



MONTANA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

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

June 22, 2026

TO: MHSA EXECUTIVE BOARD

FROM: BRIAN MICHELOTTI, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

RE: WEDNESDAY, JUNE 23, 2026 – 10:00 A.M.

Ms. Triplett has directed that a conference call of the Executive Board be held at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, June 23rd, 2026. The following are the agenda items for consideration:

- 1) **Final action on two-week notice items from the April meeting** (we did not receive any comments on any of the items):
 - A. Baseball
 1. The following Baseball Handbook change was approved regarding state tournament bracket language: The state tournament will be an ***eight-team single elimination with consolation bracket***, three-day tournament
 - B. Basketball
 1. The Board approved a proposal to dissolve the Master Basketball Scheduling Committee and eliminate the Master Basketball Schedule. Each classification will form a committee and/or appoint individuals to develop the 2027-28 basketball schedule for the respective classifications.
 - C. Football
 1. Click the following link for the approved 8-player football bracket for 2026-2029. [8-Player Football Bracket](#)
 - D. Speech, Drama and Debate
 1. The MHSA Executive Board approved all the 2026-27 MFEA proposal items. Visit the MHSA website to view all MFEA approved items. Click to view the information: [2026 - 2027 Speech, Drama and Debate Approved Proposal Items](#)
 2. The following Handbook addition for Medical Care at Postseason Tournaments was approved. This information will be updated in the MHSA Handbook and the MHSA Speech, Drama and Debate Handbook: Fine Arts events including Music, Speech, Debate, and Drama will be included in the requirement to have an updated EAP for all postseason events. All schools hosting a postseason event are required to submit an Emergency Action Plan (EAP) to the MHSA. All judges and event staff must be provided with a copy of the EAP to ensure that every room with participants has a clear understanding of procedures in the event of an emergency
 - E. Tennis
 1. The Board approved the proposed Class B/C Tennis Divisions. This is effective for the 2026 tennis season. [2025-26 Tennis Alignments](#)
 - F. Wrestling
 1. The following handbook changes were approved for the 2026-27 wrestling season:



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1. A two-pound weight allowance is allowed for regular season matches held on Monday or Tuesday in December. The weight allowance cannot exceed +3 pounds over the original weight class.
2. Weigh-ins for the 2nd day of a regular season and/or postseason tournament cannot officially begin until the weight class is finished for the day. The weigh-in will close 1 hour after the last match of the day. It is recommended that tournament management have 2 or more scales available and enough volunteers to avoid long waiting times. Weigh-ins are not allowed after the 1-hour time limit has elapsed.
3. Each wrestler must certify his/her weight on or before the 3rd Wednesday of December (December 17, 2025) of his/her first wrestling practice. To be certified, a wrestler must have on file a completed WR#1 form with the school principal or his/her designee.
2. The following was approved regarding girls' wrestling classifications and state qualifiers: Starting in the 2026-27 wrestling season, girls' wrestling will have two classifications. The new classifications will be AA and A-B-C. In both classifications, 16 girls will qualify per weight class, and the top 6 place winners will be recognized. Girls' wrestling will continue with 6 divisional/seeding tournaments with tournaments taking place at the same time and location as the boys divisional/seeding tournaments.
3. Boys' weight classes will change to the 14 NFHS weight classes as listed in the NFHS wrestling rule book starting in the 2026-27 season. The new weight classes will be 106, 113, 120, 126, 132, 138, 144, 150, 157, 165, 175, 190, 215, 285.
4. New language regarding wrestling match limits will be as follows: Each individual wrestler may have no more than eighteen (18) contested events (where he/she weighs in and wrestles at the same physical location) with a maximum of fifty-five (55) total matches prior to the post season.

G. General

1. The Board approved the Sports Medicine Advisory Committee's recommendation to require a Pre-Event Medical Meeting which is a brief gathering held before every MHSA athletic contest to review the emergency action plan (EAP), confirm AED location, and clarify each participant's role. A full description of the Pre-Event Medical Meeting is found here: [Pre-Event Medical Meeting](#)
2. Last year, the Board 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. Additionally, an annual online continuing education requirement will be added, and the Board approved the NFHS Course "Coaching Mental Wellness" as the new requirement for all coaches in the 2026-27 school year.

2) Class AA Requested Changes for 2025-26 and information from Summer Meeting

A. Executive Board Action Items

- 1) Golf – Allow up to 3 coaches on the course
- 2) Golf - Allow Earlier Start Date for Golf
- 3) Volleyball - Adjust Play-in Game Schedule



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- 4) Basketball - Change AA Quarter Eligibility Rule
- 5) Track & Field - State Qualifying Standards - Eligible Meets
- 6) Track & Field - Divisional Meet Awards
- B. Reports from Class AA
- 3) Class A Requested Changes for 2025-26 and information from Summer Meeting
 - A. Executive Board Action Items
 1. Baseball – 3 umpires during postseason
 2. Football – Bracket for 2026-2027
 3. Football Playoffs - 7 pm Friday games unless agreed upon.
 4. Soccer – Allow 14 regular season games
 5. Soccer - Bracket for 2026-2027
 6. Softball - Bracket for 2026-2027
 7. Softball -3 umpires during postseason
 8. Wrestling – Tournament Managers enter weigh-ins
 9. Track and Field – ¼ vs 1/8-inch spikes
 10. Track and Field Qualifying Standards
 - B. Reports from Class A
 1. Track and Field – 3200 and 4 x 100 on Thursday?
 2. Realignment we will see in November for the 2027-28 school year
 3. 2027 Class A meeting in Helena on June 13-15
- 4) Class B Requested Changes for 2026-27 and information from Summer Meeting
 - A. Executive Board Action Items
 1. Football Playoffs – default to Friday night
 2. Basketball – 4-day tournament
 3. Golf – team tie language for postseason
 4. Golf – division option of 18- or 36-hole format
 5. Cross Country – move back to 25- and 30-minute qualifying standard
 6. Speech & Debate and Drama – B/C – top 8 placement
 - B. Reports from Class B
- 5) Class C Requested Changes for 2026-27 and information from Summer Meeting
 - A. Executive Board Action Items
 1. JV Starter Rule
 2. Speech & Debate and Drama – B/C – top 8 placement
 - B. Reports from Class C
- 6) MHSA Handbook Clarifications and Additions or definitions
 - A. Golf Medals for Divisionals
 - B. Girls Wrestling Handbook Language
 - C. MHSA Speech Handbook Language – B/C top 8 placement
 - D. Baseball/Softball Ticket Price Change
- 7) 2025-26 Budget Close Out
 - A. Budget Items:
 1. Year End Purchases
 2. Reserve Amounts
 3. LTD for Employees
- 8) Building Update



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- 9) State Tournament Bids
 - A. A/B Baseball open
- 10) MHSAA Office - Staff responsibilities updates
- 11) MHSAA Proposals/Interpretations
 - A. MHSAA Eligibility Interpretations
 - B. MHSAA Golf Change
 - 1. Substitution Rule
 - 2. Divisional Golf Practice Rule
 - 3. Penalty for Violation of Practice Rule in Golf
 - 4. Golf Ticket Prices
 - C. MHSAA Football Point Differential
- 12) Additional Items
 - A. District Music Festival Date Change