

**MHSSA Transfer Policy**  
(revised June 10, 2006)  
(further revised Feb 5, 2023 for sit-out period)

The Michigan Home School Sports Association (MHSSA) has established rules covering players wishing to transfer from their existing program to another program. It is the responsibility of the parents and players to become familiar with these rules and abide by them if they wish to request a transfer and be eligible to play in any of the regular season games and tournaments during the entire season.

**Sit-Out Period:**

Juniors and Seniors (17-18 yr olds) transferring from one program to another are required to sit-out until Dec 31<sup>st</sup>. They may begin play on Jan 1<sup>st</sup>  
Freshmen and Sophomores (15-16 yr olds) transferring from one program to another are required to sit-out until Nov 30<sup>th</sup>. They may begin play on Dec 1<sup>st</sup>  
14 and under: No sit-out required

Transfers may practice with the team and may sit on the bench during games, but not in uniform. Hardship cases for the sit-out period may be submitted to the MHSSA board for further consideration. No sit-out period is required if the program they are leaving has no team for them to play on.

**Transfers fall into one of two categories:**

- 1) Transfer without conditions – transferred player is eligible to play for the new team in MHSSA sanctioned games (League and / or tournament) immediately after the latest of two events:
  - a) Date the program the player is leaving declares the player may transfer without conditions
  - b) Date the new program the player is transferring to accepts the player
- 2) Transfer with conditions – transferred player is not eligible to play for the new team in MHSSA sanctioned games (League and / or tournament) for 30 days after the latest of two events (the later of dates (a) or (b) below is considered day 1):
  - a) Date the program the player is leaving declares the player may transfer with conditions
  - b) Date the new program the player is transferring to accepts the player

**Transfer procedures:**

- 1) The parents of a player who wishes to transfer from one program to another program must submit a letter to the program that the player last played for requesting a transfer and explaining their reasons for the request, and if asked, must appear before the program's governing board to discuss further the reasons for the transfer request.
- 2) The program the player wishes to transfer from has 30 days from the date the letter is received to inform the parents in writing and declare the player may transfer without conditions or transfer with conditions. The date the letter is received by the program is considered day 1.
- 3) The governing board of the program the player wishes to transfer to is encouraged (but not required) to talk with the program the player is transferring from prior to accepting the transfer player to fully understand the reasons for the transfer request. The program the player is transferring to may accept the player at any time prior to or after the date the program the player is leaving declares the player may transfer without conditions or transfer with conditions. Acceptance of the player is evidenced by the player and the parents completing and signing all necessary program application forms, releases, etc and the MHSSA Eligibility Guidelines Form for the new program.
- 4) If a player transfers without conditions they are eligible to play for the new team in MHSSA sanctioned games (League and / or tournament) immediately after the latest of two events:
  - a) Date the program the player is leaving declares the player may transfer without conditions
  - b) Date the new program the player is transferring to accepts the player
- 5) If a player transfers with conditions they are not eligible to play for the new team in MHSSA sanctioned games (League and / or tournament) for 30 days after the latest of two events (the later of date (a) or (b) below is considered day 1):
  - a) Date the program the player is leaving declares the player may transfer with conditions
  - b) Date the new program the player is transferring to accepts the player

**Additional Comments:**

It is the parents' responsibility to understand and follow the transfer policy. Since dates may become important it is the parents' responsibility to prove dates upon request (use of registered mail / hand delivery, email, texts, etc.)  
If a program that a player played for last season does not have a team at the player's age level for the current season (ie. - Elementary for age 10 – 12 / Junior High for age 13 – 14 / Varsity for age 15 and older- intentionally ignoring JV age) the player is not considered to be a transfer player and thus can play for another program without following the transfer policy.

**Example:** A parent of a player wishing to transfer programs hand delivers a transfer request letter to their existing program on November 5.

The program has until December 4 (30 calendar days including November 5) to declare the player may transfer without conditions or transfer with conditions. The new program the player is transferring to accepts the player on December 4.

a) If the program declares the player may transfer without conditions the player is eligible to play for the new team in MHSSA sanctioned games (League and / or tournament) immediately – ie. December 4.

b) If the program declares the player may transfer with conditions the player is not eligible to play for the new team in MHSSA sanctioned games (League and / or tournament) until January 3 (first day after 30 calendar days including December 4).