



MONTANA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

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

September 16, 2026

TO: MHSA MEMBER SCHOOLS

FROM: BRIAN MICHELOTTI, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

RE SEPTEMBER EXECUTIVE BOARD ACTION

The Montana High School Association Executive Board conducted a regularly scheduled meeting on September 14, 2026. The following is a synopsis of the major items:

1. The MHSA Executive Board appointed Shawn Hendrickson, Principal at St. Ignatius High School, to serve as the new American Indian Representative on the MHSA Executive Board. Shawn will serve the remainder of the current term, which concludes in April of the 2027–28 school year. We congratulate Shawn on his appointment and look forward to having him serve on the Executive Board and provide valuable representation and perspective to the MHSA.
2. The MHSA still has one remaining open state tournament event for the 2026-27 school year. The State A/B Baseball Tournament is still open and we encourage any interested schools / communities to contact the MHSA office.
3. The Board heard an update on the MHSA New AD Workshop and Mentoring Program. 62 administrators participated in 1 of the 6 workshops offered throughout the state. In addition, 28 activities directors enrolled in the year-long mentoring program and have been paired with an experienced mentor. The goal of the program is to provide new activities directors with ongoing support, resources, and guidance as they navigate the responsibilities of their position and become familiar with MHSA policies, procedures, and expectations. We are excited about the strong participation and positive response to the program and will continue to evaluate and make adjustments to ensure we are providing meaningful support to new activities directors across Montana.
4. The Board approved the 2026-27 Music Handbook. Here is the approved [2026-27 Music Handbook](#)

The following items are being sent to member schools for a two-week notice period. These changes will be effective for this school year (unless noted):

1. The Board approved language / interpretation for coaching restrictions in team sports throughout the school year. [Here is a link to the new language.](#)



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2. The Board approved language for a contingency plan in the 2026 6-player football bracket if the Northwest division is not able to fill all four play-off spots. [Click here for the updated bracket including the new language](#)
3. The Board approved the MHSAA office to have a digital MHSAA Handbook for the 2027-28 school year. It will be available on the MHSAA website and there will be options to print as well.
4. The Board approved combining the District 13C and 14C basketball and volleyball tournaments beginning this year. Here is the new [Combined 13C/14C District Tournament language](#)
5. The Board approved a revised district 2B Volleyball Tournament Bracket. Click on the following link for the updated [2B Volleyball Bracket](#).
6. The Board approved the following new MHSAA handbook language for AA girls' wrestling:
 - a. Team points, at both the seeding tournament and state level, shall be awarded to each wrestler. A sixteen-wrestler bracket will be used. When two wrestlers from the same school meet in a match in the postseason, the maximum points possible will be awarded to the winner. Maximum points are defined as advancement points (two points for the championship bracket or one point for the consolation bracket) and two match points. Any applicable place points will also be awarded.
 - b. State Pairings
 - Set A:
Part I will be used by weights 100, 110, 120, 130, 140, 155, and 190.
Part II will be used by weights 105, 115, 125, 135, 145, 170, and 235.
 - Set B:
Part I will be used by weights 105, 115, 125, 135, 145, 170, and 235.
Part II will be used by weights 100, 110, 120, 130, 140, 155, and 190.

Part I	Part II
1st Western 8th Eastern	1st Western 8th Eastern
5th Western 4th Eastern	5th Eastern 4th Western
3rd Western 6th Eastern	3rd Eastern 6th Western
7th Western 2nd Eastern	7th Western 2nd Eastern
2nd Western 7th Eastern	2nd Western 7th Eastern
6th Western 3rd Eastern	6th Eastern 3rd Western
4th Western 5th Eastern	4th Eastern 5th Western
8th Western 1st Eastern	8th Western 1st Eastern



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- c. In Class AA girls, if it is determined there will be a lack of qualifiers in the other division in a specific weight class, the opposite division will wrestle for ninth through twelfth place only in those specific weight classes. The ninth through twelfth place wrestler(s) will be placed into the state tournament where byes would be present. The MHSA will notify divisional tournament managers and the schools involved of the selected alternates.

7. The Board approved an extension with our ticketing partner GoFan for the next 5 years.

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.