



michigan high school athletic association

# media information

1661 ramblewood drive east lansing, mi 48823 517.332.5046 fax-517.332.4071 www.mhsaa.com

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Contact: John Johnson or Andi Osters

517.332.5046 or [media@mhsaa.com](mailto:media@mhsaa.com)

MHSAA Web Site Media Page: [www.mhsaa.com/media](http://www.mhsaa.com/media)

## **OFFICIALS FOR KIDS UPDATE – Golf Outing Upcoming, Sponsored by Metro Detroit Association**

**EAST LANSING, Mich. – June 9** –The Metro Detroit Officials Association will conduct its second Officials For Kids Benefit Golf Outing on June 20 at the Timber Wood Golf Club in Ray.

The event is part of the support the MDOA provides for Beaumont Hospital through the Officials For Kids program, a charitable initiative of the Michigan High School Athletic Association in conjunction with Children's Miracle Network Hospitals.

At the inception of the Officials For Kids programs, work was centered on fundraising efforts by local officials associations to improve children's health care at Children's Miracle Network Hospitals around the state. The heart of that initiative has been the Give-A-Game program, where members of an officials association donate one night's game fees towards the cause, increasing awareness for the Officials For Kids program while generating support for the Children's Miracle Network.

The fund-raising effort of the MDOA helps support a literacy program for pediatric patients at Beaumont Hospital called Referees For Reading. Through this local officials association, books are purchased for a cart which regularly circulates through the pediatric section of the hospital, and patients are often allowed to take their favorite book from the cart home at the end of their stay. In addition, members of the MDOA volunteer their time to read to patients in the pediatric ward.

The MDOA outing costs \$100 per player and includes an 18-hole golf scramble, prizes and a buffet following the completion of play. A variety of sponsorship opportunities are available. Play begins with a shotgun start at 10 a.m. For more information, contact Bob Williams at 313.937.3578 or [Robert.williams@uofdjcsuit.org](mailto:Robert.williams@uofdjcsuit.org). An entry form can be found on the Officials For Kids page of the MHSAA Web site – [officialsforkids.com](http://officialsforkids.com).

The Officials For Kids Program takes on a local focus at each Children's Miracle Network Hospital in the state. In addition to the efforts to benefit Beaumont Hospital, a group of officials from the West Michigan Officials Association recently took part in a play day for visually-impaired youngsters as part of its work with the Helen DeVos Children's Hospital in Grand Rapids; and the WMOA's support also involves the Burn Camp which is attended by children cared for at the Spectrum Health Regional Burn Center at the Spectrum Health Blodgett Campus. At Hurley Medical Center in Flint, Officials For Kids donations will go towards Camp REACH, which fights childhood obesity. At Sparrow Hospital in Lansing, Officials For Kids has been raising money towards the maintenance of its new Pediatric Emergency Room and Waiting Room.

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. The ultimate hope for the program 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.

For more information, visit the Officials For Kids page of the MHSAA Web site – [www.officialsforkids.com](http://www.officialsforkids.com).

The MHSAA is a private, not-for-profit corporation of voluntary membership by over 1,600 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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