

MONTANA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
Montana High School Association Office
631 N Last Chance Gulch, Helena, MT 59601
January 17th, 2026
8:30 am
AGENDA

Symbol Key

A	-	Action Item
ABD	-	Action at Board Discretion
NC	-	No Correspondence
TBD	-	To Be Distributed at Board Meeting
FYI	-	For Your Information (no discussion needed)

A. Call to Order by President / John

**B. Pledge of Allegiance / John
Revisions/Adoption of the Agenda / John and Brian**

C. Public Input Statement by President / John

The Montana High School Association follows the Montana Open Meeting Law. Anyone in attendance at this meeting may request to address the Executive Board by using the available forms. Please indicate the agenda item for which an audience with the Board is requested and submit the request to the chair.

We will now allow for public comment on non-agenda items. This board will listen to comments made about items of public concern, not any comments related to specific individuals, employees of MHSA, or students who participate in MHSA activities. We cannot take comments that violate any individual's right to privacy."

In order to preserve time, public comment will be limited to 3 minutes per individual. "If you plan on giving public comment, please identify yourself and spell your first and last name when you come up for comment.

D. Approval of Board Minutes

- 1) Minutes **A**
- a) Regular Meeting – November 24, 2025
 - b) Zoom/Conference Call Meeting – December 10, 2025
 - c) Zoom/Conference Call Meeting – January 8, 2026

E. Delegations / Appeals

5.3 The Executive Board may authorize the Executive Director to make decisions as necessary for the proper operation of Association business. The Executive Board shall hear all appeals of a decision by the Executive Director and may affirm, reverse or modify a decision of the Executive Director. On appeal, the Executive Board may, at its sole discretion, waive or modify the application of a rule in emergency or exceptional circumstances if it determines that the application of a rule as written would not substantially serve the intent or purpose of the rule. However, in no event may a rule be waived or modified by the Executive Board unless all of the following conditions are affirmatively shown to clearly exist:

- a. The emergency or exceptional circumstances were entirely beyond the control of the student, the student's parents or guardians, and, if relevant, the student's school; and
- b. The granting of relief will not prejudice the rights or opportunities of other students or other member schools; and
- c. The granting of relief will not violate any part of the underlying purpose of the rule involved.

General Delegations Schedule

- 1) Appeals **ABD / TBD**
- a) Academic
 - b) Semester

- c) Transfer
 - d) Other
- 2) Delegations

F. Requests	All are ABD
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- 1) Football Reclassification
 - a) Wibaux Appeal to play 6 player – 9:30 am -- Zoom
 - b) Victor Appeal to play 6-Player – 1:00 pm -- Zoom
 - c) Other
- 2) MOA Report and Action Items from December Meeting / Amy/Joel – 11:30am
- 3) Varsity Requests Football
 - a) Plains Varsity Football – 10:00 am -- Zoom
- 4) Varsity Requests Basketball
 - a) Harrison Request for Varsity Boys' Basketball - 10:00 am -- Zoom
 - b) Highwood Request for Varsity Girls' Basketball - 10:00 am -- Zoom
- 5) Varsity Requests Volleyball
 - a) Sheridan Request for Varsity Volleyball – 10:00 am -- Zoom
 - b) Lone Peak Request for Varsity Volleyball – 10:00 am – Zoom
 - c) Roundup Request for Varsity Volleyball – 10:00 am - Zoom
- 6) State A Baseball Tournament Placement / Scott
- 7) Indoor Events – Addition of live music being played prohibited during competition

G. Finances	
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- 1) Review and Approval of Bills Paid from November 1 – December 31, 2025 / Brian/Jenise **A**
- 2) Review and Approval of Financial Statement as of December 31, 2025 / Brian/Jenise **A**
- 3) General Office Overview / Brian **FYI/TBD**
 - a) Insurance - none
 - b) Staff
 - c) Policy Manual - none
 - d) New Building
 - e) Technology
 - f) Sportsmanship
 - g) MOA
 - h) Miscellaneous
- 4) Review Corporate Sponsors / Brian / Ryan **FYI**
 - a) Possibility of Copyright/Trademark of MHSA Logo **A / TBD**
- 5) Fall Tournament Financial Summary / Brian / Jenise **FYI**
 - a) Soccer
 - b) Football
 - c) Volleyball

H. Office Action / Brian	
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- 1) Waivers of Transfer Rule – Hardships / Brian **FYI**
- 2) Waivers of the Age Rule / Brian - None **FYI / NC**
 - a) Nineteen-Year-Old Rule
- 3) Penalties Imposed / Brian **FYI**
- 4) Fines and Fees / Brian **FYI**
- 5) Academic Appeal Progress Report / Brian **FYI**

I. Legal / Brian

- 1) Legal Costs FYI
- 2) Legal Issues FYI

J. Reports / Miscellaneous

- 1) Winter Rules Clinic reports / Staff FYI
- 2) Frosh Jamboree Feedback from Polson / Greta FYI

K. Annual Meeting

All are TBD

- 1) Schedule of Activities / Kip
- 2) Agenda / Brian
- 3) Personnel
 - a) Parliamentarian
 - b) Resolutions Committee / Brian
 - c) Credentials (Board) / Kip
- 4) Caucus Item Assignments
- 5) Proposals Assignments
- 6) Budget Presentation
- 7) Awards' Selections

L. Two Weeks' Notice Final Action

All are A

- 1) The Board approved the baseball alignment into two classes, along with new conferences for the 2026 baseball season. [Click here for the 2026 MHSA Baseball Conferences.](#)
- 2) The Board approved new language regarding Wrestling Walk-Up Music for this year. [Click here for the new policy.](#)
- 3) The Board approved updated language for the MHSA Media Policy Requirements. [Click here for more information.](#)
- 4) The Board approved updated policy language regarding safety precautions during MHSA events. [Click here to view the updated rule.](#)
- 5) The Board approved updated language clarifying the MHSA Ejection Policy. Under these new interpretations, a coach or spectator who is ejected must leave the site immediately and shall not be present on-site or within sight, sound, or communication for the remainder of that day of competition. A student who is ejected may be allowed to remain on the team bench as long as they do not create further disturbance. However, officials may require the student to leave, in which case they must be accompanied by an adult.
- 6) The Board approved an exception to the MHSA Practice Rule for fall sports. If a student returns from documented military basic training over the summer, the MHSA Executive Director can reduce the total number of initial practices (no more than half the number of required practices for that sport or activity) at their school. In football, the student athlete will still be required to have at least 3 days of practice with no pads and only helmets.
- 7) The Board approved a new format for sub-varsity basketball jamborees. Schools interested in piloting this format for the 2025–26 season may do so with permission from the MHSA Executive Director. [Click here to view the new format.](#)

M. Assignment of Board & Staff to Final Events

- 1) Assignments / John FYI/TBD

N. Other Items	TBD
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| 1) 2027 Annual Meeting Site – Missoula Kip / Scott | FYI |
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O. Information for the Good of the Order

- 1) For Your Information
 - a) Future 2025-26 MHSa Executive Board Meeting Dates:
 - i) April 20-21, 2026 – Helena
 - ii) June 18, 2026 -- Zoom