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2019-2020  
Boys Basketball  
Handbook

New York State Basketball Coaches' Association [www.BCANY.org](http://www.BCANY.org)

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## 2019-2020 Boys Basketball Calendar

The MMHSAA-approved Boys Basketball season is November 1, 2019 through April 1, 2020.

First Practice .....	November 11
First Scrimmage .....	November 18
First Contest .....	November 18
Pre-season Committee Meeting, at Sacred Heart, 6:30 pm .....	November 6
League Game Cut-off Date .....	February 24, 2020
Post-Season Meeting .....	TBA

### Boys Basketball Chairman

Kyle Husband, Canisius High School [kylehusband33@gmail.com](mailto:kylehusband33@gmail.com) C: 716 864-2991

### Divisions

Pres-season classifications:

#### Division A

Canisius High School  
St. Francis High School  
St. Joseph's Collegiate Institute

#### Division B

Bishop Timon/St. Jude High School  
Cardinal O'Hara High School  
St. Mary's High School  
The Nichols School

### Tentative Playoff Schedule 2019-20

Friday, 2/19/20	Last regular season game
Thursday, 2/28/20	Division Semi-Final Games at Canisius College
Friday, 2/29/20	Division Semi-Final Games at Canisius College
Tuesday, 3/3/20	Finals at Canisius College
Saturday, 3/2/20	New York State Division A Semi-final in NYC
Saturday, 3/10/20	NYS CHSAA Championships - TBD

### Basketball Rules Changes – 2019-2020

3-4-3e (2): The team jersey color itself when bordered with not more than two ¼ inch solid border(s) contrasting with the team jersey color. **(Take note of this rule if you are ordering new uniforms.** Effective 2024-25) Rationale: The number being the same color as the jersey, though bordered by a contrasting color, is difficult to see. Two options for number design remain.

3-5-4b: A headband is any item that goes around the entire head. It must be a circular design without extensions. If worn, only one headband is permitted, it must be worn on the forehead/crown. It must be nonabrasive and unadorned, and it must be no more than 3 inches wide. Rationale: I am suggesting that we make the Basketball and Volleyball rule codes on headbands, the same. Girls are wearing headbands that are wider than 2 inches in basketball but are allowed to wear up to 3-inch headbands in volleyball. I think it would help girls who are in these two sports to comply with the rule without confusion.

3-5-4d: Add to (d) - Hair control devices are not required to meet color restrictions. Rationale: To address inconsistent interpretations regarding items such as pre-wrap controlling hair.

3-5-5: Add Note: NOTE: Provided the shorts are not in conflict with 3-4-5, no drawstring or other part of the shorts intended to maintain them in a normal position causes potential harm to the player or others and wearing of the shorts is not objectionable in exposing the anatomy, there is no restriction on folding or rolling the shorts at the natural waistband seam. Rationale: Rolling of the shorts is only illegal by interpretation, not by current rule. This is an attempt to modernize the rule and allow what players seem to want and what serves as no harm to the game or its integrity. In particular, this interpretation was made because allegedly manufacturers did not intend on the shorts to be rolled when in fact many manufacturer reps will tell you that the seams are intentionally made to offer options in the way they are worn.

### 3-5-8 NEW: MOUTHGUARD

1. A tooth and mouth protector (intraoral), if worn shall:
  - a. include an occlusal (protecting and separating the biting surfaces) portion;
  - b. include a labial (protecting the teeth and supporting structures) portion;
  - c. cover the posterior teeth with adequate thickness;
2. It is recommended that the protector be properly fitted, protecting the anterior (leading) dental arch and:
  - a. constructed from a model made from an impression of the individual's teeth, or
  - b. constructed and fitted to the individual by impressing the teeth into the tooth and mouth protector itself.
3. State associations may deem a tooth and mouth protector required equipment.

Change section 6 to 7; change section 7 to 8. Rationale: Provides another safety option with specific with coverage for the device.

### 9-9-1: Exception:

A ball in team control of Team A in the front court that is deflected by a defensive player, which causes the ball to go into the backcourt, may be recovered by either team unless the offense was the last to touch the ball before it went into the backcourt. If the offense was last to touch the ball in its frontcourt, only the defense can legally recover the basketball. Rationale: This was the original intent of the proposal from 2017-18 and 2018-19. Despite the committee's best efforts, the wording adopted, which mirrored the intent, has caused issues. This wording is identical to the exception at other levels of play and easier to teach and understand.

10-5-5 Note: The head coach and any number of assistant coaches may enter the court in the situation where a fight may break out - or has broken out - to prevent the situation from escalating.

Rationale: Based on some fight situations that I have seen and heard about over the last couple years at the high school level, I believe that this change, which was instituted at the NCAA level, is a change that is good for the game of basketball and in regard to player safety. It is difficult in our society for officials to be able to help to separate players involved in a fight since our society has become very litigious. Changing the rule to allow the head coach and assistant coaches to assist in these types of situations will help the officials to regain control of the entire situation more quickly and especially in regard to player safety.

Stop Clock for Jump/Held Ball-Part 3 of the NFHS Basketball Officials Manual-#3: When a held ball occurs, covering official(s) shall stop the clock using signal #2 (straight arm, open palm extended) while simultaneously sounding their whistle. Then both arms are extended straight out, at chest level, with fist clinched. Thumbs are displayed as a part of the signal. Signal is given with both arms moving in an upward motion. Should be followed with a directional signal (See #6) indicating team possession.

\*Occurs when opponents both have their hands on the ball and neither can gain control

\*When an opponent places their hand on the ball and prevents an airborne shooter from passing or releasing the try.

Rationale: This change should help in the alleviation of conflicting calls by officials when a held ball occurs, ie jump ball and foul both called on the same play. We currently raise one arm to stop the clock for everything except the jump/held ball.

## Definition of a Scrimmage

A scrimmage is a practice that is a SIMULATED CONTEST. In scrimmages, both squads use the same field simultaneously with both coaches making corrections and giving instructions. GAME RULES MUST BE ALTERED – SEE SPORT SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS: [NYSPHSAA Handbook](#).

- no official score is kept
- no admission is charged
- the use of officials would be permitted and encouraged whenever possible for the purpose of instruction regarding the rules and proper application of rules.
- Scrimmages will be 90 minutes in length on a school wall clock, starting promptly at the time listed in Arbiter.
- Special situations may be included as per the rule book:
  - Definition of a Scrimmage A scrimmage is a practice that is a SIMULATED CONTEST.. A basketball scrimmage must include 10 minute time periods with running time (except time-outs) and unlimited time outs. The score will be cleared at the end of the time period and the time will be reset. Scrimmages must also include one or more of the following: 1. Optional shot clock. 2 Shoot only fouls against the shooter with free throws awarded in a one plus one. 3. At the end of the 1st and 3rd quarters, each team will run five (5) special plays. Example: out-of-bounds play underneath the basket; sideline out-of-bounds
- Once a team has played their first (home or away) any scrimmage that they host will be considered in-season and they must pay officials regular season pay.
- Scrimmages must also include one or more of the following:
  - Optional shot clock
  - Shoot only fouls against the shooter with free throws awarded in a one plus one
  - At the end of the first and third quarters, each team will run five special plays. Example: out-of-bounds play underneath the basket; sideline out-of-bounds.

## General Regulations

Athletic Directors of participating schools (or their designees) are responsible for assigning adequate faculty supervision for all their students attending playoff games. The general rule is one supervisor for every fifty presale tickets sold. The financial responsibility of these assignments lies with the participating schools.

Supervisors will be allowed at neutral sites for playoffs. Supervisors will be issued a game ticket at the site. These supervisors are to report to the Game-Site Chairperson for their supervisory assignment.

Athletic Directors (or their designees) shall instruct their faculty supervisors and students that the following items are NOT ALLOWED at any playoff game:

- Sirens, noise makers, whistles, megaphones, or any other distracting device.
- Confetti, streamers, etc.

NOTE: THESE REGULATIONS WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED!

## Coaches' Responsibilities

The official representative and leader of each team is the participating coach. He/she is a certified coach who, presumably, understands youth.

It is not his/her responsibility to demonstrate against officials, nor to intimidate them. This is a rule infraction in basketball, and, as the team leader, he/she should set the example for spectators by conducting him/herself as a professional and a good sport at all times.

Recommendations for all coaches are listed below, and it is the intention of the Executive Committee that they be honored:

- Dress — Each coach is encouraged to dress appropriately.
- Appearance — Each coach shall be neat, clean, and well-groomed.
- Speech — Each coach shall address all people, including officials, with respect, courtesy and understanding.
- Decisions — Each coach will not attempt to influence the decisions of officials.
- Acting — Each coach must be careful of his/her gestures and mannerisms so as not to incite the crowd.
- Sportsmanship — Coaches and players are requested to meet on the playing floor directly after the game to exchange congratulations. This creates a good image.
- Smoking — There will be no smoking by anyone on the bench during any game or warm-up.
- Violation – Violation of any of the regulations outlined in this section may not only affect the outcome of any one game but may seriously jeopardize the future of sectional playoffs.
- Transportation – If this is the coach's responsibility, he/she must be sure to be on hand to supervise his/her players.
- Valuables – Each coach is to make definite arrangements for care of team valuables during a contest. Valuables are not to be left unprotected. MMHSAA will take no responsibility for lost or stolen articles.

## Cheerleaders Advisors' Responsibilities

- The number of cheerleaders admitted to playoff games will be limited to sixteen
- The names of all cheerleaders must be on the Admittance Form in order to be admitted to the playoff site without charge.
- Cheerleaders will not be admitted unless they are in uniform.
- All Cheerleading teams must adhere to the regulations in MMHSAA Safety Policy on Cheerleading. Game-Site chairs will stop squads that are not following this policy for post-season play.
- Both cheerleading squads will have the option to perform at half-time at all sectional contests.

## Tickets

Regular season games: Schools may charge up to \$5 unless they agree on a higher admission price.

Quarter-finals Tickets at gate: \$5

Semi-finals Tickets at gate: \$7 Pre-sale tickets: \$5

Finals Tickets at gate: \$10 Pre-sale tickets: \$7

Each Athletic Director (or designee) should turn cash or a check for the pre-sale tickets sold over to the Game-Site Chairperson. The Game-Site Chairperson may check the number of pre-sale tickets to verify this amount.

**NOTE:** All persons attending playoff games must have tickets in accordance with MMHSAA regulations. See MMHSAA Pass Policy.

## **Admittance Forms** (Semi-Finals, Finals, AND State Qualifiers Only)

Each Athletic Director (or designee) of a participating team will submit the Admittance Form (to the Game Site Chairperson). The Admittance Form will contain the following information:

Name, address, and phone number of the school  
Names of Principal, Athletic Director, and Coaches  
Names and/or number of supervisors  
Names of players (maximum 15)  
Names of cheerleaders (maximum 16)  
Names of statisticians and managers (maximum 4)  
Names and/or number of bus drivers

The bench will be reserved for coaches, dressed players, managers, statisticians, A.D., principal, and superintendent. Under no circumstances shall the number of persons on the bench exceed twenty-five.

## **Evaluation Reports**

This report is necessary only when unusual or exceptional circumstances are encountered at or during the game. If nothing out of the ordinary occurs, no report needs to be filed.

The Executive Committee asks that evaluation reports be filed by the following people:

Athletic Director or coach of participating teams  
Game-Site Chairperson  
Game Officials

These reports will evaluate the conduct of the  
Crowd  
Coaches

Players (specific number and/or name)  
Game Officials

These report forms will be provided by the Game-Site Chairperson and should be returned to him/her.

## **Seeding**

All teams may take part in the playoffs. A school may choose not to have their team participate and must notify the Basketball Chairman before February 14, 2020. The seeding will be done according to the teams' standing in league games. If there is a tie, see the tiebreakers in the Seeding Policy below. Once seeded, a team is expected to participate.

## **MMHSAA League**

The MMHSAA Boys Basketball will consist of the following schools for the 2019-20 season:

Declared A Schools	Declared B Schools
Canisius	Bishop Timon/St. Jude
St. Joe's	Cardinal O'Hara
St. Francis	Nichols
	St. Mary's

The league will consist of a 14-game schedule (a home game and an away game with each school).

Each school that declares an A will only be eligible for the Division A Championship bracket. In addition:

- The Division A bracket will consist of the top 2 schools from regular season league play regardless of their pre-season classification and include all other schools that have classified as an A school
- The Division B bracket will consist of any school that classified as a B school who finished in 3<sup>rd</sup> place or below.

The A Division will compete for the traditional Manhattan Cup.

The B Division will compete for the Richard Wojciechowski Memorial Cup (the Wojo Cup).

## **MMHSAA Seeding Policy**

The MMHSAA Seeding Policy shall be followed for seedings:

In the event of a tie in the standings, both teams will be awarded the position.

The following tie breakers will be used for seeding purposes only and include all 14 league games:

- Tie Breakers
- Head to head
- division record
- wins over common opponent
- flip of a coin
- Tied teams start with the top of the regular season standings, and work their way down the standings until there is a difference in record against a team.
  - Once there is a difference, the team with the better record becomes the higher seed
  - In the event of a 3-way (or more) tie, the above procedure will be applied using only the games played between the tied teams.
- Once a tie is broken by the above system, and if ties among remaining teams still exist, those ties are broken by starting again at step 1, if two teams are still tied. Start at Step 2 if more than two teams are still tied.

## **Play-off Procedure**

- Each Basketball team shall be responsible for bringing their own warm-up balls
- Each school must provide an admittance form for the team and cheerleaders
- Each school is responsible for the supervision of their students
- The higher seed will provide the play-off game ball
- Game jersey - Coaches should come prepared with two sets in case of emergency. \*Note: The highest-seeded team shall be the home team and will wear the light-colored uniforms!

## **Publicity and Media**

Media request for approval - all radio/TV stations must fill out and submit a [media contract application](#) to the MMHSAA

At the conclusion of the game, the winning coach must give results to radio and television and then notify Sports' Department. Please make certain of this. Each year, sportswriters and sportscasters criticize MMHSAA for lack of cooperation in reporting game results [Media Link](#)

## Reporting Scores to the League.

All coaches are required to report their scores and statistics in a manner that is approved by the league. Athletic directors will be notified of delinquent statistical reporting. Failure to do so will result in the following:

- First offense – warning to the athletic director and to the coach
- Second offense - \$100 fine and 24-hour notice to bring your stats up to date
- Third offense - \$250 fine and suspension of coach

We will be using MaxPreps to track league records and statistics. Please set up an account and send the account information to the league chairman and to the executive director at [mmhsaa2017@gmail.com](mailto:mmhsaa2017@gmail.com).

More MaxPreps Links          App links

<http://support.maxpreps.com/hc/en-us>          <http://www.maxpreps.com/mobile/home.aspx>

The winning coach for VARSITY must REPORT scores in for news coverage: The Buffalo News: 849-4461

Scores for J.V. must also be reported to the sport chairperson by the winning coach within 24 hours. Failure to do so will result in penalties:

- First offense is a written warning to both athletic director and principal.
- Each additional offense may result in supplementary discipline, at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

## Game-Site Chairperson

- The Game Chairperson will make him/herself accessible and visible to supervisors, coaches, players, spectators, and officials by wearing identifiable insignia.
- He/she will station all supervisory personnel assigned to the game.
- He/she should greet supervisors at the door and make assignments immediately.
- He/she will assign the following adults:
  - Scorekeeper
  - Timekeeper
  - Ticket Sellers and Takers
  - Police
  - Others as necessary
- He/she shall collect the Admittance Forms from participating Athletic Directors (or their designees). No one is to enter the gymnasium unless his/her name appears on this form.
- At the gate, he/she shall check the names that appear on the Admittance Form with the participating Athletic Directors (or their designees).
- The Game-Site Chairperson is to destroy the tickets at the end of the game.
- SAFETY: During post-season play, the site chairperson will be responsible for the following:
  - Enforcing the MMHSAA Safety Policy on cheerleading by stopping squads that are performing prohibited stunts.
  - Securing an AED for the certified trainer's use as per the AED policy on page 16.
- SCOREBOOK: The home team scorebook is designated as the official scorebook.
- GAMEBALL: the game ball will be provided by the highest seed.
- He/she will provide suitable horns and time pieces.

## **Supervisors**

- All supervisors are to report to the Game-Site Chairperson for supervisory assignments.
- It is highly recommended that each school participating in sectionals provide supervision to assist MMHSAA supervisors as needed.
- If more participating school supervisors are available, they will be stationed discriminately throughout their stands.
- The Game Chairperson will also station his host school supervisors with discretion.
- Unless necessary, supervisors are strongly admonished NOT to sit together.

## **Special Responsibilities**

- The Game-Site Chairperson will inform participating coaches about the amount of warm-up time prior to the game to ensure a reasonable and safe warm-up period.
- Provision shall be made for a simple Flag Ceremony or Star-Spangled Banner prior to game time.
- Starting teams and game officials should be introduced to the spectators.
- Each Game-Site Chairperson will fill out the three-part Game Report provided by the Basketball Chairperson as follows:
  - Conduct of crowd/coach/players
  - Game Officials performance
  - Performance of staff

## **Programs**

Programs will be printed and sold at game-sites at the discretion of the MMHSAA.

Playoff roster, including JV players brought up for playoffs, must be finalized by February 14, 2020.

Make sure jersey numbers are visible in team photographs.

## **Game Responsibilities**

- Officials are to report at least 30 minutes prior to game time and must be on the floor 15 minutes prior to the start of the game.
- Official Scorer and Timer are paid adult officials. High school students are not allowed to work playoff games. Adults will be assigned by the Game-Site Chairperson.
- Finals:
  - Report to the site designated by the Basketball Chairperson
  - A MMHSAA official will greet you at the main entrance and escort you to the dressing quarters.
  - Officials will be asked to fill out an evaluation report concerning the conduct of
    - Crowd (be specific)
    - Coaches
    - Players (specify name and/or number)

## **Assignment of Officials**

Officials for MMHSAA contests will be assigned by the MMHSAA Executive Director or by his designee in Arbitersports.com. Varsity officials who have the potential to work MMHSAA contests must have their availability up to date in Arbitersports before being assigned. Additional qualifications for selection include:

The official's name must appear on his/her Referee Unit's Official Roster in Arbiter sports prior to the beginning of the soccer season.

The official must have officiated a minimum of six games throughout the season. The MMHSAA Executive Committee may override the six-game minimum in case of extenuating circumstances. An official may submit a request for review of his/her circumstances no later than one week prior to the playoffs.

Geographic location will be considered in assigning for the early rounds of the MMHSAA.

Three-man officiating will be used for semi-finals as well as finals.

## **MMHSAA Policies Policy on Travel to State Competition for Team Sports**

- Check the MMHSAA Travel Policy for information.
- Member schools participating in state competition will be responsible for all costs related to their participation. MMHSAA responsibility for member school participation in state championships is outlined in the league travel policy.

## **All-WNY Scholar Athlete Team**

Coaches and Athletic Directors are encouraged to nominate athletes for selection as an All-WNY Scholar Athlete. Applications must be completed online. Click here for [The criteria for selection and the Nomination Form](#). Please follow instructions for submission on the Section VI web page. Those selected will be honored by both MMHSAA and The Buffalo News.

## **MMHSAA AED Policy**

Although the New York State legislature may have not gone so far as to make Education Law Section 917 applicable to nonpublic schools, the MMHSAA believes that its member schools should observe the law's requirements as a "best practice" and therefore strongly encourages them to do so. For events that the MMHSAA hosts, there will be AED equipment present as well as people who know how to operate the equipment. For competitions hosted by member schools, it will be the independent responsibility of each school to ensure whether and how the school will observe these best practices relating to AED's.

## **Pass Policy**

MMHSAA passes are good at any regular season contest in MMHSAA.

The home school may refuse passes for admission at tournaments.

- MMHSAA passes are good for two admissions.
- MMHSAA passes are NOT good for admission to playoff games or special events.
- Some conditions (e.g., playoffs) may require the use of all passes be suspended by the Executive Director.
- Transferred passes shall be confiscated and returned to the MMHSAA Executive Director.
- Faculty and school passes shall not be honored at MMHSAA hosted activities.
- MMHSAA committees shall determine how athletes, managers, varsity cheerleaders, coaches, bus drivers, supervisors, and game management personnel shall be admitted.
- The press and scouts must call and make previous arrangements for admittance or buy a ticket.
- MMHSAA passes shall be issued to the following individuals:
  - MMHSAA Officers
  - MMHSAA League Representatives
  - MMHSAA Committee Chairpersons
  - Chief School Officers
  - School Principals

- School Athletic Directors
- School Coaches (2 per school)
- 

## **No Shows at Playoffs**

A school team that does not show or refuses to play in a playoff contest after the seeding meeting spoils the integrity of the tournament. MMHSAA schools shall declare their intent to play or not play prior to MMHSAA seeding. Schools failing to fulfill their pre-tournament commitment shall be subject to the following sanction:

One year of ineligibility for sectional play in that sport with the ability to appeal to the Athletic Council. Appeal must occur within 60 days of the completion of sectional play.

The Section Chairperson must notify the Executive Secretary of the occurrence, and the Section office will notify the Superintendent, Principal and Athletic Director of the sanction.

## **Regulations Regarding Senior All-Star AND Outside Agency Contests**

All Senior All-Star and Outside Agency contests MUST be approved by MMHSAA. In addition, Senior All-Star contests must be approved by NYSPHSAA. The forms required are posted on the MMHSAA website\*.

All Senior All-Star and Outside Agency contests must be conducted within the season dates approved by the MMHSAA Athletic Council for that sport. The calendar of approved season dates for all sports is posted on the MMHSAA website\*.

Only seniors who have completed their secondary school eligibility in that sport may compete in these contests.

A contestant may participate in any approved senior all star athlete contest in the same sport during the school year. (approved October 24, 2013, NYSPHSAA Executive Committee Meeting).

NOTE: A Senior All-Star contest by NYSPHSAA standards is one in which an athlete's participation is based solely on outstanding performance as a member of a high school team. If open tryouts are held, the contest is NOT a NYSPHSAA All-Star contest.

## **MMHSAA Policy Contingency Plan for playoff Competition**

- Contests be hosted by one of our schools will be considered for postponement only if a participating school is officially closed due to weather or illness.
- It is the responsibility of the Athletic Director of a host school (or designee) to notify the Executive Director that the school has been closed due to weather conditions (or illness) as soon as he/she becomes aware of such action. If the game is cancelled the officials and the media will be notified by the Executive Director (or designee).
- In the event that a school is closed on the day its playoff contest is scheduled, the decision to play shall rest with the school principal.
- In the event that weather conditions reverse themselves prior to game time, the game may be played with the mutual consent of the participating Athletic Directors and the approval of the Sport Chairperson.

### **Games hosted at a Neutral Site**

- When a contest is at a non-school site (neutral site): If the competition facility and the roads to that destination are open, then the competition will go on as scheduled. If either the roads or the

facility is closed, then the competition will be cancelled. If a school is closed, the Executive Director of the MMHSAA will communicate with the school to determine if the game can be played as scheduled. Under NO CIRCUMSTANCES is a site contracted by MMHSAA available for practice when a competition is cancelled.

PLEASE NOTE: It is up to the MMHSAA schools to recognize the potential for snow days, power outages, etc. that may cause cancellations and problems. The MMHSAA schools should schedule their last league contest at least one or two days prior to the playoffs, allowing for a make-up of league contest(s) prior to the playoffs if necessary.

## **Sportsmanship Philosophy and Code of Conduct Philosophy**

We believe that interscholastic athletics is an important part of education and supports the ideals and values embodied in good sportsmanship.

We believe that sportsmanlike behavior is essential if interscholastic competition is to contribute usefully and constructively to the broad goals of education and to the quality of life of those involved.

We pledge ourselves individually and collectively to encourage and support the development and maintenance of a sportsmanlike atmosphere for athletic competition.

## **Code of Conduct**

A genuine interest in and enjoyment of interscholastic competition requires conduct that reflects the understanding that contests, as part of an overall school program, are intended to be enjoyed. Behavior that reflects a winning-at-all-costs attitude violates this standard.

Interscholastic competition provides valuable lessons and learning experiences that are not possible in the regular classroom setting. All involved must support the need to develop the ability to compete with enthusiasm and to accept winning with grace and losing with dignity.

Coaches, players, and fans should know that participation is an honor and privilege which requires them to conduct themselves in a manner that brings honor and pride to their school and community.

Respect for the cultural and ethnic diversity of one's opponents, their school, and community is a fundamental tenet of wholesome athletic competition. This standard suggests that planned activity is needed to demonstrate a warm and friendly welcome, mutual respect, and genuine readiness to participate in a sportsmanlike manner.

Players should demonstrate both knowledge of the rules and respect for game officials and their decisions. Coaches and school officials have the responsibility to teach and encourage these attributes.

## **SPORTSMANSHIP STATEMENT REMINDER**

The following statement will be read over the public-address system just prior to the pledge to the flag. If there is no public-address system, the statement will be read to both teams by the site chairperson or his representative:

The New York State Catholic High School Athletic Association and the Monsignor Martin High School Athletic Association requires that game administrators, school administrations and officials enforce a ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY for athletes, coaches, and spectators. They will not tolerate negative statements of actions between opposing players, especially abusive language, trash talking, taunting, or baiting of opponents. If such comments are heard or actions seen, a penalty will be assessed immediately. Spectators are reminded that berating of officials; the making of negative comments toward either team; or displaying inappropriate behavior are eject able offenses.

The playing field is an extension of our classrooms. Please practice good sportsmanship."

This announcement stands as the official warning of the ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY. Let today's contest reflect mutual respect between all participants and spectators.

## **MMHSAA ZERO TOLERANCE**

This policy requires all players, coaches, officials, team officials and administrators and parents/spectators to maintain a sportsmanlike and educational atmosphere before, during and after all MMHSAA games.

Thus, the following points of emphasis must be implemented by all officials.

### Players

- A technical foul for unsportsmanlike conduct (zero tolerance) shall be assessed whenever a player:
- Openly disputes or argues any decision by an official.
- Uses obscene or vulgar language at any time, including any swearing, even if it is not directed at a particular person.
- Visually demonstrates any sign of dissatisfaction with an official's decision. Any time that a player persists in any of these actions, they shall be assessed a technical foul.

### Coaches

- A technical foul for unsportsmanlike conduct (zero tolerance) shall be assessed whenever a coach:
- Openly disputes or argues any decision by an official.
- Uses obscene or vulgar language in a boisterous manner to anyone at any time.
- Visually displays any sign of dissatisfaction with an official's decision with the intent of inciting the officials, players or spectators.
- Any time that a coach persists in any of these actions, he/she may be assessed an ejection

### Officials

- Officials are required to conduct themselves in a businesslike, sportsmanlike, impartial and constructive manner at all times. The actions of an official must be above reproach. Actions such as "baiting" or inciting players or coaches are strictly prohibited.
- Officials are ambassadors of the game and must always conduct themselves with this responsibility in mind.

### Parents/Spectators

- The game will be stopped by game officials when parents/spectators displaying inappropriate and disruptive behavior interfere with other spectators or the game. The game officials will identify violators to the schools supervisor and/or coaches for the purpose of removing parents/spectators from the spectator's viewing and game area. Once removed, play will resume. Failure to do so may result in a technical foul being assessed to the head coach. This inappropriate and disruptive behavior shall include:
- Use of obscene or vulgar language in a boisterous manner to anyone at any time.
- Taunting of players, coaches, officials or other spectators by means of baiting, ridiculing, threat of physical violence or physical violence.
- Throwing of any object in the spectators viewing area, players bench, or on the court, directed in any manner as to create a safety hazard

Mercy Rule