8:30 a.m. Specific locations and agendas will be emailed to the respective districts next week.

Franklin Office	September 12	8:30 a.m.
South Region	September 17	8:30 a.m.
North Region	September 19	8:30 a.m.
Central Region	September 24	8:30 a.m.
West Region	TBD	
Virtual Option	October 1	8:30 a.m.

## Student and Coach Contest Disqualification Forms

Please make sure to use the most up-to-date version of the MIAA Student and Coach Contest Disqualification Forms. These forms were updated in August 2023 and are available in the ["Officials" section](#) of the MIAA website. When a student or coach is disqualified from a contest, the required form must be completed by the game official and submitted to the athletic director in charge of the contest before leaving the site. Below are links to each form:

[Student Contest Disqualification Form](#)

[Coach Contest Disqualification Form](#)

Please note - All fields within the form are required to be completed by the game official, as well as a description of the disqualification including the violation called. Forms submitted with incomplete information may be returned to the host school/game official to provide any missing details.

## Cooperative Team and Middle Level Waiver Applications

Middle Level waivers and Coop Applications cannot be applied for after the first possible date of competition for each season." The final application dates for Fall sports are:

- Golf: August 23
- Football: September 3
- All other sports: September 1

## Student Eligibility Waiver Deadlines

As a reminder, below are the seasonal deadlines for student eligibility waiver submissions as outlined in MIAA rule 87.1. These are firm deadlines and late waivers will not be accepted.

- Fall – September 22, 2024
- Winter – December 15, 2024
- Spring – April 1, 2025

## Fall 2024 Schedule Commitment Deadline & Process

With practices and tryouts for Fall 2024 sports now under way, this is a reminder that the MIAA schedule commitment deadline is **Friday, September 13**.

All schedules for **Cross Country, Field Hockey, Football, Fall Golf, Soccer, Fall Swim & Dive, and Girls Volleyball** must be entered into Arbiter by the end of the day on September 13. After that point, no changes can be made to your opponents or the number of games/matches that can be played. After the September 13 commitment deadline, all schedules will be considered **FINAL**.

Three days before the Schedule Commitment deadline, MIAA staff will produce and publish schedules for each sport based on the available data for review and verification by member schools. Below is the breakdown for 2024-25 school year:

- FALL 2024
  - First contest date: Sunday, September 1
  - Schedule data published for review: Tuesday, September 10
  - Schedule Commitment deadline: Friday, September 13
- WINTER 2024-2025
  - First contest date: Thursday, December 12
  - Schedule data published for review: Tuesday, December 17
  - Schedule Commitment deadline: Friday, December 20
- SPRING 2025
  - First contest date: Thursday, March 27
  - Schedule data published for review: Tuesday, April 1
  - Schedule Commitment deadline: Friday, April 4

Please be sure to check the [MIAA Sport Limitations Information Sheet](#) for the maximum number of competitions allowed per week and per season in each sport.

## MIAA Tournament Passes

MIAA Tournament Passes will be mailed to the High School Principal beginning the week of August 26<sup>th</sup>.



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## Statewide Tournament Director Positions

The MIAA is currently looking to fill Tournament Director positions for the following fall sports:

- Field Hockey
- Football

[Click here](#) for more information.

## MIAA Alignment Process

The TMC alignment process calendar for the 2023-25 alignment cycle is as follows:

*Fall Alignments for 2025-26 & 2026-27	
Proposed Fall alignments released	September 1, 2024
Deadline to appeal	October 1, 2024
Appeal hearings	Throughout October 2024
Final Fall alignments released	November 1, 2024
*Winter Alignments for 2025-26 & 2026-27	
Proposed Winter alignments released	December 1, 2024
Deadline to appeal	January 1, 2025
Appeal hearings	Throughout January 2025
Final Winter alignments released	February 1, 2025
*Spring Alignments for 2025-26 & 2026-27	
Proposed Spring alignments released	April 1, 2025
Deadline to appeal	May 1, 2025
Appeal hearings	Throughout May 2025
Final Spring alignments released	June 1, 2025

\*Using October 2023 enrollment numbers

## Swimming Software - Hy-Tek Team Manager

All Swimming programs must use Hy-Tek Team Manager beginning in the 2024-25 school year. Team Manager Lite **cannot** be used anymore. There are three versions of the software which can be accessed at this link: [Team Manager pricing and selection](#). Any version, bronze, silver or gold can be used for MIAA Tournament Entry. Additional information can be found at the links below:

- [Team Manager software overview](#)
- [Hy-Tek support page](#)
- [Hy-Tek Swimming main page](#)

## Neck Laceration Protectors for Ice Hockey Required 2024-25

In the spring of 2024, the NFHS Ice Hockey Rules Committee added neck laceration protectors to the required ice hockey equipment. All high school ice hockey players will now be required to wear a neck laceration protector – in its original manufactured state and as

intended by the manufacturer – during all MIAA interscholastic contests, scrimmages and practices.

## MIAA 2025-2027 Handbook Rule Change Proposals

[Click here](#) to view the 2025-2027 Rule Change Proposals which will be voted on by MIAA Committees by November 1, 2024. The MIAA Board of Directors will act upon all proposals by February 1, 2025.

## MIAA Launched a New Website

The Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association is pleased to announce the launch of our new website at [miaa.net](http://miaa.net), which is now live.

## MIAA Student Advisory Committee

Twenty-seven (27) student leaders from across the Commonwealth participated in team building exercises, goal setting activities and community service at the MIAA Office. These students are representing the 200,000 student athletes across the MIAA. [Click here](#) to view the list of 2024-25 MIAA Student Advisory Committee members.

## Student Ambassador Information

Registration for the 2024-2025 MIAA Student Ambassador Program is now open! Principals and Athletic Directors can register students by [clicking here](#). More information about the MIAA Student Ambassador Program can be found on the [Student Ambassador Program Page](#).

## 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](#).

## NFHS Rulebooks for Schools

You may recall reading in the June 13<sup>th</sup> Executive Director's Update that the MIAA is offering you an opportunity to purchase NFHS rulebooks for you and your coaches for the 2024-25 school year. Each book is offered at the discounted price of \$6.00 per book for paper copies only. **Please complete the order form as soon as possible since the Fall season is already here!** Once the ordered rulebooks arrive in our office, we will ship them to your school at no additional cost. The NFHS shipping timeline is outlined below:

- Fall sport rulebooks (can still be ordered; will ship when they arrive)
- October 1 - Winter sport rulebooks
- December 1 – Spring sport rulebooks



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## Upcoming Events

- August 28 - [MIAA Orientation Workshop](#)
- September 14 - Gymnastics Clinic
- October 10 - 2024 Student Leadership Summit at DoubleTree Hotel, Westboro
- November 7 - Sportsmanship Summit at Gillette
- December 11 - MIAA Awards Banquet at DoubleTree Hotel, Milford
- January 17 - MIAA/MSAA Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Summit at Holy Cross

## September & October Calendar

- August 27 - TMC (Virtual)
- September 5 - Field Hockey Committee
- September 9 - Urban AD's - Virtual
- September 9 - Volleyball Committee
- September 11 - MIAA Board of Directors
- September 14 - Student Advisory Committee
- September 18 - Soccer Committee
- September 18 - Football Committee
- September 18 - Golf Committee
- September 23 - Swim & Diving Committee
- September 25 - Track Committee
- October 1 - Ice Hockey Committee
- October 2 - Gymnastics Committee
- October 2 - Wrestling Committee
- October 9 - MIAA Board of Directors (Virtual)
- October 15 - Game Officials Committee
- October 17 - Lacrosse Committee
- October 21 - Tennis Committee
- October 23 - Baseball Committee
- October 24 - Rugby Committee
- October 30 - Track Committee

Thanks for your continued support.

Robert Baldwin



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