



## WHAT CHANGES WOULD IMPROVE MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL???



MHSFCA President Jeff Smith encourages members to work for improvement of the Association.

At the March meeting of the MHSFCA Board of Directors, President Jeff Smith of East Lansing High School instructed the Directors and Alternates in attendance to come up with ideas that would improve Michigan High School football. He stated, "Our Association has made great strides since its origination and I do not want to see it go down while I am the President". He also indicated that we cannot become complacent. We now have the Playoffs due to the efforts of the MHSFCA and our Association has done much to improve the game of football. We must continue to investigate any changes which might improve our Association and football in the state of Michigan. It was pointed out that many other football associations throughout the nation take a rather passive position. Our goal is to constantly be on the search for means of improvement.

At the meeting possible projects and changes were mentioned by the Directors and Alternates. They include the following:

1. Should we continue in our pursuit to have an All Star Football Game?

The Representative Council voted 19-0 against All Star Games.

2. What method might increase the membership of the MHSFCA? At the present time we have 1261 members which is the highest number in the history of the MHSFCA.
3. Should we be more militant in regard to the rules and regulations placed on us by the MHSAA? We have little or no say in most of the rules that govern the game of football and many of the rules seem to be discriminating against football.
4. Should our Association or the MHSAA give some kind of recognition to those teams that qualify for the Playoffs. Other sports are given awards by the MHSAA.
5. Would it be best if there was a mandatory exchange of game film for those participating in the Playoffs?
6. How can we achieve better public relations with the college football coaches in the state of Michigan?
7. Should the MHSFCA select an All-State Football Team? We currently select 64 "Regional Coaches of the Year" and 4 "Coaches of the Year" for each class.
8. How much should we charge college coaches who want to be members of our Association?
9. Should our Newsletter also be sent to high school administrators?
10. Should our Association encourage football on the Community College and Junior College Level? At the present time only Grand Rapids Junior College offers football while the state of California has 91 Junior Colleges playing football.
11. Is it necessary for the MHSFCA to print notebooks and guidelines for its various committees? What format should they follow?
12. Are the Michigan High School coaches interested in our Association publishing through our Newsletter the date of spring practice for the University and Colleges in the state?
13. How do we make sure that all of the "Regional Coaches of the Year" will attend our football clinic to pick up their awards? Last February 15 of 64 coaches did not show for the awards program.
14. How can we get more representation on the MHSAA Representative Council and the Rules Committee? These two groups control rule changes, yet we have little or no say.
15. Should our Association form a committee on "Interscholastic Sports"?
16. Can we insert football drills in the Newsletter?
17. Should the regional areas for the Playoffs be changed?
18. Can we improve on the notebooks at the clinic?
19. Should our membership take a more active part in the selection of the MHSFCA officers?
20. How can we work to keep the image of the game of football strong? What is the public image of football coaching and how can it be improved?
21. Are the members of the MHSFCA well informed as to what the Association is trying to do? How can we

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## Officers

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Jeff Smith, East Lansing

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Mona Shores

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Tom Stobie, Frankfort

### Region 16

Randy Neelis, Les Cheneaux

Jim Hilgendorf, Rapid River



## IMPORTANT DATES

August 14.....Start of football practice in the state of Michigan

September 8.....First football game

November 11.....Football Quarter Finals

November 18....Football Semi Finals

November 25.....Third Annual Football Finals at Pontiac Stadium

January 26-28, 1979.....Kellogg's Coach of the Year Clinic

February 23-24, 1979.....Michigan High School Football Coaches Clinic at Warren Woods High School

## MHSFCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETINGS

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

1. July 21-22, Annual Summer Conference at Lost Lake Resort Club at Lincoln, Michigan.
2. November 30, tentative meeting to select "Coach of the Year".
3. February 23, 1979, clinic meeting at Warren Woods High School.

## 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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## Past President "IKE" MUHLENKAMP

Last year the MHSFCA was skillfully led by Ivan Muhlenkamp who was the fifth president of our Association. Through his leadership and dedication the MHSFCA has continued to grow and is one of the leading football associations in the country.

Ike has been the head football coach and a math instructor at St. Joseph High School for the last ten years. His teams are always well respected and his record of 60-29-1 verifies this fact. Before he took the head coaching position at St. Joseph, he guided Albion High School to a three year record of 22 wins and 3 losses. His overall record as a head football coach is an impressive 82-32-1.

Ike graduated from Bowling Green State University and he also has a Master's Degree from Eastern Michigan University.

Recognition is nothing new for Ike. In 1973 and 1974 he was selected as Regional Coach of the Year by our Association and twice he was selected as the Berrian County Coach of the Year for his outstanding teams. In 1967 the Detroit Free Press selected Albion High School as the No. 1 Class B football team in the state of Michigan. One of the real thrills of coaching is having an undefeated season and Ike has been very fortunate posting three perfect seasons (1967-71-73). He was a member of the Detroit Free Press All Star Selection Committee and he has been on the UPI Board for the last 13 years.

Coach Muhlenkamp has been involved with the MHSFCA since origination in 1972. He has been a Director and is currently working with the Past Presidents of the Association.

Ike and his wife Sue have four children: Philip, Matt, Stacy, and David. All of the members of our Association are most appreciative to Ike for all of the time and effort that he has put into the MHSFCA. His involvement has not only got our organization started, but through his hard work we have continued to grow. We surely thank you Ike for all of your endless hours of work and we hope that you have many fond memories of our Association. We are the benefactors of your effort.

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- have better communication with the membership?
- 22. Where and when should we have the meeting to select the Regional Coaches of the Year? Should it be before or after the Playoffs?
- 23. How active should our Association be in changing the drinking age?
- 24. How can we unite the Upper and Lower Peninsula in regard to our Association?
- 25. Should the point system for the Playoffs be changed? If so, what would be a better method?
- 25. Should our Association give certificates for Head and Assistant Coaches whose teams make the Playoffs? Would a medal or some other type of recognition be more appropriate?
- 27. Would it be in the best interest of the MHSFCA to have a "five year reunion" especially of the officers?
- 28. Do we need a liaison person to represent our Association to the MHSAA and the National Association of Secondary Principals?
- 29. Should the MHSFCA have an "idea booth" at our annual clinic so that those coaches in attendance might make suggestions for our Association?
- 30. Would it be best for the MHSFCA to have a separate Secretary and Treasurer? At the present time Mr. John Blackstock of Bad Axe High School functions in both positions. Should there be added pay for these positions?
- 31. Should there be overtime games for JV games?
- 32. How can our Association help to eliminate the "3 man rule"?
- 33. What should we do about the present elimination of scrimmages during the season? The MHSFCA had no input into this regulation.
- 34. Should our Association take an active part in the preparation of young coaches? Maybe our Association could formulate a list of do's and don'ts for coaches.

As one can see there are many areas

that the MHSFCA could become involved in. What should be our priorities? How militant should our Association be? What should be our relationship with the MHSAA?

As a member you have a right to contact your local Director and express your opinion. Check Page 2 for a listing of the Directors and Alternates. They are your representatives. Feel free to express your thoughts and concerns. Constructive criticism and indepth thinking can lead to improvement in our Association. Give it some thought!

## MHSFCA MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Every successful organization must be aware of its membership. One of the constant goals of the MHSFCA is to have as many members as possible. It is the responsibility of *all head football coaches* to see that they and their assistant coaches are members of our Association and that they join on a *yearly* basis. If we are to have an active Association, we must continue to grow. This can only happen through the cooperation of the football coaches throughout the state.

Membership in the MHSFCA runs from the start of the school year until June. If you attend the MHSFCA football clinic, you are registered as a member. The cost of membership per year is \$2.00 and please check Page 4 if you need an application form. The following is a listing of our membership by MEA regions:

Region 1 . . . . . 34	Region 2 . . . . . 154
Region 3 . . . . . 142	Region 4 . . . . . 47
Region 5 . . . . . 99	Region 6 . . . . . 93
Region 7 . . . . . 93	Region 8 . . . . . 78
Region 9 . . . . . 116	Region 10 . . . . . 86
Region 11 . . . . . 102	Region 12 . . . . . 84
Region 13 . . . . . 63	Region 14 . . . . . 25
Region 15 . . . . . 19	Region 16 . . . . . 18

The total in our Association at the present time is 1,261 coaches. *Please do your part to see that the MHSFCA continues to grow!*

## HEAT — A HAZARD TO FOOTBALL

As all football coaches know, heat can have real negative effects on athletes. In the last 11 years there have been 35 deaths due to heat stroke and 31 of these deaths have occurred during the double session period. Without a doubt the early season

practice finds the young athlete in poorer physical condition than during the season and the temperature and humidity is usually considerably higher.

An excellent article in Cramer's *The First Aider* gives an indepth look at problems with football players due to heat. Several suggestions are given on how to avoid heat exhaustion and heat stroke. Danger signs and care of athletes with heat problems are given in detail.

It is the responsibility to know the physical conditioning of his athletes and how they can perform under certain environmental conditions. Don't make a mistake and not be prepared in this area. A lack of knowledge on your part might cause serious damage to one of your players.

## 1978 RULE CHANGES FOR HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

Several major changes in high school football rules were made January 4, 1978, at the conclusion of the National Federation of State High School Associations Football Rules Committee two-day meeting in Los Angeles.

1. Anytime a kicker is roughed, it not only will be a 15 yard penalty against the defense, but also will include the awarding of a first down to the kicking team.
  2. The penalty for an invalid fair catch signal has been reduced from 15 yards to 5 yards and will continue to be administered from the previous line of scrimmage.
  3. Under certain conditions, it may be permissible for a player to participate while using an artificial limb.
  4. A defensive player is defined as being on the line of scrimmage when he is within one yard of his line of scrimmage.
  5. Game officials now assume authority for a contest prior to the scheduled game time.
  6. Permits a try for point or a try for field goal to count if it first touches a defensive player in the endzone and then caroms through the up-rights above the cross bar.
- The National Federation Football Rules are used by nearly 15,000 schools in 47 states and the District of Columbia.

## 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	Can H.S. Coaches Attend Practices	First Home Game	Cost for HS Coaches	Cost for HS Players
Adrian College	August 21	9:00	Yes	Sept. 9 - Defiance	Free	Free
Albion College						
Alma College						
Central Michigan U.						
Eastern Michigan U.	August 14		Yes	Sept. 16 Bowling Green	\$4 - reserved \$2.50 - G.A.	Call in advance
Ferris State College						
Grand Valley State C.	August 18		Yes	Sept. 9 - N. Illinois	\$2.00	\$2.00
Hillsdale College						
Hope College	August 21		Yes	Sept. 9 - Maranatha	Free	Free
Kalamazoo College	August 28	9:30 & 2:00	Yes	Sept. 16 Concordia	Free if called in advance	Free if called in advance
Michigan State U.	August 26		Yes	Sept. 23 Syracuse	Limited Complimentary	Limited Complimentary
Michigan Tech. U.						
U. of Michigan						
Northern Michigan U.						
Northwood Institute						
Olivet College						
Saginaw Valley State C.	August 21		Yes	Sept. 9 Wayne State	Free	Free
Wayne State University						
Western Michigan U.	Not set yet		Yes	Sept. 9 Illinois State	Free if called in advance	Free if called in advance
Grand Rapids Junior C.	August 15	9:00 & 3:00	Yes		Free	Free if called in advance

### Michigan High School Football Coaches Association

### APPLICATION FORM

#### 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**

Bulk Rate  
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