



MONTANA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

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

September 14, 2022

TO: MHSА MEMBER SCHOOLS

FROM: BRIAN MICHELOTTI, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

RE EXECUTIVE BOARD ACTION

The Montana High School Association Executive Board conducted a regularly scheduled meeting on September 12, 2022. The following is a synopsis of the major items:

1. The Board approved moving the 2023 MHSA State AA-B Track and Field meet from Gallatin High School in Bozeman to Bulldog Memorial Stadium in Butte. The dates for the event will remain as May 26-27, 2023. The change was made because the Board and MHSA staff had concerns about the track and field facility at Gallatin High School being able to host a meet the size of a MHSA State Track Meet. This change will allow Bozeman schools the opportunity to address these concerns in order to host a state meet in the future.
2. The Board approved the 2022-2023 Music Handbook changes, including updating the new committee/staff members and updating the use of professional accompaniment music to be accepted upon approval of the festival director.
3. The MHSA Executive Board approved the postseason section of the Speech and Debate Handbook so language for all classifications is consistent with postseason procedures.
4. The Board reviewed the status of shot clocks being installed in MHSA gyms for the 2022-23 season. Based on the Shot Clock Survey sent to schools recently, the following will be implemented:
 - For the 2022-23 basketball season, schools will use a shot clock for all games played (both varsity or sub varsity).
 - If a school does not have a shot clock installed, the school must notify the MHSA and their opponent(s). Those games can be played without a shot clock.
 - For 2022-23, all postseason games are required to be played in gyms with shot clocks.
 - For 2023-24, all basketball games must be played in facilities with shot clocks. If a school does not have a shot clock, they cannot host games.
5. The Board approved a change to the Master Basketball Schedule procedure. The Master Basketball Scheduling Committee will schedule a maximum of 14 games for each school beginning in 2023-24, unless additional conference games can be scheduled. The remaining four games must be scheduled by each school.

The following item is being sent to member schools for a two-week notice period. These changes will be effective for 2022-23:

1. The MHSA Executive Board approved the following adjustments for the 2022-23 MHSA Class AA Softball season:
 - Allow each Class AA school to schedule varsity and JV contests at the same time four times during the season.
 - A 9-inning limitation for Class AA players when JV and varsity contests are played at different times for a one-game series.
 - Limiting JV contest length to 1:45 minutes when varsity and JV contests are played at different times. The tie will be broken by putting a runner on 2nd base with 2 outs at the start of a new inning. Both teams will have the opportunity to score with the scenario of putting a base runner on 2nd base with 2 outs.

2. The Board approved the following language for the 2022-23 Spirit section of the MHSA Handbook:
 - Eighth-grade students that have been approved to participate on the high school cheer or dance team may participate in stunting with approval from their school administration. No students younger than eighth grade may participate in stunting in any capacity.

3. The Board approved the Eastern C Track and Field request to allow sixth place from Divisionals to qualify for state.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the MHSA office. If you have any comments on the two-week notice items, please send those to Brian Michelotti at bmichelotti@mhsa.org. Thank you.