

REGULATION

MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Related Entries: EEA-RA, IQA-EA, IQD-RA, JEE-RA

Responsible Office: Chief Operating Officer

Administration of the High School Interscholastic Athletic Programs

I. PURPOSE

To set forth procedures and authority for administration of the countywide high school interscholastic athletic program, which is designed to provide for equitable distribution of overall athletic opportunities and resources, that are available to females and males

II. PROCEDURES

A. Responsibilities

1. The *superintendent of schools* is responsible to the Board of Education for the administration of the high school interscholastic athletic program.
2. The *chief operating officer* is the delegated administrator of the interscholastic athletic program.
3. Procedures governing the high school interscholastic athletic program are developed by the coordinator of athletics and the athletics specialist under the direction of the chief operating officer in consultation with coaches, athletic directors, and high school principals.
4. *High school principals* are responsible for advising the coordinator of athletics on matters of concern regarding the interscholastic athletic program, consulting the coordinator and athletics specialist as needed regarding the school program, and assuring that the program is conducted as required by established regulations.
5. Each high school will have an appointed *athletic director* who is delegated by the principal to be responsible for the development and implementation of that school's interscholastic athletic program. This is a position receiving a salary supplement and is in addition to a reduced teaching assignment. Athletic directors are not permitted to coach.

6. Each high school will have an appointed *assistant athletic director* in the development and implementation of that school's interscholastic athletic program. This is a position under the stipend program and is in addition to a regular teaching assignment. Assistant athletic directors may coach one or more sports per year.
7. Each sport offered in high school must have a coach. One responsibility of the coach is to meet with the coordinator of athletics and athletics specialist to review and make recommendations for the sport for which he/she is responsible. This responsibility is under the stipend program and the duties are in addition to a regular assignment.

B. Implementation

1. Montgomery County high schools are members of the Maryland Public Secondary School Athletic Association (MPSSAA) and in all athletic matters will adhere to the rules and regulations of that body and to the philosophy of athletics which MPSSAA encourages. Local education agencies may adopt regulations that are more stringent but not less strict than those of the MPSSAA.

The purposes of the MPSSAA are to promote, direct, and control all interscholastic activities of high school students; to establish, maintain, and enforce such regulations as may be necessary to assure that all such activities shall be part of and contribute to the entire educational program of the state of Maryland; to cooperate closely with the Maryland State Department of Education in the development of that program; and to safeguard the physical, mental, and moral welfare of high school students and protect them from exploitation.

2. MCPS high school principals also comprise the Montgomery County Public Secondary School Athletic Association (MCPSSAA).
 - a) The purpose of the MCPSSAA is to meet on a regularly scheduled basis with the MCPS athletics leadership staff to evaluate the high school athletic program and make recommendations for its conduct and improvement.
 - b) The MCPSSAA may recommend rules and regulations more stringent than those set by the MPSSAA, and also may recommend adoption of additional rules and regulations as necessary for the improvement and orderly operation of the high school athletics program.

3. All adjustments to rules, regulations, and standards recommended by MCPSSAA will be reviewed by the coordinator of athletics. If approved, the recommendations are forwarded to the chief operating officer for final approval.
4. MCPS athletic rules, regulations, and standards will be published in the *MCPS High School Athletic Handbook* and must be adhered to by all schools.
 - a) This handbook is revised and issued annually and copies are located in the Interscholastic High School Athletics office in the Carver Educational Services Center. Copies are given to all high school administrators, media and career centers, guidance offices, and high school athletic personnel.
 - b) This handbook includes standards, regulations, and procedures pertaining to public broadcasting of athletic events, classification of schools for purposes of interscholastic athletic competition, rules for athletic competition, game standards, eligibility for participation, scheduling of interscholastic events, appeals, and all other pertinent concerns dealing with the establishment and administration of the interscholastic athletic program in Montgomery County Public Schools.
5. The coordinator of athletics and the athletics specialist are the designated administrators of the interscholastic athletic program.
 - a) The coordinator of athletics and athletics specialist will meet periodically with athletic directors, coaches, and high school principals. These groups will serve as advisory bodies to the coordinator of athletics and the athletics specialist.
 - b) Decisions on matters related to the athletic program will be made by the coordinator of athletics and the athletics specialist who are responsible to the chief operating officer.

C. Evaluation

The coordinator of athletics, the athletics specialist, and principals evaluate and interpret the interscholastic athletic program and consult with various advisory groups as needed concerning proposed changes and improvements.

Regulation History: Formerly Regulation No. 505-1, February 1982, revised December 1986; revised December 2, 1993; revised December 21, 1994; revised November 17, 2000; revised June 17, 2004.