March 21, 2017

To: Local Supervisors of Athletics, Member School Athletic Directors

From: MPSSAA

RE: NFHS Uniform Standards

Pursuant to National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) rules, each state association may authorize exceptions to NFHS playing rules to comply with applicable laws. Exceptions shall not fundamentally alter the sport, heighten the risk of injury to the athlete/others, or place opponents at a competitive disadvantage.

The Maryland Public Secondary Schools Athletic Association (MPSSAA) herein grants an exception to the NFHS uniform standards for religious purposes. Any participant may wear a head covering, wrap, or other required religious garment which is not abrasive, hard, or dangerous to any player/others, and is attached in such a way that it is unlikely to come off during play.

Questions regarding exceptions to NFHS uniform standards that may fundamentally alter the sport, heighten the risk of injury to the athlete/others or place opponents at a competitive disadvantage, shall be referred to the local educational agency and the MPSSAA for further review.

The MPSSAA recommends coaches have a copy of this letter available at each contest in the event an official or opposing school questions uniform compliance.