

SCOUT

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Maryland Public Secondary Schools Athletic Association

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MPSSAA News and Notes

Bill Burroughs Set To Retire

Bill Burroughs, MPSSAA Coordinator of Officials for the last 15 years has announced his intention to retire effective June 30th. Bill also plans to relinquish his responsibilities as Basketball Rules Interpreter. A position he has held for 18 years.

During his tenure, Bill is credited with implementing numerous services and innovations to the officials' community. Some of those were: introducing observers to selected State Championships, assisted in the development of new lacrosse boards, implementing 3 man crews at the basketball and soccer finals, registration of track & field and swimming officials, introduction of precision timing to the State basketball tournament, assigning all championship officials, worked to recruit minority and female officials, electronically registering 7,000 officials with the NFHS and introduced on-line rules testing for officials.

In the span of his career, Bill has touched all the bases. He has worked as a teacher, principal, superintendent and State coordinator. His congenial attitude and pleasantly positive personality has been a hallmark of his style. Through his leadership, the level of competency and professionalism of sports officials in Maryland has drastically improved. The thousands of Maryland students who ultimately benefitted from Bill's work most certainly owe him a debt of gratitude. Please join with the MPSSAA in wishing Bill the very best.

MPSSAA and Allstate To Award Scholar-Athletes at Luncheon

The MPSSAA takes great pleasure in announcing that applications are now being accepted for the 2012 Minds In Motion Scholar-Athlete Scholarship program. The new 2012 application is available by selecting the link on MPSSAA.org under the "Publications" page. This will be the fifth year for this program which recognizes and honors up to six each outstanding male and female senior scholar-athletes who attend a MPSSAA member high school.

Applicants must have a minimum 3.25 unweighted overall GPA and have participated in interscholastic athletic activities sponsored by MPSSAA during their high school careers. Selected male and female recipients will receive a \$1,000 scholarship and be honored at a luncheon at M&T Bank Stadium on Tuesday, June 5th.

The deadline for submitting an application is 12 Noon on Friday, April 13th. Completion of the online application grants permission to the MPSSAA to receive a transcript for all Finalists. In addition, SAT/ACT score verification will be required for all Finalists. Scholarship winners will be notified by Friday, May 4th via email followed by an official letter in the US Mail.

Strategic Planning Survey

The Maryland Public Secondary Schools Athletic Association (MPSSAA) has initiated a strategic planning process. As a precursor to that activity, the Association is seeking input from local Superintendents, Athletic Supervisors, School Principals, School Assistant Principals, Athletic Directors, and Coaches.

This survey will be used to gauge the Association's effectiveness and level of service while at the same time prioritizing the concerns of member schools. In addition, the survey asks for opinions about possible modifications to MPSSAA financial and administrative policies.

The survey must be completed no later than April 18, 2012. Superintendents, Athletic Supervisors, Principals, Assistant Principals, Coaches and Athletic Directors wishing to take the survey can go to www.mpssaa.org.

2012 Student Leadership Conference

The MPSSAA will be hosting the third MPSSAA Student-Athlete Leadership Conference supported by the All-State Foundation on August 7, 2012 at Reservoir High School.

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SCOUT is published by the Maryland Public Secondary Schools Athletic Association for the staff and fans of Maryland high school athletics.

Dr. William Beattie, President
Edward F. Sparks, Executive Director

EXECUTIVE'S CORNER

Edward "Ned" Sparks

Executive Director, MPSSAA

Each of us is motivated by our own core values that when demonstrated brings a sense of self satisfaction to our work. Sometimes the reminders of those values are manifested in unconventional ways. Let me explain.

Not long ago we had a plumber to the house. His name was Mike. He and I struck up a conversation as I "sidewalk superintended" his work.

I discovered that Mike had been a high school athlete at one of our MPSSAA schools. His school is not known as an athletic powerhouse, yet as we talked, I discovered that his high school athletic experience played an integral part in the formation of his adult life.

While the word "values" was never mentioned, it became clear to me that his high school sporting career made a major contribution to his formative years. Mike talked admiringly of his wrestling and baseball coaches as well as his teammates. He relayed stories of competition, practices, wins and losses. The discipline he learned through monitoring his weight provided a valuable life skill. He had qualified for the State Tournament and that experience had a positive influence on him. In so many words, Mike's recounting his high school athletic experiences provided a litany of the values taught through education-based athletics.

Mike is an intelligent, sincere young man who recently purchased a house. I discovered he was much better versed on financial matters than me. I cannot help but think that Mike and his contemporaries are the backbone of our country. Society is filled with men and women whose values were reinforced by their participation in interscholastic athletics. Sometimes we bump into them at the Mall, out to dinner or at youth sporting activities. A conversation with those folks often validates the work we do and for me, at least, brings a true sense of job satisfaction.

We all have our motivations for the work we do. I suspect, however, that when it all boils down; the practices, the games, the wins, the losses, the frustrations, and the exhilarations, the most gratifying thing is the realization of the role we play in the lives of all the Mikes we encounter along the way.

2012 Winter Wrap-Up

STATE CHAMPIONS

BASKETBALL

Boys	Girls
1A Dunbar (3 rd Consecutive)	1A Dunbar (2 nd Consecutive)
2A Lake Clifton	2A Calvert (2 nd Consecutive)
3A Patterson	3A Aberdeen
4A Magruder	4A Gaithersburg (2 nd Consecutive)

INDOOR TRACK

Boys	Girls
1A Smithsburg	1A Boonsboro
2A Frederick Douglass-PG	2A Liberty
3A Thomas Johnson	3A Hereford
4A Henry A. Wise	4A Eleanor Roosevelt

SWIMMING

Boys	Girls
3A/2A/1A Poolesville	3A/2A/1A C.M. Wright
4A/3A Walter Johnson	4A/3A Walt Whitman

WRESTLING DUAL MEET CHAMPIONSHIPS

2A-1A	Winters Mill
4A-3A	Urbana

WRESTLING TOURNAMENT

2A-1A	Winters Mill
4A-3A	River Hill

SPORTSMANSHIP WINNERS

BOY'S BASKETBALL

JACK S. WILLARD SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD

Largo

GIRL'S BASKETBALL

MILDRED H. MURRAY SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD

Aberdeen

MPSSAA News and Notes

Student Leadership Conference Continued (from page 1)

The Student-Athlete Leadership Conference is designed to develop student leadership skills that enhance sportsmanship, promote teamwork, time management, perspective, inclusion, healthy lifestyle and community service. These positive values have been well documented through research as benefits of participating in interscholastic athletics.

The structure of the conference provides student interaction through dynamic guest speakers and interactive workshops. Students will develop action plans and create their own solutions for enhancing sportsmanship, leadership and community involvement in their own school setting.

The conference is open to rising high school sophomores, juniors, and seniors who participate in interscholastic athletics at MPSSAA member schools. Those who have attended a previous conference are not eligible to attend.

The MPSSAA Student-Athlete Leadership Conference Committee meets on March 27th to finalize plans and more information on registration for this year's conference will be coming out the beginning of April.

Partnership With DavCo Restaurants Announced

The MPSSAA is proud to announce a new multiyear partnership with DavCo Restaurants designating Wendy's as the Official Restaurant of the MPSSAA. "Our partnership with Wendy's will provide the MPSSAA with the opportunity to expand education-based athletic initiatives to thousands of high school students throughout Maryland." said Ned Sparks, Executive Director for the MPSSAA.

DavCo is one of the world's largest Wendy's franchisees with over 150 restaurants in the mid-Atlantic region. President Dave Norman and COO Rick Borchers have a great appreciation for what athletics can teach students outside the classroom having both played interscholastic sports themselves in high school and college. In fact, every day they fall back on many of the past lessons they learned from coaches and teammates as their company serves thousands of consumers across the state.

"We are excited to begin our partnership with the MPSSAA and look forward to a long relationship supporting the student athletes and their families, and the many coaches who play an important role in developing these young adults", commented Rick Borchers.

In addition to DavCo's annual contribution to the MPSSAA, the partnership will allow opportunities for member schools to take advantage of fundraising opportunities utilizing both the Wendy's restaurants and Wendy's branded items.

The partnership will also allow increased local promotion of the Wendy's High School Heisman Program which nationally honors young high school men and women who excel in learning, performing, and leading in the classroom, on the field, and in the community. This past year, local student Danielle King from C. Milton Wright High School was selected as one of 12 national finalists from over 48,000 applicants across the country.

Board of Control Meets April 27

The MPSSAA Board of Control will meet on April 27th in conjunction with the MSADA Conference in Ocean City, Md. On the annual meeting agenda will be approval of the Fall and Winter sport bulletins for the 2012-2013 academic year, COMAR regulation proposals as well as determining the region seeds for 2012-2013.

Information on the meeting will be sent out in the early part of April to all members of the Board of Control.

NFHS Sport Rule Changes

The MPSSAA website, www.mpssaa.org, posts all rule change release from the NFHS. To view NFHS rule changes go to www.mpssaa.org and click on the sport you wish to see the latest rule changes.

Spring Draw Dates

The MPSSAA will conduct all spring draws via conference call with sport committee directors. Results for the draw will be available on www.mpssaa.org the day of the draw.

Spring 2011 Draw Dates

Boy's Lacrosse - May 7

Girl's Lacrosse - May 7

Softball - May 8

Baseball - May 9

MPSSAA.ORG Is Your Home For State Championship Information

The MPSSAA website, www.mpssaa.org, has all the information you will need for the upcoming Spring state championships. This spring MPSSAA.org will feature:

- Live outdoor track results from the state championships.
- Box score results following all state final lacrosse, baseball and softball games.
- Updated brackets on the tennis state tournament.
- Online tickets to state tournament contests.

Be sure to follow the 2013 spring state tournaments at www.mpssaa.org.

Out-of-Season Teams Reminder

In an effort to be more precise regarding the role school coaches may play with non-school teams, the following list of activities are offered as examples of violations to the out-of-season practice rule.

Some of the characteristics of a school team that is practicing out of season under the guise of an out-of-school team would include...

- Holding more than one practice per day of competition.
- Holding practices that are not directly related to summer league schedule.
Example: Holding practice during the summer for leagues that are schedule to play in the fall.
- Using unused practice time after the last day of summer league competition.
- Grouping of practice for summer league to coincide with the start of fall school practice schedule.
Example: Saving unused practices for August 10, 11, 12 and 13th.
- Having the coach, not the league, create the schedule.
- Using school equipment, uniforms or supplies.
- Using the school name or related identification as an outside team moniker.
- Using school facilities for organizational activities, practice or games without following local procedures for non-school user groups.
- Assembling a team roster that is not open to anyone wishing to participate.
- Requiring (direct or implied) participation as a criterion for inclusion on the school team.
- Operating outside of an umbrella organization or formal league such as Parks and Rec. The umbrella organization or formal league is responsible for setting league rules and regulations, league procedures, registering teams and players, creating schedules and setting insurance requirements.
- Participating in a team camp with members of the school coaching staff (Violation of Camp Rule).

Don't gamble. It is much better to ask for permission than plead misunderstanding. Alleged violations brought by member schools or coaches will be investigated by the local superintendent or his/her designee. Those under investigation will be required to supply supporting data.

Spring Coaches: What You Need To Know Come Region and State Tournament Time

As schools conclude the regular season and begin Region and State Tournament play, a number of items will be required by schools as they progress through the tournament to ensure a smooth operation of the state tournament. The following is a general chronological checklist for coaches and athletic administrators to use as they advance through the tournament.

Regular Season

- Review Tournament Bulletin:** Make sure you have reviewed your state tournament bulletin. If for some reason you do not have a bulletin you may find a copy on the MPSSAA website on your sport specific page. Most frequently asked questions can be answered in the bulletin.
- Contact Regional Director:** Make sure you are in contact with your regional director prior to the end of the regular season. It is the responsibility of the school to work with regional directors to accurately report schedules, results and records for the purpose of tournament seeding. Regional directors can be found in the tournament bulletin and on each sport page of mpssaa.org.
- Submit Final Regular Season Record:** At the conclusion of your final game prior to the draw date, contact your regional director with your record. Region directors must verify and submit to the state committee by the the draw the official records of each of their region's teams.

Regional Tournament

- Draw Day:** The MPSSAA will conduct all draws for the spring sports season via conference call with the each sport committee director. After the draw is complete it will be posted on the MPSSAA website. Schools should identify their respective matchup and plan accordingly to setup all necessary logistics for the regional games.

Spring 2012 Draw Dates

Boy's Lacrosse - May 7

Girl's Lacrosse - May 7

Softball - May 8

Baseball - May 9

- Reporting Scores:** At the conclusion of each regional game, coaches should call in scores to regional directors who will in turn report all regional scores to the MPSSAA. This will allow the MPSSAA to update brackets accordingly. Failure to report scores significantly hinders the ability of the MPSSAA to update brackets and provide athletic administrators the necessary time to schedule the logistics for the next round of contests.
- Regional Quarterfinal Round Champions Team Entry Form:** Schools that advance past the Regional Quarterfinals have an obligation to submit a **team photo** and **team entry form** to the MPSSAA. The deadline for these submissions is 4 p.m. the day following their quarterfinal win. Team entry forms and photos allow the MPSSAA to have all necessary information for the state tournament. Accuracy is ex-

tremely important as this information will be duplicated in the state playoff book and the state finals t-shirts.

Spring 2012 Team Entry Form Dates

Boy's Lacrosse - May 14

Girl's Lacrosse - May 14

Softball - May 15

Baseball - May 15

- Regional Final Champion:** Regional champions will be awarded a team plaque and individual certificates to members of the team. At the conclusion of the regional final game, schools should contact their regional director and submit the score of the regional final game and their season record, including all tournament games.

State Tournament

- Media Forms:** Schools competing at the state semifinals need to fill out and bring copies of the media form to the their state semifinal contest. Media forms are found on the respective sport pages of mpssaa.org. These forms are important to highlight school programs as media outlets who may not typically cover you during the season will be writing articles on your success. These forms will be provided to media at the state semifinals and finals.
- Playoff Magazine:** The MPSSAA official state playoff program magazine will be given to all state semifinal participants. Team photo, roster and school information for each state semifinal participating team will be highlighted in the book. All information is based upon the team entry form so accuracy and spelling is important.
- State Tournament:** Schools advancing to the state semifinals and finals should refer to the MPSSAA bulletin for state finals information. Each school will have an opportunity to compete for the state championship in their classification. Based on your seed (West-1, East-2, South-3 and North-4) and your opponent's seed will determine whether you are the designated home or away team for both your semifinal and final matchup. Be safe and bring both sets of uniforms. Schools should encourage their fan base to check the MPSSAA Fan Focus for event information and direct them to purchase state final tickets online to avoid lines at the gate the day of the event.

Important Dates To Remember

First Day of Fall Practice: August 11, 2012
 First Play Date of Fall Season: August 31, 2012
 First Day of Winter Practice: November 15, 2012

First Play Date of Winter Season: December 5, 2012
 First Day of Spring Practice: March 1, 2013
 First Play Date of Spring Season: March 21, 2013

April 2012

APR 16.....Golf Committee - University of Maryland.....10:00 a.m.
 APR 17.....Finance Committee - BWI Courtyard Marriott9:30 a.m.
 APR 18Last day to fill out MPSSA Survey for Strategic Planning CommitteeEnd of the day
 APR 24Spring Sport Committee Meetings—Oregon Ridge Park9:30 a.m.
 APR 26MPSSAA Executive Council.....TBA
 APR 27.....MPSSAA Board of Control.....11:30 a.m.

May 2012

May 7Boy's and Girl's Lacrosse DrawTBA
 May 8Softball DrawTBA
 May 9.....Baseball DrawTBA
 May 9**BOY'S AND GIRL'S LACROSSE** - Regional First RoundTBA
 May 10**SOFTBALL** - Regional First RoundTBA
 May 11**BASEBALL** - Regional First RoundTBA
 May 11**BOY'S AND GIRL'S LACROSSE** - Regional QuarterfinalsTBA
 May 14**BASEBALL** - Regional QuarterfinalsTBA
 May 14**SOFTBALL** - Regional QuarterfinalsTBA
 May 14**BOY'S AND GIRL'S LACROSSE** - Regional SemifinalsTBA
 May 14**BOY'S LACROSSE TEAM ENTRY FORMS DUE**4:00 p.m.
 May 14**GIRL'S LACROSSE TEAM ENTRY FORMS DUE**4:00 p.m.
 May 15**BASEBALL TEAM ENTRY FORMS DUE**.....4:00 p.m.
 May 15**SOFTBALL TEAM ENTRY FORMS DUE**.....4:00 p.m.
 May 16**BASEBALL** - Regional SemifinalsTBA
 May 16**SOFTBALL** - Regional SemifinalsTBA
 May 16**BOY'S AND GIRL'S LACROSSE** - Regional FinalsTBA
 May 16-19.....**BOY'S AND GIRL'S TRACK AND FIELD** - Regional MeetsTBA
 May 18**BASEBALL** - Regional FinalsTBA
 May 18**SOFTBALL** - Regional FinalsTBA
 May 18-19.....**BOY'S AND GIRL'S LACROSSE** - 4A/3A State Semifinals @ Franklin HSTBA
 May 18-19.....**BOY'S AND GIRL'S LACROSSE** - 3A/2A State Semifinals @ Annapolis HSTBA
 May 18-19**BOY'S AND GIRL'S LACROSSE** - 2A/1A State Semifinals @ Bel Air HSTBA
 May 19**TENNIS** - Tennis Regional Tournament Completion DeadlineTBA
 May 20Track and Field Committee Meeting - Westlake HS9:30 a.m.
 May 21**TENNIS** - entry deadline12:00 p.m.
 May 22Tennis Committee Meeting - Reservoir HS6:00 p.m.
 May 22**BASEBALL** - 4A State Semifinals @ University of Maryland.....4 and 7:00 p.m.
 May 22**BASEBALL** - 3A State Semifinals @ Joe Cannon Stadium4 and 7:00 p.m.
 May 22**BASEBALL** - 2A State Semifinals @ Montgomery Blair HS4 and 7:00 p.m.
 May 22**BASEBALL** - 1A State Semifinals @ McCurdy Field4 and 7:00 p.m.
 May 22**SOFTBALL** - 1A, 2A, 3A, 4A, State Semifinals @ Bachman Park4 and 7:00 p.m.
 May 22**BOY'S AND GIRL'S LACROSSE** - 4A/3A, 3A/2A, 2A/1A State Finals @ UMBC4, 6, 8:00 p.m.
 May 23**BOY'S AND GIRL'S LACROSSE** - 4A/3A, 3A/2A, 2A/1A State Finals @ UMBC4, 6, 8:00 p.m.
 May 24**TRACK AND FIELD** - 1A and 2A State Championships @ Morgan State.....4:00 p.m.
 May 25**TENNIS** - State Championships @ University of Maryland, College Park10:00 a.m.
 May 25**TRACK AND FIELD** - 3A and 4A State Championships @ Morgan State.....4:00 p.m.
 May 25**BASEBALL** - 4A State Championships @ Ripken Stadium7:30 p.m.
 May 25**SOFTBALL** - 1A, 2A, 3A, 4A State Championships @ U. of MarylandTBA
 May 26**TENNIS** - State Championships @ University of Maryland, College Park.....9:00 a.m.
 May 26**TRACK AND FIELD** - 1A, 2A, 3A and 4A State Championships @ Morgan State11:00 a.m.
 May 26**SOFTBALL** - 1A, 2A, 3A, 4A State Championships @ U. of MarylandTBA
 May 26**BASEBALL** - 1A, 2A, 3A State Championships @ Ripken Stadium1, 4, 7:00 p.m.

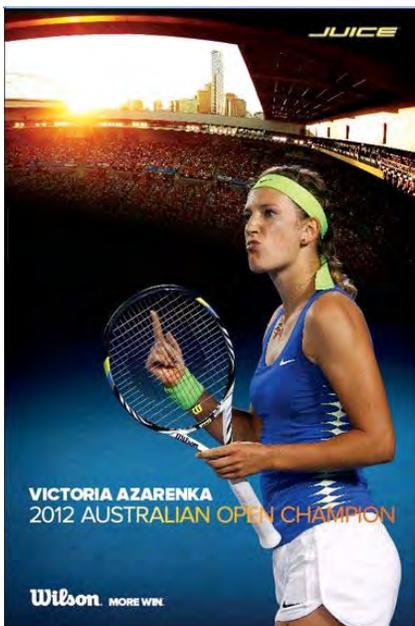


WILSON POWERS UP GAME TO NEXT LEVEL WITH “JUICE” AND “STEAM” RACKETS

***Amplifeel Handle System in Juice Gives Players Superior Feel and Performance;
Kvitova, Azarenka and Nishikori Secure Big Wins at Australian Open with Latest Innovation***

[CHICAGO – Jan. 24, 2012] – Wilson Sporting Goods (www.wilson.com) has unveiled its new generation of racket technology for 2012 with two standout rackets, the **Juice™** and the **Steam™**. Featured in the Juice, Amplifeel™, Wilson’s proprietary handle system, is designed to increase power and spin and equips hard-hitting players with the technology to win consistently. Victoria Azarenka, Petra Kvitova and Kei Nishikori have all secured big wins this week at the Australian Open with their new Juice and Steam rackets.

“This is about powering up the game,” said Jon Muir, general manager for Wilson Racquet Sports. “We’ve looked at every single part of the racket; our new design results in a much higher level of performance for our players and ultimately, the consumer.”



Amplifeel uses an engineered foam handle made from Wilson’s BLX graphite and basalt composites to deliver a cleaner, more advanced feel to the player by filtering out unwanted vibrations.

The Juice, available in the **Juice 100** and the **Juice 108**, is used by Feliciano Lopez, Victoria Azarenka, and Kaia Kanepi. For easy travel between tournaments and center court, Wilson is offering a matching Navy Blue Tour bag.

Left: Victoria Azarenka with the Juice

Victoria Azarenka holds a **12-0 record**, won her **1st Grand Slam title** in Melbourne to become the **WTA #1** (1st Belarusian in history to reach the #1 ranking).

“Coming off a great year in 2011, I want to push myself, taking my game to a new level,” said Azarenka. “The Juice is making a definite difference in how I play.”

The Steam, also available in the **Steam 100** with a lighter weight, modern feel, is powerful and stable for maximum spin. The Steam is used by Kei Nishikori and Petra Kvitova, as well as Ernests Gulbis. The accompanying Red Tour bag has room for everything a player needs to travel around the globe during the Grand Slam season.

WILSON POWERS UP GAME TO NEXT LEVEL WITH
"JUICE" AND "STEAM" RACKETS



Above: Kei Nishikori with his Steam

Nishikori, the first Japanese player to reach the quarterfinals of the Australian Open since 1932, said: "This is the most advanced racket I have ever used. It clearly helped me late last year when I was able to beat some of the world's top players."

About Wilson: Wilson Racquet Sports is a division of Chicago-based Wilson Sporting Goods, one of the world's leading manufacturers of sports equipment and owned by Amer Sports. Wilson designs, manufactures and distributes sporting goods throughout the world and focuses on making technologically advanced products which help players of all levels perform better. For more information, visit www.wilson.com.

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