NFHS Online Sanctioning Process

The NFHS has moved to an online sanctioning process. Interested individuals who plan to host an event will go online at the NFHS website (www.nfhs.org), register as an event manager (if you have not already done so), create an event and fill out the online application. An e-mail is then sent to the host school’s principal and host state association. The state association reviews the application online including the list of invited schools and determines if the event will be approved or denied. Once approved the event sponsor is notified that payment is required. Credit card and electronic check are the only forms of payment accepted. Once payment is received by the NFHS, the invited states/schools are notified and the event is listed on the NFHS website. As the invited states respond to the sanction it is automatically updated on the NFHS website. Once every invited state has responded, the application is approved for sanctioning by the NFHS staff.

Please refer to Appendix D of the MSHSAA Official Handbook for NFHS Sanctioning Procedures, Timelines and Fees or go to the NFHS website.

The NFHS has placed a link on their website called ‘Sanctioning Process for Event Managers and School Sponsors’. It does an excellent job of highlighting the sanctioning process and provides an FAQ section that will be helpful to everyone. To locate the link go to www.nfhs.org; select the ‘Sanctioning’ link located on the left hand side of the page, then the link ‘Sanctioning Process for Event Managers and School Sponsors’.

Events that require NFHS sanctioning: (Refer to Appendix D of the MSHSAA Official Handbook for additional information)

- Any interstate event involving two (2) or more schools which is co-sponsored by or titled in the name of an organization outside the high school community (e.g. a university, a theme park, an athletic shoe/apparel company).
- Non-bordering events if five (5) or more states are involved.
- Non-bordering events if eight (8) or more schools are involved.
- Any event involving two (2) or more schools that involves a team from a foreign country. The host school should complete the international sanction request via the NFHS website. (Exceptions: Canada and Mexico which are considered ‘bordering states’)

If you have any questions regarding this process please contact the NFHS Sanctioning Department at 317-972-6900 or the MSHSAA office at 573-875-4880.