

# SCOUT

Vol. 29, No. 3

Maryland Public Secondary Schools Athletic Association

April 2013

## *MPSSAA News and Notes*

### **Board of Control Holds Legislative Meeting**

The MPSSAA Board of Control held a special Legislative Meeting on Saturday, March 16 to vote on amendments to the regulations. While the proposals were approved by the Board of Control, several important steps still need to be taken before they become official. Those steps include consideration and approval by the Local Superintendents and the State Board of Education. The earliest that can occur will be at the State Board meeting on July 23rd.

Among the proposed changes is amending the first day of fall practice to three days earlier. This proposal is intended to mitigate lost practice time as a result of the heat acclimatization guidelines. For now, the first day of fall practice remains at August 17th with the potential for adjusting that date to August 14th. The earliest we will know of the potential change will be July 23rd. That would provide three weeks' notice for adjustments to be made. Athletic Directors and fall coaches should monitor State Board actions and check with their school system to be sure of local compliance.

It should be noted that the above modifications, as well as other items soon to be introduced are a reaction to concerns voiced from coaches and administrators. Education based athletics continues to maintain its core values as the culture of sport evolves.

### **Board of Control Meets April 26**

The MPSSAA Board of Control will meet on April 26th in conjunction with the MSADA Conference in Ocean City, Md. On the semi-annual meeting agenda will be approval of the Fall and Winter sport bulletins for the 2013-2014 academic year, proposals for classification and regional seeds, as well as determining the region seeds for 2013-2014.

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

### **MPSSAA and Allstate To Award Scholar-Athletes at Luncheon**

The MPSSAA takes great pleasure in announcing that applications are now being accepted for the 2013 Minds In Motion Scholar-Athlete Scholarship program. The new 2013 application is available by selecting the link on MPSSAA.org under the "Publications" page. This will be the sixth 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 4th.

The deadline for submitting an application is 12 Noon on Friday, April 12th. 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 3rd via email followed by an official letter in the US Mail.

### **2013 Student Leadership Conference**

The MPSSAA will be hosting the fourth Student-Athlete Leadership Conference supported by the All-State Foundation on Thursday, August 8, 2013 at Laurel High School.

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.

**Student Leadership Conference Continued on page 3**

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

Earl Hawkins, President  
Edward F. Sparks, Executive Director

## EXECUTIVE'S CORNER

**Edward "Ned" Sparks**

Executive Director, MPSSAA

There are no secrets or patented formulas in the athletic community. Coaches notoriously copy successful strategies from style of play to uniform design. Innovative ideas are not new for long as everyone is looking for that magic fix guaranteed to bring championships. As coaches copy trends so do fans, especially students. Over the years college student cheering sections especially at indoor events have taken on a life of their own. Night after night during the winter season student cheering sections can be seen boisterously bouncing up and down on bleachers in an attempt to provide the home team with every advantage.

A large number of high schools have copied those cheering sections and for the most part have injected enthusiasm and spirit into athletic contests. Visiting teams know that playing on the road makes their task formidable. The concepts of spirit or pep squads have morphed into this new phenomenon that has added fun to school athletic experiences.

Unfortunately there is a dark side to those student cheering sections. When that side rears its ugly head all positive aspects are negated and the atmosphere becomes poisoned. Perhaps it is immaturity combined with mob mentality that turns a positive school experiences into disgraceful displays. Shouts of obscenities as well as vile, vicious and venomous comments can ruin many wonderful experiences. It is interesting to note that within a mob, individuals will say things that they would not say if speaking individually. Things get said at a school game that if repeated in the classroom would warrant a several day hiatus from the school community.

My fear is that left unaddressed one of these out of control cheering sections will one day trigger an incident that will have devastating consequences. Then it will be too late and the finger pointing will begin in earnest.

Just as the team coach directs the players to act within the rules and provides a structure for competing so should schools set a tone and direct cheering sections on what is acceptable behavior. True that is easier to say than to do given what is glorified on TV every night. College students are legally adults and responsible for their behavior. Most high school students need to be reminded of the parameters of civility. As adults we have the responsibility to teach respect.

# 2013 Winter Wrap-Up

## STATE CHAMPIONS

### BASKETBALL

<b>Boys</b>	<b>Girls</b>
<b>1A</b> Dunbar (4 <sup>th</sup> Consecutive)	<b>1A</b> Western STES
<b>2A</b> Edmondson/Westside	<b>2A</b> Calvert (3 <sup>rd</sup> Consecutive)
<b>3A</b> Milford Mill	<b>3A</b> Aberdeen (2 <sup>nd</sup> Consecutive)
<b>4A</b> Eleanor Roosevelt	<b>4A</b> North Point

### INDOOR TRACK

<b>Boys</b>	<b>Girls</b>
<b>1A</b> Pikesville	<b>1A</b> Boonsboro (2 <sup>nd</sup> Consecutive)
<b>2A</b> Century	<b>2A</b> Largo
<b>3A</b> Digital Harbor	<b>3A</b> Hereford (2 <sup>nd</sup> Consecutive)
<b>4A</b> Clarksburg	<b>4A</b> Bowie

### SWIMMING

<b>Boys</b>	<b>Girls</b>
<b>3A/2A/1A</b> Poolesville (2 <sup>nd</sup> Consecutive)	<b>3A/2A/1A</b> Poolesville
<b>4A/3A</b> Walter Johnson	<b>4A/3A</b> Wootton (2 <sup>nd</sup> Consecutive)

### DIVING

<b>Boys</b>	<b>Girls</b>
T.J. Shinholser, Paint Branch	Mashel Hashem, Churchill

### WRESTLING DUAL MEET CHAMPIONSHIPS

<b>2A-1A</b> Winters Mill
<b>4A-3A</b> Damascus

### WRESTLING TOURNAMENT

<b>2A-1A</b> Winters Mill
<b>4A-3A</b> Urbana

## SPORTSMANSHIP WINNERS

### BOY'S BASKETBALL

**JACK S. WILLARD SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD**  
Edmondson/Westside

### GIRL'S BASKETBALL

**MILDRED H. MURRAY SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD**  
North Point

# MPSSAA News and Notes

## Student Leadership Conference Continued (from page 1)

The structure of the conference provides student interaction through dynamic guest speakers and interactive workshops.

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 is finalizing plans and more information on registration for this year's conference will be distributed in April.

## NFHS Sport Rule Changes

The MPSSAA website, [www.mpssaa.org](http://www.mpssaa.org), posts all rule change release from the NFHS. To view NFHS rule changes go to [www.mpssaa.org](http://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](http://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](http://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.
- New for 2013, live video on the MPSSAA Network featuring as many events as possible.

Be sure to follow the 2013 spring state tournaments at [www.mpssaa.org](http://www.mpssaa.org).

## Non-School Teams

There are some significant MPSSAA bylaw amendments and interpretation adjustments that are under consideration. With changes of this nature, rumor and speculation always precedes the facts. In an effort to help folks from getting too far ahead of reality, below are some explanations of the changes to interpretations made at the December 6, 2012 Board of Control meeting regarding non-school teams and team camps.

While the regulation prohibiting school teams from attending a camp remains in place those restrictions do not extend to non-school teams. The key words are non-school teams. That means that a team attending a camp along with a member of a school coaching staff must be able to clearly demonstrate that there is no school affiliation what-so-ever. That includes but is not limited to funding, organizational meetings, uniforms, equipment, etc.

The following language was adopted by the Board of Control and should serve as a directive for those coaches wishing to be associated with a non-school teams beginning after the last 2013 spring state championship game.

Any paid or volunteer coach at a member school may coach a non-school team provided the team has no direct affiliation with the school. When coaching non-school teams, including returning school players on non-school teams, the following criteria shall be observed:

- a. The non-school team may not use a name directly connected with the school.
- b. The non-school team may not use school uniforms, equipment or funds.
- c. The non-school team may not use school facilities except as allowed by local school system guidelines.
- d. The non-school team must meet local school system standards of a non-school team.
- e. The number of returning school players on the non-school team is limited according to the following timeframe.
  1. From the start of the fall sports season as defined in Regulation .03, to the last state championship game of the spring season, the outside teams roster does not exceed 80% of the returning players of what would constitute a starting lineup in that sport OR a modified version thereof. i.e., 7-on-7 football, 3-on-3 basketball, indoor soccer, indoor lacrosse, etc.
  2. From the last state championship game of the spring season to the first day of fall practice, the outside team roster is unrestricted on the number of returning players.

# *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 2013 Draw Dates**

**Boy's Lacrosse** - May 6

**Girl's Lacrosse** - May 6

**Softball** - May 7

**Baseball** - May 8

- 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 2013 Team Entry Form Dates**

**Boy's Lacrosse** - May 13

**Girl's Lacrosse** - May 13

**Softball** - May 14

**Baseball** - May 14

- 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 (South-1, West-2, North-3 and East-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 17, 2013  
 First Play Date of Fall Season: September 6, 2013  
 First Day of Winter Practice: November 15, 2013

First Play Date of Winter Season: December 5, 2013  
 First Day of Spring Practice: March 1, 2014  
 First Play Date of Spring Season: March 21, 2014

## April 2013

APR 10.....Finance Committee - BWI Courtyard Marriott .....9:30 a.m.  
 APR 11.....Classification Committee - BWI Courtyard Marriott .....9:30 a.m.  
 APR 15.....Golf Committee - University of Maryland.....10:00 a.m.  
 APR 23 .....Spring Sport Committee Meetings—Oregon Ridge Park .....9:30 a.m.  
 APR 25 .....MPSSAA Executive Council.....TBA  
 APR 26 .....MPSSAA Board of Control.....11:30 a.m.

## May 2013

May 6 .....Boy's and Girl's Lacrosse Draw .....TBA  
 May 7 .....Softball Draw .....TBA  
 May 8.....Baseball Draw .....TBA  
 May 8 .....**BOY'S AND GIRL'S LACROSSE** - Regional First Round .....TBA  
 May 9 .....**SOFTBALL** - Regional First Round .....TBA  
 May 10 .....**BASEBALL** - Regional First Round .....TBA  
 May 10 .....**BOY'S AND GIRL'S LACROSSE** - Regional Quarterfinals .....TBA  
 May 13 .....**BASEBALL** - Regional Quarterfinals .....TBA  
 May 13 .....**SOFTBALL** - Regional Quarterfinals .....TBA  
 May 13 .....**BOY'S AND GIRL'S LACROSSE** - Regional Semifinals .....TBA  
 May 13 .....**BOY'S LACROSSE TEAM ENTRY FORMS DUE** .....4:00 p.m.  
 May 13 .....**GIRL'S LACROSSE TEAM ENTRY FORMS DUE** .....4:00 p.m.  
 May 14 .....**BASEBALL TEAM ENTRY FORMS DUE** .....4:00 p.m.  
 May 14 .....**SOFTBALL TEAM ENTRY FORMS DUE** .....4:00 p.m.  
 May 15 .....**BASEBALL** - Regional Semifinals .....TBA  
 May 15 .....**SOFTBALL** - Regional Semifinals .....TBA  
 May 15 .....**BOY'S AND GIRL'S LACROSSE** - Regional Finals .....TBA  
 May 15-18.....**BOY'S AND GIRL'S TRACK AND FIELD** - Regional Meets .....TBA  
 May 17 .....**BASEBALL** - Regional Finals .....TBA  
 May 17 .....**SOFTBALL** - Regional Finals .....TBA  
 May 17-18.....**BOY'S AND GIRL'S LACROSSE** - 4A/3A State Semifinals @ Franklin HS .....TBA  
 May 17-18.....**BOY'S AND GIRL'S LACROSSE** - 3A/2A State Semifinals @ Annapolis HS .....TBA  
 May 17-18 .....**BOY'S AND GIRL'S LACROSSE** - 2A/1A State Semifinals @ Bel Air HS .....TBA  
 May 18 .....**TENNIS** - Tennis Regional Tournament Completion Deadline .....TBA  
 May 19 .....Track and Field Committee Meeting - Westlake HS .....9:30 a.m.  
 May 20 .....**TENNIS** - entry deadline .....12:00 p.m.  
 May 21 .....Tennis Committee Meeting - Howard HS .....6:00 p.m.  
 May 21 .....**BASEBALL** - 4A State Semifinals @ University of Maryland.....4 and 7:00 p.m.  
 May 21 .....**BASEBALL** - 3A State Semifinals @ Joe Cannon Stadium .....4 and 7:00 p.m.  
 May 21 .....**BASEBALL** - 2A State Semifinals @ Montgomery Blair HS .....4 and 7:00 p.m.  
 May 21 .....**BASEBALL** - 1A State Semifinals @ McCurdy Field .....4 and 7:00 p.m.  
 May 21 .....**SOFTBALL** - 1A, 2A, 3A, 4A, State Semifinals @ Bachman Park .....4 and 7:00 p.m.  
 May 21 .....**BOY'S AND GIRL'S LACROSSE** - 4A/3A, 3A/2A, 2A/1A State Finals @ UMBC .....4, 6, 8:00 p.m.  
 May 22 .....**BOY'S AND GIRL'S LACROSSE** - 4A/3A, 3A/2A, 2A/1A State Finals @ UMBC .....4, 6, 8:00 p.m.  
 May 23 .....**TRACK AND FIELD** - 1A and 2A State Championships @ Morgan State.....4:00 p.m.  
 May 24 .....**TENNIS** - State Championships @ University of Maryland, College Park .....10:00 a.m.  
 May 24 .....**TRACK AND FIELD** - 3A and 4A State Championships @ Morgan State.....4:00 p.m.  
 May 24.....**BASEBALL** - 4A State Championships @ Ripken Stadium .....7:30 p.m.  
 May 24.....**SOFTBALL** - 1A, 2A, 3A, 4A State Championships @ U. of Maryland .....TBA  
 May 25 .....**TENNIS** - State Championships @ University of Maryland, College Park.....9:00 a.m.  
 May 25 .....**TRACK AND FIELD** - 1A, 2A, 3A and 4A State Championships @ Morgan State .....11:00 a.m.  
 May 25 .....**SOFTBALL** - 1A, 2A, 3A, 4A State Championships @ U. of Maryland .....TBA  
 May 25 .....**BASEBALL** - 1A, 2A, 3A State Championships @ Ripken Stadium .....1, 4, 7:00 p.m.

# PNC to award MPSSAA Lacrosse Championship schools another \$18,000 in scholarship grants

PNC is extending its support of Maryland Public Secondary Schools Athletic Association (MPSSAA) programs by sponsoring the **Maryland State Lacrosse Championships** for another three years. **A donation of \$1,500 will be made to each school participating in the championship games for the next three years, bringing total awards to \$90,000!**

This funding helps support the academic and scholarship programs of our high schools, which are dedicated to developing students who achieve at the highest levels. It also builds on our state's strong lacrosse tradition by making the sport accessible to more students.

The **PNC Play of the Week** adds a new level of excitement to this year's season. Through May 19, fans can submit a photo of their high school athlete's "play of the week" to CBSbaltimore.com. Lacrosse fans are invited to vote for their favorite photo over the nine-week promotion. The team represented in the winning photo will receive a \$1,500 donation for their high school – and a night at Camden Yards, where they'll watch the game from a private suite! One team member will make the ceremonial first pitch, and three people will get an on-field view of batting practice! Complete contest details are at CBSbaltimore.com.

Good luck to every MPSSAA team in their quest for the 2013 title!



## MPSSAA and PNC A Winning Combination