

Michigan High School Football Coaches Association

Newsletter

Volume 20, No. 3

SERVING MICHIGAN'S COACHES

October 2016

45th MHSFCA Clinic One Of The Largest In The Midwest



The Michigan High School Football Coaches Association cordially invites you to our 45th Annual Clinic in Lansing Michigan between Jan 19th -21st. Going into our 45th year, our clinic has grown to be one of the largest and best clinics in the mid-west! Our 2016 clinic zeroed in on a near record year in attendance from in state/out of state coaches, speakers and guests. Certainly, Lansing serves our association with a central statewide location. The Downtown Lansing Radisson Hotel proves to be a terrific host for our overnight needs while the Lansing Center along with their staff and the Greater Lansing Convention & Visitors Bureau lends their hands toward our success. I encourage you to use our online registration process for easy registration and membership. You can register at www.mhsfca.com. Head Coaches, please encourage "ALL" of your staff to attend and join our association. Topics and sessions will include wide varieties of information for every level of football from youth to varsity. Everyone

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MHSFCA

Membership runs

January - December

visit: MHSFCA.com

MHSFCA Meetings & Important Dates

**Board of Directors
Fall Meeting
Doherty Hotel, Clare
December 1-2, 2016**

45th Winners Circle Clinic
Lansing Radisson at the Capital
January 19 - 21, 2017

**Odd REGION
Board of Directors Election**
Online • **January 2016**
see page 12

**East / West
All Star Game
Saginaw Valley
June 24, 2017**

Michigan High School Football Coaches Association

Ford Field Championship Games Hospitality

MHSFCA Members
Stop by the MHSFCA
hospitality room at Ford Field during
Friday and Saturday
contests!

**Winners Circle
Clinic**
**Lansing Radisson
at the Capitol**
January 19 - 21, 2017
**Registration information
on Page 4**

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*** Region 18 includes all 8-Man football teams.

Even number Regions elected in even years.
Odd number Regions elected in odd years.

Committee Chairs**Academic All State**

Al Boydston, Caro
Greg Dolson, Tecumseh

Adrenaline Reading Award

Mark Thomas, Brighton

All-Star

Jim Sparks, Clawson

Apparel

Tony Ceccacci, Ortonville-Brandon

Assistant Coach Award

Pat Maloney, McBain

Clinic

Jerry Rabideau, Spring Lake

Ethics

Wes Wishart, Walled Lake Western

Fran Herrington Award

Steve Robb, Tecumseh

Finance

Brad Bush, Chelsea

Hall Of Fame

Jack Carlson, Holland West Ottawa

Historian

Jack Carlson, Holland West Ottawa

Honorary Membership

Roger Bearss, Millington

Jim Crowley Award

Larry Sellers, Traverse City St. Francis

Leadership

Jim Neumann, Flint Powers

Membership

Steve Wilson, Fruitport

MHSAA Liaison

Jack Wallace, Okemos

MHSCA Liaison

Larry Merx, Chelsea

Newsletter

Larry Merx, Chelsea

Parliamentarian

Doug Bess, Battle Creek Central

Playoff

Tom Barbieri, Jackson

Political Action

Eric Redmond - Monroe

Public Relations

John Herrington, Farmington Harrison

Recruiting

Marcus Dukes, Hartland

Rules

Pete Coll, Center Line

Scholarship

Kelly Luplow, Clare

Youth Football

Scott Farley, Jackson

Web Site

Steve Wilson, Fruitport

Past Presidents

Dave Driscoll, Jackson Parkside '72-'73

Dutch Schrottenboer, Alpena '74

Bud Breed, Portage Northern '75

Ron Holland, North Farmington '76

Ivan Muhlenkamp, St. Joseph '77

Jeff Smith, East Lansing '78

Harley Pierce, Sturgis '79

Walt Braun, Marysville '80

Jim Ooley, Traverse City '81

Tom Fagan, Ypsilanti '82

Dick Harris, Harrison '83

Arnie Besonen, Owen-Gage '84

Dick Look, Tawas '85

Terry Rose, Stevensville-Lakeshore '86

Mark Covert, Fenton '87

John Dean, Detroit Northern '88

Dan Lauer, Benton Harbor '89

Jim Ahern, Ithaca '90

Tom Moshimer, Plymouth Salem '91

Bob Knight, Portage Central '92

Dave Woodcock, Jenison '93

Dennis Zbozen, Romeo '94

Bill Tucker, Flint Powers '95

Larry Rueger, Mona Shores/Fruitport '96

Larry Merx, Ann Arbor Huron '97

Jack Schugars, Muskegon Oakridge '98

Larry Sellers, Traverse City St. Francis '99

Tim Klein, Roscommon '00

Keith Froelich, Okemos '01

Jim Clawson, Monroe St. Mary's Catholic '02

Bob Scheloske, South Lyon '03

Mike Wojda, Alpena '04

Pete Coll, Center Line '05

Jim Buttson, Allen Park, '06

Al Slamer, Battle Creek Central, '07

Dave Larkin, Jenison '08

Brad Grayvold, Norway '09

Steve Wilson, Fruitport '10

Jack Wallace, Fowlerville '11

Doug Bess, Battle Creek Central '12

Keith Stephens, Southfield Lathrop '13

Kelly Luplow, Clare '14

Ed Greenman, BC Harper Creek '15

NEWSLETTER**Encourages****Contributors**

*Deadline for Submissions
for December Newsletter*

— November 15—

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45th MHSFCA Clinic

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involved in your program can benefit from the top-notch speakers from around the Midwest. Also, check out our staff rates!

New this Year:

- Updated On Line information about Speakers and Topics at www.mhsfca.com
- Awards Banquet and Food Bust at the Radisson Hotel
- Staff Rates based on size of School
- New and Expanded Speaker rooms
- Register for Clinic and Membership On Line at www.mhsfca.com
- A special expanded Saturday format of speakers geared for "All" Coaches

Clinic Highlights:

- Registration begins Thursday at 4PM with speaker sessions beginning at 7PM
- Located in the Lansing Center Lobby – College Recruiting Tables where recruiting information can be delivered and you can spend time discussing your players to college coaches.
- Plenty of Topic Choices with Up to 6 Concurrent Breakout Sessions!
- Huge amount of vendors on site with the most current football equipment, technology, uniforms and apparel available for inspection.

- Friday Afternoon Awards Banquet in the Lansing Radisson Ballroom. This is a first class event honoring our State Champions and various award winners who have made a positive impact on our sport. Tickets available by contacting Gus Kapolka @ akapolka56@gmail.com
- Friday Morning "Kickoff Session" with Div. I head football coaches, offensive/defensive coordinators and many other top college and high school football staff's. Most coaches are all from the Midwest and right here in our great state!
- Sessions are designed for high school coaches with many presentations being made by our best high school programs.
- Friday Evening Reception in the Radisson Ballroom on 2nd floor. Starting at 9PM, come and enjoy all the food you can eat. Sit and relax while you enjoy re-establishing relationships with coaches and friends.
- Saturday morning features more speakers in the Lansing Radisson for all levels of coaches
- Unmatched service in one of the finest full service hotels in the Midwest.
- The Lansing site offers a complete football setting and experience along with an exceptional downtown area with restaurants and entertainment to meet your needs.

MHSFCA Clinic Registration

EARLY REGISTRATION Cost: \$90.00

WALK-IN REGISTRATION (AFTER 1/2/17) – COST \$100.00

EARLY REGISTRATION - ONLINE ONLY
NO MAIL-IN REGISTRATION WILL BE ACCEPTED

Go to the website: www.mhsfca.com. On the top of the main page, click on the red box for Coaches Registration, and follow the instructions.

After the January 2nd deadline, you can do walk-in registration at the door (\$100.00).



CHELSEA
SCHOOL DISTRICT

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

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September 19, 2016

Dear Coaches:

I hope that all of you are having a great 2016 season. I am blessed to be in my 20th season as the head coach at Chelsea high school. I am also fortunate to have my son as a senior on this year's football team. I have seen through him the impact of football has made in his life. This is the same impact that the game makes every year on thousands of young men across our state. This great game teaches the values that we all want in young men. The principles of hard work, teamwork, leadership, and sacrifice are best taught through the game of football. There is no place I can think of that instills these values better than on the football field. The good fortune of seeing these things being taught to my son each day is truly a blessing. It has also given me a great perspective on the importance of the game and the coaches who work to teach it the right way.

All of us work hard to prepare our teams the best way that we can. The preparation and hard work that goes into putting a team on the field each week is not known or appreciated by the normal fan or parent. Only the players and coaches can truly appreciate what it takes to be ready for game day. It is in those moments that the real bond occurs among the men that play the game. As a coach, I always hate the end of the season. It is not so much that the games are over, but that those days of working together on the practice field are over. As a dad, I am dreading the end of this season more than most. For me personally, it will mark the end of an era. I will no longer have any of those days to coach my son. However, I also know, for all of you, the end of the season comes a time where you no longer get to coach the sons of countless parents. Most of them will not thank you for your hard work. In many cases, it can be a tough job. However, we must remember that the young men you work with may not say it, but they thank each and every one of you for your devotion to them and the game.

As all of you know, there is great concern about the game of football. I am convinced that as a group of coaches we are teaching the game in a safe way that will promote the long-term health of the game. I encourage all of you to not only promote the game, but also the values that the game teaches. We need to be the people that step forward to defend and promote our game. It is the number one mission of the MHSFCA to promote high school football. We need to ensure that every high school in Michigan offers this game to their students. We can do this together.

I want to thank all of you for devoting your time to this great game! Good luck the rest of the season.

Sincerely,
Brad Bush
MHSFCA President

Busting A Culture Of Entitlement

Courtesy of Dr. Wade Gilbert, Editor, "The Coach Doc" and International Sport Coaching Journal

A recent headline pulled from the sports pages read: "Coach Says Athlete Entitlement a Factor in Her Retirement." It was the story of veteran women's college basketball coach Rhonda Rompola, who decided to end her 25-year coaching career in large part because, "Kids are not as coachable as they were years ago."

I frequently hear coaches lament that today's athletes are more self-centered. This widely held belief is often attributed to growing up in what is sometimes referred to as the "selfie age." One of the more memorable experiences I had with this issue came from an exchange with an Olympic coach. The coach emailed me from overseas asking for advice about how to "bust the culture of athlete entitlement." The coach had arranged to extend the trip to allow the athletes to train in some of their sport's most renowned training grounds. Instead of being excited and grateful for "getting to stay," the coach was taken aback when the teenaged athletes grumbled about "having to stay" longer.

It is true that today's generation of young athletes is growing up in a different culture, one in which individual achievements are often glorified and celebrated at the expense of collective achievements and self-sacrifice. Nowhere is this more evident than in the typical youth sport setting where parents aggressively push for their sons and daughters to get noticed, in the hopes of securing a college scholarship. However, coaches have long had to deal with athlete entitlement. Former NBA coach Pat Riley, who won four championships with the Los Angeles Lakers three decades ago, famously wrote an entire book about what he referred to as "the disease of me."

The most effective way to bust a culture of athlete entitlement is to actively build and reinforce a culture of athlete accountability. A three-pronged approach is most effective for creating this type of team culture:

1. Use messages to clarify the concept.
2. Practice team activities to develop and recognize the desired behaviors.
3. Model the message and the behaviors to reinforce accountability.

Printing personal accountability messages on t-shirts and player handbooks are examples of strategies frequently used to clarify the concept of selflessness. As part of his accountability-building efforts, former professional football coach Mike Smith gave all of his players and staff bracelets with 'No Complaining' printed on them. The strategy worked so well the team declared that year their 'No Complaining Season' with many players wearing the bracelets throughout the season.

Some other common examples of messages coaches use to reinforce the idea of athlete accountability include:

- Play for the name on the front of your jersey, not the one on the back. (Herb Brooks)
- We win together, we lose together, and we refuse to point fingers at one another. (Mike Matheny)
- Never make the same mistake twice, because the second time you make it it's not a mistake, it's a choice. (Pat Fitzgerald)
- Focus more on being the best player for the team instead of the best player on the team. (Bo Hanson)

Coaches working with high school or adolescent athletes might also consider using the following team activity as a way to clarify the difference between "selfless" and "selfish."

Prior to a team meeting, generate a list of related words for "selfless" and for "selfish." Common synonyms for selfless are gallant, honorable, noble, brave, heroic, gracious, altruistic, thoughtful, coachable and respectful. For selfish, coaches might use egotistic, greedy, self-centered, narcissistic, self-absorbed, vain, conceited, arrogant, pompous and boastful.

Create two word search puzzles – one for selfish words and one for selfless words. Many free online puzzle generators are available, and a typical word search puzzle will take less than 5 minutes to create (<http://puzzlemaker.discoveryeducation.com/WordSearchSetupForm.asp>).

Print the two puzzles on opposite sides of the same sheet of paper, and make one copy for each athlete. Do not identify the puzzle topics.

At the team meeting present the word search puzzles as a competition. Either have athletes compete individually or in small groups to see who can complete the two word puzzles first.

Debrief the activity by explaining that the words on one side of the worksheet define a selfish athlete while the words on the other side of the worksheet characterize a selfless athlete. Ask the athletes to then identify specific behaviors that correspond with some of the words on each side of the worksheet. What are examples of an athlete acting self-absorbed?

Finish by asking the athletes which side of the worksheet they would like to have their name written on if their teammates and coaches were asked to describe them. Have them sign their name on the selfless side of the worksheet. Collect the worksheets, make a photocopy to keep in each athlete's file and return the original to the athlete. Revisit the worksheet throughout the year – both when recognizing selfless behaviors or when an athlete behaves selfishly.

At the same time, building a durable culture of athlete accountability requires much more than clarifying messages. Behavioral standards and routines are needed to help athletes learn selfless and team-oriented behaviors. Many successful teams use a variation of The Hard Hat Award, described in detail in the book of the same title by Jon Gordon. After each practice or competition an athlete is selected – sometimes by the coaching staff, sometimes by teammates – who best exemplifies team values and selflessness. The athlete is then presented with the team “hard hat,” or some other representative symbol, and keeps it until it is awarded to the next recipient.

Another common strategy for teaching athletes how to behave selflessly is to design team activities around the theme of “everything earned, nothing given.” Newly hired University of Virginia football coach Bronco Mendenhall made news recently with this approach. Even previously taken-for-granted givens such as jersey numbers now have to be earned. Before the season starts, the team will vote to determine the order in which athletes will pick a jersey number, based on demonstrated work ethic and commitment to the team.

Finally, the simplest and most powerful way to develop selfless athletes is to model the message and behaviors on a daily basis as a coach. Coaches need to lead by example because athletes are always watching them. Coaches must demonstrate that they are not above the same standards for selflessness that they set for their athletes.

St. Louis Cardinals manager Mike Matheny is a tremendous case in point. In one well known example, he organized a team scrimmage in which the losing team was responsible for tidying up the clubhouse that day. Although not participating in the scrimmage, he assigned himself to the least desirable task of cleaning all of the toilets regardless of which side won the intrasquad game. The importance of coach modeling is succinctly captured in an oft-recited poem written by legendary basketball coach John Wooden:

*No written word, no spoken plea.
Can teach our youth what they should be.
Nor all the books on all the shelves.
It's what the teachers are, themselves.*

Although each generation of athletes presents coaches with unique challenges, dealing with entitled or selfish athletes is not one. Athletes have always been susceptible to moments of self-absorption or selfish behavior. Instead of lamenting “today’s kids” or hoping that athlete entitlement doesn’t infect your team, create a culture of selflessness by using messages to clarify the concept, teaching accountability through team activities and rituals, and modeling the desired behaviors as a coach.

Dr. Wade Gilbert’s areas of expertise include coaching science, talent development, sport and exercise psychology,

physical education, and youth sport. He holds degrees in Physical Education, Human Kinetics, and Education from the University of Ottawa in Canada. Gilbert has more than 20 years of experience in conducting applied research with partners around the world spanning all competitive levels, from youth leagues to World Cup. He is widely published and is frequently invited to serve as a featured speaker at national and international events.

Dr. Gilbert has advised organizations ranging from school districts, collegiate teams, Olympic organizations, and the United Nations on coaching education and sport-related issues. For more information, or to read more from Dr. Wade Gilbert, please visit [The Coach Doc](#). Find additional information at www.HumanKinetics.com.

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Detroit Lions/Farm Bureau Insurance High School Football Coach of the Week Program



By Chris Fritzsching, Director of Football Education - Detroit Lions

Each week throughout the nine-week Michigan High School football regular season, one coach that best develops his players' character, discipline, and football skill in addition to emphasizing player health and safety in their program, will be recognized for his commitment to the team, school, and community. The winner is selected by a panel of high school football media members - Mick McCabe (Detroit Free Press), Hugh Bernreuter (Saginaw News), Bret Bakita (WOOD Radio-106.9 FM, ESPN 96.1 FM-Fox 17/Grand Rapids) and James Cook (Traverse City Record-Eagle).

The 2016 program will award \$22,000 to aid in the development and promotion of high school football in the state of Michigan, thanks to contributions from the Detroit Lions, the NFL Foundation and presenting partner, Farm Bureau Insurance of Michigan.

Each winning coach during the regular season receives a \$2,000 donation to his school's football program. At the conclusion of the Michigan High School Football season, the Lions select the High School Football Coach of the Year. The Coach of the Year receives a \$4,000 donation to his school's football program in addition to being nominated for the Don Shula NFL High School Football Coach of the Year. All winners receive a certificate signed by Lions' head coach Jim Caldwell and National Football League (NFL) commissioner Roger Goodell, a personalized game ball as well as acknowledgement at an upcoming Lions home game.

Currently in its' 20th year, the Detroit Lions High School Coach of the Week program has awarded \$367,000 to high school football programs throughout the state of Michigan. For more information on the Detroit Lions High School Coach of the Week program, contact Chris Fritzsching, Lions' Director of Football Education, at 313-262-2248.

Week #1 Corey Parker-River Rouge

Detroit, MI—The Detroit Lions have named Corey Parker of River Rouge High School the week one recipient of the 2016 Farm Bureau Insurance of Michigan High School Football Coach of the Week Program.

Coach Parker led his Panthers to a 34-16 victory over Chelsea at the Prep Kickoff Classic during opening weekend of the high school football season. Currently in

his 11th season at River Rouge and his 8th year as head coach, Parker has directed the Panthers to six straight playoff appearances and has a career record of 56-21. River Rouge was the Division 5 state runner-up in 2015. This Thursday, River Rouge plays at Ann Arbor Huron.

In terms of player health and safety, the River Rouge football staff stresses the importance of Hawk tackling for 7th-12th graders. Hawk tackling is a shoulder leverage tackling system, rooted in rugby fundamentals, and designed to take the head out of the tackle to help make tackling safer. In combination with teaching Hawk tackling, the River Rouge football staff conducts auxiliary exercises designed to strengthen the neck muscles. Because the neck is an important part of keeping the head up to make a safer tackle, strengthening the neck results in stronger neck muscles, which can help cushion against and lessen the linear and rotational forces that cause concussions.

Week #2 Ron Bindi-Charlevoix

Detroit, MI—The Detroit Lions have named Ron Bindi of Charlevoix High School the week two recipient of the 2016 Farm Bureau Insurance of Michigan High School Football Coach of the Week Program.

Bindi, who's currently in his 37th year in coaching and 4th as head coach at Charlevoix, led his Rayders to a 22-14 victory over Boyne City. Bindi has also been a head coach at Bellaire, reaching an 8-man football runner up berth in 2012, and U of D Jesuit, along with numerous assistant coaching positions during his career. Charlevoix, who is currently ranked number 2 in Division 6, is 2-0 and travels to Mancelona to take on the Ironmen in a Northern Michigan Football League-Leaders Division game.

In terms of player health and safety, the Charlevoix football program employs a full-time athletic trainer to attend all practices and games. The Charlevoix Athletic Department also provides baseline concussion testing for all high school student-athletes in contact sports such as football, basketball, soccer and wrestling. This baseline concussion testing and post-injury tests are computerized assessments that measure reaction time, memory capacity, speed of mental processing, and executive functioning of the brain.

Week #3 Roger Bearss-Millington

Detroit, MI—The Detroit Lions have named Roger Bearss of Millington High School the week three recipient of the 2016 Farm Bureau Insurance of Michigan High School Football Coach of the Week Program.

Bearss led his Cardinals to a 37-16 victory over Essexville-Garber to go 3-0 on the season. Bearss has a record of 59-12 (83%) at Millington and has led the Cardinals to the Michigan High School Football playoffs in each of his 7 seasons. Prior to coming to Millington, Bearss held head coaching positions at Bad Axe (2 years), Frankfort (4 years), Newberry (3 years), and Frankenmuth (5 years). He has a career record of 128-79 (61.8%). Millington, currently ranked Number 1 in Division 6, hosts Birch Run on Friday, September 16 in a Tri-Valley Conference-East Division battle.

Week #4 Walker Zaban-Dearborn Fordson

Detroit, MI—The Detroit Lions have named Walker Zaban of Dearborn Fordson High School the week four recipient of the 2016 Farm Bureau Insurance of Michigan High School Football Coach of the Week Program.

Zaban led his Tractors to a 49-6 victory over Garden City to 4-0 on the season. In his 10 seasons as head coach, Zaban has a record of 76-26 (74.5%) at Fordson and has led the Tractors to the Michigan High School Football playoffs each of the last 9 seasons. Prior to taking on the head coaching duties, Zaban spent 13 years as an assistant coach at Fordson. Fordson is currently ranked No. 4 in Division 1 and travels to Redford Thurston on Friday, September 23 to take on the Eagles in a Western Wayne Athletic Conference-Blue Division battle.

Regarding player health & safety, through athletic training partner Beaumont, concussion baseline testing is provided for football, soccer and volleyball student-athletes. These baseline tests are used to assess an athlete's balance and brain function, including learning and memory skills and the ability to pay attention and concentrate, as well as the presence of any concussion symptoms. The Fordson Varsity Alumni Club also sponsors free heart check testing for interested student-athletes. The student heart check, also conducted by Beaumont, helps detect children, ages 13-18, who are at risk of sudden cardiac arrest. This type of test is not typically included within the routine physical required for playing interscholastic sports.

Promoting High School Football to Young Parents

After consulting a variety of interested parties, the MHSFCA has started a project promoting high school football to young parents, parents who have not yet made the decision about whether to allow their kids to play high school football. The project involves asking players, administrators and others, variations on the question "What has football taught you about life, how has it made you a better person?" We have recorded the responses and posted them on the Michigan High School Football Coaches Association Facebook page.

You can see what we have accumulated so far (this is an ongoing project) by searching Facebook for our page or by going to MHSFCA.com and clicking on the red box on the right to connect to our Facebook page.

The goal is to provide young parents with information that will help them make an informed decision. They know the risks. We want to point out the benefits, with our premise being that the benefits FAR outweigh the risks.

We strongly encourage you do take-up this project with your own players, administrators, etc. Get the video on your team's Facebook page, on your school's website/Facebook, on your parent organization's web page/Facebook, get it to your local media outlets, and GET IT TO US!

There are several reasons that many of our programs are suffering reduced numbers of participants. One, that we may be able to influence, is the perception that injuries are rampant and that our game is all about winning. We know that there is much, much more than the win/loss record. We teach our kids each day the values that will make them better people, better citizens. We need to make sure parents - that don't know us (and don't necessarily trust us, as coaches) - know what our players are learning. What better way to do this than from the mouths of players who have been through the system and learned first hand what makes high school football such a great game!

Thank You,

Larry Merx
Executive Director
MHSFCA



DETROIT
LIONS

All Star Committee Update

By Jim Sparks, All Star Game Chair

Even though the 2017 All Star game is several months away, I thought I would take this time to give everybody a quick update as to what is going on within the All Star Committee. Due to the outstanding experience at SVSU, I am glad to say that the game will be returning to the "Valley" for a second consecutive year. We have had several discussions with the staff of Saginaw Valley to improve upon what was a tremendous week for players, coaches, and fans alike. The game date has been scheduled for June 24, 2017 so go ahead and put that date on your calendars and make plans to attend.

In the months ahead, please check your emails for some important documents that we need you all to fill out and submit. First of all, if you are a regional director, look for the All Star coach nomination form. Each regional director will be responsible to nominate one

coach from their region to be considered for the role of All Star coach in 2017. Please keep in mind that, if a coach has served as an All Star coach in the past, they won't be eligible to serve for a second time. If you are a coach that has a strong desire to serve as an All Star coach, please contact your regional director and let them know of your interest. Once a pool of candidates has been generated, we will select the East and West staffs for the 2017 game at our winter meeting. In addition to nominating coaches, it won't be long until we start nominating players as well. Start looking for worthy candidates that have a legitimate interest in playing in our game. Our All Star game is a tremendous experience for those who participate and an even better showcase for all of the great things high school football in the state of Michigan represents and it is each and every member of our association's responsibility to make it the best it can be.

Recruiting Nights Continue to Grow!

In addition to you, high school coaches, getting an opportunity to talk about your players in a more relaxed atmosphere than possible at school, parents and student prospects have taken very positively to the MHSFCA Recruiting Nights. Parents have a chance to ask college coaches questions - about finances, academic programs, the college food service (!) and to "take the measure" of the college coaches they meet. The Recruiting Nights are divided into two parts. In the first segment, high school coaches stake out a table and college coaches come to see you at which time you can exchange info, transcripts, video and your insights about

your players. In the second segment, college coaches man their display tables and players and their parents visit the colleges. High school coaches are free to introduce your prospects and their parents to the coaches.

If you haven't attended a Recruiting Night, we encourage you to start this year! Do all you can to promote your players and your program to Michigan and midwest colleges (D2, D3 and NAIA) looking for qualified student athletes.

Check MHSFCA.com, for the final schedule.

*All Recruiting Nights will take place in either the last week of November or the first week of December.

Monday, December 5 • Grayling

Monday, December 5 • Jackson

Tuesday, December 6 • Lowell

Wednesday, December 7 • Edsel Ford

Thursday, December 8 • Walled Lake Western

Dates TBD • Escanaba • Troy

Award Nominations • Due by November 15

Hall of Fame

100 Career Wins
and/or 20 Years Coaching!

If you are aware of deserving Michigan High School Football Coaches who meet either of these two criteria and are not yet members of the MHSFCA Hall of Fame nominate them now. Don't assume someone else has taken the initiative!

To nominate a coach for membership in the Hall of Fame a letter is required. It must be received by Jack Carlson, MHSFCA Historian, before November 15 so that the nomination can be confirmed and considered at the Fall Board of Directors Meeting.

Send nominations to:

Jack Carlson
MHSFCA Historian
2195 Lakeridge Drive
Holland, MI 49423

Steve Spicer Leadership

The Steve Spicer Memorial Team Leadership Award honors high schools throughout the State of Michigan who exemplify the legacy left to us by Steve Spicer, the former head football coach at Fowler High School. Steve was an outstanding coach, teacher, husband, father and community leader before his untimely battle with cancer took him from us. Steve, a member of our Football Coaches Hall of Fame, had an outstanding coaching record along with capturing a state football title while at Fowler. He was a great role model for the players he coached and the students he taught.

Send nominations to:

Jim Neumann
3152 Bretfield Dr.
Flushing, MI 48433
jneumann@powerscatholic.org

Fran Herrington Woman of the Year

The Fran Herrington Award is presented in the memory of the late wife of John Herrington (Farmington Hills Harrison). Fran was a tremendous part of their football program and school community who gave tirelessly of her time and energy. She helped in creating a successful football program in her community, and she also worked on a number of projects for the MHSFCA. This award is presented annually to honor those women who have contributed their time, energy and expertise in promoting high school football in their community and the state of Michigan. This award is presented at the MHSFCA clinic in January.

Send nominations to:

Steve Robb
(734) 788-5562
robbsteve1@gmail.com

Assistant Coach of Year

The award for Assistant Coach of the Year includes a category for a coach who has been a head coach, then returned to an assistant position in order to stay active in the sport. A nomination form, available at MHSFCA.com points out the requirement of ten years experience as an assistant. Due November 15.

Nominees MUST BE MEMBERS of the MHSFCA!

Send nominations to:

Pat Maloney
11340 S. Morey Road
McBain, MI 49657
pmaloney@mc bain.org
(906) 478-3290

Jim Crowley

The Jim Crowley Award is given in memory of the late, former head coach at Jackson Lumen Christi High School, a great coach and dedicated family man who was tragically killed at the height of his career. The award honors individuals who have made special contributions to the game of football and the Michigan High School Football Coaches Association.

If you would like to nominate an individual for this most prestigious award, please send a letter of nomination.

Send nominations to:

Larry Sellers
4380 Ridgemoor Dr.
Traverse City, MI 49684

Also At

MHSFCA.com

**Alliance Award
Nomination**

**Future Teachers/Coaches
Information Sheet**

**MHSCA/Gatorade
Coaching Service Award**

**Coaches' Placement
Data Base**

Scholarship Application

MHSFCA Regions & Board Elections - Odd Regions

Regional Directors in ODD numbered regions will be selected in online elections in January 2017.

If you are interested in running as a director in an ODD numbered region, you should contact Steve Wilson by email: swilson.fpt@gmail.com or USPS mail: Steve Wilson, 3010 Elm, Fruitport, MI 49415-9665 to have your name placed on the ballot. Regions are assigned by conference affiliation and then by geographic location with some exceptions. Regions were re-numbered in 2014 to reflect changing league alignments and numbers of schools. All 8-man football teams are now in Region 18.

MHSFCA Regions (# of Schools)

Region 1 (32)

Great Northern U.P. Conference
Mid-Eastern Football Conference
Mid-Peninsula Athletic Conference
Western Peninsula Athletic Conference

Region 2 (45)

Big North Conference
Highland Conference
North Star League - Big Dipper
North Star League - Little Dipper
Northern MI Football League - Leaders
Northern MI Football League - Legacy
Northern MI Football League - Legends
Independent Schools
Ogemaw Heights

Region 3 (35)

Central State Activities Association - Gold
Central State Activities Association - Silver
Lakes-8 Activities Conference
West Michigan Conference

Region 4 (34)

Jack Pine Conference
Mid-State Athletic Conference
Tri-Valley Conference - Central
Tri-Valley Conference - West
Independent Schools
Bay City John Glenn
Tawas Area

Region 5 (37)

Flint Metro League
Genesee Area Conference - Blue
Genesee Area Conference - Red
Saginaw Valley Association - Blue
Saginaw Valley Association - Red
Independent Schools
Saginaw Nouvel

Region 6 (49)

Ottawa-Kent Conference - Black
Ottawa-Kent Conference - Blue
Ottawa-Kent Conference - Gold
Ottawa-Kent Conference - Green
Ottawa-Kent Conference - Red
Ottawa-Kent Conference - Silver
Ottawa-Kent Conference - White

Region 7 (35)

Berrien-Cass-St. Joseph Conference- Blue
Berrien-Cass-St. Joseph Conference - Red
Berrien-Cass-St. Joseph Conference - White
Wolverine "B" Conference

Region 8 (35)

Big "8" Conference
Interstate Eight Athletic Conference
Southwestern MI Athletic Conference - Central
Southwestern MI Athletic Conference - East
Southwestern MI Athletic Conference - Lakeshore
Southwestern MI Athletic Conference - Valley
Southwestern MI Athletic Conference - West
Independent Schools
Benton Harbor
Charlotte

Region 9 (34)

Capital Area Activities Conference - Blue
Capital Area Activities Conference - Red
Capital Area Activities Conference - White
Central Michigan Athletic Conference
Greater Lansing Athletic Conference

Region 10 (31)

Cascades Conference
Lenawee County Athletic Association
Southern Central Athletic Association
Tri-County Conference

Region 11 (30)

Blue Water Area Conference
Greater Thumb Conference - East
Greater Thumb Conference - West
Tri-Valley Conference - East

Region 12 (36)

Kensington Lakes Athletic Association - Central
Kensington Lakes Athletic Association - North
Kensington Lakes Athletic Association - South
Kensington Lakes Athletic Association - West
Southeastern Conference - Red
Southeastern Conference - White

Region 13 (40)

Downriver League
Huron League
Michigan Metro Athletic Conference - Blue
Michigan Metro Athletic Conference - Red
Western Wayne Athletic Conference- Blue
Western Wayne Athletic Conference- Red

Region 14 (24)

Catholic High School League - AA
Catholic League - Central
Catholic League - Intersectional 1
Catholic League - Intersectional 2
Independent Football League
Michigan Independent Athletic Conference
Independent Schools
Detroit U of D Jesuit
Pontiac Notre Dame Preparatory

Region 15 (25)

Charter School Conference
Detroit Public School League - East Division I
Detroit Public School League - East Division II
Detroit Public School League - West Division I
Detroit Public School League - West Division II
Independent Schools
Detroit Edison
Detroit Leadership Academy
Detroit Public Safety Academy
Detroit Voyageur College Prep

Region 16 (26)

Oakland Activities Association - Blue
Oakland Activities Association - Red
Oakland Activities Association - White
Independent Schools
Harper Woods
Detroit Country Day

Region 17 (37)

Macomb Area Conference - Blue
Macomb Area Conference - Bronze
Macomb Area Conference - Gold
Macomb Area Conference - Red
Macomb Area Conference - Silver
Macomb Area Conference - White

Region 18 (8-Man) (34)

Central Michigan 8-Man Football Conference
Eastern Upper Peninsula Athletic Conference
Great Lakes School for the Deaf Conference
Mid-Michigan 8-Man Football League
North Central Thumb 8-Man League
Southern Michigan 8-Man League
West Michigan 8-Man
Western Upper Peninsula 8-Man Football Cof.
Independent Schools
Camden-Frontier
Covert
Lawrence
St. Joseph Michigan Lutheran

Duties of Regional Directors

- I. Directors are responsible for the management of the affairs, funds and property of the association.
- II. Directors will promote membership in their region:
 - A. Secure total membership count for region from the membership Chair
 - B. Contact delinquent members urging re-enrollment.
- III. Represent the interests of the Association and his region at all Association Meetings.
 - A. Assume the duties relating to the committee assignment(s) made by the President. Promote all activities of the MHSFCA in his region
 - B. At the Summer Meetings, participate in committee work and bring names of honorary membership for nomination. Be available to help with whatever needs to be done to make the MHSFCA All-Star Game successful.
 - C. At the Fall meeting, come prepared with Coach of the Year responsibilities completed.
 1. Contact any coach from your region receiving a Regional Coach of the Year award.
 2. Make sure each honored coach is in attendance at the January clinic for his presentation.
 - D. Prior to January elections, if running for re-election, be sure your name has been properly placed on the ballot. If not seeking re-election, encourage at least two coaches from your region to run.
- E. Attend the MHSFCA Winners Circle Clinic and be prepared to assume at least one Clinic responsibility. Bring a gift for a door prize.
- IV. Serve as an active member of whatever committee you were appointed to by the President.
- V. Report to your region all urgent business transacted or discussed as soon as possible. Keep a record of all expenses incurred in such cases of necessary communication and submit to the Executive Director for reimbursement.
- VI. Be ethical in all your football relationships so as to be a model to the coaches in your region.

To have your name placed on the ballot contact Steve Wilson in writing (email works).

Steve Wilson
33010 Elm
Fruitport, MI 49415-9665
swilson.fpt@gmail.com

Coach-To-Coach Mentoring Program

Ever had a question about how to do your job as a coach and not know where to turn for an answer? Need the name of an experienced coach who you could talk to in confidence about answering that question - or solving that problem? The MHSFCA has initiated a new "mentoring" program that you can turn to for this kind of help. Called Coach-To-Coach, that is exactly what it is. Experienced coaches who have a long standing relationship with the MHSFCA (Past Presidents, Regional Directors, Committee Members, etc.) have agreed to have their names and contact information listed at MHSFCA.com as volunteer mentors. If you have something you need help with, look over the list, contact one (or more) of the Coach-To-Coach volunteers. Each of the volunteers has several years of coaching experience. Get their advice. It's free and confidential.

Find the list of Coach-To-Coach volunteers at

MHSFCA.com

You must be a member of MHSFCA to access this service.

Join online at MHSFCA.com

State Final Games Hospitality @ Ford Field

MHSFCA members are again invited to stop by the 7th floor **Rooftop Suite** hospitality room at the State Final games November 25-26. (You must be a member for admission - membership will be available at our Association table in the Atrium. Immediate family members are invited to accompany members.)

More coaches each year take advantage of this opportunity to network with associates from across the state while watching the games from a great vantage point. Join us! Limited refreshments will be available.

Undue Influence

For this edition of the MHSFCA newsletter, we have been asked to provide a summary and guidance of the Undue Influence rule, which more simply put, is the anti-recruiting rule that all MHSAA member schools must follow. We hope this information is helpful to your school and program.

In 2007, the United States Supreme Court issued a rare unanimous decision that state high school athletic association rules should prevent and penalize the recruiting of students into high schools because of athletics. Member schools of the MHSAA have agreed to follow this rule, along with all others, which apply equally to public schools, charter schools and nonpublic schools.

A long-standing rule, Undue Influence, involves cooperation and compliance by more than just the athletes and coaching staff. The anti-recruiting rule states that a violation can occur if a person "directly or indirectly associated with the school" encourages or secures the attendance of a student because of athletics. "Directly or indirectly associated with the school" may include but not be limited to parents of players, booster club members, alumni and representatives of non-school athletic programs. Often it is the non-school environment (AAU or youth sports) where inappropriate recruiting rule violations occur and where vigilance is needed.

Parents or others should not attempt to encourage or secure attendance by a student because of sports. They should not attempt to build up the roster by encouraging a good athlete to enroll at one school or another, or target the best athletes for enrollment. Athletic recruiting is a violation, whether to a middle school student beginning the 9th grade or a high school student transferring between schools.

Attempting to encourage a student or parent to attend any school because the student is an athlete risks the school's reputation, their entire program and the future involvement of adults with that high school. Violation of the anti-recruiting rule can result in penalties to the school and athletic program along with ineligibility for a coach or a recruited athlete. It can also result in a parent, alumnus or supporter being banned from attendance and involvement with the school. All schools must strongly urge all those who support any school to follow the spirit and letter of the anti-athletic recruiting rules.

In the present day, schools of all types often market or advertise to either retain or attract students. The anti-athletic recruiting rule must be understood and followed by those who support a school to protect legitimate school-wide efforts to attract students who make their decisions free from athletic recruiting. Decisions about what school to attend would involve many factors, including athletics. But because athletics is based on competition, discussions about sports are only allowed as part of general school presentations. Non-athletic department school administrators and staff deal with admissions and are assigned to provide information to students and parents about any school. People interested in enrollment should be referred to administrators responsible for admissions.

Schools need to diligently follow this rule. Insist that your school's staff follow these rules in both letter and spirit. Anti-recruiting rules require the awareness and adherence of an entire school community to ensure a level playing field in school sports.



Highlights from Last Year

Scholarship Winners



2016 scholarships were awarded to (left to right): Terry Rose Memorial scholarship -Kevin Greenman (Represented by Ed Greenman). Competitive scholarships went to Collin Hinkston, Lake City High School; Austin Thompson, Onsted High School; Jacob Rhodes, Chelsea High School; Camden Dice, Clare High School; Zeth Dean, Lowell High School (Represented by Noel Dean).

Grayling Recruiting Nights

Hosted by Head Coach, Tim Sanchez, 11 colleges, 11 high schools and 22 prospects and their parents gathered at Grayling High School to explore their college academic and athletic options. Pictured are Jeff Pierce (Northwood University) and Dave Schulz, Cheboygan High School.



East All Star Team



The East team enjoyed a closely fought, 20-14 win at the 34th Annual East West All Star Game, held at Saginaw Valley State University on June 25.

2017



Presented by
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HELD AT **SHERATON DETROIT NOVI**

DETROIT

February 10-12, 2017

GRAND RAPIDS

February 17-19, 2017



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586 -943-6141

North Detroit

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North Detroit

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734-748-9339



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MHSFCA

Membership Benefits

Did you know that:

One of the benefits of MHSFCA membership is liability insurance through the MHSCA and NOCAD.



GENERAL LIABILITY INSURANCE PROGRAM

As a membership benefit, coverage is provided by the Commercial General Liability Policy issued to the National Organization of Coaches Association Directors. This policy will provide general liability coverage to the Michigan High School Coaches Association and its members.

CARRIER

Houston Casualty Company

POLICY PERIOD

August 1, 2016 - August 1, 2017

LIMITS OF INSURANCE

\$1,000,000	Each Occurrence
\$1,000,000	General Aggregate (per Member)
\$1,000,000	Products/Completed Operations
\$1,000,000	Personal & Advertising Injury
\$ 300,000	Fire Damage
\$ 25,000	Sexual Abuse (per Member)
Excluded	Medical Payments

COVERAGES

- ❖ Participant Legal Liability for insured members
- ❖ Liability assumed under insured written contract
- ❖ Defense Cost outside limits

EXCLUSIONS

- ❖ The use of automobiles, buses, watercraft and aircraft
- ❖ Property of others in the care, custody, and control of the insured.
- ❖ This insurance does not apply to members that coach at an All-Star game that is not approved by your state coaches association.

CAMP COVERAGE

Today, most Coaches are involved in some type of sports camp. Please note that our General Liability Program follows insured members while working at camps and/or conducting their own personal camp.

PARTICIPANT/ACCIDENT COVERAGE

In addition, Participant/Accident Coverage is available for coaches and/or participants. Should an accident occur during a camp, clinic or event, this secondary coverage could help offset the loss suffered by families affected by such accidents.

CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE

- ❖ If a member has a camp and requires proof of insurance, certificates are at no additional charge.
- ❖ If a member has a camp and requires a certificate of insurance naming an Additional Insured on the General Liability Policy, the cost is \$125.00.
- ❖ Participant/Accident Coverage must be in place for all participants prior to the issuance of a certificate of insurance naming an Additional Insured on the General Liability Policy.
- ❖ Certificates of Insurance and Participant/Accident request forms are available on our website: www.loomislapann.com

INSURANCE ADMINISTRATOR



www.loomislapann.com

(P) 800-566-6479 | (F) 518-792-3426

Greg Joly
Lori George
Karen Boller

gjoly@loomislapann.com
lgeorge@loomislapann.com
kboller@loomislapann.com

Disclaimer: This is an insurance overview for summary purposes only; for complete policy terms and conditions please refer to the NOCAD Master Policy.



LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP

Name _____

Home Address (Street) _____

City, State ZIP+4 _____

Phone (H) _____

E-mail _____

School Where Last Coached _____

Total Years Football Coaching _____

Qualifications

***You must meet all FOUR!**

1. Coached football for twenty years at any level.
2. Previously a MHSFCA Member.
3. Retired from coaching.
4. Pay a one-time fee of \$100

Send to: Steve Wilson
3010 Elm St.
Fruitport, MI 49415

Membership Application Form



Send to: Steve Wilson
3010 Elm Stret
Fruitport, MI 49415

Join MHSFCA / MHSFA / NHSCA (\$30)

Name: _____

School: _____

Coaching Position: _____ Total Years Coaching: _____

Home Address (Street): _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone (H): _____

Email: _____

Membership runs January - December
MHSFCA Clinic Registration includes membership.
MHSFA / NOCAD insurance coverage coincides with your membership term.

AFCA

The MHSFCA encourages you to also become a member of the national football professional organization for football coaches, the *American Football Coaches Association*.

Find out more and join online at:
www.AFCA.com

NEWSLETTER DELIVERY

Member Newsletters are available online only. If we have your email address, we will notify you when the current newsletter is available online at:

www.MHSFCA.com

Contact Steve Wilson with your email address at: MHSFCA.website@gmail.com