



MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION OF CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS ATHLETICS HANDBOOK

I. DOCTRINAL STATEMENT

We believe the Bible, both the Old and New Testaments, was verbally inspired of God, and is inerrant and is our only rule in matters of faith and practice. We believe in creation, not evolution; man was created by the direct act of God and in the image of God; we believe life begins at conception where the only sexes (male and female) are divinely determined. We believe Adam and Eve, in yielding to the temptation of Satan, became fallen creatures. We believe all men are born in sin. We believe in the incarnation, the virgin birth, and the deity of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. We believe in the vicarious and substitutionary atonement for the sins of mankind by the shedding of His blood on the cross. We believe in the resurrection of His body from the tomb, His ascension to Heaven, and He is now our Advocate. We believe He is personally coming again. We believe in His power to save men from sin. We believe in the necessity of the new birth, and this new birth is through the regeneration of the Holy Spirit. We believe salvation is by grace through faith, plus nothing minus nothing, in the atoning blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. We believe God ordained marriage and family as the foundational institution of society. We further believe the only biblically sanctioned marriage is the public, monogamous union of one man and one woman is intended for a lifetime and sexual activity outside of marriage is sinful and detrimental to society. We believe in the Biblical doctrine of ecclesiastical separation, and therefore believe churches and Christian schools shall not be members of or in agreement with organizations or movements which deny the fundamental doctrines found in this statement or with ecumenicalism which minimizes doctrinal distinctives. We further believe in the completed revelation of Scripture which allows neither for direct revelation from God today, nor for continuation of temporary New Testament sign gifts, such as visions, dreams, prophecies, healings or speaking in tongues, such as is practiced in the Charismatic movement.

We believe this doctrinal statement/statement of faith is basic for Christian fellowship. All born-again men and women who sincerely accept it and are separated from the world of apostasy and sin can, and should, live together in peace, and it is their Christian duty to promote harmony among the believers.

II. PURPOSE

This shall be a voluntary association to provide Christian growth, both spiritual and physical, for the students of MACS member Christian schools; to establish, maintain, and enforce such regulations as may be necessary

to assure all such activities shall be part of and contribute towards the entire educational and spiritual program of the MACS member Christian schools; to safeguard the physical, mental, and moral welfare of students in athletic activities; and to provide for the conducting of postseason state Christian high school tournaments for the Michigan Association of Christian Schools.

These tournaments are:¹

- Varsity Boys Soccer and Girls Volleyball
- Junior High Boys Soccer (8-Man) and Girls Volleyball (ninth grade and under)
- Varsity Boys Basketball and Girls Basketball
- Junior High Boys Basketball and Girls Basketball (ninth grade and under)
- Boys Wrestling (third - twelfth grade by weight)
- Boys and Girls Golf (Junior High & Varsity)
- Varsity Girls Soccer and Boys Baseball
- Junior High Girls Soccer and Boys Baseball (ninth grade and under)

III. GOVERNMENT

The Executive Board of MACS is comprised of Dr. Doug Jackson, Dr. Mike Harding, Pastor Shawn Kook, Dr. Tim Schmig

The MACS athletic advisor's representatives of member schools are:

- Athletic Director - Mike Rierson
- Division I - Edd Bowen, Steve Hobbins
- Division II - Scot Bryan, Tony Nash, Cole Welby

IV. SANCTIONED SPORTS²

- A. Fall
 - 1. Girls' Volleyball
 - 2. Boys' Soccer³
 - a. Division I: 11-man Soccer
 - b. Division II: 8-man Soccer
- B. Winter
 - 1. Girls' Basketball
 - 2. Boys' Basketball
 - 3. Boys' Wrestling (Varsity seventh-twelfth grades; Elementary third-sixth grades)

¹ For the purposes of MACS Athletics, "Junior High" will be defined as ninth grade and below; "Junior Varsity" will be defined as tenth grade and below; and "Varsity" will be open to anyone in twelfth grade and below.

² A sporting event will be considered for sanctioning when there are at least six schools competing in the event (the MACS Executive Board can temporarily lift this requirement).

³ For overtime rules, please see page 8 of the MHSAA Rules Supplement, which can be viewed and downloaded here: <https://my.mhsaa.com/portals/0/documents/BSO/2022/2022-23%20MHSAA%20rules%20supplement.pdf>

- a. Round Robin or bracket will be determined for each weight class at the discretion of the majority of the coaches at the morning coaches' meeting.
 - b. Medals will be awarded for first, second and third place in both the varsity and elementary tournaments.
 - c. Team trophies will be awarded for the first and second place teams in the varsity tournament and the first place team in the elementary tournament.
- C. Spring
 - 1. Boys' Baseball
 - 2. Girls' Soccer⁴
 - a. Division I: 11-man Soccer
 - b. Division II: 8-man Soccer
 - 3. Boys' Golf
 - 4. Girls' Golf

V. SCHOOL PARTICIPATION

- A. Tournament participation is a benefit of membership in the MACS.
- B. Schools wishing to participate in MACS tournaments will use MaxPreps (<https://www.maxpreps.com>) to record team win/loss records.
- C. Current paid membership in MACS is required for tournament participation; however, the MACS Executive Board can temporarily lift this requirement if non-member schools participate before deciding to become a member. After a two-year period, the non-member school can only participate by becoming a member.
- D. The Application for Participation with current enrollment numbers must be sent to the MACS Athletic Financial Secretary (postmarked by September 15) to be eligible to play in the tournament.
- E. Registrants that withdraw, or forfeit after MaxPreps seeds teams, are required to pay all charges related to the scheduled game.
- F. Tournament games must be played on the scheduled dates as posted on the MACS calendar.

VI. STUDENT PARTICIPATION, ELIGIBILITY, & DUAL ENROLLMENT

- A. A student will be eligible to participate in only eight consecutive semesters while in grades 9-12.
- B. No student may participate who has reached his nineteenth birthday before September 1 of the current school year.
- C. Dual enrollment
 - 1. Any student enrolled in their primary school is eligible for athletic competition.
 - a. Primary school is defined as the school where the student receives their diploma.
 - 2. That student may be enrolled in another high school but may only participate in athletics for their primary school.

⁴ For rules specific to 8-man soccer and for overtime rules, please see page 8 of the MHSAA Rules Supplement, which can be viewed and downloaded here: <https://my.mhsaa.com/portals/0/documents/BSO/2022/2022-23%20MHSAA%20rules%20supplement.pdf>

3. Upon request an administrator will provide a list of players and enrolled classes.
- D. Home schooled students
 1. Home schooled students are eligible to participate in the MACS tournaments if they are taking at least one class during the school day at the MACS member school that will count for academic full credit. A list of student names and the class(es) they are taking needs to be emailed to the athletic advisor's board by September 15.
 2. The MACS member school must include the home school members in their count for membership.
- E. There is no transfer date deadline. To play in MACS tournaments, transfer students from another MACS school must be on the team for at least 50% of the games.

VII. TOURNAMENT DATES⁵

- A. Fall
 1. Girls' Volleyball: Last two weeks in October up to the first Saturday in November
 2. Boys' Soccer: Last two weeks in October up to the first Saturday in November
- B. Winter
 1. Girls' Basketball: Last two weeks in February up to the first Saturday in March
 2. Boys' Basketball: Last two weeks in February up to the first Saturday in March
 3. Junior High Girls and Junior High Boys Basketball to be determined each year
 4. Boys' Wrestling: A Saturday in March or first Saturday in April
- C. Spring
 1. Boys' Baseball - Last two weeks in May up to the first Saturday in June
 2. Girls' Soccer - Last two weeks in May up to the first Saturday in June

VIII. SEEDING

- A. Seed Meeting Information
 1. It is recommended by MACS that scores be updated weekly in MaxPreps.
 2. Any school not supplying the needed information by the set deadline will incur a \$100 fine to be eligible for tournament and will forfeit input in tournament seeding.
- B. Procedure
 1. The MACS Athletic Director will pre-seed the teams according to the information submitted.
- C. Hosting tournament games
 1. Schools will be eligible to host if they can meet the following guidelines:
 - a. Have a regulation-sized court/field with adequate fan accommodations.
 - i. Basketball court: 50' x 84' minimum
 - ii. Soccer field: 50 yards x 100 yards (8'x22' goal)
 - iii. Volleyball court: 23' high ceiling minimum

⁵ The state finals dates for all tournaments will be posted in advance on <http://www.macshome.org>.

- iv. Baseball diamond: 90' bases and 60' 6" pitcher's mound
- v. Golf: high school boys will play from the middle tees; junior high boys and varsity girls will play from the forward tees
- b. Schedule 3 MHSAA registered officials (2 for volleyball) for all playoff games.
- c. Collect admissions for semi-finals based on MACS tournament admissions pricing.
- d. Complete and send in a MACS tournament game report for semi-finals to Michelle Rierson within 24 hours of the completion of the game.

IX. DIVISIONS

- A. Divisions will be determined based on current ninth-twelfth grade enrollment.
 - 1. Division I will consist of the top of the natural break determined by the school census submitted by September 15. Schools will be notified of their proper division.
 - a. Soccer: Division I will play 11-man and Division II will play 8-man.
 - 2. Division II will consist of all the other teams participating.

X. EVENT LOCATION

- A. Sites must have adequate facilities to be used for tournament play. (See section 8C)
- B. The finals will be held at predetermined sites.
- C. The location(s) for all rounds of play leading up to the finals will be determined by the input of MACS Athletic Director.

XI. RULES

All MACS athletic competitions will abide by the National Federation of State High School Association's rule book (for the rules of the game) as adopted by MHSAA where applicable.

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF STATE HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS
11724 Plaza Circle
PO Box 20626
Kansas City, Missouri 64195
816.464.5400

MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION
1661 Ramblewood Dr.
East Lansing, Michigan 48823
517.332.5046

XII. OFFICIALS

- A. Each tournament game is to have three officials (two for volleyball) registered with the MHSAA. In soccer, USSF certification is acceptable.

- B. The officials must not be connected with the competing schools, churches, or conferences.

XIII. DRESS CODE

- A. Boys
 - 1. Uniforms must be modest (see appendix).
 - 2. Hair must be worn in a conventional manner.
- B. Girls (players and cheerleaders)
 - 1. Uniforms must be modest and loose fitting.
 - 2. When standing, uniforms must come to the knee.
 - 3. Culottes, sweat pants, and warm-ups are allowed.

XIV. CONDUCT

- A. It is the responsibility of the administration to make sure the coach, athletes, and spectators behave in a Christlike manner (i.e., worldly music, dress code, worldly attitude, respect for officials).
- B. It is the responsibility of the coach to make sure the athletes participate with proper sportsmanship.
- C. If a player/coach is ejected from a tournament game, that player/coach will be suspended for the next tournament game (unless rules stipulate otherwise) in which he would be involved. An appeal may be made to the Athletic Director prior to the game.
 - 1. The next game of the tournament
 - 2. The first game of the next year's tournament
 - 3. The first game of the next season's tournament (if a senior)

XV. AWARDS

- A. Trophies will be awarded to the first and second place teams in each division and to the winning coaches.
 - 1. Junior High trophies will be awarded to the two finalist teams and to the winning coach.
 - a. Junior High trophies will be the size of the varsity coach's trophy.
- B. Individual certificates will be provided for members of the championship team.

XVI. XVI. REVISIONS

The policies and bylaws may be changed by a recommendation of the MACS Athletic advisors and Athletic Director and approval by the MACS Executive Board.

XVII. APPENDIX

A. Illustration of acceptable length of shorts:



B. MACS Athletics Mission Statement

1. We act with integrity.
 - a. In each personal interaction in each ministry decision we make honesty transparency and clear communication are Paramount will lead by example and are genuine in our interactions with one another and with our MACS family members we encourage a sense of ownership and accountability.
2. We always seek to improve.
 - a. We seek to improve our ministry with our member schools and families. The people we interact with are treated with respect we listen have humility and seek to lead by example in order to improve the lives of those around us and cultivate a place everyone can be pleased to say they are part of MACS.
3. We believe in balance.
 - a. We believe balance supports well-being and success in ministry with our members. Creating an enjoyable environment can also be a productive and prosperous one with the right balance we believe in a strong work ethic while not taking ourselves too seriously finding the harmony between innovation and tradition and respecting the quality of life outside the workplace.
4. We strive to provide support and positivity.
 - a. We support each other and foster a culture of positivity. We are driven to create a culture of opportunity and inclusion where everyone can achieve their aspirations and goals through

our thoughtful and solution-based decisions. We prioritize each other, lift up each other, and practice empathy and live with gratitude in order to foster Christian culture.

5. We are passionate.
 - a. We are passionate about the quality of the products and experiences we provide each day. We respect the role everyone plays in creating a superior experience for each MACS member family. We love and are grateful to share our appreciation for our culture with our members' schools. Our standards are set so high so respect we have for our ministry and our people is evident in all we do.

Our mission is to exceed the expectations of every member, every day.