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First Collective Officials For Kids “Give-A-Game” Donation To Benefit Children’s Miracle Network At MHSAA Girls Basketball Quarterfinal

EAST LANSING, Mich. – Nov. 28 – For the past two years, the Michigan High School Athletic Association, in conjunction with the Sparrow Foundation, has been working to increase awareness and participation in its charitable initiative, Officials for Kids.

Officials for Kids began in early 2003 as a small group of mid-Michigan officials dedicated to the future of children’s healthcare & the Children’s Miracle Network. Those officials made an initial pledge of \$50,000 towards the construction and maintenance of a Pediatric Emergency Room and Waiting Room at the Sparrow Regional Children’s Center. Their ultimate hope is that officials personal & association pledges, along with participation in fundraising events & initiatives will make “Officials for Kids” a name synonymous with the continued improvement of children’s healthcare across the state.

One way officials have been contributing to Officials for Kids is the “Give A Game” pledge program. The “Give A Game” program solicits donations from officials by requesting that one or more earned game fees be pledged to the fund. This initiative also serves to increase awareness of the Officials for Kids cause, and generates public awareness and support for the Children’s Miracle Network.

After successfully implementing the “Give-A-Game” initiative on an individual official basis, three Capital Area Officials Association officials have agreed to collectively donate their game fees at the MHSAA Girls Basketball Class A Quarterfinal between Grandville and Benton Harbor on Tuesday at 7 p.m., at Lansing Eastern High School. This will be the first MHSAA contest where all game officials will contribute their game fees.

For more information about Officials For Kids, visit the Officials page of the MHSAA Web site.

The MHSAA is a private, not-for-profit corporation of voluntary membership by over 1,500 public and private senior high schools and junior high/middle schools which exists to develop common rules for athletic eligibility and competition. No government funds or tax dollars support the MHSAA, which was the first such association nationally to not accept membership dues or tournament entry fees from schools. Member schools which enforce these rules are permitted to participate in MHSAA tournaments, which attract approximately 1.6 million spectators each year.

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