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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Schedule Announced For Annual UPDATE Meeting Series; AD In-Service Program Includes At Most Sites

EAST LANSING, Mich. – **Sept. 29** – One of the most popular services offered by the Michigan High School Athletic Association is it's annual series of Update Meetings in October, and this year's schedule will again offer in-service programming for athletic directors at five of the seven locations.

The Update series is attended annually by over 1,100 school administrators. During the meetings, information about current MHSAA activities is disseminated, issues affecting interscholastic athletics are discussed and attendees are surveyed on various topics.

Six luncheon meetings are scheduled in the Lower Peninsula and a morning meeting is scheduled for Marquette in the Upper Peninsula. MHSAA Executive Director John E. "Jack" Roberts will address high school superintendents, principals, athletic directors and school board members on a variety of topics at these meetings.

"These meetings are not only an excellent opportunity for the MHSAA staff to meet and discuss the issues with school administrators, but for those in attendance to meet with administrators from neighboring school districts with whom they normally are not able to have day-to-day contact," says Roberts. "Issues discussed at the Update series are timely, and the information we gather through the surveys we conduct at these meetings is valuable to the Representative Council as it approaches topics the membership has placed before it for the coming year.

"The addition of the Athletic Director In-Service Workshops to the Update series has made it a very valuable teaching and listening tool for the Association."

Among the topics to be discussed at this year's Update series will be the school sports calendar, the implementation of out-of-season rules changes, and an Executive Summary on Schools Sports in Michigan will be presented.

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Roberts adds that the Update Meetings also provide school administrators an opportunity to ask questions and discuss any recent changes in the Association's rules and regulations. A survey is also taken on a variety of topics.

This will be the fourth year for Athletic Director In-Service programs to take place in a morning-long session prior to most of the Update Meetings. These workshops are designed to help prepare those administrators for the rigors of their jobs, and placing them into the Update meeting schedule resulted in more than doubling the attendance over previous years.

Parties interested in attending the Update Meetings and Athletic Director In-Service Meetings may obtain more information by contacting the MHSAA office at 517.332.5046.

Here is a schedule of the 2006 Update Meetings:

- Oct. 4 Pine West, Kalamazoo (Noon Preceded by AD In-Service at 8:30 a.m.)
- Oct. 9 English Hills County Club, Comstock Park (Noon Preceded by AD In-Service at 8:30 a.m.)
- Oct. 11 Zehnder's Restaurant, Frankenmuth (Noon Preceded by AD In-Service at 8:30 a.m.)
- Oct. 16 Hidden Valley Otsego Club, Gaylord (Noon Preceded by AD In-Service at 8:30 a.m.)
- Oct. 18 Holiday Inn West, Lansing (Noon Preceded by AD In-Service at 8:30 a.m.)
- Oct. 25 De Carlos Center, Warren (Noon)
- Oct. 27 Northern Michigan University, Marquette (10 a.m.)

Lunch will be served at all sites except Marquette.

The MHSAA is a private, not-for-profit corporation of voluntary membership by over 1,800 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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