



michigan high school athletic association

media information

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 6, 2009

Contact: John Johnson or Andy Frushour

517.332.5046 or media@mhsaa.com

MHSAA Web Site Media Page: www.mhsaa.com/media

2009-10 School Year Classifications Announced

EAST LANSING, Mich. – April 6 – Classifications for Michigan High School Athletic Association elections and post-season tournaments in traditionally classified sports (A, B, C, D) for the 2009-10 school year have been announced, as well as the enrollment breaks for post-season tournaments set up by divisions.

Classifications for the upcoming school year are based on a second semester count date, which for MHSAA purposes was February 11. The enrollment figure submitted for athletic classification purposes may be different from the count submitted for school aid purposes, as it does not include students ineligible for athletic competition because they reached their 19th birthday prior to Sept. 1 of the current school year and will not include alternative education students if none are allowed athletic eligibility by the local school district.

After all the counts are submitted, the 768 tournament-qualified member schools were ranked according to enrollment, and then split as closely into quarters as possible. For 2008-09, there are 192 schools in each of the four classes, A through D.

Effective with the 2008-09 school year, schools with 987 or more students are in Class A in MHSAA competition. The enrollment limits for Class B are 488 to 986; Class C is 224 to 487; and schools with enrollments of 223 and under are Class D. The breaks decreased 30 students between Classes A and B; and 10 students between Classes B and C, and between Classes C and D.

The new classification breaks will see 28 schools move up in class for 2008-09, while 17 schools will move down.

Schools were recently notified of their classification. MHSAA Executive Director John E. "Jack" Roberts said that schools may not subsequently lower their enrollment figure. However, if revised enrollment figures should be higher and indicate that a school should be playing in a higher class, that school would be moved up.

Schools have the option to play at any higher classification for a minimum of two years, but must exercise the option by April 15 for fall sports, August 15 for winter sports, and October 15 for spring sports.

MHSAA tournament sports conducted in traditional classifications for 2009-10 are Basketball and Girls Volleyball. Football will use traditional classifications to determine playoff points.

Sports which will compete in nearly equal divisions are: Baseball, Bowling, Girls Competitive Cheer, Lower Peninsula Cross Country, Lower Peninsula Golf, Ice Hockey, Lacrosse, Skiing, Softball, Lower Peninsula Swimming and Diving, Lower Peninsula Tennis, Lower Peninsula Track and Field, and Wrestling. Lower Peninsula Soccer will have 20 percent of sponsoring schools in Division 4 and the remaining schools divided equally into Divisions 1, 2 and 3. Visit the respective sports pages on the MHSAA Website to review the divisional alignments.

The eight divisions of the MHSAA Football Playoffs will be announced on Selection Sunday, Oct. 25, 2009. A complete list of school enrollments used to determine classifications for the 2009-10 school year can be found on the Administrators page of the MHSAA Website.

(more)

2-2-2 – 2009-10 Classification Breaks

Here is a complete list of the schools changing classification for 2009-10 (Note: This list does not include schools opting up in class/division for tournaments, which can be found on the Administrators page of the MHSAA Website):

Moving Up From Class B To Class A

Center Line
Flint Central
Grand Rapids Christian
Inkster
Ionia
Warren Fitzgerald
Warren Regina
Zeeland East

Moving Down From Class A To Class B

Orchard Lake St. Mary's
Jackson Northwest
Highland Park
Flint Southwestern Academy

Moving Up From Class C To Class B

Ann Arbor Skyline
Carrollton
Detroit Cesar Chavez Academy
Erie-Mason
Inkster Cherryhill Schools of Performing Arts
Kingsley
Romulus Summit Academy North
Wyoming Lee

Moving Down From Class B To Class C

Beaverton
Elk Rapids
Grand Rapids Central
Parchment
Scottville Mason Country Central

Moving Up From Class D To Class C

Detroit Allen Academy
Detroit Midtown Academy

Detroit Riverside Academy West
Grosse Pointe Woods University Liggett
International Academy of Flint
Lawrence
New Lothrop
Pontiac Academy for Excellence
Saginaw Arts & Sciences Academy
Warren Michigan Collegiate
West Bloomfield Frankel Jewish Academy

Moving Down From Class C To Class D

Brethren
Detroit Winans Academy of Performing Arts
Eastpointe Eaton Academy
Fulton
Hale
Hancock
Southfield Christian

New Post-Season Eligible Tournament Schools in 2009-10

Ann Arbor Clonlara (Class D)
Clarkston-Everest Catholic (Class D)
Detroit-Cristo Rey Catholic (Class D)
Detroit-Plymouth Education Center (Class D)
Hamtramck Frontier International Academy (Class C)
Lansing Ingham Academy (Class D)
Marshall Academy (Class D)

Enrollment Breaks By Classes – 2009-10 **(Number of schools in parenthesis)**

Class A -- 987 and above (1920)
Class B -- 488 to 986 (192)
Class C -- 224 to 487 (192)
Class D -- 223 and below (192)

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.

-0-

NOTE – A complete list of enrollments, classifications by sport and sports divisions for 2009-10 can be found on the Administrators page of the MHSAA Web site under the heading “Enrollment Figures, Classification, Co-Ops.”

RL09-051