



Missouri State High School Activities Association

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Date: June 8, 2026

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MSHSAA Announces 2025-26 Officials of the Year

COLUMBIA - The Missouri State High School Activities Association (MSHSAA) is proud to recognize the outstanding contributions of its officials with the announcement of the 2025-26 National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) Officials of the Year. Each year, the NFHS Officials Association honors one official in each sport per state with its highest accolade—the Official of the Year Award.

These individuals have demonstrated integrity, professionalism and a steadfast commitment to upholding the values of high school athletics across Missouri.

2025-26 MSHSAA Officials of the Year

- **Boys Cross Country** – Thomas Emmel
- **Girls Cross Country** – Larry Clear
- **Football** – Travis Blankenship
- **Boys Soccer** – Tim Michel
- **Girls Volleyball** – Karen Naeger
- **Softball** – Tim Gee
- **Swimming & Diving** – Charles Bremer
- **Boys Basketball** – Jason Smith
- **Girls Basketball** – Eric Smith
- **Boys Wrestling** – Pat Hanson
- **Girls Wrestling** – Matt Moore
- **Boys Track & Field** – JR Collins
- **Girls Track & Field** – Jeff Anderson
- **Boys Volleyball** – Martin Prochko
- **Girls Soccer** – Marco Blanco
- **Baseball** – Jason Justice

“High school activities simply would not be possible without the commitment and professionalism of our officials,” MSHSAA Executive Director Dr. Jennifer Rukstad said. “These individuals set the standard for excellence in officiating, and we deeply appreciate the positive influence they have on student-athletes, schools and communities throughout Missouri.”

MSHSAA congratulates each of these individuals and extends appreciation to all officials who continue to make a difference in the lives of student-athletes through their commitment and excellence.

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“MSHSAA promotes the value of participation, sportsmanship, team play and personal excellence to develop citizens who make positive contributions to their community and support the democratic principles of our state and nation.”