



Winter 2019

MIAA GAME OFFICIALS NEWSLETTER

Once again we are sending along another Game Officials newsletter. A huge thanks to all of our fall officials and an advance thank you to our winter officials. Your work is vital to the success of each contest. The critical pieces to a successful contest involve the players, coaches and officials. Together, these three groups make the event work!

As we are now underway in the MIAA winter season, I reflect back on past seasons thinking about your role in officiating the games. Although there are challenges with some fans and players, the value for our students and their genuine APPRECIATION for your presence at the game is real. Some students may get frustrated or challenging during the game but each official comes back for the next contest because of the sense that your presence does make a difference in the lives of student-athletes. All of your hard work understanding the rules sets a platform for student learning and achievement. Let us not forget the education of students as the game is officiated. It is quite evident that in 2018, students learn very effectively by doing. Students prefer hands-on activity that has value to their person. When you make a call you are teaching as well as regulating. Students may shake their head or give a look of surprise, but each call and each action creates an opportunity to learn - what not to do next time, what to do differently. How many officials actually walk over to a young player to mention how to correct their play or help explain why they received the call? Many officials do this and TEACH the sport!!!

Thank you all for being teachers and vital components of athletic contests! Keep up the great work!

Richard Pearson
MIAA Associate Director
MIAA Game Officials Committee



Contact Us

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Ethel Kawesa: ekawesa@miaa.net



CONCUSSION INFORMATION/ AED'S IN SCHOOLS

Automated External
Defibrillators in Schools



Click [here](#) to view AED's
in School Guidelines

MIAA/NFHS Concussion Training

105 CMR: Department of Public Health – 201.007 (E) Training Program

*“Game officials **shall complete** one of the training programs approved by the Department as specified on the Department’s website **annually** and shall provide independent verification of completion of the training program to schools or school districts upon request.”*

The yearly certification requirement is only valid between July 1st and June 30th of a given academic year. In support of Department of Public Health (DPH) regulations cited above, and in the best interests of our student athletes, all MIAA Tournament Directors and Tournament Assignors will require successful completion of a DPH approved concussion training program as a condition for an official accepting an MIAA tournament assignment. Your acceptance of an MIAA Tournament contest assignment will be considered an implicit confirmation that you are a member in good standing with your local board, that you are enrolled with the MIAA, and that you have successfully completed a concussion training program as required by the DPH.

The National Federation of High Schools (NFHS) training module, “Concussions in Sports: What You Need to Know”, is one of the MDPH approved training programs and may be accessed using the link:

[Concussions in Sports: What You Need to Know](#)

(click link to access training course information)

SPORTSMANSHIP

MIAA TEAM SPORTSMANSHIP AWARDS



The MIAA would like to encourage game officials to nominate a boys or girls varsity team for consideration by that MIAA Sport Committee for recognition at the MIAA State Championship contest. Nominated teams do not have to be tournament teams but should exemplify the tenets of good sportsmanship to the highest degree. The nomination form information can be found in each sport specific [MIAA Tournament Format](#).



2019 Winter Sport Rule Highlights

Sports Specific Tournament Formats

All game officials are required to be well versed on their sport tournament format in order to be assigned to tournament events. A format is a detailed breakdown of how each sport tournament is conducted. It's important to remember that each sport has its own format, covering dates, rules, tournament ball agreements, overtime rules, and tie breakers, among other information. This information can be found on the [MIAA Tournament Formats](#) page of the MIAA website (miaa.net).

Basketball

1-12-1c: It shall have a deeply-pebbled, granulated surface, with horizontally shaped panels bonded tightly to the rubber carcass.

Rationale: The additional words give manufacturers a better sense of what a deeply-pebbled cover should look like.

9-9-1: A player shall not be the first to touch the ball after it has been in team control in the frontcourt, if he/she or a teammate last touched or was touched by the ball in the frontcourt before it went to the backcourt. **EXCEPTION:** Any player located in the backcourt may recover a ball deflected from the frontcourt by the defense.

Rationale: To ensure that a team is not unfairly disadvantaged on a deflected pass

Wrestling —NCAA Rule changes

5-15-1, 5-15-2, 5-15-3

A wrestler is now inbounds if two supporting points of either wrestler are inside or on the boundary line. This could be two supporting points of one wrestler or one supporting point of each wrestler libero position and another position, prior to the first beckon for service.



For all NFHS Wrestling Rules Changes - 2018-19 please click [HERE](#)

Swim & Dive

NFHS Rule 2.7.2C If one or more starting platforms are not securely attached to the deck or end wall, the following options may be used provided the water depth rule is not violated:

- 1) all swimmers shall start in the water;
- 2) All swimmers shall start on the deck;
- 3) Any affected lane(s) may be excluded with prior mutual consent.

Track & Field/ Cross Country

2019 FNHS Rule Changes:

4-3-1, 4-3-1b, 4-3-1c:

Clarifies that for a track and field as well as cross country uniform to be considered legal, the singlet and bottom or one-piece uniform shall be school-issued or school-approved. This change for school approval addresses the need for athletes to purchase a part of their uniform, but such individual apparel shall be approved by the school coach to be certain it meets all rule requirements.

Rationale: Clarifies that the school may issue or approve an individually purchased item as part of the official school uniform.

6-7-2:

Corrects clerical error in maximum diameter for the boys indoor shot put.

6-7-2:

The maximum diameter for the boys indoors shot is 132.5 mm and for the girls indoor shot is 130 mm to account for synthetic cover



For all NFHS Track &field/ Cross Country Rules Changes - 2018-19 please click [HERE](#)

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR 2019-2020

Beginning with the 2019-20 school year, all MIAA sports that have NFHS rules written for them will use those NFHS rules. The newly affected sports are baseball, football, girls' lacrosse, boys' volleyball and girls' volleyball.



MIAA Official of the Year Award



Call for nominations:

MI AA Game Official of the Year

"exemplify the highest standards of sportsmanship, ethical conduct, and moral character"

Awards to be presented at the MI AA Official of the Year Banquet

Wednesday, May 29, 2019

MIAA Office, Franklin, MA

Deadline for nominations: **Friday, March 29, 2019**

MI AA Game Official of the Year Award: This award seeks to recognize and honor officials who have displayed character, integrity and dignity, while displaying the highest standards of ethical conduct. Award candidates should have a record of exceptional performance, as well as a reputation, among their peers and the athletic community, for fair play, for good sportsmanship, and for the development of these attributes in our student-athletes.

[GUIDELINES AND FORM FOR NOMINATING CANDIDATES](#)

Contact: ekawesa@miaa.net

EDUCATIONAL ATHLETICS

MIAA | 33 Forge Pkwy | Franklin, MA 02038 | 508-541-7997



MIAA Tournament Programs Information

2018 MIAA FOOTBALL



Souvenir Programs from
2018 MIAA Football State Championships
are available

To purchase one or more copies please contact
Paul Halloran at phalloran@grantgroup.com or
781-598-8200.



TOURNAMENT PROGRAMS

ON YOUR ANDROID AND APPLE MOBILE DEVICES

1

Download the
"MIAA Mobile
App."



Google Play
App Store



Apple
App Store

2

Launch the
"MIAA Mobile
App."



3

Search for your
"School."



4

Select your
"Team."



5

Select
"Documentation"
(on the bottom right).



6

Select the listed
"Program."



Note: "Favoriting" [★] your school and team will allow you to navigate more quickly.



MSAA & esports



Play and stay up-to-date on high school esports



HIGH SCHOOL ESPORTS LAUNCHES IN MASSACHUSETTS, OPENS NEW PATHWAY FOR STUDENTS TO GET INVOLVED

Season Zero kicked off with League of Legends, Season One to start in February 2019

Click [here](#) for the December 10, 2018 press release

Click [here](#) for more information on PlayVS



MIAA Background Check Information



Click above to view the MIAA policy for Massachusetts High School sports officials

IMPORTANT REMINDER

All officials who registered and completed the background check in year one of this process (2015-16), your background check has expired. Please be aware that when you register this year, you will be charged for another background check. Background checks are valid for three years.

FAQ's

1. I registered and have been approved by the MIAA under one email address, but my assignor has a different email for me under their account, thus I am not showing as approved to them. What should I do?

Answer: You will need to contact Arbiter support, 1-800-311-4060, and ask them to link your email accounts together. The email you provided for the MIAA background check is the one that will show you as an approved official.

2. If my assignor uses Arbiter to assign games, how can they gain access to the list of approved officials?

Answer: The assignor will need to contact Phil Napolitano, pnapolitano@miaa.net and provide their 6-digit arbiter account number, along with the sport and leagues they assign. They will be linked to the MIAA super group. Once linked, the eligibility column will show up in their assigning account.



CLICK

ArbiterSports

Click on the image left to enter registration page, then follow steps below

NEW OFFICIALS

Background Check and Registration

- 1) Click on the **registration tab** on the top left of the MIAA ArbiterSports page.
- 2) Select all sports for which you wish to register and click the REGISTER button.
- 3) Follow directions and complete all information and consents. A photo is not required. If you already have an Arbiter account, it will recognize your email once you type it in, then follow all directions.

RETURNING OFFICIALS

Registration Only/Previously Completed Background Check

All officials must register annually - \$10 per sport. Returning officials must confirm pre-populated information and complete all steps of the registration process (see steps above under "New Officials"). Please check and/or correct all contact information.

In order to finalize your registration you will need to once again consent to the **background check in step 5 of the registration process**, even though you have already been approved. During the final payment step you will not be charged for another background check nor will it be run again. Approved background checks are valid for three years. **If you were approved during the 2015-16 school year, it was valid until June 30, 2018.**



MIAA Game Official of the Year

Game Official of the Year 2016-17

Dan Martin — Baseball
Katelyn Cupelo — Basketball (Girls)
Don McGillicuddy — Basketball (Boys)
Dave Bailey — Cross Country
Virginia Slagle — Field Hockey
Fred King — Football
Martin Butler — Gymnastics (Boys)
Marybeth Richardson — Gymnastics (Girls)
Rachel Hutchinson — Ice Hockey (Girls)
Bill Doiron — Ice Hockey (Boys)
Steven Keyes — Indoor Track
James Carboneau — Lacrosse (Boys)
Lisette Walter — Lacrosse (Girls)
Deborah Pelletier — Outdoor Track
Matt Stein — Soccer (Boys)
Michele Beagan — Soccer (Girls)
Gary Stacy — Softball
Peter Chamberlain — Swim & Diving (Fall)
Robert Garon — Swimming & Diving (Winter)
Diane Beauchamp — Volleyball (Boys)
Jean Brady — Volleyball (Girls)
Larry Consolini — Wrestling

Game Official of the Year 2017-18

Wayne Bolden — Football
Peter Clark — Wrestling
Kelly Craven — Rugby (Girls)
Anthony Estaphan — Outdoor Track
Mary Fitzgerald — Soccer (Girls)
Robert Hawkes — Ice Hockey (Boys)
Richard Hickey — Cross Country
Don Jennings — Rugby (Boys)
Derek King — Basketball (Boys)
Bernard LeClair — Softball
Michelle Letendre — Volleyball (Girls)
Marian Nihan — Swimming & Diving (Fall)
John Pelli — Swimming & Diving (Winter)
Joel Perry — Soccer (Boys)
Dave Rist — Lacrosse (Boys)
Neville Rivet — Volleyball (Boys)
Lisa Roberts — Lacrosse (Girls)
Billy Jo Robidoux — Baseball
Laura Sauro — Gymnastics (Girls)
Renee Tourigny — Basketball (Girls)
Karen Veronesi — Field Hockey
Sherman Wallen — Ice Hockey (Girls)
Susan Wilbur — Indoor Track

