



QUARTER FINALS ADDED TO STATE FOOTBALL PLAYOFFS FOR 1977

PLAYOFF UPDATE

The Michigan High School Athletic Association has come up with the following statement about Michigan High School Football Playoffs.

1. Saturday, November 26, will be the date for the finals for the 1977 season. The MHSFCA would like to have the *Saturday after Thanksgiving* as the permanent dates for the football finals.

2. There *will be quarter finals* in addition to the semi finals and final games for the *1977 season*. At the conclusion of the year, the MHSAA will evaluate the above to see if it is a sound procedure to follow for Michigan High School Football.

3. The top two teams in each region in each classification will play each other as a part of the quarter finals.

4. The site of the quarter finals will be determined by the MHSAA.

5. The bonus point system will remain the same for the 1977 football season.

6. A team's schedule must be finalized by the third playing date to avoid scheduling which would change one's playoff points.

NEW DIRECTORS

Due to the resignation of Dick Comar who was the Public Relations Chairman, the MHSFCA Board of Directors at the March 25 meeting selected Jim Crowley to head up the position. Tom Fagan of Ann Arbor Huron is now Region 3 Director and Chuck Ritter of Ann Arbor Pioneer was selected as Region 3 Alternate. Please check Page 2 for the MHSFCA Officers and Directors.

STATE OF MICHIGAN LEGISLATION

At the March 25 meeting of the MHSFCA Board of Directors, a positive vote was given to support Senate Bill 31 to raise the legal drinking age in Michigan from 18 to 19 and Senate Bill 76 to raise the drinking age from 18 to 21.

President Muhlenkamp is quoted as saying, "We as an association support the basic idea of raising the legal drinking age." If you are in favor of the above bills, contact your senator or write to the Governor. It is important that we as coaches voice our opinion since many coaches have definite feelings about drinking and athletics.

Another important issue that many coaches are faced with is that of millage and school finances. It is not unusual for athletics to be cancelled due to a failure of a millage vote. Many coaches are very concerned about this and they feel that something must be done to guarantee that their program will not be in jeopardy every year.

Oarie Lemanski of Bay City Central made a presentation to the MHSFCA Directors asking them to back possible legislation which would insure extra curricular activities. If passed the legislation would state that a certain amount or percent of the school budget must be earmarked to finance extra curricular activities. Representative Jim Barsha of Bay City is going to introduce the above legislation.

Extra curricular activities are usually the first things to be cut from the budget and the last thing to be reinstated. It is important that we voice our feelings about the importance of extra curricular activities in our schools. Contact your representative.



DICK COMAR MOVES TO WAYNE STATE

The MHSFCA may never be the same without the services of Dick Comar who has accepted an assistant coaching position at Wayne State University. The colorful and hard working Comar was a "founding father" for the organization, and he was very well respected by all those who had a chance to work with him.

From 1972-74 he was Region 2 Director and from 1974 until the March 25 Spring Meeting, he was the Public Relations Director.

In 1976 he was selected the Detroit Catholic League Coach of the Year and his overall record at Southgate Aquinas was a very respectful 47-16-3. During his nine years at Aquinas he was also a very successful head track coach and athletic director.

Coach Comar has also been a noted clinic speaker having made guest appearances at the Wayne State Clinic, the MHSFCA Clinic, and the Detroit Catholic Coaches Clinic. He has been the President and Vice President of the Detroit Catholic Coaches Association.

We certainly wish Dick the very best and we know that he will continue to be a success in whatever role the future holds for him.

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Ron Holland, Farmington

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Region 3

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Chuck Ritter, Ann Arbor Pioneer

Region 4

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Region 5

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Joe Veselenak, Rogers City

Region 15

Jim Ooley, Traverse City

Tom Stobie, Frankfort

Region 16

John Srholec, Marquette

Jerry Cvengros, Escanaba

SPECIAL NOTICES

Dave Driscoll has expressed an interest in finding out if any of the football coaches in the state of Michigan are interested in adding another classification based on a school's enrollment to the present number which is four. If you have an opinion contact Coach Driscoll at Jackson Parkside High School.

Mike Siwek of Northview High School is interested in finding out if coaches are in favor of sharing football drills in the MHSFCA Newsletter. If you have a response to the above, contact Coach Siwek at Northview H.S., Grand Rapids, Michigan 49505.



PAST PRESIDENT RON HOLLAND

If one has been an active member of the MHSFCA, it is easy to see that we made great progress last year. Much of the credit must be given to Ron Holland who skillfully directed the activities of the organization as President.

Ron is a winner in everything that he does. For the last 17 years he has been the head football coach and a physical education teacher at North Farmington High School. His teams have been extremely well coached and his record of 102-47-3 speaks for itself. In 1970 North Farmington was the No. 1 Class A High School in the state of Michigan. Coach Holland's teams were undefeated in 1965 and 1970 and they have posted five conference championships in eleven years, while finishing second four times. For his outstanding efforts, Ron was named the Class A Coach of the Year by the Detroit News in 1970.

In addition to being a noted football coach, Ron also has been very successful with the North Farmington track program. In his spare time he has managed to complete the requirements for a Master's Degree and a Specialist's degree.

All of the football coaches in the state of Michigan are indebted to Ron for his contributions to the MHSFCA. Your efforts has done much to advance the game of football in the state of Michigan and we will always be grateful for your work as President of the MHSFCA. Thank you Ron!

IMPORTANT DATES

August 15 start of football practice in the state of Michigan

September 9 First football game

November 12 .. Football Quarter Finals

November 19 Football Semi Finals

November 26 Third Annual Football Finals at Pontiac Stadium

January 27-29 Kellogg's Coach of the Year Clinic

February 24-25 Michigan High School Football Coaches Clinic

MHSFCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS' meetings

The following is a listing of dates for the MHSFCA Board of Directors Meetings:

1. July 22-23, Annual Summer Conference at Alpena.
2. November 25, tentative meeting to select "Coach of the Year".
3. February 24, clinic meeting at Battle Creek Lakeview H.S.

Newsletter

The Newsletter is the official publication of the Michigan High School Football Coaches Association with the expressed aim of keeping the membership informed.

Editor

Don Lessner

Riverview High School

Riverview, Michigan 48192

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Do We Want An All Star Football Game In The State Of Michigan?

At the annual MHSFCA Clinic at Ann Arbor Pioneer High School in February, the coaches in attendance were asked to fill out a questionnaire stating their opinion about an All Star Football Game for the state of Michigan. Sixty-four percent of the coaches stated that they are in favor of an All Star Football Game and sixty-nine percent said that they would take an active part in the game if asked to do so. Seventy-four percent indicated that they would be willing to sell tickets to members of their school district and community.

The topic of having an All Star game has been discussed for the last two years by the MHSFCA. Much investigation and work has been done to see if such a game is possible for the state of Michigan. Numerous material has been collected from other states that sponsor an All Star Football Game. Both pros and cons have been stated for and against such a contest and the MHSFCA is at a point in time where they must decide if they want an All Star Game.

At the present time Don Lessner of Riverview High School and John

Srholec of Marquette High School are researching the possibilities of the game. At the March meeting of the MHSFCA, Marquette, Michigan was mentioned as a possible site for the game. Coach Srholec has contacted Mr. Gil Canale, Athletic Director at Northern Michigan University, and a response was sent back stating that the facilities at Northern Michigan would be available for an All Star Football Game. The college would house and feed the athletes and coaches, plus provide practice and game facilities for the contest. It was also mentioned that the college might be able to house high school football coaches and their families that attend the game. The first week in August was set up as a possible date.

Many questions still have to be answered. Will the Michigan High School Athletic Association sanction the game? This is a key factor since it is necessary to have the state agree to the contest. The present feeling is that the MHSAA is *not* in favor of the game. However, it was also the feeling of many that we should not have high school football playoffs and one can

easily see how successful the playoffs have been. If there is enough interest the MHSAA will most likely send questionnaires to the high school principals to get a response from them. All football coaches should express their opinions if the questionnaires are sent to the high school principals.

There might also be other problems. Who would select the players and coaches? How would the players be divided into two teams? How would the game be financed? What would be the involvement of the MHSFCA and the MHSAA? Other states have faced these problems and there is no reason why we cannot formulate a successful plan for the game.

Since most of the state playoff and championship games are held in the lower peninsula, an All Star Football Game at Marquette would be a real athletic boost for the upper peninsula. Citizens and different groups from the UP who have been contacted about an All Star Football Game are very excited about the possibilities of such a game. If you have any feelings about the same, please contact your Region Director, Don Lessner, or John Srholec.

FALL FOOTBALL PRACTICE SCHEDULES FOR MICHIGAN COLLEGES

Last month a questionnaire was sent to the twenty different colleges in the state of Michigan that play football. The following is the result of the questionnaire:

Name of College	Date of First Fall Practice	Time of Workouts	Days of Week	First Football Game
Adrian College	August 22	9-11; 3-5	Mon. — Sat.	Sept. 10 Bluffton at home, 1:30
Eastern Michigan University	August 20	9:00 to 3:30	Mon. — Sat.	Sept. 3 at Northern Ill., 6:30
Hillsdale College	August 17	9:00 & 3:00	Daily	Sept. 3 at Kentucky State, 1:30
Michigan State University	August 22	9:15 & 3:00	Mon. — Sat.	Sept. 10 Purdue at home, 1:30
Northern Michigan University	August 15	9:15 & 3:15	Mon. — Sat.	Sept. 3 at North Dakota State, 7:30
Northwood Institute	August 25	8:30 & 4:30		Sept. 10 at Michigan Tech., 1:30
Saginaw Valley State College	August 17	8:30 & 2:30	Mon. — Sat.	Sept. 3 William Penn at home, 1:30

1977 FOOTBALL RULE CHANGES

The following is a listing of some of the 1977 Football Rule Changes that might be of interest to you as a football coach:

1-5-1g: Require players to wear thigh guards.

2-17-2: Define an offensive player as being on the line of scrimmage when his head intersects plane drawn through the snapper's belt line and a player legally in the backfield when his head does not intersect the belt line of the nearest teammate on the line of scrimmage.

6-1-3: Provide it is encroachment and a dead ball foul if a member of the receiving team or the kicking team, except the holder or the kicker, penetrates the plane of his free-kick line prior to the time the ball is kicked. (Delete all references to *offsides* from the rules.)

9-1-1: Permit players on offense to contact opponents with their hands or arms provided the elbows are entirely outside the shoulders and the palms are toward the ground with the forearms approximately parallel to the ground and extended no more than 45 degrees from the body.

10-5-3: Penalize a foul by the defensive team during a down which results in a successful field goal or touchdown at the succeeding kick-off or at the succeeding spot in case of an overtime.

JOBS

1. Are you looking for another football coaching position?
2. Is your school district in need of a football coach?

If you answer "yes" to either of the above questions, contact Dave Driscoll at Jackson Parkside High School in Jackson, Michigan 49203.

On Page 4 you will find forms if you are looking for a job or if your school district is in need of a coach.

Form No. 1

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____

PHONE: _____

COLLEGE (Undergrad) _____ (Graduate) _____

MAJOR: _____ MINOR: _____

SUBJECTS TAUGHT & YEARS OF EXPERIENCE IN EACH:

COACHING EXPERIENCE: (Sport & Level)

Form No. 2

NAME: _____

SCHOOL: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____

TYPE OF TEACHING OPENING:

TYPE OF COACHING OPENING:

**Michigan
High School
Football Coaches
Association
APPLICATION
FORM**

Send To: Mr. John Blackstock
Bad Axe High School
Bad Axe, Mich. 48413

CHECK ONE:

- ☐ MHSFCA ONLY - \$2.00
- ☐ JOINT—
- MHSFCA-MHSCA - \$5.00

NAME _____

SCHOOL _____

SCHOOL ADDRESS (street) _____

CITY _____ ZIP CODE _____

POSITION _____

HOME ADDRESS (street) _____

CITY _____ ZIP CODE _____

MEA REGION _____ PHONE _____

MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL COACHES ASSN.

John Blackstock, Secretary-Treasurer
Bad Axe High School
Bad Axe, Michigan 48413

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