

SCOUT

MPSSAA News and Notes

2015-16 Participation Survey

Participation for Maryland public high school athletics reached 112,273 participants in 2015-16. While participation dipped from 2014-15, it is the ninth year in a row that participation was over 110,000 and the 12th year in row over 100,000 participants. A complete history of the participation survey dating back to 1977-78 can be found in the MPSSAA Handbook on page 44 (www.mpssaa.org).

The following is the sport participation breakdown by gender:

Sports	Number of Boy Participants		Number of Girl Participants	
	14-15	15-16	14-15	15-16
Badminton	210	212	570	527
Baseball	5590	5454	11	12
Basketball	5651	5591	4726	4435
Bowling	29	29	29	27
Cross Country	3847	3725	2815	2836
Field Hockey	1	2	3909	3868
Football	14293	13941	18	27
Golf	1259	1241	253	270
Gymnastics	0	5	138	350
Indoor Track	4875	5053	4319	4511
Lacrosse	6276	5919	4850	4866
Soccer	6738	6788	5805	5796
Softball	2	0	5074	4890
Swimming	1801	1752	2140	2256
Tennis	2211	2195	2367	2439
Track & Field	6943	7020	5862	5806
Volleyball	623	652	5281	5059
Wrestling	4428	4469	87	128
Ice Hockey	12	33	2	89
Total	64,789	64,081	48,256	48,192

2014-15 TOTAL COMBINED: 113,045

2015-16 TOTAL COMBINED: 112,273

State Pass Gets 15% Off at Wendy's

The MPSSAA is pleased to announce that Wendy's continues their top flight support our member school coaches and administrators with the recently distributed MPSSAA passes for the 2016-17 school year which provide a 15% discount on personal Wendy's purchases.

The plastic-coated Coach and Administrator cards were distributed to all school systems via their Athletic Supervisors/Coordinators. Please note that it is imperative for coaches and administrators to neatly and legibly place their names and signatures on the front of each card in order to activate it prior to use. The card should be presented to a Wendy's crew member prior to placing an order. The 15% discount is only offered to coaches and administrators for personal use and NOT team purchases.

anchors Aweigh! State Football Finals Move To Navy-Marine Corps Stadium

After a 14-year run at M&T Bank Stadium in Baltimore, the State Football Finals will have a new site this fall. The United State Naval Academy in Annapolis will be welcoming our teams and fans to the spectacular Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium for the State Finals on December 1st through 3rd.

The stadium is located at 550 Taylor Avenue in Annapolis (21401). Most will access the facility via Route 50 toward Annapolis and then to Rowe Boulevard. Follow Rowe Boulevard to a right turn at the second stop light onto Taylor Avenue and follow the signs to a right turn into the Blue Parking Lot. More detailed information will be forthcoming in the very near future on our website and in the Football "Fan Focus" at www.mpssaa.org.

Check Out The Officials' Page!

Go to MPSSAA.org and click on the Officials' page for the latest listing of MPSSAA Rules Interpretation clinics. Attendance at a rules interpretation clinic is a certification requirement for officials assigned to MPSSAA contests - both regular and post-season play. COACHES ARE STRONGLY ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND!

Another feature available on the Officials' page at mpssaa.org are rules quizzes created by our State Rules Interpreters for officials to sharpen their officiating skills. Coaches can also use these quizzes to enhance their knowledge of the rules. Past quizzes are archived on each page for future reference, so test your knowledge!

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

Kevin Hook, President

R. Andrew Warner, Executive Director

MPSSAA News and Notes

Cross Country

The MPSSAA Cross Country Championships will return to Hereford High School for the 2016 season. Please make sure all cross country coaches and school athletic directors review the following information.

- Initial school cross country rosters must be submitted by Monday, October 24, 2016. Changes may be made to the roster through 10 a.m. on Monday, October 31, 2016. A link to the MileSplit entry hub can be found on the Cross Country page at mpssaa.org.
- The MPSSAA will be sending out a Last Minute Bulletin regarding specifics for the course, the meet, spectators, parking, and bus information.

CROSS COUNTRY ENTRIES

Must be submitted by Monday, October 24, 2016.
See page 11 of the Cross Country Bulletin.

Girls Field Hockey

The MPSSAA Girls Field Hockey State Championships are scheduled to be held at Washington College on Saturday, November 12, 2016. The seeding meeting for the state tournament will be held via conference call on Thursday, October 20th.

All schools must submit their official record (excluding the designated optional tournament) for games through Wednesday, October 19th to their region tournament director. Brackets for the tournaments will be made available on October 20th.

Football

The MPSSAA Football State Championships will now be played at Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium on December 1st - 3rd. The Class 3A state finals will be played on December 1st at 7:00 p.m., Class 4A on December 2nd at 7:30 p.m., Class 1A and 2A will play on December 3rd at 3:30 and 7:00 p.m.

Schools are reminded to report scores, regardless if you are home or away, as soon as possible at the end of each contest. This job should be appointed to a responsible individual to ensure that the final score is accurately reported each week. Contact person at County Sports Zone (CSZ) is Wick Eisenberg. Scores may be called/texted to 443-801-3404 or emailed to FootballScores@CountySportsZone.com. CSZ will be the official hub for school communities to access the 10-week schedule for all schools as well as for week-to-week results.

Official point standings can be found at mpssaa.org. Each week the MPSSAA will update the standings with Week 10 concluding the regular season and the top four teams in each region advancing to the region semi-finals. Ties will be broken by virtue of the tie-breaker criteria outlined in the current Fall Bulletin. The MPSSAA will announce the official seeding of the State Football Tournament on Sunday, November 6th.

State Tournament Brackets, Schedule, and Results

County Sports Zone (CSZ) will again be the official hub for school communities to access brackets, schedules, and results for the 2016 MPSSAA Fall Playoffs. Schools are asked to use the contact information listed below to report scores and subsequent game schedules throughout their respective tournaments.

Report Schedule and Results

Field Hockey (Ed Waldman):

Email: FieldHockey@CountySportsZone.com
Text: 443-756-7601

Soccer (Wick Eisenberg):

Email:
BoysSoccer@CountySportsZone.com
GirlsSoccer@CountySportsZone.com
Text: 443-801-3404

**IT IS VERY IMPORTANT FOR COACHES TO SAY IF
IT'S A BOYS GAME OR A GIRLS GAME**

Volleyball (Ed Waldman):

Email: Volleyball@CountySportsZone.com
Text: 443-756-7601

Football (Wick Eisenberg):

Email: FootballScores@CountySportsZone.com
Text: 443-801-3404

Golf and Cross Country championships:

CSZ will be on-site to post results in real time.

If coaches have been sending CSZ scores during the regular season, they can continue to use the CSZ score text line — 443-279-4676

Golf

The MPSSAA Golf State Championships will take place at the University of Maryland on Monday, October 24th through Wednesday, October 26th. District tournaments must be completed by Tuesday, October 18 for the state organizational meeting on October 19th.

Coaches should review the Fall Bulletin for additional information and MUST be on site at the State Tournament and available to assist with general supervision, scoring, and/or marshalling if requested to do so by the tournament committee. Please note that range finders are allowed and permitted to be shared with competitors. Cell phones are NOT permitted and may not be used as range finders.

MPSSAA News and Notes

Soccer

The MPSSAA Soccer State Championships are scheduled to be hosted at Loyola University on November 17th, 18th, and 20th. Classifications and game times will be announced based on winners of the state semifinals on November 11th and 12th. Information on Ridley Athletic Complex including directions, parking and spectator information will be sent to participating schools and is posted in the "Fan Focus" on the MPSSAA website.

The seeding meeting for the State Tournament will be held via conference call on Monday, October 24th. All schools must submit their official record (excluding the designated optional tournament) for games through Saturday, October 22nd to their region tournament director. Brackets for the tournaments will be made available on October 24th.

Girls Volleyball

The MPSSAA Volleyball State Championships are scheduled to be hosted at the University of Maryland's Ritchie Coliseum from November 14th-17th and November 19th. Please review the Fall Bulletin regarding the schedule and starting times.

The seeding meeting for the State Tournament will be held via conference call on Monday, October 31st. All schools must submit their official record (excluding the designated optional tournament) for matches through Saturday, October 29th to their region tournament director. Brackets for the tournaments will be made available on October 31st.

Sanctioning Reminders

We would like to re-emphasize that host schools for multi-team events need to file the appropriate sanction request form from the MPSSAA.org website with the MPSSAA Executive Director **PRIOR to the first play date of that particular season (fall, winter, or spring) and at least 15 days prior to the event for events within the first two weeks of the season.** Each request must include an official listing of participating schools before it can be processed for approval and posting on the MPSSAA.org website.

Please note that multi-team events involving MPSSAA member schools or approved non-member Maryland schools that have signed the "Standards of Competition" DO NOT NEED TO BE SANCTIONED!

New Lacrosse Regions For 2017

Lacrosse regions were realigned within the three-classification system by the State Lacrosse Committees at their September meeting. This realignment is due to the inclusion of the Prince George's County Schools who will begin their inaugural participation in lacrosse this coming spring. **The proposed alignments can be found on the last page of this newsletter.** Please note that these alignments need to be ratified by the Classification Committee and by the MPSSAA Board of Control at their December meeting prior to becoming official.

Warrior Is New Lacrosse Sponsor

The MPSSAA Executive Council voted to accept the contract proposal from Warrior Lacrosse at their September meeting as the official lacrosse equipment provider of the MPSSAA beginning with the Spring, 2017 season and running through the end of the Spring, 2021 season. Warrior takes over the lacrosse sponsorship from Harrow who had been an MPSSAA sponsor for the past seven years.

This is the first time that Warrior Lacrosse has been in partnership with the MPSSAA and we are most appreciative and look forward to building our relationship with them as we work to not only continue to grow the game of lacrosse but to provide the best possible state tournament experience for all of our student-athletes!!

Official MPSSAA Game Balls

Field Hockey

Sponsor: Longstreth

Official Ball: Longstreth Chingford multi-turf balls or Longstreth TK multi-turf ball

Soccer

Sponsor: Brine

Official Ball: Brine Championship Soccer Ball

Football

Sponsor: Wilson

Official Ball: Wilson F1003GST

Volleyball

Sponsor: Spalding

Official Ball: VB-5 (in red, white & black)

Basketball

Sponsor: Spalding

Official Ball: Spalding TF-1000 Classic

Baseball

Sponsor: Wilson

Official Ball: Wilson A1010BPROSST

Softball

Sponsor: Dudley

Official Ball: OPTIC YELLOW version of Dudley SB12LND-FP

Lacrosse

Sponsor: Warrior

Official Ball: Warrior Boys Ball NLBN120WH (White)
Warrior Girls Ball NLBN120YL (Yellow)

Tennis

Sponsor: Wilson

Official Ball: Wilson T1001

More MPSSAA News and Notes

Proposed Pitching Limitation Rules For Baseball, 2017

The NFHS Baseball Rules Committee adopted a new regulation that requires state associations to use the number of pitches thrown as the standard for determining the limitations in which pitchers may pitch. In order to be compliant with the NFHS baseball rules, the MPSSAA State Baseball Committee has proposed a new "Pitching Limitation Rule" to take the place of the previous innings pitched rule. This new limitation rule will be vetted by the MPSSAA Medical Advisory Committee and proposed as part of the Baseball Bulletin at the December Board of Control Meeting. The text of the proposed rule from the MPSSAA State Baseball Committee follows.

Pitching Limitations (penalty for violation – forfeit game in which illegal pitcher was used):

- a. The pitching limitations rule is in continuous effect between the regular season and playoffs.
- b. All contests, including suspended games, shall use current pitching limitations.
- c. It is the responsibility of the coach to have all pitchers, with their pitching limitations, listed on the lineup cards presented to the umpire and opposing coach at the beginning of the game.
- d. The calendar rest begins on the day following the date on which the game began or a resumed game began regardless of the conclusion time of the game.
- e. The pitch count is based on pitches thrown for strikes (including all foul balls); balls; balls in play and outs.
- f. A pitcher at any level who reaches the daily pitch maximum limit in the middle of an at-bat will be allowed to finish that hitter.
- g. Warm-up pitches allowed before each inning, warm up pitches allowed by the umpire in case of injury or game delay, and plays attempted against the batter-runner or any runner at first, second or third base do not count against the limit.
- h. All NFHS Substitution and Pitching Rules must be followed.
- i. The pitch count charts of both teams from prior contests are to be presented to the opposing coach BEFORE the game.
- j. During the game, pitch counts will be recorded by an official Designated Pitch Count Recorder (DPCR) supplied by the home team. The visiting team has the option of providing an additional DPCR to sit with the official DPCR to assist in pitch count recording. Any discrepancy shall be settled by the DPCR and coaches without umpire involvement and that record shall be considered final.
- k. The MPSSAA will supply a neutral DPCR for State Semifinal and State Championship contests.
- l. At game's conclusion, the MPSSAA pitch count form will be signed by both head coaches or designated representatives.

Proposed Pitching Limitations (con't.)

- m. Both schools have the responsibility to maintain every pitching chart form until the school season is complete.
- n. Any discrepancy found during/after the game will be reported to the local school system for review.
- o. A hard copy must be available upon Local School System or MPSSAA request at any point during and following the season.

DAILY LIMITATION

The limit on the number of pitches is based on the level of pitching. Specific rest periods are in place when a pitcher reaches a threshold of pitches delivered in a day. The rest periods required during the regular and postseason are listed below:

MPSSAA PITCH COUNT LIMITS AND REQUIRED REST REQUIREMENTS

YR.	DAILY MAX (PITCHES IN GAME)	REQUIRED REST (PITCHES)				
		0 DAYS	1 DAYS	2 DAYS	3 DAYS	4 DAYS
SR	105	1-30	31-45	46-60	61-75	76+
JR	105	1-30	31-45	46-60	61-75	76+
SO	95	1-30	31-45	46-60	61-75	76+
FR	95	1-20	21-35	36-50	51-65	66+

NFHS #MyReasonWhy Campaign

The MPSSAA was founded on the belief that participation in high school sports brings tremendous value to students. To highlight the countless benefits of high school sports, we've partnered with the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) to create #MyReasonWhy – a campaign to celebrate all of the reasons why students participate.

Starting this month, we invite students to share their personal reasons for participating in high school sports. We also encourage parents, coaches, officials and community members to share their reasons why they support high school sports by using the hashtag #MyReasonWhy.

Students can submit their #MyReasonWhy story throughout the year by visiting nfhs.org/myreasonwhy. NFHS will review and select story submissions to be featured in a national campaign in 2017. For more information on the campaign, visit MyReasonWhy@nfhs.org.



2017 ALIGNMENT FOR BOYS & GIRLS LACROSSE

CLASS 4A-3A WEST		CLASS 4A-3A NORTH		CLASS 4A-3A SOUTH		CLASS 4A-3A EAST	
SECTION I		SECTION I		SECTION I		SECTION I	
1. Bethesda-CC	Mtg	1. Bladensburg	PG	1. Catonsville	B Co	1. Arundel	AA
2. Churchill	Mtg	2. Bowie	PG	2. Dulaney	B Co	2. Glen Burnie	AA
3. Einstein	Mtg	3. DuVal	PG	3. Franklin	B Co	3. Meade	AA
4. Richard Montgomery	Mtg	4. Charles H. Flowers	PG	4. Milford Mill Academy	B Co	4. North County	AA
5. Walt Whitman	Mtg	5. Parkdale	PG	5. Parkville	B Co	5. Old Mill	AA
6. Walter Johnson	Mtg	6. Eleanor Roosevelt	PG	6. Westminster	Car	6. Severna Park	AA
7. Wheaton	Mtg	7. Suitland	PG	7. Urbana	Fre	7. Howard	How
8. Wootton	Mtg	8. Dr. Henry A. Wise, Jr.	PG				
SECTION II		SECTION II		SECTION II		SECTION II	
1. Blake	Mtg	1. Montgomery Blair	Mtg	1. Dundalk	B Co	1. Annapolis	AA
2. Clarksburg	Mtg	2. Kennedy	Mtg	2. Kenwood	B Co	2. Broadneck	AA
3. Gaithersburg	Mtg	3. Northwood	Mtg	3. Perry Hall	B Co	3. South River	AA
4. Magruder	Mtg	4. Paint Branch	Mtg	4. Digital Harbor	Balt	4. North Point	Cha
5. Northwest	Mtg	5. Springbrook	Mtg	5. Mergenthaler	Balt	5. Chopticon	StM
6. Quince Orchard	Mtg	6. High Point	PG	6. Baltimore Polytechnic	Balt	6. Great Mills	StM
7. Sherwood	Mtg	7. Laurel	PG	7. Western (Girls only)	Balt	7. Leonardtown	StM
8. Watkins Mill	Mtg	8. Northwestern	PG	8. Bel Air	Hfd		
CLASS 3A-2A WEST		CLASS 3A-2A NORTH		CLASS 3A-2A SOUTH		CLASS 3A-2A EAST	
SECTION I		SECTION I		SECTION I		SECTION I	
1. Frederick	Fre	1. Eastern Technical	B Co	1. Manchester Valley	Car	1. Kent Island	QA
2. Linganore	Fre	2. Hereford	B Co	2. Winters Mill	Car	2. Easton	Tal
3. Middletown	Fre	3. Lansdowne	B Co	3. Centennial	How	3. J. M. Bennett	Wic
4. Thomas Johnson	Fre	4. Patapsco	B Co	4. Glenelg	How	4. Parkside	Wic
5. Oakdale	Fre	5. Towson	B Co	5. Marriotts Ridge	How	5. Stephen Decatur	Wor
6. Tuscarora	Fre	6. Woodlawn	B Co	6. Mt. Hebron	How		
7. North Hagerstown	Was	7. City College	Balt	7. Oakland Mills	How		
8. South Hagerstown	Was	8. Frederick Douglass	Balt	8. Reservoir	How		
SECTION II		SECTION II		SECTION II		SECTION II	
1. Damascus	Mtg	1. Rising Sun	Cec	1. Chesapeake	AA	1. Calvert	Cal
2. Poolesville	Mtg	2. Aberdeen	Hfd	2. Northeast	AA	2. Huntingtown	Cal
3. Rockville	Mtg	3. C. Milton Wright	Hfd	3. Atholton	How	3. Northern	Cal
4. Seneca Valley	Mtg	4. Edgewood	Hfd	4. Hammond	How	4. La Plata	Cha
5. Crossland	PG	5. North Harford	Hfd	5. Long Reach	How	5. St. Charles	Cha
6. Oxon Hill	PG			6. River Hill	How	6. Thomas Stone	Cha
7. Potomac	PG			7. Wilde Lake	How		
CLASS 2A-1A WEST		CLASS 2A-1A NORTH		CLASS 2A-1A SOUTH		CLASS 2A-1A EAST	
SECTION I		SECTION I		SECTION I		SECTION I	
1. Central-PG	PG	1. Carver A&T	B Co	1. Liberty	Car	1. Southern	AA
2. Fairmont Heights	PG	2. Chesapeake	B Co	2. New Town	B Co	2. Patuxent	Cal
3. Frederick Douglass	PG	3. Loch Raven	B Co	3. Owings Mills	B Co	3. Lackey	Cha
4. Friendly	PG	4. Overlea	B Co	4. Pikesville	B Co	4. McDonough	Cha
5. Gwynn Park	PG	5. Sparrows Point	B Co	5. Randallstown	B Co	5. Westlake	Cha
6. Intnatl. HS @ Langley Pk.	PG	6. Joppatowne	Hfd	6. Western STES	B Co		
7. Largo	PG	7. Patterson Mill	Hfd	7. Northwestern	Balt		
8. Surrattsville	PG						
SECTION II		SECTION II		SECTION II		SECTION II	
1. Century	Car	1. Fallston	Hfd	1. B. D. Jemison (Boys only)	Balt	1. North Caroline	Cin
2. Francis Scott Key	Car	2. Harford Technical	Hfd	2. Carver Vo-Tech	Balt	2. Cambridge-SD	Dor
3. South Carroll	Car	3. Havre de Grace	Hfd	3. Dunbar	Balt	3. Kent County	K
4. Brunswick	Fre	4. Bohemia Manor	Cec	4. Edmondson/Westside	Balt	4. Queen Anne's	QA
5. Catoctin	Fre	5. Elkton	Cec	5. Natl. Acad. Foundation	Balt	5. Wicomico	Wic
6. Walkersville	Fre	6. North East	Cec	6. Patterson	Balt		
7. Boonsboro	Was	7. Perryville	Cec	7. Reginald Lewis	Balt		
8. Smithsburg	Was			8. Lake Clifton	Balt		