

MHSSA Eligibility Guidelines 2020
(Revised Sept 7th, 2019 - To go into effect Sept 1, 2020)
(Further revised and clarified on Feb 5, 2023)

Beginning May 1, 2023, in order to be eligible to play in Michigan Home School Sports Association (MHSSA) sanctioned games and in the state tournament, all home school programs must have all of their players abide by these eligibility rules for the entire season, regardless of MHSSA membership. Players names must be on the team's electronic roster (provided by the MHSSA) by Dec 1st in order to be eligible. Each program is responsible for maintaining their own electronic team rosters (provided by the MHSSA).

Eligibility is a constant requirement that changes as a player's educational environment changes. It is the responsibility of each program to monitor these changes and act accordingly. Any program that knowingly allows players, who do not meet the minimum eligibility criteria, to participate in a MHSSA sanctioned game or tournament will not be allowed continued membership in the MHSSA nor will be allowed to play their teams in any sanctioned game or tournament until that program returns to compliance. Any team that used an ineligible player must forfeit the MHSSA sanctioned games that the ineligible player participated in.

Age (as of September 1st of the current season)

Elementary (12 or younger), Junior High (14 or younger), Junior Varsity (16 or younger), Varsity (18 or younger)

Homeschooling:

Participants must be Homeschooled more than 50% of their classes each year. Participants must maintain pursuit of their education and the majority of their educational effort must be directed toward home school instruction with a minimum of three subject areas not including extracurricular athletic endeavors.

Homeschooled means:

- a. Taught at home by one of more of the student's parents or grandparents; or
- b. Taught at home by an older (18 or older) sibling; or
- c. Taught at home by a legal guardian; or
- d. Taught at home, or someone else's home, by another homeschool parent or tutor, provided that it is done under the direction and supervision of the child's parent; or
- e. Taught at a central location for a particular subject (such as chemistry, speech or calculus) by a homeschool parent or tutor; or
- f. Correspondence or online course; or
- g. Apprenticeship (under a parent or legal guardian); or
- h. Tutored classes taught at programs like Teen Works or Grace Academy

Homeschooled does NOT mean:

- a) College classes taken at a University or College; or
- b) Vocational/Technical classes taken outside the home; or
- c) Classes taken at a Private, Christian or Public School

Other Criteria:

- a) Participant must be a live-in dependent of one of their parents (or legal guardians).
- b) Participant must play for the gender division in which they were born
- c) Participant must NOT be employed full-time (40 hours per week).
- d) Participant must NOT have been expelled from public or private school during the school year of the current sports season.
- e) Participant must NOT be member of a team associated with a public or private school in the same sport they are playing in the MHSSA during the same season.
- f) Participant must not have taken part in a graduation ceremony, and/or received a high school diploma from a public school, private school, tech school, or home school, regardless of age. A graduation party alone does not make one ineligible.

Transfers:

The MHSSA has established rules covering players wishing to transfer from their existing program to another. It is the responsibility of the parents and participants to become familiar with these rules and abide by them if they wish to transfer. Refer to the Transfer Policy for guidance.

Consent by parent (or legal guardian):

By signing below, the parent (or legal guardian) is stating that they have read and understand the MHSSA rules and that the participant meets all requirements for eligibility. They also acknowledge that they are responsible for keeping their program informed of any changes to the participant's status and will abide by the MHSSA's rules and regulations relating to eligibility and transfers. The parent (or legal guardian) also acknowledges that there are certain risks of injury in sports and that by signing below they hereby waive, release, and hold harmless the MHSSA, its programs, officers, coaches and representatives for any injury that may be suffered by the participant child. By signing this document, parent or legal guardian consents to provide proof of eligibility upon request.

Team Name: _____ (Boys, Girls, 10u, 12u, 14u, 16u, 18u) *gender, age level*

Participant Name: _____ Uniform # _____ Birth Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____