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2015-2016 ANNUAL REPORT





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FACTS ABOUT THE LEAGUE

100 YEARS OLD



The League was founded in 1916 by a group of local superintendents. Its mission is to provide educational opportunities through interscholastic athletics and fine arts programs for students and leadership and support for member schools.

525 MEMBER SCHOOLS



The League is an on-profit, voluntary organization of public and private schools. Individual school boards decide every year to join the League.

316,718 STUDENT PARTICIPATION



Every year approximately 300,000 boys and girls participate in League sponsored athletic and fine arts activity programs. Minnesota ranks 10th in the nation in student participation.

22,197 COACHES & DIRECTORS



Coaches and directors of speech, debate, drama and music spend countless hours teaching students life skills through education-based activities.

9,564 CONTESTS & OFFICIALS



Sport officials and judges of speech, debate and One Act Play work daily to ensure a fair and equitable game or contest.

500,000 TOURNAMENT FANS



More than a half-million fans annually attend League state tournament events.

38 STATE TOURNAMENTS



The League annually sponsors 38 state tournament events for its member schools. 90,000 students participate in these events. Television coverage of five tournaments and 55 games—football, girls' and boys' hockey, girls' and boys' basketball—reaches 2.2 million households.

80 TEAM CHAMPIONS



The League annually crowns 80 team champions and numerous individual champions in tennis, swimming, wrestling and track and field.

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The League is governed by a 20-member Board of Directors. The organization does not receive any state funding. Most revenue comes from state tournament ticket sales, broadcast fees, publication and apparel sales and corporate sponsorships.



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

I was very honored to have served as the president of the Minnesota State High School League Board of Directors during the 2015-2016 school year. Every year school boards and school communities, like the League, face programmatic and economic challenges, but the League's Board of Directors always focuses on policy decisions that provide appropriate and accessible education-based athletic and fine arts activities for students in our member schools. Those decisions provide both programmatic and financial support to whatever extent possible.

Tournament related proposals, as well as expanded activities, continue to be addressed by the Board of Directors. Education Requirements for head coaches, assistant coaches, and activity directors were reviewed and modified; new training modules were developed; the state-mandated concussion education continued to be monitored; educational initiatives through on-line rules meetings were both developed and enhanced; and the WHY WE PLAY (WWP) Conference continued to train coaches and activity directors throughout the state.

The fourth annual workshop in 2016 drew rave reviews from coaches and presenters alike, and the WWP initiative has been embraced by state high school associations throughout the country. In addition, the National Football League, in conjunction with the Coach for America initiative, partnered with the MSHSL to ensure that the message about transformational as compared to transactional coaching was being delivered.

Some of the other actions approved by the Board include the following:

- Developed specific Board of Directors goals for the 2015-2016 school year
- Received input from member schools relative to (1) Tournament Classification and Format (2) Cooperative Sponsorships (3) Student Eligibility. This information will be used to develop specific criteria during the 2016-2017 school years.
- Concluded the MSHSL 100 Years of Memories Celebration at the Girls' State Basketball Tournament on March 19, 2016.
- Approved a Drone policy relative to post-season tournaments.
- Approved a proposal to define the eligibility requirements of Adapted Athletics and to provide an additional level of opportunity for students with Autism Spectrum Disorder.

- Approved the policy for District Football placement for the 2017 and 2018 seasons.
- Worked with the Minnesota Sports Facilities Authority regarding the use of U.S. Bank Stadium for the MSHSL Soccer and Football playoffs.
- Developed policies and penalties for (1) the use of non-registered officials and (2) contact with an official.
- Prepared a Constitutional Amendment requested by member schools that would add two (2) designated positions on the MSHSL Board of Directors for school superintendents. A vote on the Amendment will be held in the fall of 2016.

The League staff has conducted fall and spring area meetings throughout the state since 1994 in order to both share with and gather information from administrative groups, coaches associations, and others involved in education-based activity programs. This input continues to form the Board of Director goals for each ensuing school year.

My four years as a member of the MSHSL Board of Directors have flown by. I want to thank the Minnesota Association of Secondary School Principals (MASSP) for the confidence they placed in me to represent all stakeholders in Minnesota. Moreover, I want to assure our entire membership that the board and staff listens to the input provided by all interested parties well in advance of any decision-making. Board members have always set policy guidelines without regard to personal agendas, and a thoughtful discussion has always preceded any action item on the agenda.

As with all successful organizations, the strength of the League lies in the collective willingness to receive information shared with your Board of Directors representative(s) and the support provided by the League staff who carry out each new initiative with consistency and enthusiasm.

Thank you, again, for allowing me to serve our students, our member schools, and our school communities as the president of the MSHSL Board of Directors.

Erich Martens
Sauk Rapids-Rice High School
MSHSL Board of Directors, President
2015-2016



MEMBER SCHOOLS AND THEIR STUDENTS ARE THE FOUNDATION OF THE LEAGUE

The Minnesota State High School League is a service organization providing its membership with post-season tournaments, rules interpretation meetings, recognition programs, educational and training opportunities, publications, and many other services that assist in the administration of interscholastic activities.

The League serves students first and foremost, providing educational experiences through participation in 35 athletic and 5 fine arts activities. Interscholastic competitions, which are played under a uniform set of rules, leads to state tournament competitions which are conducted by the League—38 tournaments in all. Students also are acknowledged through several recognition programs for academic achievements, community service, and leadership.

The League serves its 525 member schools by providing competitive environments with rules that support fair play and equitable competition. School personnel, from elected local school board members to superintendents, from principals to athletic/activity directors, are invited twice annually to area meetings throughout the state to share concerns and discuss issues. The League also conducts workshops and webinars for athletic directors—updating them on League rules and policies, discussing program management and sharing best practices.

The League serves coaches by providing educational opportunities. Through the Continuing Education Requirement, coaches of all levels can learn about concussion management, emergency response planning, and the rules that govern student eligibility. The WHY WE PLAY Conference, which is held annually in mid-June, offers professional development for both coaches and athletic directors. Coaches can also receive their head coaches' certification at the Conference.

The League serves contest officials by annually providing online meetings to review competition rules and opportunities for further training in the mechanics of officiating. The League annually registers more than 9,000 contest officials and judges of speech, debate, One Act Play, and music.

The League serves as a national role model for other athletic/activity associations. Many of the League's programs and services are, and have been, duplicated around the country.

The League Leads the Way with these First-in-Nation Programs:

- **Adapted Athletic programs with championship level tournaments for students with physical and mental disabilities.** Programs include adapted floor hockey, soccer, bowling, and softball.
- **Girls' Ice Hockey**
In 1994, the League became the first state association in the country to sanction girls' hockey. Close to 4,000 girls annually participate in hockey from late-December to mid-February.
- **Anyone Can Save A Life**
An emergency response program for after school practices and events was duplicated and distributed to 50 state associations and their member schools.
- **Robotics**
Sponsored by the League since 2012, Minnesota is the only state association to host a state tournament for students in Robotics.



GRASSROOTS GOVERNANCE

As a non-profit, voluntary association of public and private schools, the League is structured to listen to and respond to its members. Individual school boards decide every year to join the League. Each member school and its composite constituencies—students, parents, coaches, administrators, and school board members—have a voice at the grassroots level known as an administrative region.

Region Committees

A region committee comprised of representatives from League member schools manages the activities and events associated with each administrative region. Each of these 16 committees make decisions about how subsection and section competition is conducted; elect or appoint three people to serve on the Representative Assembly which acts on bylaws that govern eligibility and the administration of League activities; and they review proposed changes to League bylaws before consideration by the Representative

Assembly. The committees also report to the 20-member Board of Directors, which oversees the administration of all League activities and events.

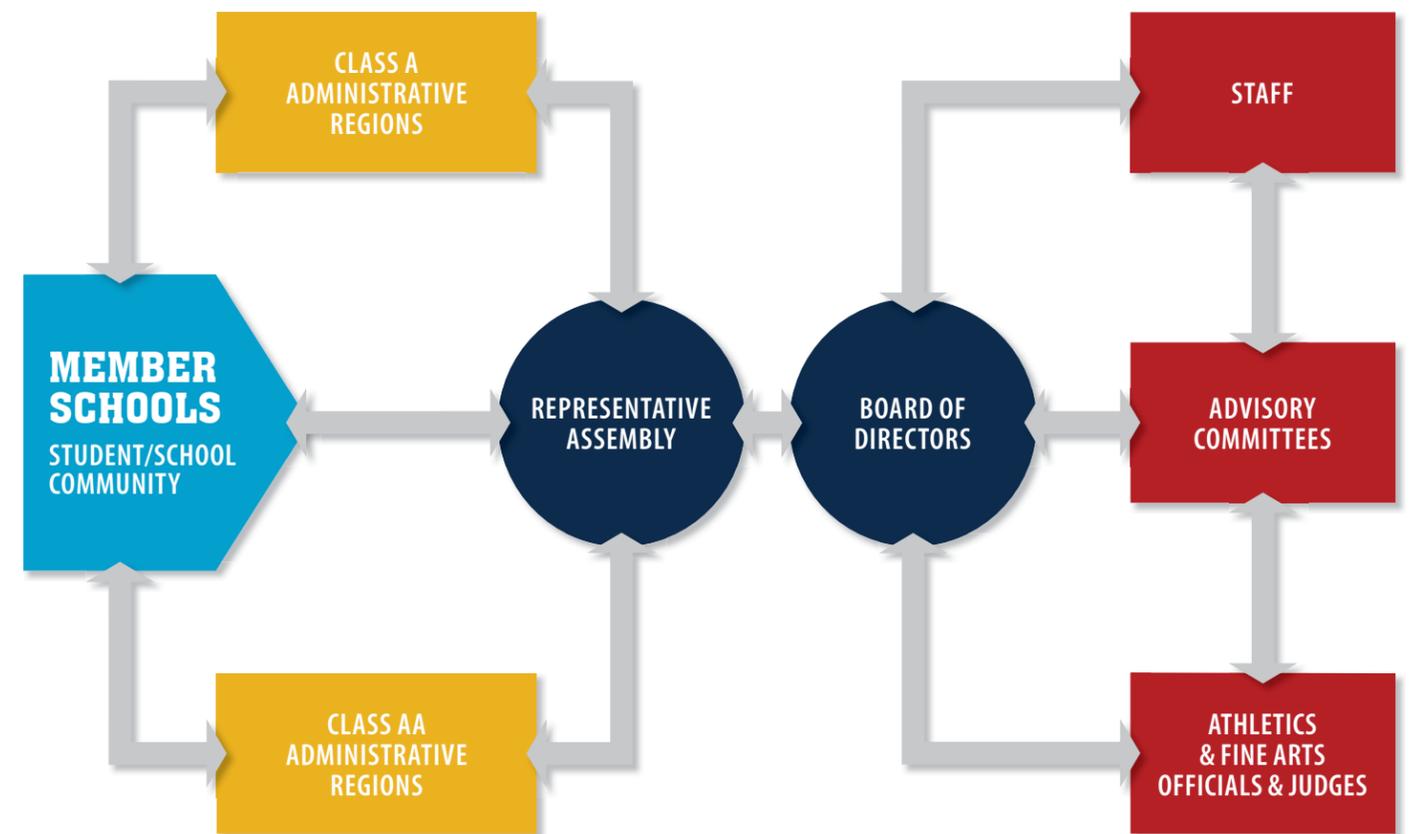
Representative Assembly

Forty-eight people, representing the League's membership, comprise the Representative Assembly, the League's legislative body. The Assembly meets annually to consider all bylaw proposals that come from League member schools, region committees, the Board of Directors, and state athletics and fine arts associations. League bylaws govern the addition of new activities, season lengths, number of contests, eligibility standards, and amateurism requirements of student athletes and fine arts participants. Bylaws also set requirements for conduct, enrollment, and they give direction to scholarship, student transfers, and many other areas important to the sound administration of high school athletic and fine arts programs.

Activity Advisory Committees

Activity Advisory committees provide direct information to the Board of Directors about activity programs. These committees—there's one for each activity the League sponsors—meet once a year with League staff to review and recommend changes to athletic and fine arts programs. Activity associations appoint people to serve on the advisory committees. Committee members generally serve two-year terms.

The intent is to involve everyone from students and their parents and coaches to school administrators and their elected school board members, in the League's decision-making process.



DAY NOVEMBER 12



TEXT + DRIVE = TICKET. Don't Text When You Drive!



Management Club Level

TOURNAMENT

COURT 1

MARTIN COUNTY WEST

23

SETS 2

MATCH 10

SETS 1

11

MAYER LUTHERAN

COURT 1

COURT 2





LEAGUE FINANCES

The Minnesota State High School League is a non-profit organization. The League operates on an annual budget of about \$8.9 million and receives no funding from the state legislature.

Revenues generated from tournament ticket sales, broadcast rights fees, and other tournament related-income make up the majority of the League's operating budget. The remaining portion of the budget comes from corporate sponsorships, publication sales, registration fees and investment income.

At the end of each fiscal year, revenue remaining after all expenses are paid, is distributed to member schools fortunate enough to have competed at the state level. Those shares of revenue during the past 10 years have averaged \$631,000 each year, an average of \$1,600 per school.

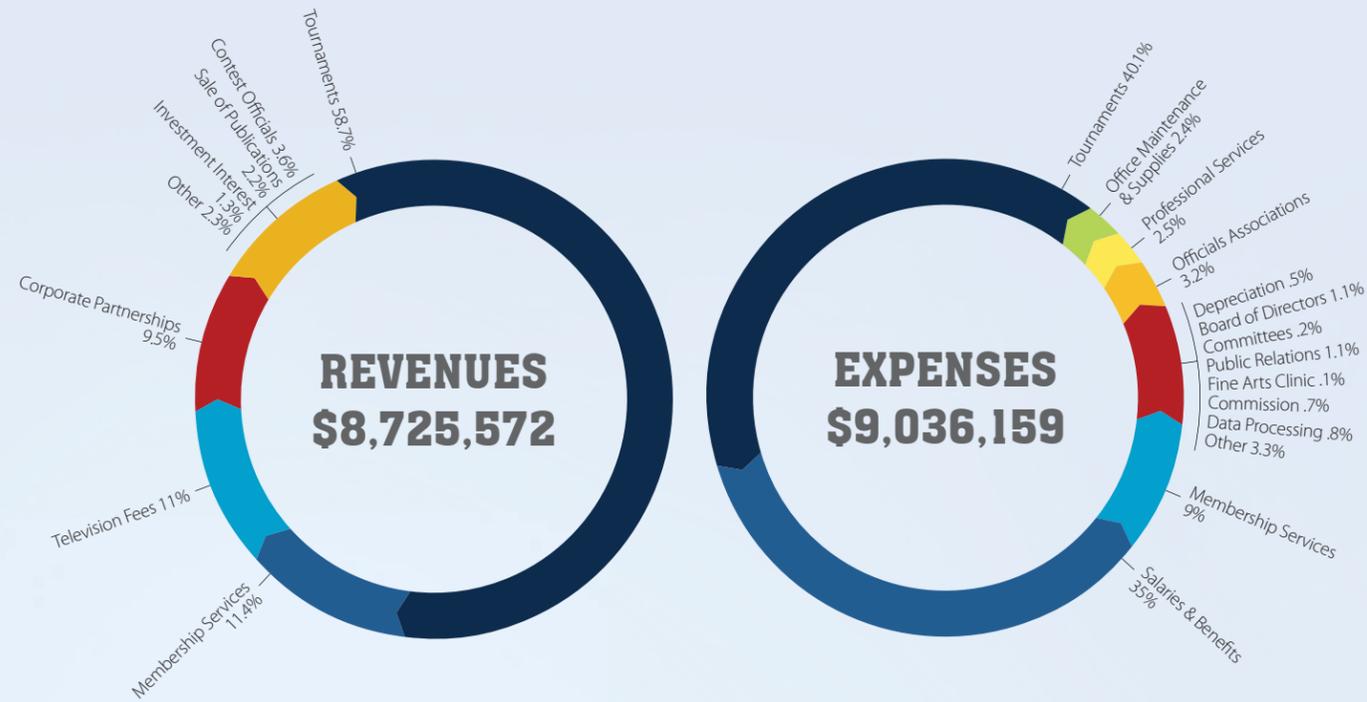
The Office of the State Auditor for Minnesota audits all financial records of the League. The audit report is mailed to League member schools.

A 10-YEAR COMPARISON OF SCHOOL EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENTS FOR TOURNAMENT PARTICIPATION & ACTIVITY REGISTRATION REFUNDS**

	NUMBER OF PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS	TOTAL AMOUNT RETURNED	AVERAGE PER SCHOOL
2006-07	360	\$692,930	\$1,925
2007-08	365	\$870,259	\$2,384
2008-09***	487	\$1,084,736	\$2,227
2009-10***	489	\$822,524	\$1,682
2010-11	359	\$625,388	\$1,742
2011-12	369	\$693,679	\$1,880
2012-13	373	\$712,450	\$1,910
2013-14	377	\$244,964	\$650
2014-15	380	\$0	\$0
2015-16	375	\$566,822	\$1,512

COMPARATIVE SCHEDULE OF TOURNAMENT REVENUES & DIRECT EXPENSES

for the Years Ended July 31, 2016 and 2015



Tournaments \$5,117,581
 Television Fees \$962,539
 Membership Services \$991,240
 Sale of Publication \$196,445
 Contest Officials Registration \$314,990
 Investment Partnerships \$112,387
 Corporate Partnerships \$827,689
 Other \$202,701

Tournaments & School Reimbursements \$3,623,567
 Salaries & Benefits \$3,166,980
 Professional Services \$226,735
 Membership Services \$810,208
 Office Maintenance & Supplies \$220,634
 Other \$300,981
 Board of Directors \$100,689
 Committees \$15,312
 Officials Associations \$289,642
 Depreciation \$46,779
 Fine Arts Programs \$8,053
 Public Relations \$96,376
 Corporate Partnership Commission \$60,212
 Data Processing/Building/Equipment \$69,991



TOURNAMENT	2016**			2015*		
	REVENUES	DIRECT EXPENSES	EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER DIRECT EXPENSES	REVENUES	DIRECT EXPENSES	EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER DIRECT EXPENSES
Baseball	117,328	87,977	29,351	94,562	84,429	10,133
Boys' Basketball	565,885	264,223	301,662	586,962	259,582	327,380
Girls' Basketball	312,720	262,908	49,812	295,153	251,590	43,563
Cross Country Running	18,150	37,614	(19,464)	18,011	36,008	(17,997)
Football	652,171	320,318	331,853	460,119	341,523	118,596
Golf	11,086	56,654	(45,568)	11,177	60,816	(49,639)
Girls' Gymnastics	48,595	75,574	(26,979)	49,301	73,948	(24,647)
Boys' Hockey	1,566,269	404,573	1,161,696	1,561,742	386,524	1,175,218
Nordic Ski Racing	4,703	26,485	(21,782)	4,468	24,591	(20,123)
Alpine Skiing	4,365	25,099	(20,734)	4,262	24,571	(20,309)
Soccer	129,991	103,267	26,724	127,876	108,047	19,829
Girls' Softball	80,187	62,105	18,082	66,272	46,436	19,836
Boys' Swimming & Diving	50,563	51,916	(1,353)	48,792	47,456	1,336
Girls' Swimming & Diving	47,304	47,816	(512)	50,227	49,666	561
Boys' Tennis	4,672	36,791	(32,119)	4,263	28,877	(24,614)
Girls' Tennis	7,274	40,766	(33,492)	7,406	38,573	(31,167)
Track and field	138,224	133,189	5,035	143,114	134,521	8,593
Girls' Volleyball	235,552	164,704	70,848	208,791	161,043	47,748
Wrestling	508,789	241,797	266,992	500,886	236,769	264,117
Synchronized Swimming	0	454	(454)	0	484	(484)
Adapted Soccer	6,567	18,906	(12,339)	5,740	16,900	(11,160)
Adapted Floor Hockey	10,248	20,819	(10,571)	9,458	20,221	(10,763)
Adapted Softball	6,705	17,582	(10,877)	6,643	18,716	(12,073)
Adapted Bowling	4,441	16,462	(12,021)	1,098	15,449	(14,351)
Debate	0	23,327	(23,327)	0	21,381	(21,381)
Speech	7,976	50,802	(42,826)	8,327	48,718	(40,391)
One Act Play	16,550	26,405	(9,855)	15,082	25,457	(10,375)
Girls' Hockey	301,192	240,582	60,610	297,482	233,353	64,129
Cheerleading	0	827	(827)	0	770	(770)
Girls' Dance Team	209,989	99,482	110,507	196,471	98,747	97,724
Lacrosse	43,266	45,211	(1,945)	49,877	45,036	4,841
Badminton	0	0	0	0	0	0
Visual Arts	0	739	(739)	200	635	(435)
Robotics	3,421	46,786	(43,365)	13,208	44,029	(30,822)
Clay Target	3,398	16,583	(13,185)	2,966	14,696	(11,730)
TOTAL	5,117,581	3,068,743	2,048,838	4,849,935	2,999,562	1,850,373

The tournament direct expenses shown above include only those expenses that are directly associated with conducting the tournaments (i.e. personnel and site and program costs). School expense reimbursement and indirect costs such as membership services, salaries and benefits, postage, and other general administrative costs of the MSHSL have not been allocated to any specific tournaments and therefore, are not included in the schedule shown above.

* From State Auditor's Report

** End of year balance on League financial statements



The goal of interscholastic and youth sports is not to prepare students for a college scholarship or some professional career. It just doesn't happen that often. 78% of youth who play sports will quit by the age of 12 because it just isn't fun anymore and 97% of the students who go on to play at the high school level will have a terminal experience when they graduate—they will no longer play organized sports as they have throughout their youth experience. So what's the point? Why do we play? We play to develop students into people with sound moral character that will prepare them for a life that recognizes the humanity of others, that is rich with empathy and compassion and develops in them the moral courage to stand up for what is right. When we only focus on physical skills and accomplishments we don't give them the skills that will help them over the course of their lifetime—skills that will make the world a better place.

Educating Coaches

The MSHSL offers a head coach certification program that centers on education-based athletics and the value it can provide students who participate. Individuals who want to be an education-based high school head coach can obtain the credential required by MS122A.33 through the MSHSL Head Coaches Course.

Coaches will receive instruction on WHY WE PLAY, the League's initiative that centers on Transformational Coaching, Care and Prevention of Athletic Injuries and League Rules and Policies. Individuals who successfully complete the requirements of this program will meet MS122A.3, the state statute requirement for head coaches. Since 2009 the MSHSL has trained over 5,000 new head coaches.

In addition, every coach working in a Minnesota high school must complete an online professional development requirement once every three years. This training includes WHY WE PLAY, Concussion Education, Return to Play Protocols, Emergency Planning, and a variety of health and wellness components. Coaches must also annually complete a sport-specific on-line rules interpretation meeting.

These programs are delivered through the League's Learning Management System (LMS) called the Coaches Clipboard. Each high school coach has their own coach specific page. This page allows every MSHSL coach to have sport-specific information tailored to the sports he or she coaches. It also includes a comprehensive history of the coach's professional development. Just over 25,000 coaches are trained annually through the League's LMS.

ACTIVITY PROGRAMS & PARTICIPATION

The Minnesota State High School League sponsors one of the most comprehensive programs of interscholastic activities in the United States—activities that involve 525 member schools, 316,718 students, 22,197 coaches, and 9,564 contest officials and judges. According to a national survey of 51 state high school athletic/activity associations, Minnesota ranks 10th in the nation in the total number of student athletes. Here's a look at the 43 activity programs offered by League member schools during the 2015-16 school year and the scores of students involved in them.

ADAPTED BOWLING (CO-ED)

- 46 participating schools (CI)
 - 303 participants
 - 39 participating schools (PI)
 - 103 participants
 - 18 participating schools (ASD)
 - 36 participants
 - 3 Championships
- Nationally:** 133 participating schools
1,675 participants

ADAPTED FLOOR HOCKEY (CO-ED)

- 62 participating schools (CI)
 - 257 participants
 - 61 participating schools (PI)
 - 157 participants
 - 2 Championships
- Nationally:** 62 participating schools
414 participants

ADAPTED SOCCER (CO-ED)

- 67 participating schools (CI)
 - 206 participants
 - 48 participating schools (PI)
 - 113 participants
 - 2 Championships
- Nationally:** 134 participating schools
1,366 participants

ADAPTED SOFTBALL (CO-ED)

- 63 participating schools (CI)
 - 272 participants
 - 52 participating schools (PI)
 - 159 participants
 - 2 Championships
- Nationally:** 128 participating schools
1,303 participants

FYI Minnesota was the first of 12 state high school activity associations to sponsor adapted athletic programs for students with disabilities.

GIRLS' BADMINTON

- 27 participating schools
 - 607 participants
- Nationally:** 477 participating schools
12,961 participants

BASEBALL

- 431 participating schools
 - 13,515 participants
 - 4 Championships
- Nationally:** 15,956 participating schools
488,815 participants
(includes girls)

FYI Baseball is currently the fourth most popular sport for boys nationwide. It ranks fourth for students in Minnesota.

BOYS' BASKETBALL

- 470 participating schools
 - 13,542 participants
 - 4 Championships
- Nationally:** 18,280 participating schools
546,428 participants

FYI Basketball is currently the third most popular sport for boys in Minnesota. It ranks third for boys nationwide.

GIRLS' BASKETBALL

- 457 participating schools
 - 12,012 participants
 - 4 Championships
- Nationally:** 17,890 participating schools
429,380 participants

FYI Nationwide, basketball is the third most popular sport for girls. It's also the third most popular sport for girls in Minnesota.

BOYS' CROSS COUNTRY RUNNING

- 362 participating schools
 - 7,357 participants
 - 2 Championships
- Nationally:** 14,920 participating schools
257,691 participants

GIRLS' CROSS COUNTRY RUNNING

- 360 participating schools
 - 9,065 participants
 - 2 Championships
- Nationally:** 14,698 participating schools
222,516 participants

FYI Nationwide, cross country running is the sixth most popular sport for both girls and boys.

GIRLS' DANCE TEAM (COMPETITIVE)

- 182 participating schools
- 4,956 participants
- 6 Championships

FOOTBALL

- 524 participating schools
(includes 11 and 9 man)
 - 25,650 participants
 - 7 Championships
- Nationally:** 14,312 participating schools
(11 man and 9 man)
1,092,658 participants
(includes girls)

FYI Nationwide, football is the most popular sport for boys. It's also the activity involving the most student-athletes in Minnesota.

BOYS' GOLF

- 376 participating schools
 - 5,556 participants
 - 3 Championships
- Nationally:** 13,503 participating schools
146,677 participants

FYI Nationally, golf ranks in the top 10 most popular sports for boys (9th).

GIRLS' GOLF

- 364 participating schools
 - 4,204 participants
 - 3 Championships
- Nationally:** 10,046 participating schools
74,762 participants

GIRLS' GYMNASTICS

- 197 participating schools
 - 2,595 participants
 - 2 Championships
- Nationally:** 1,535 participating schools
17,714 participants

FYI Minnesota has the highest participation rate in the country.

BOYS' ICE HOCKEY

- 277 participating schools
 - 5,792 participants
 - 2 Championships
- Nationally:** 1,607 participating schools
35,155 participants

FYI Minnesota has the second highest participation rate in the country.

GIRLS' ICE HOCKEY

- 245 participating schools
 - 3,761 participants
 - 2 Championships
- Nationally:** 642 participating schools
9,514 participants

FYI Minnesota leads the nation in number of participants.

BOYS' LACROSSE

- 103 participating schools
 - 3,535 participants
 - 1 Championship
- Nationally:** 2,752 participating schools
109,522 participants

GIRLS' LACROSSE

- 98 participating schools
 - 3,773 participants
 - 1 Championship
- Nationally:** 2,572 participating schools
88,050 participants

FYI Lacrosse is the 10th most popular sport for girls nationwide.

BOYS' ALPINE SKI

- 122 participating schools
 - 1,021 participants
 - 1 Championship
- Nationally:** 7,220 participating schools
133,470 participants

FYI Minnesota has the highest participation rate in the country.

GIRLS' ALPINE SKI

- 124 participating schools
 - 821 participants
 - 1 Championship
- Nationally:** 542 participating schools
4,271 participants

FYI Nationally, Minnesota has the 2nd highest participation rate.

BOYS' NORDIC SKI RACING

- 117 participating schools
 - 1,993 participants
 - 1 Championship
- Nationally:** 372 participating schools
4,407 participants

GIRLS' NORDIC SKI RACING

- 118 participating schools
 - 2,431 participants
 - 1 Championship
- Nationally:** 369 schools
4,940 participants

FYI Minnesota leads the nation in the number of participants for boys and girls.

BOYS' SOCCER

- 248 participating schools
 - 9,254 participants
 - 2 Championships
- Nationally:** 12,054 participating schools
440,322 participants

GIRLS' SOCCER

- 235 participating schools
 - 8,116 participants
 - 2 Championships
- Nationally:** 11,676 participating schools
381,529 participants

FYI Nationwide, soccer is the fifth most popular sport for boys and fourth for girls.

GIRLS' FAST-PITCH SOFTBALL

- 412 participating schools
 - 13,029 participants
 - 4 Championships
- Nationally:** 15,304 participating schools
366,685 participants

FYI Fast-pitch softball is the 3rd most popular sport for girls in Minnesota.

A national survey involving 51 state high school associations shows that participation increased for the 27th consecutive year in 2015-16 with a record total of 7.8 million. The survey also reports that boys' participation increased to an all-time high of 4,544,574, while girls' participation reached an all-time record of 3,324,326.

BOYS' SWIMMING & DIVING

- 159 participating schools
 - 3,772 participants
 - 2 Championships
- Nationally:** 7,220 participating schools
133,470 participant

GIRLS' SWIMMING & DIVING

- 203 participating schools
 - 5,813 participants
 - 2 Championships
- Nationally:** 7,559 participating schools
166,747 participants

FYI Nationwide, swimming and diving is the 10th most popular sport for boys and 8th for girls.

GIRLS' SYNCHRONIZED SWIMMING

- 22 participating schools
 - 432 participants
- Nationally:** 31 participating schools
612 participants

FYI Minnesota, Michigan and Ohio are the only states that sponsor synchronized swimming. Minnesota has the most participants.

BOYS' TENNIS

- 188 participating schools
 - 4,987 participants
 - 2 Championships
- Nationally:** 9,723 participating schools
157,201 participants

GIRLS' TENNIS

- 225 participating schools
 - 6,524 participants
 - 2 Championships
- Nationally:** 10,122 participating schools
183,800 participants

FYI Nationally, tennis ranks in the top 10 most popular sports for both girls (7th) and boys (8th).

BOYS' TRACK & FIELD

- 434 participating schools
 - 16,896 participants
 - 2 Championships
- Nationally:** 16,547 participating schools
591,133 participants

FYI Track and field is the second most popular sport for boys nationwide and in Minnesota.

GIRLS' TRACK & FIELD

- 435 participating schools
 - 15,842 participants
 - 2 Championships
- Nationally:** 16,508 participating schools
485,969 participants

FYI Track & field is currently the most popular sport for girls nationwide. It ranks 2nd for girls in Minnesota.

GIRLS' VOLLEYBALL

- 463 participating schools
 - 16,222 participants
 - 3 Championships
- Nationally:** 15,755 participating schools
436,309 participants

FYI Volleyball is the most popular sport for girls in Minnesota. It ranks second for girls' nationwide.

WRESTLING

- 346 participating schools
 - 8,154 participants
 - 3 Championships
- Nationally:** 10,685 participating schools
250,653 participants

FYI Wrestling is the 6th most popular sport for boys nationwide.

CHEERLEADING

- 203 participating schools
- 3,344 participants

CLAY TARGET

- 200 participating schools
- 10,000 participants

ROBOTICS

- 208 participating teams
- 4,784 participants
- 1 Championship

FYI Minnesota is the first high school association in the country to host a state tournament in Robotics.

5 MOST POPULAR SPORTS IN MINNESOTA

	BOYS
1. Football	25,650
2. Track & Field	16,896
3. Basketball	13,542
4. Baseball	13,515
5. Soccer	9,254

GIRLS	
1. Volleyball	16,222
2. Track & Field	15,842
3. Fast-Pitch Softball	13,029
4. Basketball	12,012
5. Cross Country	9,065

FINE ARTS

There were 77,545 students involved in fine arts activities—debate, speech, drama, music, and visual arts during the 2015–2016 school year.

DEBATE

- 78 participating schools
 - 663 participants
 - 2 Championships
- Nationally:** 26 state high school associations
sponsor debate

ONE ACT PLAY

- 305 participating schools
 - 3,348 participants
 - 2 Championships
- Nationally:** 22 state high school associations
sponsor drama

SPEECH

- 320 participating schools
 - 5,348 participants
 - 2 Championships
- Nationally:** 25 state high school associations
sponsor speech events

VISUAL ARTS

- 224 participating schools
 - 3,619 participants
- Nationally:** Minnesota and South Dakota are the only states that sponsor visual arts

BAND

- 417 participating schools
- 31,254 participants

ORCHESTRA

- 215 participating schools
- 3,874 participants

VOCAL

- 423 participating schools
 - 32,516 participants
- Nationally:** 21 state high school associations
sponsor music





ADAPTED ATHLETIC PROGRAMS

Athletes are athletes no matter how they participate

Some of the rules are different. Some of the players may wheel themselves around the court, but the competition is just as intense—the thrill of the game the same—as for athletes anywhere. These student-athletes just happen to have health impairments that restrict them from participating in typical school sports.

In 1992 the Minnesota State High School League accepted a proposal from the Minnesota Association for Adapted Athletics to become the first high school activity association in the nation to sponsor adapted athletics for students with disabilities.

The Competition

The adapted athletic programs sanctioned by the League include soccer, floor hockey, bowling, and softball. These varsity level sports are played in two Team Divisions: CI Division for students with a cognitive impairment and PI Division for those with a physical impairment. In 2016, the MSHSL added the ASD Division for Adapted Bowling. Soccer is played in the fall, floor hockey in winter, and softball and bowling in the spring.

Both CI and PI divisions play within the rules the National Federation of State High School Associations has established for soccer, hockey, and softball. However, these rules have been modified to meet the abilities of the students playing these sports.

Eligibility

Students who are under 22 years of age and fully enrolled in grades 7 through 12 can play in any of the adapted sports the League sponsors. Students in an ungraded setting are first eligible when they or their peers are in the seventh grade. They are then eligible for a maximum of 12 consecutive semesters, starting when they or their same-age peers are first enrolled in the seventh grade.

Rule Modifications

Modification to the competition rules for adapted athletics moves softball, soccer and hockey games from traditional open fields and ice arenas to large gymnasiums, which allows students with mobility impairments to participate.

Examples of rule modifications, which coaches and officials annually review for fairness and equity for all students, include the use of:

- felt-covered soccer balls
- double bases at every base position
- whiffle balls and hollow Safe-T-Play bats
- felt hockey pucks and plastic sticks

The Teams

Most school districts that participate in the adapted athletic programs field cooperative co-ed teams of boys and girls from schools throughout the district. Teams play a full schedule of games over an 8 to 10 week season. School teams in the PI Division compete against other schools that have PI teams. CI Division school teams compete against others in the CI Division. ASD Division bowling schools compete against others in the ASD Division.

Recognition

During the regular sport season, teams compete for conference championships, individual conference honors, and other appropriate recognition such as Prep Athlete of the Week. Schools also recognize student athletes at pepfests, in the school newspaper; and athletes may be eligible for athletic letters, letter jackets, and membership in athletic letter clubs.

State Tournaments

Post-season play includes the state tournaments the League sponsors in each of the four sports. Every adapted athletic team is eligible to compete in the tournaments either in the PI Division, CI Division, or in the bowling ASD Division.

Teams receive certificates, medals, and trophies for their performances at the state tournaments. They may also earn all-tournament team honors.



Q: What is an Adapted Athletic Program?

A: An Adapted Athletic Program is an interscholastic sport program that's modified for students with physical and cognitive disabilities.

Q: How are Adapted Athletic Programs funded?

A: Many programs are funded through the local school's athletic department. Others receive funding from special education, community education, or a combination of all three funding sources.

Q: How does a school district start an Adapted Athletic Program?

A: Contact the local athletic director and make known your interest to begin an adapted athletic program in your district. Work with the special education department to identify students who are eligible to participate in the program. Find a knowledgeable and experienced person to coach the team(s).

Q: What is a cooperative adapted athletic program?

A: An athletic program comprised of two or more schools to form a team.



A PROFILE OF LEAGUE RECOGNITION PROGRAMS

The Minnesota State High School League has long helped young people celebrate the greatest moments of their lives by staging championship tournaments in as many as 38 different athletic and fine arts activities. These tournaments represent only one part of the League's total program.

For more than two decades the League and its member schools have sponsored programs to recognize service, reward performance, and celebrate achievements. Here's a look at the recognition programs the League annually sponsors.

EXCEL AWARD

ExCEL Award This program recognizes students for community service, academic achievement, and leadership. Eligibility requirements: 1) a junior in high school; 2) making satisfactory progress toward graduation requirements; 3) participation in a League-sponsored fine arts or athletic activity; and 4) hold a leadership position in school and work voluntarily in their community. Schools can nominate one boy and one girl for this award program. Nominations are accepted through the third week in December each year. Award recipients are selected through a multi-level process that involves League member schools and an independent panel of judges from schools throughout Minnesota. The ExCEL Award winners are announced in February.



Academics, Arts, and Athletics Award Commonly known as the Triple "A" Award, this program honors high school seniors throughout the state who have a 3.0 or higher grade point average and who participate in a League-sponsored athletic and fine arts activity. Triple "A" Award winners (4 total) receive a four-year \$1,000 scholarship. Scholarship winners are announced during the Boys' State Basketball Tournament in March. Schools can nominate one boy and one girl for the Triple "A" Award. Award recipients are selected through a multi-level process that involves the League's Administrative Regions and a special committee of educators, business leaders, and members from the fine arts and athletic communities.



Hall of Fame Program Established in 1991 and housed at the League office, members of the Hall of Fame are selected through a multi-level process that includes the League's member schools and a committee of athletic, fine arts, and educational leaders. Nominations are solicited in nine categories: athlete, coach, official, administrator, fine arts participant/director/adjudicator, activity/athletic director, and contributor (someone who has made outstanding contributions to high school activities in some capacity other than those previously mentioned including such areas as sports medicine and sports media). All candidates for the Hall of Fame must be at least 35-years of age. They may be retired from their field or still active. Nominations are accepted year-round. The Hall of Fame induction ceremony is held in odd-numbered years in October.



Spotlight on Scholarship This year-round recognition program honors students for outstanding academic performance in two distinct ways: individually and collectively. Through the Spotlight on Scholarship certificate program, the League provides certificates to every athlete and fine arts participant in the state who has a "B" or better grade average. In addition to honoring students for their individual efforts, the Spotlight on Scholarship program also recognizes and rewards fine arts and athletic teams that collectively achieve a 3.0 or higher grade average. The League awards Spotlight on Scholarship banners to qualifying schools.

MEET THE 2015-16 MSHSL BOARD OF DIRECTORS



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Troy Urdahl
St. Anthony Village

2015-2016 REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY DELEGATES

The rulesmaking body of the Minnesota State High School League

CLASS A REGIONS

REGION 1A

1. Scott Flattum, Activities Director, Plainview-Elgin-Millville
2. Spencer Yohe, School Board Member, Caledonia Public Schools
3. Richard Keith, Superintendent, Fillmore Central Public Schools

REGION 2A

4. John Landkamer, Activities/Athletic Director, Mankato Loyola
5. Steve Wolff, Activities/Athletic Director, Buffalo Lake-Hector-Stewart
6. Jeff Vizenor, Activities/Athletic Director, Jordan

REGION 3A

7. Tim Knapper, Activities Director, Yellow Medicine East
8. Bryce Pack, Athletic Director, Red Rock Central, Lamberton
9. Tim Christensen, Principal, Adrian

REGION 4A

10. Chris Laird, Athletic Director, Heritage Christian
11. Kurt Jaeger, Athletic Director, Providence Academy
12. Dave Mergens, Athletic Director, St. Paul Humboldt

REGION 5A

13. Mark Messman, Superintendent, Eden Valley-Watkins
14. George Weber, Superintendent, Pierz
15. Jonathan Ruoff, Athletic Director, Melrose

REGION 6A

16. Rob Nudell, Principal, Frazee
17. Mark Ekren, Athletic Director, Morris Area
18. John Kleinwolterink, Music Representative, Morris Area

REGION 7A

19. Mitch Door, Coach, Cook County
20. James Lah, Fine Arts, Ely
21. Dave Foster, Athletic Director, Cromwell

REGION 8A

22. Jeff Bisek, Superintendent, Mahanomen
23. Randy Huie, Coach, Red Lake County Central
24. Brian Loer, Principal, East Grand Forks

CLASS AA REGIONS

REGION 1AA

25. Brad Skogerboe, Athletic Director, New Prague
26. Kyle Huneke, Athletic Director, Kasson-Mantorville
27. Ryan Swanson, Athletic Director, Owatonna

REGION 2AA

28. Josh Dale, Activities Director, Worthington
29. Jeff Peterson, Activity Director, Mound-Westonka
30. Mike Lindquist, Activities Director, Delano

REGION 3AA

31. Keith Randa, Coach, Apple Valley
32. Mike Manning, Activities Director, Rosemount
33. Russ Reetz, Activities Director, Prior Lake

REGION 4AA

34. Joel Olson, Activities Director, East Ridge
35. Mary Doran, School Board Member, St. Paul Schools
36. Erin Herman, Assistant Principal, Hill-Murray

REGION 5AA

37. Dan Ohlgren, Activities Director, Rogers
38. Mike Smith, Activities Director, Totino-Grace, Fridley
39. Matt St. Martin, Activities Director, Spring Lake Park

REGION 6AA

40. Guillaume Paek, Activities Director, Minneapolis Patrick Henry
41. Jaime Sherwood, Activities Director, Wayzata
42. Ryan Lamberty, Activities Director, Minneapolis Southwest

REGION 7AA

43. Steve Battaglia, Assistant Principal/Coach, Cloquet
44. Tonya Sconiers, Principal, Duluth Denfeld
45. Mike Cunningham, Activities Director, Elk River

REGION 8AA

46. Troy Hendricks, Activities Director, Bemidji
47. John Ross, Activities Director, Sartell
48. Gary Revenig, Activities Director, Monticello

MSHSL ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Executive Director..... David Stead	Associate Director..... Craig Perry	Communications Coordinator..... Tim Leighton
Executive Assistant..... Lynne Johnson	Administrative Assistant..... Susi Hollenbeck	Media Credentialing Assistant.... Yvonne Walsh
Associate Director..... Lisa Lissimore	Assistant Director..... Richard Matter	Media Specialist..... John Millea
Administrative Assistant..... Sheila Robinson	Accounting Assistant..... Rachel Edholm	Program Specialist..... Amy Doherty
Associate Director..... Kevin Merkle	Ticketing Assistant..... Nancy Myers	Information Specialist..... Ellen Rajkowski
Administrative Assistant..... Amanda Johnson	Assistant Director..... Chris Franson	Office Manager..... Kristi Vesall
Administrative Assistant: Officials..... Mary Heiss	Graphic Designer..... Tracie Bressler	Administrative Assistant..... Yvonne Walsh
Associate Director..... Jody Redman	Coordinator of Officials..... Jason Nickleby	Receptionist..... Melody Michelson
Administrative Assistant..... Amie Ince		





2015-16 STATE TEAM CHAMPIONS

BOYS' ATHLETIC ACTIVITIES

SPORT	CLASS	SCHOOL
Alpine Skiing		Edina
Baseball	AAAA	Wayzata
	AAA	Henry Sibley, Mendota Heights
	AA	Minnehaha Academy, Minneapolis
	A	Springfield
Basketball	AAAA	Hopkins
	AAA	DeLaSalle, Minneapolis
	AA	Braham
	A	Minneapolis North Community
Cross Country Running	AA	Hopkins
	A	Mora
Football	AAAAA	*Osseo (Osseo/Maranatha Christian Academy, Brooklyn Park)
	AAAAA	St. Michael-Albertville
	AAAA	Becker
	AAA	Pierz
	AA	Caledonia
	A	Minneota
Golf	AAA	Minnetonka
	A	The Blake School, Minneapolis
Hockey	AA	Wayzata
	A	Hermantown
Lacrosse		Prior Lake
Nordic Ski Racing		Minneapolis Southwest
Soccer	AA	Anoka
	A	Orono
Swimming & Diving	AA	Eden Prairie
	A	St. Thomas Academy, Mendota Heights
Tennis	AA	Minnetonka
	A	Breck School, Golden Valley
Track & Field	AA	Wayzata
	A	*Rushford-Peterson/Houston
Wrestling	AAA	Apple Valley
	AA	Kasson-Mantorville
	A	Kenyon-Wanamingo

FINE ARTS

ACTIVITY	CLASS	SCHOOL
Policy Debate		Edina
Public Forum Debate		St. Paul Academy & Summit School
One Act Play (Starred Rating)	AA	Eastview, Apple Valley
		Minnetonka
		Academy of Holy Angels, Richfield
	A	Belle Plaine
		*Browerville/Eagle Valley
		Fillmore Central, Harmony

ACTIVITY

ACTIVITY	ALLIANCE/SCHOOL
Robotics	Greenbush-Middle River-Irondale, New Brighton-New London-Spicer
Clay Target	New Prague

GIRLS' ATHLETIC ACTIVITIES

SPORT	CLASS	SCHOOL
Alpine Skiing		The Blake School, Minneapolis
Basketball	AAAA	Minnetonka
	AAA	Academy of Holy Angels, Richfield
	AA	Plainview-Elgin-Millville
	A	Goodhue
Cross Country Running	AA	Edina
	A	Perham
Golf	AAA	Edina
	AA	Detroit Lakes
	A	Fillmore Central, Harmony
Gymnastics	AA	*St. Cloud Tech (St. Cloud Tech/St. Cloud Cathedral)
	A	*Detroit Lakes (Detroit Lakes/Frazee)
Hockey	AA	Eden Prairie
	A	The Blake School, Minneapolis
Lacrosse		Eden Prairie
Nordic Ski Racing		Robbinsdale Armstrong
Soccer	AA	Eagan
	A	Benilde-St. Margaret's, St. Louis Park
Softball (Fast-Pitch)	AAAA	Chanhassen
	AAA	Mankato West
	AA	Zumbrota-Mazeppa
	A	*Edgerton/SW MN Christian
Swimming & Diving	AA	Wayzata
	A	Visitation, Mendota Heights
Tennis	AA	Edina
	A	The Blake School, Minneapolis
Track & Field	AA	Alexandria Area
	A	Minneapolis Edison
Volleyball	AAA	Eagan
	AA	Belle Plaine
	A	Waterville-Elysian-Morristown

GIRLS' COMPETITIVE ACTIVITY

ACTIVITY	CLASS	SCHOOL
Dance Team	AAA Jazz	Eastview, Apple Valley
	AAA High Kick	Eastview, Apple Valley
	AA Jazz	Totino-Grace, Fridley
	AA High Kick	Totino-Grace, Fridley
	A Jazz	Frazee
	A High Kick	Aitkin

ADAPTED ATHLETICS

SPORT	CLASS	SCHOOL/TEAM
Adapted Bowling	ASD	Mankato East
	CI	Tartan, Oakdale
	PI	Albany
Adapted Floor Hockey	CI	North Suburban
	PI	Dakota United
Adapted Soccer	CI	Park Center
	PI	Anoka-Hennepin
Adapted Softball	CI	North Suburban
	PI	Dakota United

2016-17 CALENDAR OF STATE EVENTS

January 13-14	State Debate Tournament	U of M, Minneapolis
February 9-10	State One Act Play Festival	O'Shaughnessy Auditorium, St. Catherine University, St. Paul
February 15	State Alpine Ski Meet	Giants Ridge, Biwabik
February 16	State Nordic Ski Racing Meet	Giants Ridge, Biwabik
February 17-18	State Girls' Dance Team Tournament	Target Center, Minneapolis
February 22-25	State Girls' Hockey Tournament	Xcel Energy Center, St. Paul
February 24-25	State Girls' Gymnastics Meet	Sports Pavilion, U of M, Minneapolis
March 2-4	State Wrestling Tournament	Xcel Energy Center, St. Paul
March 2-4	State Boys' Swimming & Diving Meet	U of M Aquatic Center, Minneapolis
March 8-11	State Boys' Hockey Tournament	Xcel Energy Center, St. Paul
March 14-18	State Girls' Basketball Tournament	Target Center, Minneapolis Williams & Mariucci Arenas, U of M, Minneapolis
March 17-18	State Adapted Floor Hockey Tournament	Bloomington Jefferson Senior High School
March 22-25	State Boys' Basketball Tournament	Target Center, Minneapolis Williams Arena, U of M, Minneapolis
TBD	Visual Arts	TBD by each Region
TBD	Section/State Music Contests/Festivals	Various MN Sites
April 21-22	State Speech Tournament	Apple Valley High School
May 19	State Adapted Bowling Tournament	Brunswick Zone, Brooklyn Park
May 20	State Robotics Tournament	Williams Arena & Sports Pavilion, U of M, Minneapolis
May 20	Final date of Girls' Badminton season	
June 2-3	State Adapted Softball Tournament	Coon Rapids High School
June 6-9	State Boys' Tennis Tournament	Baseline Tennis Center, U of M; Reed-Sweatt Family Tennis Center, Minneapolis
June 8-9	State Girls' Softball Tournament	Caswell Park, North Mankato
June 9-10	State Track & Field Meet	Hamline University, St. Paul
June 10	Final date of Girls' Synchronized Swim season	
June 13-14	State Golf Tournament	AAA - Bunker Hills Golf Course, Coon Rapids AA - Ridges at Sand Creek, Jordan A - Pebble Creek Golf Club, Becker
June 13, 15, 17	Girls' Lacrosse Tournament	Minnetonka & Chanhassen High Schools
June 13, 15, 17	Boys' Lacrosse Tournament	Minnetonka & Chanhassen High Schools
June 15-16, 19	State Baseball Tournament	AAAA - CHS Field, St. Paul AAA - Dick Siebert Field, U of M, Minneapolis AA - Dick Putz Stadium & Joe Faber Field, St. Cloud A - Athletic Park, Chaska & Mini Met, Jordan Prep Championship Series - Target Field, Minneapolis
June 24	State Clay Target Tournament	Minneapolis Gun Club, Prior Lake



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