



# MONTANA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

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PROMOTING SUCCESS ON THE COURT, ON THE FIELD, ON STAGE  
AND EVERYWHERE ELSE UNDER THE BIG SKY SINCE 1921.

April 30, 2025

**TO: MHSА MEMBER SCHOOLS**

**FROM: BRIAN MICHELOTTI, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

**RE: APRIL EXECUTIVE BOARD ACTION**

The Montana High School Association Executive Board conducted a regularly scheduled meeting on April 28-29, 2025, and the following action was taken:

1. The Board recently reviewed reports on the successful state tournaments for Speech and Drama, Wrestling, Basketball, and Swimming. The Executive Board and MHSA staff extend their heartfelt appreciation to the tournament managers and venue personnel who made these events possible. Their hard work and dedication contributed significantly to the success of each tournament.
2. The Board is excited to welcome the addition of Dee Pretty On Top as the inaugural American Indian Representative on the MHSA Executive Board. This historic milestone marks a significant step in our membership, and we look forward to the perspectives and insights Dee will bring to the MHSA.
3. The Board re-elected John Fitzgerald, Superintendent at Red Lodge Public Schools and the Class B Representative to the Board, as the new Board President and Aric Harris, the Activities Director at Whitefish High School and Class A Representative, as the new Vice-President.
4. The Board awarded the 2026-27 Annual Meeting to the Holiday Inn Missoula Downtown.
5. The Board reviewed and approved the 2023-24 Audit Report.
6. The Board received updates on the progress of the MHSA Emerging Sports: Girls' Flag Football and E-sports. Girls' Flag Football is thriving, with an impressive 28 teams expected to join next fall. Meanwhile, E-sports remains in a holding pattern, but the Board plans to conduct further research next year to explore its potential as a viable activity in our schools.

**The following information is being sent to member schools for a two-week notice period.**

## **Baseball**

7. The Board approved a change to the postseason procedures in baseball. Beginning at the 2025 MHSA State Baseball Tournament in Hamilton, if the host school or a school from the host site city is the number one seed from their division, the state baseball bracket will be switched so that the host school/city school plays the last game of the first day of the tournament. All matchups and future matchups will remain the same.



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## **Basketball**

8. The Board approved requests from Districts 1B, 2B, 3B, and 4B (5B was approved previously) to move district basketball tournaments a week later to avoid a conflict with the State Wrestling Tournament.

## **Softball**

9. The Board approved an updated bracket and rotation for Class A State Softball. [Click here to view the information.](#)

## **Speech, Drama & Debate**

10. Montana Forensic Educators Association Proposal Items
  - A. Online Scrimmage Participation - The MHSA Executive Board approved students to participate in online competition. Online competitions would not count towards the student allotted number of competitions during the regular season. Any cost incurred due to participation in these events will be the responsibility of the individual competitor.
  - B. The MHSA Executive Board approved all the 2025-26 MFEA proposal items. Visit the MHSA website to view all MFEA approved items. [Click here to view the information](#)

## **Tennis**

11. The Board approved a recommendation from the B/C State Tennis committee for the following qualifying numbers for the State B/C Tennis Tournament, starting in 2025-26:
  - Girls' singles - 32 participants
  - Girls' doubles - 24 participants
  - Boys' singles - 16 participants
  - Boys' doubles - 12 participants
12. The Board approved a proposal for Class B/C to use the 10-point tiebreaker in lieu of a full third set for all postseason matches, beginning with the 2025 postseason.

## **Wrestling**

13. The Board approved the following proposals for wrestling.
  - A. The growth allowance will change to 2 lbs. on January 1st with no growth allowance in February. A weigh-in cannot exceed +4 lbs from scratch weight.
  - B. A change will occur for girls' placing from the current six (6) placers at state to top eight (8) placers at state girls' tournament.
  - C. All boys' and girls' classifications give max points when 2 wrestlers from the same school wrestle in the postseason. Max points are defined as advancement points (two points for the championship bracket or one point for the consolation bracket), place points and two match points.

## **General**



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14. The Board approved an extension to the agreement the MHSAA has with our Digital Ticketing partner GoFan. GoFan will continue to be optional for all MHSAA schools and we encourage schools to consider this option for regular season contests.
15. The Board approved a bid from 5518 Designs from Butte to rebrand the MHSAA and MOA logos to ensure for future copyright and trademark compliance in the future.
16. The Board has approved the removal of the 5-year requirement for the NFHS Fundamentals of Coaching. New coaches now need to complete this course only once in their coaching career. Instead, an annual online continuing education requirement will be added, covering topics like Mental Health, Sportsmanship, and Bullying. This initiative aims to enhance the professional development of coaches and foster a positive environment in sports.
17. The Board approved a change to the NFHS Network regular season streaming policy for Softball, Baseball and Soccer events. Beginning immediately the following changes in bold below will change:
  - All video streaming of regular season **home** events must be approved by the MHSAA Executive Director. The NFHS Network is the preferred service of the MHSAA. If a school uses a different commercial company for streaming their regular events, these events must also be live parallel streamed on the NFHS Network. ***There is now exceptions for soccer, softball, and baseball. These state if the host site does not have a Pixelott camera available, school(s) can request streaming with a different commercial company without the NFHS Network parallel streaming requirement.***

### **Other items for your information:**

The MHSAA Executive Board placed the [state events for 2026-27](#) and the remaining [state events for 2025-26](#). [Click on this link to access the CALENDAR page of the MHSAA website](#)