

UPCOMING DATES

- 2.4 Board of Directors Meeting
- 2.6-7 One Act Play Festival
- 2.12 Alpine Skiing State Meet
- 2.13 Nordic Ski Racing State Meet
- 2.13-14 MMEA Midwinter Classic

- 2.14-15 Dance Team State Tournament
- 2.19-22 Girls' Hockey State Tournament
- 2.21-22 Girls' Gymnastics State Meet
- 2.27-29 Wrestling State Tournament
- 2.27-29 Boys' Swimming State Meet

MSHSLconnect

WHAT'S inside

League Recognition Programs

Cover Story

InSideOut Initiative

page 2

Voices: We asked, you answered

page 2

MSHSL News

page 3

NFHS News

page 3

Do you know? Quiz

page 3

Technology Update

page 4

Tournament Guide

page 5 & 6

League salutes students, contributors with recognition programs

FOR DECADES, recognition programs have been one of the hallmarks of the Minnesota State High School League's service to its member schools. From honoring student-participants for academic excellence to recognizing officials and media members for outstanding service, the League's eight recognition programs are designed to honor the achievements and contributions of many.

"Recognizing students for excellence in athletics and fine arts activities, as well as individuals for their contributions, has been, and always will be the cornerstone of everything we do," said MSHSL Associate Director Lisa Lissimore, who oversees the recognition programs. "The recognition programs currently sponsored by the League provides us with the opportunity to continue this tradition."

Visit our [Recognition Page](#) for more information on the League's recognition programs.

Here is a look at the League's recognition programs.

HALL OF FAME

The League's Hall of Fame inducted ceremony is every two years. The 2019 class was the 23rd group to be inducted. With that class, there are 232 members enshrined in the hallowed halls.



Hall of Fame nominees shall include individuals who through distinguished achievement have excelled in one or more high school activity program sponsored by the League. These individuals may include athletes, fine arts participants, coaches, contests officials and adjudicators, contributors, athletic/activity directors, school administrators, and directors of music, speech, drama, debate, and the visual arts.

SPORTSMANSHIP CHALLENGE

The Sportsmanship Challenge is a recent recognition program that salutes high-spirited support at all high school activities.

It could be postgame handshakes and high-fives or cheerleaders and Super Fans that lead with positive cheers that support and uplift their team. Actions of respect and appreciation for an opponent or contest officials are also encouraged and recognized.

MOST VALUABLE TEAMMATE

The League and Wells Fargo introduced the weekly award program this school year. The recognition is for students that are great teammates.



These students will be recognized weekly on the League's social media platforms throughout the year beginning in September. The League encourages member schools to help us recognize student leaders in your school that are contributing to your teams in more ways than one!

Continued on page 4



InSideOut Initiative set to launch in Minnesota

By Jody Redman, MSHSL Associate Director

THE INSIDEOUT INITIATIVE—a nonprofit aimed at transforming the current “win-at-all-costs” sports culture in communities across the country—will launch in Minnesota with a training designed for school superintendents and educational leaders on February 10th in partnership with MSBA, MASA, MASSP, MNIAAA, and MSHSCA.

The initiative is in partnership with the Minnesota State High School League, the NFL Foundation and the Minnesota Vikings.

Youth sports has evolved into a \$17 billion industry that promotes early specialization, private one-on-one coaching, multi-team layered participation and a significant financial and emotional investment by parents. The reality is less than 3 percent of high school student-athletes will go on to play college sports and only a fraction of those, less than 1 percent, will ever play professionally. This means that 97 percent of students will have a terminal experience—when they graduate from high school, their playing days are over. For sports to provide students with more than physical skill development, we must move beyond defining success by the scoreboard and create space in the culture for sports to be used for the development of a higher purpose—the human growth of students, one that connects them to caring adults in their learning community.

Powered by the NFL Foundation, the InSideOut Initiative catalyzes

partnerships with educational leaders, state athletic associations and local NFL teams to address the brokenness of the sports culture and engages stakeholders in strategic conversations to re-define the role of interscholastic sports in the lives of students and communities. The InSideOut Initiative trains and equips entire communities, over a three-year period, to align around a common purpose that puts student-athletes’ social-emotional learning and well-being at the center of the high school sports experience. In the Initiative’s five years of working with school communities across the country, in partnership with 17 NFL markets, in 14 states, a multitude of incredible transformational leaders have surfaced—changing the arc of the lives of their student-athletes, and setting inspiring examples for other leaders and school communities to follow.

Minnesota’s first training, designed specifically for educational leaders, will take place on Monday, February 10th at the Minneapolis Marriott West from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The second training for athletic administrators and will take place on Monday, April 6th at U.S. Bank Stadium. A third training, during Phase One, is for School Implementation Teams and will take place on Wednesday, August 5th. More information will be sent soon to member schools regarding this significant opportunity to transform sports culture in your school community.

voices we asked, you answered

With the state tournaments on the horizon, a long winter regular season is winding down, not only for participants, but also officials. For the official, we asked:



RON LAITURI | Minnesota Hockey Officials Association

“Preparation is about maintaining proper physical and mental health. I keep a steady diet of vegetables and Vitamin C along with going to the gym on a regular basis and skating practice on my backyard rink. It is very important to not get sick during this time of the season. You never know when you are going to get an assignment that is going to test you and it is important to be physically prepared when that call comes.

More importantly, is to be mentally prepared by reviewing the rulebook, and if possible, watching video for positioning. The rulebook is an official's best friend and even after almost 20 years of officiating hockey. To stay inspired, I also watch classic hockey movies with my family like 'Miracle' and 'The Mighty Ducks' trilogy.”

BRENDA HOLMGREN | Minneapolis Officials Association

“Many seasons ago, as I drove with a new official to an assignment, we visited about what got us into officiating, and she said she so enjoyed finally being able to officiate with another woman, and how much fun she was having. She said, ‘Do you know how many others would give their right arm to do what we do? We get to do this!’ From that moment, I committed myself to working every game to the best of my ability; work hard, play hard, have fun and enjoy every moment I had on the court. Be the best official and partner I could be.”



How do you maintain late-season focus?

Webb selected for Section 5 music award

Former Edina High School band director Bill Webb was recently selected as the Section 5 recipient of the NFHS Outstanding Music Educator Award. Section 5 includes Minnesota, South Dakota, North Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas and Missouri.



Webb, a 2019 inductee into the MSHSL's Hall of Fame, served in the Edina School District for nearly 30 years before retiring in 2015. A former member of the League's Board of Directors, he had a long and esteemed career as a teacher, conductor and musician. From 1987-2010, an estimated 4,200 students participated in League Solo and Ensemble contests under Webb's leadership. In that same span, 53 of his 54 groups that performed in the Large Band Group Contest received superior ratings. During his tenure at Edina High School, he led and directed numerous performances across the globe.

Hamann honored by MASSP

Underwood High School Principal John Hamann was honored by the Minnesota Association of Secondary Schools Principals with a Distinguished Service to Education Award.



Hamann has been a leader in education as a high school principal at Underwood for the past 31 years of his 37-year education career. He served on the League's Board of Directors from 2010-14 and was the president during the 2013-14 school year. He has also coached wrestling, baseball, football and basketball.

The MASSP Distinguished Service to Education Award is an historic award that honors individuals that have committed themselves to the service of education in the State of Minnesota.

Heier appointed to League Board of Director's post

Last month, Matthew Heier of Little Falls was selected by the Office of Appointments for Minnesota Governor Tim Walz to serve on the Minnesota State High School League's Board of Directors as a Governor Appointee.



Heier will begin his four-year term this week, attending a board of directors workshop followed by a board meeting on February 4.

Heier, who serves as the Postmaster in Little Falls, wrote in his cover letter of application that he has experience being a part of a team that makes crucial decisions for the better of the company and their building. He is looking forward to the opportunity to be a part of the board to help make a positive impact in the world of students, athletics and fine arts activities.

He has also served as an official for the past 20 years in football, volleyball and basketball. Heier says he enjoys his role as an official and enjoys the connections he makes with student-participants, activities directors, and coaches.

Along with his wife and four children, he has a passion for involvement, vision and service to the students of Minnesota.

do you know?

- 1 How many students were in attendance in 1902 when Sister Eleanor Irving held class for the first time at St. Cloud Cathedral High School?
- 2 Which of the five Upper Midwest states was the first to join the National Federation of High School Associations?
- 3 True or False?
Current MSHSL Board of Directors President Bonnie Spohn Schmaltz is the first to serve two consecutive terms.
- 4 When were non-public schools accepted for membership with the Minnesota State High School League?
- 5 Who was the leading scorer in the 1979 Boys' Hockey State Tournament?

Answers on page 4

NFHS news

- Bobby Cox, the commissioner of the Indiana High School Athletic Association, announced his retirement, effective Aug. 1, 2020. He is completing a 41-year career in education. In his tenure with the IHSA, he oversaw the expansion of corporate partnerships and sponsorships, and pushed for strides in sportsmanship, technology, coaches education, student-athlete health and safety, officials and servant leadership.
- Joplin (Mo.) senior quarterback Blake Tash because the most accurate passer of all time this past football season. He set an NFHS record with a career completion percentage of 73.6 percent.



That breaks the old mark of 71.6 percent set by Heritage High School's Garrett Grayson in 2009 in Vancouver, Wash.

- Feb. 15 is the rule proposal deadline for swimming and diving.

recognition programs

Continued from cover page

Characteristics of a Valuable Teammate:

- Positive influence on their team—putting the team before self
- Exemplifies leadership and sportsmanship
- Respectful, reliable and supportive of others

Nominations can be sent to John Millea at jmillea@mshsl.org.

TRIPLE “A” AWARD

This recognition honors high school seniors that have shown excellence in the classroom, on the athletic fields and in the fine arts. Their achievements accentuate elevated academic standards and creates awareness of League-sponsored activities and their values.



Eligible students must have a cumulative grade-point average of 3.0 or higher at the date of nomination by their school administrator. They must be a participant in League-sponsored athletics and fine arts, and, comply with the League's Student Code of Conduct.

The recipients are selected through a multi-level process involving member schools, the League's administrative regions, and a special committee of educators, business leaders, and members from the fine arts and athletic communities.

The recipients are honored during the boys basketball state tournament in March.

SPOTLIGHT ON SCHOLARSHIP

Introduced in 1995, the Spotlight on Scholarship program is a year-round recognition program sponsored by the League. The League provides certificates to students that participate in League-sponsored activities and have maintained a 3.0 or better grade-point average.



The program also provides banners to member schools whose varsity fine arts and athletic teams collectively achieve a grade-point average of 3.0 or higher.

The program is co-sponsored by McDonald's.

OFFICIALS

For many years, the League has recognized its game and contest officials with three types of service awards.



- The **DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD** honors individuals that go above and beyond in service to their officials association. This recognition honors leadership and service and goes to officials that have made a difference in an association through long-term service and commitment.
- A **CITATION AWARD** is designed to recognize and reward associations for a specific program that they have introduced and developed that has had a significant impact on the association or the member schools, student participants, or communities they serve.
- The **ASSOCIATION AWARD OF EXCELLENCE** recognizes one association for the quality of their association and the service that they provide to the member schools. Associations that qualify for this recognition typically have all of the following: training, recruiting, mentoring, retaining, service to schools and/or conferences, sportsmanship, community service or other special programs.

MEDIA

Introduced in 2015, the League's **OUTSTANDING MEDIA SERVICE AWARD** recognizes members of the media for their coverage of the student-participants, the member schools and their communities.

In a sign of the evolving media times, the award was split into two categories in 2017: the print division and the electronic division.

Recipients are honored during the boys basketball state tournament.

For more information on nominating media member for their coverage of your school, please contact Tim Leighton at tlighton@mshsl.org.

quiz answers

Questions on page 3

1. 25
2. Iowa and Wisconsin became members in 1920. Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota later joined in 1923.
3. True. She is the third to serve two terms, but first to serve consecutively. The others are George A. Beck of Duluth Central (1957-58 and 1959-60) and Minneapolis Washburn's Roland DeLapp (1973-74 and 1977-78).
4. May 16, 1974. Thirty-seven private schools were approved for membership by the Board of Directors.
5. Roseau's Aaron Broten with six goals and six assists for 12 points. It was the highest total since 1951 when Eveleth's John Mayasich compiled 18 points.

technology

DURING THE PAST MONTH, Gravity Works, the company selected to build new technology systems, has been onsite at the League office twice to learn more about MSHSL, its member schools, and the needs for a newly built technology system. Work continues daily from Gravity Works and within the MSHSL office to gather requirements and formulate plans.

Some of the considerations that are critical in this work:

- Meeting the needs of member schools, the public and MSHSL staff
- Working to balance “doing things right” with “doing things quickly”
- Seeking input and feedback from a range of stakeholders
- Considering the most immediate needs and what items will come in later phases

In the next steps, Gravity Works will deliver a Content Inventory, Site Map, and timeline. We're excited to continue to share progress over the upcoming months!



state TOURNAMENT GUIDE



ONE ACT PLAY STATE FESTIVAL

Feb. 6-7 O'Shaughnessy Auditorium
St. Catherine University, St. Paul

BOYS' & GIRLS' ALPINE SKIING STATE MEET

Feb. 12 Giants Ridge, Biwabik

BOYS' & GIRLS' NORDIC SKI RACING STATE MEET

Feb. 13 Giants Ridge, Biwabik

DANCE TEAM STATE TOURNAMENT

Feb. 14-15 Target Center, Minneapolis

GIRLS' HOCKEY STATE MEET

Feb. 19-22 Xcel Energy Center, St. Paul

GIRLS' GYMNASTICS STATE MEET

Feb. 21-22 Roy Wilkins Auditorium, St. Paul

WRESTLING STATE TOURNAMENT

Feb. 27-29 Xcel Energy Center, St. Paul

BOYS' SWIMMING & DIVING STATE MEET

Feb. 27-29 Jean K. Freeman Aquatic Center
Minneapolis

visit www.mshsl.org
for up-to-date
tournament information



section
assignments



media policy
manual



media
credentials

one act play



State Tickets (Adults / Students)

Single Session \$12.00 / \$12.00
Daily Pass \$19.00 / \$19.00



Festival Schedule

www.mshsl.org → Activity
→ One Act Play
→ 2020 State Festival Schedule



Map & Parking Instructions

www.mshsl.org → Activity
→ One Act Play
→ Parking Instructions and Map



Yearbook & Record Books

[One Act Play](#)

alpine ski



State Tickets

Free Admission



Meet Schedule

www.mshsl.org → Activity
→ Alpine Skiing → Alpine Schedule



First Run Seed Order

www.mshsl.org → Activity
→ Alpine Skiing →
[Seed Order For First Run - Instructions](#)



Yearbook & Record Books

[Boys Alpine](#) | [Girls Alpine](#)

nordic ski



State Tickets

Free Admission



Meet Schedule

www.mshsl.org → Activity
→ Nordic Ski Racing → Nordic Schedule



Yearbook & Record Books

[Boys Nordic](#) | [Girls Nordic](#)

dance team



State Tickets (Adults / Students)

Single Session \$16.00 / \$10.00



Meet Schedule

www.mshsl.org → Activity
→ Dance Team
→ 2020 Tournament Schedule



Stream

PrepSpotlight.tv/MSHSL



Yearbook & Record Books

[Dance Team](#)



state TOURNAMENT GUIDE



ONE ACT PLAY STATE FESTIVAL

Feb. 6-7 O'Shaughnessy Auditorium
St. Catherine University, St. Paul

BOYS' & GIRLS' ALPINE SKIING STATE MEET

Feb. 12 Giants Ridge, Biwabik

BOYS' & GIRLS' NORDIC SKI RACING STATE MEET

Feb. 13 Giants Ridge, Biwabik

DANCE TEAM STATE TOURNAMENT

Feb. 14-15 Target Center, Minneapolis

GIRLS' HOCKEY STATE MEET

Feb. 19-22 Xcel Energy Center, St. Paul

GIRLS' GYMNASTICS STATE MEET

Feb. 21-22 Roy Wilkins Auditorium, St. Paul

WRESTLING STATE TOURNAMENT

Feb. 27-29 Xcel Energy Center, St. Paul

BOYS' SWIMMING & DIVING STATE MEET

Feb. 27-29 Jean K. Freeman Aquatic Center
Minneapolis

visit www.mshsl.org
for up-to-date
tournament information



section assignments



media policy manual



media credentials



State Tickets (Adults / Students)
Single Session \$19.00 / \$12.00
Consolation
Single Session \$14.00 / \$9.00



Section & State Brackets

www.mshsl.org → Brackets → Section
www.mshsl.org → Brackets → State



Stream

PrepSpotlight.tv/MHSLS



Yearbook & Record Books

[Girls Hockey](#)



State Tickets (Adults / Students)
Single Session \$14.00 / \$9.00



Meet Schedule

www.mshsl.org → Activity
→ Gymnastics
→ 2020 State Meet Schedule



Stream

PrepSpotlight.tv/MHSLS



Yearbook & Record Books

[Girls Gymnastics](#)



State Tickets (Adults / Students)
Single Session \$16.00 / \$10.00
Daily Pass \$30.00 / \$18.00
Season Book \$90.00 / \$54.00



State Brackets - Team

www.mshsl.org → Brackets → Section
www.mshsl.org → Brackets → State



Tournament Schedule

www.mshsl.org → Activity
→ Wrestling → 2020 Wrestling State
Tournament Schedule



Yearbook & Record Books

[Wrestling](#)



State Tickets (Adults / Students)
Diving Prelims \$7.00 / \$7.00
Swimming Prelims \$10.00 / \$10.00
Finals - per session \$10.00 / \$10.00



Meet Schedule

www.mshsl.org → Activity →
[Boys Swimming & Diving → 2020](#)
[Competitive Schedule & Ticket Info](#)



Stream

PrepSpotlight.tv/MHSLS



Yearbook & Record Books

[Boys Swimming & Diving](#)