

MONTANA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
Helena Public Schools Administration Building
1325 Poplar St, Helena, MT 59601
November 24, 2025
8:00 am
AGENDA

Symbol Key (Confidential items are copied onto yellow paper)

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) Regular Meeting – September 8, 2025
- b) Zoom/Conference Call Meeting – October 13, 2025

A

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
 - a) Academic **ABD**
 - b) Semester **ABD**
 - c) Transfer **ABD**
 - d) Other **ABD**
- 1) Delegations
 - a) Football and other Reclassification – See Below / Brian **ABD**

F.	Requests	All are ABD
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- 1) Baseball Alignment – 2 Classifications – AA and ABC / Scott
 - a) State Tournaments – AA – Butte, ABC – TBD
 - b) State ABC Baseball Bid - Polson
- 2) Class A Speech & Drama 2027 – East Helena
- 3) 2027-2028 MHSA Calendar / Scott
- 4) Wrestling-Boys Wrestling Weight Class Survey / Scott
- 5) Wrestling Walk-up Music / Scott
- 6) Rules and Regulations - Section (31) and (32) Media Policy Changes
- 7) Unmanned Aircraft
- 8) Ejection Policy Clarifications
- 9) Practice Rule – Military Exception in the Fall
- 10) Football – Postseason non-eligible teams regular season standings
- 11) Basketball Jamboree Format **TBD**
- 12) Girls Flag Football – Emerging Sport Extension **TBD**

G.	Reclassification / Realignment	All are ABD
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- 1) Overall Reclassification
 - a) Darby – Appeal to go to Class C – 10:00 am

Football Enrollment Ranges – Affected Schools – Off Year Football is on the two-year cycle with Reclassification

Football classification will be organized on a two-year basis to align with reclassification of schools. Enrollment ranges are as follows: Six-player = 1-65; Eight-player = 65-130; Eleven-player = 130+.

A rubric using four criteria will be used for schools that petition to play at the level below the current placement:

- a) Grades 8 – 11 boys’ enrollment and future boys’ enrollment projections.
- b) Roster size from the past four years.
- c) Success factor (including win/loss record and postseason success) in the current placement for the past five years.
- d) Free and Reduced Lunch Percentage from OPI.

Each of these factors will be weighted using the following percentages: Free and reduced-10%, enrollment-30%, roster size-35%, success factor 25%.

Special Consideration or Requests

- 2) Appeals to go to 6-Player
 - a) Wibaux – 10:20 am
- 3) Appeals to Go to 8-Player
 - a) Arlee - Varsity -- 10:40 am

H. Finances

- 1) Review and Approval of Bills Paid from September 1 – October 31, 2025 / Brian/Jenise **A**
- 2) Review and Approval of Financial Statement as of October 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 Sponsorships / Brian / Ryan **FYI/TBD**

I. Office Action / Brian

- 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**
 - a) NFHS Network Soccer Rights Fees Postseason Violations
- 4) Fines and Fees / Brian **FYI**

J. Legal / Brian

- 1) Legal Costs **FYI**
- 2) Legal Issues **FYI / NC**
 - a) NFHS Legal Meeting - Brian April

K. Reports / Miscellaneous

- 2) State Fall Tournaments / Meets **FYI**
 - a) State Cross Country / Kip – Class B Minimum Times
 - b) State AA Golf / Brian and Ryan; State A Golf / Kara
 - c) State Soccer – A Boys / Aric; A Girls / Troy Bowman; AA Boys / Greta and Dan; AA Girls / Dee
 - d) State Football
 - i) AA / Aric
 - ii) A / Scott & Dee
 - iii) B / Dan
 - iv) 8-Player / Kara
 - v) C/6-Player / Krystal
- 3) Ejections / Amy **TBD**
- 4) AIM Higher Report / Scott **FYI/NC**
- 5) Academic Appeal Progress Reports / Brian **FYI**

L. General

- 1) MHSA Committee Appointments / Kip **A**
- 2) Final Action on September Items for Two Week Notice **A**

- a) The Board approved new language for this year allowing coaches to coach after July 31st if their summer team advances to a state event. The MHSA office must be notified, and the competition must be approved.
- b) The Board approved the 6-player football bracket for 2025-2029.
- c) The Board approved new language for this year regarding the swimming uniform.
- d) The Board approved new language for this year regarding the use of backstroke ledges.

M.	Annual Meeting	All are TBD
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- 1) Schedule of Activities
- 2) Agenda
- 3) Personnel
 - a) Parliamentarian
 - b) Resolutions Committee / Brian
 - c) Credentials (Board) / Kip
- 4) President's Report (Thoughts for John)
- 5) Office Report (Thoughts for Brian)
- 6) Caucus Items
- 7) Committee Reports
- 8) Awards' Selections

N.	Proposals / Annual Meeting	
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- 1) Schools' Proposals to Rules and Regulations [Board Must Act to Approve or Deny – see Article IX, Section (3)] **A**
 - a) 6 Player Football - Playoff Revenue
- 2) Schools' Proposals to By-Laws (review only) – Deadline is December 1st **FYI**
 - a) MHSA Executive Board -- Academic Hardship Option – Biweekly Checks
 - b) MHSA Executive Board – If transfer over 50 miles allow school choice
 - c) MHSA Executive Board – Expedited Fee – Increase and no refund if appeal is lost
 - d) MHSA Executive Board – Change spectator ejection rule to 2 weeks
 - e) MHSA Executive Board -- Non Value Apparel

O.	Proposed Budget	TBD
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- 1) 2025-26 Budget Review / Brian **A**

N.	Information for the Good of the Order	
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- 1) For Your Information
 - a) Future 2025-26 MHSA Executive Board Meeting Dates:
 - i) January 17-19, 2026 – Helena
 - ii) April 20-21, 2026 – Helena
 - iii) June 18, 2026 -- Zoom