



2023-2024 MINNESOTA STATE HIGH SCHOOL LEAGUE

Adapted Bowling Rules, Policies, and Bylaws

General Information

See the [MSHSL Handbook Page](http://www.mshsl.org/governance) (www.mshsl.org/governance) for information regarding the following:

- Athletic Director's Checklist
- Coaches Responsibility: Student Eligibility Checklist
- Multiple Level Teams at Sub-Varsity Level
- Official Squad Size
- Substitution in MSHSL Tournaments
- Weather Conditions (heat, cold, lightning, & air quality)

See the MSHSL Official Handbook [Bylaw 501](#) for information regarding:

- Maximum Number of Contest Chart

See the MSHSL Official Handbook [Bylaw 502](#) for information regarding:

- Daily and Season Player Participation Limitations

CONTEST RULES

Refer to [Bylaw 402](#): Except as modified by the League, the National Federation of High School Association rules for the current year shall be the official game rules for all interscholastic contests in which League members participate. See the [Supplemental Rules](#) for more information.

END OF SEASON

Refer to [Bylaw 411](#)

A. Student Participation on a Non-School Team While the Season is Still in Progress:

- 1) The season shall end when the student or the student's team has been eliminated from further participation in a League tournament series.
- 2) Students who have been eliminated from further participation in a League tournament series may participate as an individual or as a member of a non-school team in that sport.

B. School Team Practice and Competition:

The "end of season" shall be defined to be the last date of the state tournament in that sport.

- 1) Schools may continue to conduct practice and training for all squad members, including the students who have been eliminated from further individual competition in a League-sponsored series, until completion of the state tournament conducted by the League in that activity.
- 2) Dual contests may be scheduled after the start of the official League tournament series providing the school does not exceed the maximum number of games/matches/meets permitted in that activity.

- C. No school may engage in any meet or meets, practice, training, or other activities between the end of the season and the opening of the next season.
- D. During the Summer Vacation Period ([Bylaw 208](#) 3 Non-School Competition and Training—Team and Individual Sports) members of a high school team may participate on a non-school team and they may receive coaching or training from a salaried or non-salaried member of the student’s sophomore, B- squad, junior varsity or varsity high school coaching staff in that sport provided the school has approved a summer coaching waiver for the coach or coaches of that sport.

VIDEO TAPING ANOTHER SCHOOL'S GAME

It shall be an ethical violation to tape another school's game, meet or contest without their permission. Further it may be a violation of the laws governing copyrights. Each school owns the copyrights to their games, meets and contests. Taping another school’s game without permission could constitute a violation of the copyright law.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR SPECTATOR CONDUCT

These policies “elevate standards of sportsmanship and encourage the growth of responsible citizenship among the students, members schools and their personnel,” consistent with the Minnesota State High School League’s Founding Purposes and the belief that sportsmanship needs to have a constant presence in all school-based activity programs. The League and its member schools work intentionally to create safe, welcoming, and inclusive environments for fine arts activities and sports in our schools and competitions.

School officials are responsible for the proper conduct of teams, team members, students, and home spectators regardless of where the contest is being held. (Bylaw 409).

Behavior Expectations

To create safe, welcoming, and inclusive environments in fine arts and sports in our school and competitions, I will:

- Lead by positive example and demonstrate respect and support for others.
- Follow all MSHSL, school and venue expectations.
- Refrain from using profanity or ethnic, racial, religious, ability or gender-based comments, posts or messages directed at participants, directors, coaches, officials, spectators, or team representatives.
- Act as a responsible and respectful digital citizen who positively uses social media platforms.
- Speak or act in support of others when they are harmed by words or actions.
- Honor each contest and all involved, including participants, directors, coaches, officials, spectators, and team representatives.
- Hold high standards for myself, engage positively and demonstrate sportsmanship.

Requirements of Attendees

Prohibited Items

- Flags, whiteboards, large signs on sticks, signs with vulgar, obscene or inappropriate language or images, or that obstruct the views of others or similar items
- Balloons, confetti, glitter, baby powder, pom poms or other similar celebratory items
- Artificial noise makers (i.e., megaphones, cowbells, sirens, whistles, thunder sticks and other similar items)
- Drones and laser lights
- Firearms or other weapons
- Vapes, alcohol, tobacco, cannabis or illicit drugs
- The following are prohibited at MSHSL postseason events. These may be prohibited as determined by the venue during the regular season:
 - Backpacks and other bags
 - Outside food and drink
 - Cameras and tripods
 - Pets

Dress Code/Attire

- Spectators may not wear masks or costumes that limit the ability to identify individuals. Masking for medical purposes is allowed
- Spectators must wear clothing that covers the torso
- Clothing worn must not be vulgar, obscene, or inappropriate

Behaviors

- No one may interfere with the contest in any way
- Only members of the official squad may be on the contest surface
- The use of appropriate language is always expected. Profanity, negative chants, booing, trash talk, name calling, personal attacks or other acts of disrespect are unacceptable
- Respect the Flag and the National Anthem

*Venues may have additional requirements and prohibited items.

Adapted Bowling Information – Regular Season

See the MSHSL Official Handbook [Bylaw 506](#) for information regarding:

- Adapted Athletics Eligibility Requirements
- Contests
- Last Date to Join a Team
- Player Participation Limitations
- Practice Sessions before First Contest
- Season Begins

POLICY FOR DISQUALIFIED PLAYERS

1. Any player disqualified from the game shall be disqualified from that game and the next game of that season. Application of the following progressive game disqualification structure applies throughout each season, including playoff games:
 - a. First disqualification - that game plus the next game.
 - b. Second and all subsequent disqualifications - that game plus the next four games in that sport.
2. Use of Ineligible Player Following a Game Disqualification - The scorebook shall indicate that a player was ejected in the previous game. Game officials shall check the "A" squad and "B" squad scorebooks prior to the start of each game. Penalty for the use of an ineligible player shall be enforced and result in an automatic forfeiture of game. A complete report of the violation must be submitted to the League Office. The Board will determine any additional penalty which might include:
 - a. Censure of the coach.

- b. School placed on probation.
 - c. If premeditated, the school could be suspended from League tournament play in that activity.
3. "B" Squad Game Disqualification - a player ejected from a "B" squad game is not eligible to participate in the remainder of that game plus the next A and B games. This also applies to JV squads.

Adapted Bowling Information – Post Season

ELIGIBILITY DURING MSHSL TOURNAMENT – SUBSECTION, SECTION AND STATE

Refer to [Bylaw 206](#): A student must be fully eligible under all local school district policies, MSHSL Bylaws and Rules & Policies to be in uniform, occupy the bench or playing area, participate and receive individual and/or team awards, including all-tournament honors, in the awards ceremony.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTICIPATION IN LEAGUE-SPONSORED TOURNAMENTS

Refer to [Bylaw 405](#): A member school must schedule a minimum of three interscholastic varsity games, meets or matches to qualify for League-sponsored tournament participation in that sport.

STATE TOURNAMENT QUALIFYING SCHOOL INFORMATION

Specific information for qualifying schools is available on the MSHSL Administrative Web site under Tournament Information.

STATE TOURNAMENT QUALIFYING

A participant must bowl a minimum of three matches (six games) to qualify for the tournament. Each school or co-op may qualify as many singles, doubles or teams provided a student does not participate in all three categories. The number of schools and teams registered will determine playoffs.

PARTICIPATION

Athletes can participate as:

- an individual in singles competition OR;
- an individual in singles and participant in doubles competition OR;
- an individual in singles and participant in team competition OR;
- a participant in doubles and team competition OR;
- doubles only OR;
- team only
- Unlimited number of athletes can participate in categories, but one cannot participate in all three categories.
- Participation in the interscholastic program of a high school is limited to students in grades seven through 12.

All section and state tournament participants will be dressed in identical school shirts throughout all tournament matches. Athletes not in official school uniforms will be disqualified from competition.

REGIONAL PLAY

A regional play down may be necessary in order to get the best representative from each region to play in a state tournament. The number of schools and teams registered will determine playoffs.

AWARDS

- Certificates of Participation: To all athletes in all divisions.
- Certificates of Recognition: Three - the head coach of each school or co-op team.
- Medals: Individual medals for official team members participating on first, second and third place teams in all divisions; individual medals for the top four doubles participants in each division; individual medals for the top 10 boys and top 10 girls in singles competition for each division.
- Medals: To the head coach of the first, second and third place teams.
- Trophies: To champion, second and third place teams in each division.
- Plaques: To the fourth – eighth place teams.

Note: It is a violation of MSHSL policy for a member school or a representative of a member school to establish, distribute or accept any awards not provided by the MSHSL for section or state tournament.