

# **Executive Director's Update**

## **Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association**

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### September 4, 2025

### An Update from Executive Director Robert Baldwin

Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association

# 2025 Fall Schedule Commitment Deadline & Process

With practices and tryouts for Fall 2025 sports now under way, this is a reminder that the MIAA schedule commitment deadline is Friday, September 12. All schedules for **Field Hockey, Football, Fall Golf, Soccer, and Fall Volleyball** must be entered into Arbiter by the end of the day on September 12.

After that point, no changes can be made to your opponents or the number of games/matches that can be played. After the September 12 commitment deadline, all schedules will be considered **FINAL**. Three days before the Schedule Commitment deadline, MIAA staff will produce and publish schedules for each sport based on the available data for review and verification by member schools. Below is the breakdown for 2025-26 school year:

• FALL 2025

o First contest date: Sunday, August 31 (Friday, August 22 for Fall Golf)

o Schedule data published for review: Tuesday,

September 9

o Schedule Commitment deadline: Friday,

September 12

Check the <u>MIAA Sport Limitations Information Sheet</u> for the maximum number of competitions allowed per week and per season in each sport.

### **In Support of Game Officials**

# How MIAA Will Support Member Schools Using RefReps:

- Provisional Certification: Students who complete a RefReps course will be registered with the MIAA as provisionally certified officials. These students may be assigned to work sub-varsity (middle school, freshman, JV, and youth league) games under the guidance of veteran officials.
- **Grant Program for Seat Licenses:** The MIAA will facilitate a grant program offering **200 seat licenses** to MIAA member schools. These licenses will support the launch of school-based officiating training programs.
- Pathways to Employment and Skill Development:
   Students trained through RefReps can earn money while officiating, all while developing valuable employability and leadership skills.

We invite all MIAA member schools to explore this opportunity to support student development while helping resolve the officiating shortage in our state. Together, we can build a stronger foundation for the future of high school athletics.

## **Student Eligibility Waiver Deadlines**

As a reminder, below are the seasonal deadlines for student eligibility waiver submissions as outlined in MIAA rule 87.1. These are firm deadlines and late waivers will not be accepted.

o Fall - September 22, 2025

o Winter - December 15, 2025

o Spring - April 1, 2026

### **Coop & Middle Level Waiver Applications**

Middle Level waivers and Coop Applications cannot be applied for after the Schedule and Commitment Deadline for each season. The final application date for Fall sports is **September 12, 2025**.

# **Student and Coach Contest Disqualification Forms**

Updated <u>Student</u> and <u>Coach</u> Contest Disqualification Forms are available in the "Members Only" and "Officials" sections of the MIAA website. Please share these updated forms with your league assigners and have the forms available at all competition sites. When a student or coach is disqualified from a contest, the respective forms must be completed by the game official and submitted to the athletic director in charge of the contest before leaving the site. For additional information, please reference <u>MIAA Handbook Rule 49</u>.

### **Upcoming Events**

October 9 – Student Leadership Summit November 6 – Sportsmanship Summit December 12 – Becoming a Student of Leadership Workshop

#### Calendar

August 25 – Spots Medicine Committee (Virtual)

September 10 - MIAA Board of Directors

September 15 - Sportsmanship Committee

September 15 – Swim & Dive Committee

September 17 – Football Committee

September 17 – Golf Committee

September 17 – Soccer Committee

September 24 – Ski Committee

September 24 - TMC

September 24 - Unified Sports Advisory Committee

September 25 - Track Committee

September 26 - Student Advisory Committee

Thanks for your continued support!

Robert Baldwin