

Michigan High School Coaches Association—Spring Newsletter—2015

This newsletter will try to give you a recap of all of the MHSCA Activities and Awards for the past school year. Hopefully it will be informative and of interest to all.

MHSCA Hall of Fame Class of 2014

The following coaches were inducted into the newly renovated Hall of Fame on September 21, 2014 on the campus of CMU in Mt. Pleasant: Charlie Bassett, Spring Lake High School, Tennis; Dean Blackledge, Hanover-Horton HS, Track and Cross Country; Martin Covert, Bryron HS, Wrestling; Kenn Domerese, Flint Carmen-Ainsworth HS, Track and Cross Country; Bill Hajec, Fenton HS, Football; Jerome Goosen, Coopersville HS, Ovid-Elise HS, Football; Gregg Kirchen, Holland HS, Golf; Don Lutz, L'Anse Creuse HS Lacrosse; Thomas Pullen, Ann Arbor Pioneer, Tennis; Donald Rinehart, Rockford HS, Wrestling; Warren Spragg, Remus Chippewa Hills HS, Football, Wrestling; James Stallings, Trenton HS, Wrestling; Marshall Thomas, Saginaw HS, Basketball; and Bryan Westfield, Ann Arbor Pioneer HS, Cross Country and Track.

Additionally, Jack Roberts, received the MHSCA's Distinguished Service Award for his efforts over the past 25+ years serving as Executive Director of the Michigan High School Athletic Association. Congratulations to Jack and thank you for your leadership in our state and making our state a model for many states in how they conduct the athletic activities.

2014 MHSCA Coach of the Year Selections

The following were honored at the 56th Annual MHSCA Coach of the Year Banquet at the Lansing Ramada Inn Hotel and Conference Center on November 9, 2014 as the MHSCA Coach of the Year for their Sport for the past school year. These selections are made by the respective sport association and it is to their discretion as to the criteria used to make these selection. It may be based on the past school year or perhaps for their entire career and/or for service to their sport association.

Athletic Director—Deb VanKuiken, Holly

Baseball—Dan Camini, Grosse Pointe University Liggett;

Boys' Bowling—Robert Tubbs, Davison High School

Boys' Basketball—Keith Guy, Muskegon High School

Boys' Cross Country—Tim Simpson, Lansing Catholic Central

Boys' Golf—Randy Johnson, Oakland Christian

Boys' Lacrosse—Tony Quinn, Forest Hills Central

Boys' Swimming—Jeff Shoemaker, Livonia Stevenson

Boys' Tennis—Jim Slaughter, U of D Jesuit

Boy's Track and Field—John Lober, Traverse City Central

Football—Kurt Richardson, Clarkston High School

Hockey—Mike Turner, Trenton High School

Skiing—Tim Gariglio, Grayling High School

Wrestling—Jeff Campbell, New Lothrop High School

Girls' Basketball—Mary Cicerone, Bloomfield Hills Marian High School

Competitive Cheer—Beth Campbell, Notre Dame Preparatory School

Girls' Bowling—Penny Stillwagon, Owosso High School

Girls' Cross Country—Nancy Smith, Northville High School

Girls' Golf—Mary Shafer, Lansing Catholic Central

Girls' Lacrosse—no name submitted from sport association

Girls' Swimming—Jim Shafer, Portage Central

Girls' Tennis—Mark Sobieralski, Grosse Pointe South High School
Girls' Track and Field—Debra Price, Reading High School
Gymnastics—DeAnn Allen, Walled Lake Cooperative
Softball—John Biedenbach, Trenton High School
Volleyball—Betty Wroubel, Notre Dame Preparatory School

Nominations for National Federation Coach of the Year (NFHS)

The following coaches were nominated by the MHSCA with approval of the MHSAA for National Coach of the Year Honors through the National Federation High School Coaches Association.

Denotes National Coach of the Year Honors * Denotes Sectional Honors
Boys' Track and Field—John Lober, Traverse City Central
Boys' Basketball—Greg Esler, Warren De LaSalle Collegiate
*Baseball—Dan Camini, Grosse Pointe University Liggett
Boys' Soccer—no name submitted from association
Wrestling—Jeff Campbell, New Lothrop High School
Boys' Cross Country—Tim Simpson, Lansing Catholic Central
*Boys' Golf—Randy Johnson, Oakland Christian
Boys' Swimming—Kyle Lott, Battle Creek Lakeview
Boys' Tennis—Jim Slaughter, U of D Jesuit
Girls' Track and Field—Debra Price, Reading High School
Girls' Basketball—Mary Cicerone, Bloomfield Hills Marian High School
Volleyball—Laurie Glass, Leland High School
Girls' Soccer—no name submitted from sport association
Softball—John Biedenbach, Trenton High School
*Girls' Cross Country—Nancy Smith, Northville High School
*Girls' Tennis—Mark Sobieralski, Grosse Pointe South High School
Girls' Swimming and Diving—Maureen Isaac, Ann Arbor Skyline High School
Girls' Lacrosse—no name submitted from sport association
Girls' Golf—Mary Shafer, Lansing Catholic Central
Spirit—Beth Campbell, Notre Dame Preparatory School
Hockey—Mike Turner, Trenton High School

Please note from above that John Lober, Laurie Glass and John Biedenbach were selected as National Federation Coach of the Year for their sport. Recognition of all of the above honors are done within the local school.

Nominations for National High School Athletic Coaches Association National Coach of the Year

*** denotes National Finalist**

The following names were submitted into the NHSACA office for consideration for National Coach of the Year honors. Many as noted were selected as Finalist for National COTY Honors. The final selection of NHSACA Coach of the Year will be announced at their Annual Meeting in Rochester, MN on Saturday, June 20, 2015.

* Athletic Director—Deb Van Kuiken, Holly High School
* Baseball—Dan Camini, Grosse Pointe University Liggett
Boys' Basketball—Greg Esler, Warren De LaSalle Collegiate
Boys' Cross Country—Tim Simpson, Lansing Catholic Central
* Golf—Randy Johnson, Oakland Christian
* Tennis—Jim Slaughter, U of D Jesuit
* Boys' Track and Field—John Lober, Traverse City Central High School

Football—Kurt Richardson, Clarkston High School
* Girls' Basketball—Mary Cicerone, Bloomfield Hills Marian High School
* Girls' Cross Country—Nancy Smith, Northville
* Swimming—Shannon Dunworth, Detroit Catholic Central, Farmington Mercy
* Girls' Track and Field—Debra Price, Reading High School
* Special Sports/Hockey—Mike Turner, Trenton High School
* Softball—John Biedenbach, Trenton High School
* Volleyball—Laurie Glass, Leland High School
* Wrestling—Jeff Campbell, New Lothrop High School
* Boys' Assistant—Bill Breen, Greenville High School
* Girls' Assistant—Liz Hill, Ann Arbor Pioneer High School
Soccer—no names submitted as soccer coaches not a member of MHSCA

2015 Michigan Inductees into NHSACA Hall of Fame

John Knuth from Marysville and Ron Schultheiss from Charlotte were selected by the MHSCA Board of Directors to be inducted into the NHSACA Hall of Fame at the Annual Meeting in Rochester, MN. The actual induction will happen at a banquet on Friday, June 19, 2015. John was a long time and very successful volleyball coach at Marysville, along with some other sports. He was later the athletic director at Croswell-Lexington HS for several years. Ron was a long time cross country, wrestling and track coach at Charlotte HS as well as serving as their AD for many years. Additionally he was very active in his coaching associations both locally and statewide. Both of the above coaches also were very active within their communities. Congratulations to both of these outstanding coaches.

MHSCA Hall of Fame Project

Many of you have been to CMU to see our Hall of Fame Room which originally was made possible through the estate of Paul Smarks, one of the early founders and the 1st President of the MHSCA. The first MHSCA HOF was in part of Win Schuler's Restaurant in Marshall, Michigan before it was relocated to part of Student Union, now called the Bovee Student Services Center. With some renovations to that facility the Hall was relocated to a special room in the Student Activities Center (SAC) in the Athletic Complex at CMU. With over 600 members and plaques for each of these members, we outgrew that room. There simply was not any more available wall space in that room to display our new members. CMU gave us access to one of the main halls of the SAC as a new location for the MHSCA HALL OF FAME. This new location features a gigantic wall mural which features all of the sports that are played in Michigan, with action shots of athletes and coaches of both genders and different races. Kim Spalsbury, our immediate past executive secretary, spent many hours collecting and selecting pictures for this mural which is roughly 6 feet high and 30 feet wide. Another feature of the new Hall of Fame is a computer kiosk that will eventually have pictures of all 600 plus inductees and bio information about each. The kiosk is currently up and running all 600 plus names are in the system, but putting in all of the pictures and collecting bio information of many of the early inductees is taking some time. Currently all of the coaches from 2000 to the present have their pictures and bios. Hopefully all the pictures will be in the system by banquet time this September. Check out the Hall of Fame when you are on campus or on line via our website. The entrance to the Hall of Fame is just to the right of the main east entrance to the Student Activities Center. Our MHSCA sign is between the main entrance and the entrance to our Hall. This entrance is the entrance closest to the parking lot for all the activities that go on in the newly renovated main arena (what used to be called Rose Arena) so it receives a lot traffic on event days but also on a daily basis as it used by students, coaches and athletes.

MHSCA Hall of Fame Class for 2015

The following coaches will be inducted into the MHSCA Hall of Fame on September 20, 2015 on the campus of CMU: Tim Baechler, Daswell Campbell, Stanley Drewno, Jim Fletcher, John Fowler, Robert Miklesh, John Neumann, James Niebling, John Osler, Debra Price, John Springer, Ted Swierad, Judd Terwilliger, John Walker, and Gerald Wegner. These names were taken from the Spring Board Meeting Minutes and bio, school information was not available at this time. That information will be updated as soon as it is available to writer. Ticket information, etc. is available from Mark Holdren, the MHSCA Executive Secretary. His email is mholdren@portland.k12.mi.us His phone is 517-526-4575.

MHSCA Multi-Sport Athlete Award

At our Board Meeting this past fall an idea was proposed about the MHSCA having some kind of honor for student athletes. The concept of honoring athletes who participated in multiple sports was developed and it was felt that the MHSCA was the natural group for such an honor as the MHSCA represents multiple sports. Research has shown that sport specialization can often lead to overuse injuries. More research has shown that over 50% of the NFL players participated in multiple sports in high school. I surmise that surveys of other professional sports would be the same. The MHSCA has research that shows that participating in one extra-curricular activity will show a higher GPA than not participating in any. Further, participating in two extra-curriculars will show an even higher GPA and participating in three seasons an even higher GPA. A committee was formed to come up with some ideas and these were presented at the Spring Board Meeting and approved. It was decided to move forward immediately with this new award. The concept is quite simple. Each school in the state can nominate one boy and one girl from their school for the MHSCA MSA Award. The only requirement for the athlete is that they must have participated in 3 sports for all four years of high school. Information was sent out through the help of the MIAAA to all AD's in the state. The nominations were due by April 15th and had to come from the principal or AD. Each of the nominees were evaluated on the basis of their athletic achievements (both individual and team), their scholarship, leadership and service. The committee came up with a rubric kind of tool to evaluate. Each of the nominees received a high quality certificate in honor of being their school honoree. Additionally, one boy and one girl from each of the four classes of schools (A, B, C, D) received a plaque as being the MHSCA State Multi-Sport Athlete of the Year. The plaques were presented to the student athlete at their school spring sports banquet or senior honors assembly. I was to personally present 6 of the eight awards. Larry Merx, the Executive Director of the Football Coaches, made one of the presentations as it conflicted with another that I was doing. I was not able to travel to Marquette for the 8th presentation as it was in conflict with two others that I was doing, so the Marquette presentation was done by their Athletic Director.

2015 Michigan High School Coaches Association State Honorees

Class A Boys—Logan Shadaia, Lake Orion HS, Football, Wrestling and Track

Class A Girls—Shayla Rae Huebner, Marquette HS, Cross Country, Basketball, Track and Field

Class B Boys—Ty Sparks, Clawson HS, Football, Basketball and Baseball

Class B Girls—Tina Miller, Freeland HS, Volleyball, Basketball and Track and Field

Class C Boys—Charlie Robertson, Sand Creek HS, Football, Wrestling and Track and Field

Class C Girls—Skyler Sobeski—Bronson HS, Volleyball, Basketball and Softball

Class D Boys—Brandon Childress, Baldwin HS, Football, Basketball, and Baseball

Class D Girls—Ellise Komejan, Wyoming Tri-Unity Christian HS, Volleyball, Basketball and Soccer.

Next year there will be some tweaks made to the program and hopefully the program will continue to expand and grow. Some efforts are being made in hopes of coming up with some sponsors so that scholarships could be awarded along with the plaque and maybe there can be some kind of large event where these talented student athletes could be honored. I must add though that based on the 6 honor programs that I attended the award was very well received and appreciated. Each of the programs that I attended were a little different but all were very special for our honoree.