



Winter 2019

## MIAA GAME OFFICIALS NEWSLETTER

We have made it through the fall season and now well into the winter season. Thank you for all of your efforts thus far and good luck during the next few months.

A few months ago there was an article in the newspaper about fans and the role of officiating in our high schools. Although there are challenges at times, MIAA member schools are proud to support and promote sportsmanship for students and fans. Our school leaders have students attend captain's workshops throughout the year, promote sportsmanship efforts within their school and bring students to the annual MIAA Sportsmanship Summit at Gillette Stadium. At the Summit this year, the breakout sessions for students were with a panel of game officials, moderated by school leaders from the MIAA Sportsmanship Committee. These breakouts featured question and answer periods for student-athletes and also time for each official to talk about their vision and mission as an official. The feedback from the sessions was very positive. Students talked about garnering a different perspective as seen through the officials' eyes.



Many students commented that they had not really thought deeply about all the preparation and time that goes into being ready for a game/season. All officials know the time to learn the rules and stay abreast of changes annually. Thinking about these changes and being ready for them "on the spot" takes study, concentration and focus. Thank you for that!!! They also heard from officials about the deep intent to do their best and support the crew working the game. The officials on the panel did an outstanding job of letting the students see this very important part of the contest. The "voice" of officials was front and center and of great value to the overall activities of the day. This was especially evident as a renewed understanding and respect by the student-athletes in attendance!

Although this example is but one of many, it shows the importance and value that MIAA member schools hold for the game officials as a vital part of contests.

As I said last month, thank you for being a part of high school sports. Thank you for taking responsibility to be the best you can be. And thank you for anything you can do to ensure that we will have officials to be a part of our interscholastic competitions today and into the future.

**Richard Pearson**  
*MIAA Associate Director*  
*Liaison – MIAA Game Officials Committee*

Contact Us

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# 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 1<sup>st</sup> and June 30<sup>th</sup> 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](#).



# 2020 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](http://miaa.net)).

**NFHS Rules App** –The NFHS has a rules app for mobile devices that may be of interest. A print rulebook can be purchased at NFHS.org. A digital version can be purchased through the NFHS app and may be of interest because it is very easy to search and always accessible through a mobile device.

## Track & Field

**FAT-Timing** will be used for the 2019-20 indoor season in the 55m dash, 55m hurdles and 300m dash events and is required for Divisional Championship entries. When entering a hand-timed performance in an event longer than 300m, an **"h"** must be placed after time.

For more information regarding the **2019-20 Indoor Track Format**, please visit the MIAA website ([miaa.net](http://miaa.net)).

For all NFHS Track & field/Cross Country Rules Changes - 2020 please click [HERE](#)

## Wrestling

### INJURY TIME EXPLAINED

**HNC=** Head – Neck –Cervical > 5 minutes if the wrestler is attended by the appropriate health care professional. Only one HNC time out is allowed. A wrestler requiring a second HNC during the match will lose by injury default.

**INJURY TIME** = A wrestler is injured with no penalty applied to the cause of injury , A maximum of 2 time outs and a cumulative time of 1&1/2 minutes total.

**RECOVERY TIME** = Injury time allotted to a wrestler when that wrestler is injured because of a situation where his/her opponent has been penalized. 2 minutes, for each incident

**BLOOD TIME** = a cumulative total of 5 minutes, with no limitation on the number of occurrences.

[NEW NFHS Rule on "Head, Neck, Cervical" Injury Time Explained](#)

For all NFHS Wrestling Rules Changes - 2019-20 please click [HERE](#)

## Basketball

**3-4-3e (2):** The option of the number style that uses the team jersey color itself bordered with not less than two 1/4-inch solid border(s) contrasting with the team jersey color will be eliminated by 2024-25.

**3-5-4b:** If worn, only one headband is permitted, and it must be worn on the forehead/crown. It must be nonabrasive and unadorned, and it must be no more than 3 inches wide.

**3-5-4d:** The statement "Hair-control devices are not required to meet color restrictions" was added to the rule.

**3-5-5 NOTE (NEW):** Provided the shorts are not in conflict with Rule 3-4-5, no drawstring or other part of the shorts intended to maintain them in a normal position causes potential harm to the player or others and wearing of the shorts is not objectionable in exposing the anatomy, there is no restriction on folding or rolling the shorts at the natural waistband seam.

**10-5-5 NOTE** - The head coach and any number of assistant coaches may enter the court in the situation where a fight may break out—or has broken out—to prevent the situation from escalating.

**MIAA Rule Change – Rule 66.6**  
A coaching box, as described in current National Federation rules, shall be utilized in all games. ***If the head coach is charged with a technical foul (either direct or indirect), coach will be allowed to use the coaching box and remain standing.***

## 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.

**NFHS Rule changes:** Please review the new rules for 2019-2020 swimming & diving by clicking [HERE](#) .

Please pay particular attention to the changes in **rule 3.3 which addresses swim suit coverage**. You can find the full NFHS memo addressing this rule change [HERE](#)



# 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 three of this process (2016-17), 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](mailto: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.



**ArbiterSports**

2020-21 REGISTRATION OPENS ON  
JULY 1, 2020

**NOTE: Background Checks are valid for three years but officials still must register Annually**

## NEW OFFICIALS

### [Background Check and Registration](#)

- 1) Click on the **registration tab** on the top left of the MIAA Arbiter Sports 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](#)

#### [Log in prior to entering registration](#)

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. If you were approved during 2016-17 school year, it was valid until June 30, 2019. If you were approved during 2017-18 school year, it is valid until June 30, 2020.





# 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 27, 2020**

MIAA Office, Franklin, MA

Deadline for nominations: **Friday, March 27, 2020**

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](mailto:ekawesa@miaa.net)

## EDUCATIONAL ATHLETICS

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



# MIAA Game Official of the Year

## 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

## Game Official of the Year 2018-19

**Michael Goldman**—Football  
**George Kacavas**— Wrestling  
**Joseph Kimemiah**— Rugby  
**Diana Cares**— Outdoor Track  
**Cheryl Welsh**— Soccer (Girls)  
**Michael Norton**— Ice Hockey (Boys)  
**Charles Butterfield**— Cross Country  
**Joseph Kimemiah**— Rugby  
**Jahmahl Galloway**— Basketball (Boys)  
**Bob Veronesi**— Softball  
**Judith Slamin**— Volleyball (Girls)  
**Brenda Shea**— Gymnastics (Girls)  
**Susan Gasper**— Swimming & Diving  
**Daniel Trepanier**— Soccer (Boys)  
**Paul Keating**— Lacrosse (Boys)  
**David Pearl**— Volleyball (Boys)  
**Lynne Geiger**— Lacrosse (Girls)  
**Kevin T. Henderson**— Baseball  
**Sean Monaco**— Gymnastics (Boys)  
**Cathy Silva**— Basketball (Girls)  
**June Murphy**— Field Hockey  
**Joseph McAuliffe**— Ice Hockey (Girls)  
**Janel Lafond Paquin**— Indoor Track

