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To: Member School Athletic Administrators & Public Address Announcers
From: John R. Johnson, Communications Director
Re: 2015-16 Regular-Season Public Address Scripts

The pages that follow are scripts which may be read at your regular-season sporting events this fall. If you are hosting an MHSAA Tournament, please visit the sports specific page for the event you are hosting to download the appropriate scripts.

Public address announcers perform an important task at high school sporting events – to inform the fans in attendance and to help set an educational atmosphere for the game. You set that atmosphere in the following ways:

- Be being a welcoming, authoritative voice that fans from all schools involved can respect and appreciate.
- By being a source of information rather than a source of entertainment. Keep your calls about plays simple and straight forward. For example – “Jones the ball carrier...tackled by Smith and Taylor...five-yard gain on the play...ball on the 28-yard line...third and five;” “Falcon goal by number 35 – Keith Smith, assist by number 9 – Evan Jones...time of the goal, 12:22;” “Bulldog kill by number 4, Mellissa Manchester.”
- Treat both teams equally in terms of your inflection and enthusiasm. Do the same thing when your team or the opposing team makes a big play in terms of your call.
- Treat penalty calls and the officials with respect. If there was a flag on the play, simply follow the ball carrier and tackles with: “Penalty flag on the play.” Then describe the penalty and the remark of the ball after the penalty has been marked off. For example: “Holding on the Hawks. Penalty places the ball on the 15-yard line. Third and 20.”
- Never talk while a play is in progress. A good rule of thumb to follow is the same rule that applies to bands in football where they cannot play from the time the offensive team breaks the huddle until the play is whistled dead.

While these examples primarily apply to football, you get the general idea of how your tone should be for other sports. If you follow these guidelines and apply them to your entire body of work during the course of the game, you will be contributing in a positive way to the educational nature of the event.

MHSAA PUBLIC ADDRESS ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fall Regular Season, 2015-16 School Year

Welcome

Good _____, and welcome to _____ for today's game with our visitors from _____.

Today you represent your school and your community. Please represent with respect. Remember, nothing beats good sportsmanship.

National Anthem Introduction

The privilege of this game was made possible by those who have fought – and continue to fight for – the freedoms we enjoy. Let us now honor and respect their efforts and our country. Civilian gentlemen, please remove your hats, and everyone stand at attention, placing their hands over their hearts, as we proudly sing our National Anthem.

Health & Safety Resources @ MHSAA.COM

An excellent resource is the Health & Safety page of the MHSAA Website. Information to raise your health I-Q on everything from concussions to heat & hydration to nutrition and much, much more is available. It's the hub dedicated to assisting schools in providing a healthy participation environment for student-athletes. To get there, click Health & Safety from the home page of the MHSAA Website.

Watch MHSAA.TV

It's a brand new season of high school sports on M-H-S-A-A Dot T-V! Watch live games every week during the regular season produced by M-H-S-A-A members participating in the School Broadcast Program. You can watch archived games from previous years, and M-H-S-A-A Dot T-V is your home for a wide variety of post-season tournament action. Check it out at M-H-S-A-A Dot T-V!

MHSAA Friday Football Overtime (Football games only)

Highlights and scores from football games across the state can be found every Friday night at Midnight on MHSAA Football Friday Overtime on FOX Sports Detroit. Join Mickey York and Rob Rubick as they break down the action, including highlights produced by schools in the MHSAA's School Broadcasting Program. Check out MHSAA Football Friday Overtime on FOX Sports Detroit every week!

Scholar-Athlete Award Applications

Over 2 thousand of the state's top student-athletes will be recognized for excelling academically and in school activities through the M-H-S-A-A's Scholar-Athlete Award, underwritten by Farm Bureau Insurance. The applicants will be in the running for a total of 32 one-thousand dollar college scholarships. Application materials are available exclusively online through the M-H-S-A-A Website.

MHSAA Social Media

Be a part of the conversation about high school sports – grab your cell phone and follow the M-H-S-A-A on Twitter (pause) AT M-H-S-A-A. You can also find us on Facebook and Instagram for in-game updates, event announcements and high school sports news around the state, year-round. You can connect with the M-H-S-A-A – TODAY!

2-2-2 – 15-16 Fall Regular Season PA Scripts

MHSAA Second Half

Start your sports day each day by visiting the Second Half page of the M-H-S-A-A website. Weekly reports on student-athletes, coaches and teams from around the state, regular features and in-depth coverage of post-season tournaments make the Second Half your go-to source for high school sports information. Click on the Second Half link of the M-H-S-A-A Website.

Officials Recruitment

Some high school game officials get involved because they decided it was time to stop complaining about the referees as a spectator and become one. They found it to be a rewarding – and humbling – experience. We always need more officials – to get involved, go to mhsaa.com. There's help wanted – just whistle.

MHSAA Score Center

More schedules and scores than anywhere on the web are at your fingertips at the M-H-S-A-A Score Center. You can check out daily schedules and results in all sports, at the varsity and subvarsity levels. Drill down to find out information by school and conference. You can also become a registered user of the M-H-S-A-A website and report results. Click on Scores & Schedules from the home page of the M-H-S-A-A Website to visit the Score Center!

Sportsmanship

Winning the gold in school sports doesn't mean taking the win, it means you're taking the golden rule – treating others as you'd like to be treated – to heart. It's practicing respect for the game and its participants as a lifestyle – and its own reward. Nothing beats good sportsmanship.

This Week In High School Sports

This Week In High School Sports features achievements by student-athletes and teams from around the state each week, gives you a taste of the art of officiating with its Be The Referee segment, and helps get your perspective right about high school sports with a closing commentary. This Week In High School Sports can be heard on over 80 radio stations and web audio outlets across the state, and as a podcast on the home page of the M-H-S-A-A Website.

Safer Than Ever (Football games only)

Headlines about concussions in football have the game under attack. But the truth is - the game has never been safer. Rules changes, better equipment and teacher-coaches with an educational perspective make high school football as safe as it can be. High school football teaches young people life lessons. It helps build strong schools and communities. It helps young people build lifetime friendships, and helps today's players become tomorrow's community leaders. School-sponsored football is a great game – a safe game – and our coaches want to teach it to your kids.

(NOTE – When saying the MHSAA acronym, say each letter – M – H – S – A – A. Do not say M-H-S-Double A or try to say MHSAA as a word)