

MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Subtitle 06 SUPPORTING PROGRAMS

13A.06.03 Interscholastic Athletics in the State

**Authority: Education Article, SS2-205 and 2-303(j),
Annotated Code of Maryland**

.04 Operational Guidelines

The regulations given below are established for all MPSSAA interscholastic sports.

B. MPSSAA Coaching Eligibility.

(1) Member MPSSAA schools shall employ as coaches

- (a) Teachers or certificated professional educator employees of the local Board of Education for a specific coaching assignment.
- (b) Persons certifiable as a professional educator by the State Department of Education according to 13A.12.01.
- (c) Credentialed Coaches who meets the following requirements.
 - (i) Is eligible to hold a Maryland certificate under COMAR 13A.12.01.04.

Interpretation: Excluded Personnel

An individual who has been convicted of, pleads guilty or nolo contendere with respect to, or receives probation before judgement with respect to, a crime against children or a crime of violence.

- (ii) Possess a MPSSAA/MSDE Coach Certification.

Interpretation: Completion of the NFHS Level 1 Coaching Certification or MSDE approved inservice coaching education program.

- (iii) Has completed two years of successful coaching as an emergency coach.
- (iv) Has spent the previous one year as a successful emergency coach at the school of hire in the position of hire.

- (2) If no acceptable and qualified coaches are available from the teachers or certifiable professional educators employed by the local board of education, temporary emergency coaches may be employed if the following procedures are followed:

- (a) The person shall be officially appointed by the local Superintendent of schools on a one-season basis for a specific coaching assignment;
- (b) The coaching salary of the appointed coach shall be paid exclusively by the local school system;
- (c) After July 1, 2010, an emergency coach is required to possess a MPSSAA/MSDE coach certification prior to the start of his or her fourth year as an emergency coach.

Interpretation: Completion of the NFHS Level 1 Coaching Certification or MSDE approved inservice coaching education program.

- (d) In sports having more than one coach, emergency coaches shall not comprise more than 50 percent of that sport staff.
 - (e) The emergency coach shall be at least 21 years old and possess a high school diploma.
- (3) All coaches shall have completed or be enrolled in a one-credit course in the prevention and care of athletic injuries.
- (4) Member MPSSAA schools may permit volunteer athletic coaches to assist their coaching staff. These volunteer coaches may not serve as head coaches at any level and must work only under the direction of the head coach. The volunteer coach may be utilized if the following procedures are followed:
- (a) The volunteer coach shall be at least 21 years old and possess a high school diploma or equivalent.
 - (b) The volunteer coach shall have completed or be enrolled in a one-credit course in the prevention and care of athletic injuries.
 - (c) The volunteer coach shall be formally appointed on a one season basis for a specific coaching assignment.