

ORGANIZED 1946

TELEPHONE: (410) 767-0376
FAX: (410) 333-3111

MEMBER OF THE
NATIONAL FEDERATION OF
STATE HIGH SCHOOL
ASSOCIATIONS



R. ANDREW WARNER
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Maryland State Department of Education
200 West Baltimore Street
Baltimore, MD 21201

To: All Sport Officials Associations
From: Ken Kazmarek, MPSSAA Coordinator of Officials
Date: June 27, 2022
Re: Association Registration of officials for 2022-23

On behalf of the more than 111,000 annual participants in interscholastic athletics in Maryland's 200 public schools, I would like to begin by thanking the officials' associations for their work as a part of these programs. Educationally based athletics provide one the greatest character-building opportunities available to our young men and women and the entire community involvement, from officials to coaches to school administrators, all have invested equally in ensuring positive lessons are derived from participating in these programs.

As we begin making plans for another school year, the process of registering officials begins. This memo is to provide detailed information for each association to register their officials with the MPSSAA and NFHS. There will be an increase in MPSSAA fees for officials in 2022-23 for officials who officiate one sport at \$40 per official. Any official who officiates any additional sport will pay only \$20 to registered. Reminder: MPSSAA registration fee is paid online by all officials using the Centers for Officials Services powered by DragonFly Athletics. Officials registered in Dragonfly from last year will use the same login information.

1. Each NEW official must set up a Dragonfly account. This account will hold verification of NFHS Exam and Rule Clinic requirements. Directions for new registration is in this link. [MPSSAA+Contest+Officials.pdf](#)
2. Each association has received administrative access to the Dragonfly site to monitor the registrations of officials registering with their association.
3. The MPSSAA will monitor your association for the registration of officials.

It is important to remember that the majority of the registration fees per official are passed on to the NFHS for the purchase of rules books, National Federation of Officials Association (NFOA) membership and one-million-dollar liability insurance, testing, and other administrative needs. Please remember only those officials registered and certified through the MPSSAA will receive the benefits of NFOA membership (good July 1 through June 30th of each year).

Also, I would like to remind each association of the regulations to be a certified official. In order to work an MPSSAA (varsity or JV) regular season or tournament contest you must be registered and certified. The following requirements are necessary for certification.

1. Be at least 18 years of age and a high school graduate.
2. Be a member in good standing with the local MPSSAA-recognized officials' group.

- Attend an MPSSAA-sponsored rules interpretation clinic course on the NFHS learn network site in the current year. Upload the certification of completion of this course to the Dragonfly platform.
- Pass the National Federation examination (75% is the lowest passing score).
- Pay the MPSSAA registration fee online through the Dragonfly platform.

NEW THIS YEAR for OFFICIALS:

- State fees are separated into two-line items. NFHS officials fee (\$17) and the MPSSAA sport fee (\$23). Officials are to pay both. Officials registering for a second sport will only pay \$20.

PAY MPSSAA MARYLAND PUBLIC SECONDARY SCHOOLS ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION FEES	
ALL SPORTS - NFHS OFFICIALS REGISTRATION FEE	\$17.00
BASKETBALL - BASKETBALL OFFICIALS REGISTRATION FEE	\$23.00



REVIEW AND PAY

- Primary association declaration-officials must declare their primary association for each sport. *(This declaration informs your association to order your rulebook)*

MPSSAA PRIMARY LOCAL ASSOCIATION DECLARATION FORM: FOOTBALL REQUIRED FOR FOOTBALL		START
MPSSAA PRIMARY LOCAL ASSOCIATION DECLARATION FORM: FIELD HOCKEY REQUIRED FOR FIELD HOCKEY		START

- Secondary associations you plan to officiate for. (Important to list all associations so that assignors can see your credentials)

YOUR LOCAL OFFICIALS ASSOCIATIONS		
FOOTBALL		PICK A LOCAL ASSOCIATION
FIELD HOCKEY		PICK A LOCAL ASSOCIATION

All fees must be paid, and association declaration form completed to gain access to NFHS exam portal.

NFHS EXAM:

Access to the NFHS testing platform is through the Dragonfly portal. NFHS Fall rule exams open on August 1, 2022 and closes Saturday September 3, 2022. Winter and spring exams dates can be found on our website at <https://www.mpssaa.org/officials/online-testing/>

RULE CLINICS:

Access to rule clinics is online through the NFHS Learning network site. Opening dates and links to rule clinics can be found on our website at <https://www.mpssaa.org/officials/rules-interpretation-clinics/>

Officials are to download and save the clinic verification certificate at the end of the rule clinic course. Rule Clinic Certificates should then be uploaded to the officials Dragonfly requirement profile. The clinic online course attendance is mandatory for certification.

Access the rule clinic is shown above.

Step by Step directions to maneuver through NFHSlearn to rule clinics (click below)
[Maryland Rules Clinic Steps 2022-23.pdf](#)

RULE BOOKS:

Rule book order form link is below. Officials will declare primary association upon registration. Rule books are free for all primary members. Associations will be charged for additional rulebooks.
<https://www.mpssaa.org/officials/officials-rule-book-order-form/>

On behalf of the MPSSAA thank you again for the service you provide the students and schools in Maryland. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Ken Kazmarek
ken.kazmarek@maryland.gov.