

SPECIAL EDITION!



Eagle Notes

There is a lot of change in the wind for athletics at Schoolcraft and across the State of Michigan. This special edition of Eagle Notes should answer many questions.

PHYSICALS – All students who will be in grades 7 through 12 next fall will need a current athletic physical on file in order to be eligible to participate in athletics next year. Athletic physicals will be administered on Thursday, May 17 at 6:00 p.m. in the high school. Cost is \$20 per physical or a maximum of \$50 per family.

Dead Period – The M.H.S.A.A. has mandated that all member schools designate one week in the summer as a ‘dead period’ where coaches are not allowed contact with student-athletes in any official athletic capacity (games, practices, workouts, weight room, etc.). Student-athletes may work out on their own or attend off-campus athletic camps during the dead period. Our dead period this summer will be July 1-7.

Athletic Boosters Scholarship Available – The Schoolcraft Athletic Boosters is again offering scholarship money to any Schoolcraft Student-athlete who will be in grades 9 through 12 and is attending an athletic camp this summer. Applications are due by June 12 and can be picked up in the High School and Middle School offices.

SJV Changes – Beginning in the 2008-09 season, Colon and Battle Creek St. Philip are leaving the SJV to participate in another league. The SJV is currently exploring several options to accommodate this change in the league. We will keep you posted.

Sportsmanship – Overall sportsmanship from our students has been very good but we could do a much better job in this area with our adult fans. Please remember to keep school sports in proper perspective and only make positive comments toward student-athletes, coaches, and officials. Adults set the example of sportsmanship to children and we could all improve dramatically.

M.H.S.A.A. Sports Season Changes – Most people don’t sit on the fence when it comes to the new M.H.S.A.A. sports seasons changes. They are either emphatically in favor or against the changes. Regardless of which side you are on, the facts remains, that we now have to adapt to the new changes at Schoolcraft with the same sound philosophical base that we have always operated under. We still place academics and sportsmanship as our highest priorities and view athletics as a unique and valuable extension of our classroom activities during the day. We also pride ourselves in providing quality athletic programs for student-athletes and encourage all students to take part in as many extracurricular activities as they can during high school.

What will the sports seasons changes mean to School Schools? On page 2 is a sports seasons primer which will answer a lot of questions. If you have more, please contact Ted Manning at 488 7365.

Sports Seasons Primer

How the New M.H.S.A.A. Sports Season Changes will Affect Schoolcraft

Girls Volleyball (new fall sport):

- ❖ Practice starts August 13
- ❖ First available contest August 24
- ❖ Districts - October 30-November 3
- ❖ Regionals - November 9-10
- ❖ Many Saturday Tournaments
- ❖ More gym space available for practices

Girls Basketball(now a winter sport)

- ❖ Practice begins November 5
- ❖ First available contest - November 26
- ❖ Districts - February 18-22
- ❖ Girls will now be in Legends Tournament - December 27-29
- ❖ Girls will play mostly on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays
- ❖ Girls will get as many premiere Friday night games as boys
- ❖ Gym availability for practice times will be much more difficult
- ❖ Many practices will be in the Middle School or Upper Elementary
- ❖ Officiating quality could suffer
- ❖ Coaches who coach both boys and girls basketball will be forced to choose.

Girls Tennis (now a spring sport)

- ❖ Practice begins March 10
- ❖ First available contest date - March 10
- ❖ Regionals - May 15-16
- ❖ Finals - May 30-31
- ❖ Overloads spring sports options at SHS (track, softball)
- ❖ Temperatures get warmer as season goes along

Co-Ed Golf(now a spring sport)

- ❖ Practice begins March 10
- ❖ First available contest - March 13
- ❖ Regionals - May 17-21
- ❖ Finals - June 1-2
- ❖ Many golf courses will not be available in the spring
- ❖ Weekend tournaments will also suffer due to course availability
- ❖ Participants/school pay for course time??
- ❖ Practices after school but before golf leagues begin

Middle School Sports

- ❖ Football/Girls Volleyball - practices may begin Monday before Labor Day
- ❖ Boys Basketball - practices may begin October 22 - games begin November 1, last game (tournament) - December 20
- ❖ Girls Basketball - practices begin January 7 - games begin January 21 - last game (tournament) - March 8
- ❖ Wrestling - practice begins January 21 - season ends March 15
- ❖ Track - practices begin mid-March - contests begin April 16