



MICHIGAN HS BASEBALL
MHSBCA
 COACHES ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER

GET INVOLVED

We are in need of District reps in several Regions. If you are interested in becoming a rep please reach out to Scott Evans.

evanss@clintondaleschools.net

Regional Reps

In an effort to keep our coaches informed, we are working towards assigning every school to a geographical rep. This rep will disseminate any important information as well as answer FAQ. We hope to share a list with you in our Spring Newsletter.

Hall Of Fame

Know a coach who deserves to be in the Hall of Fame? We are now accepting nominations for the 2027 class.

Deadline is Oct. 1st

Nominees must have a minimum of 10 years of service and 250 wins as a head coach to qualify.

Any questions please reach out to Scott Thaler.

Scott.thaler@acsk12.us



MEMBERSHIP

Remember you must be a MEMBER of the MHSBCA for your players to be eligible for postseason awards. Your \$40 yearly membership also provides \$1,000,000 liability insurance.

Become an MHSBCA member

2026 All Star Game

The MHSBCA ASG at Comerica Park. [Nominations](#)



Connect WITH US



mhsbcahelpdesk@gmail.com



[@MHSBCA1](https://www.instagram.com/MHSBCA1)



MHSBCA.org



[@MHSBCA1](https://twitter.com/MHSBCA1)

DON'T FORGET!

Coaches Clinic 2026

The 53rd MHSBCA Conference will be held on January 9th & 10th, 2026 at Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort.

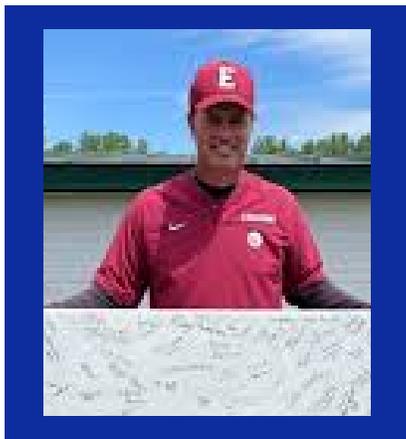
Registration now open!

For hotel rooms at the Soaring Eagle
1-877-232-4532 (CODE-MHSBCA 010826)



MEMBER *Spotlight*

Congratulations to Ian Hearn of Forrest Hills Eastern and Warren Zweigle of Whitehall for reaching impressive coaching milestones this past Spring!



700 wins



600 wins

2025 *State Champions*

D1- HARTLAND

D2- FORREST HILLS EASTERN

D3- TRAVERSE CITY ST. FRANCIS

D4- PORTLAND ST. PATRICK



UPCOMING DATES

January

9 MHSBCA CLINIC IN MT. PLEASANT

10 MHSBCA CLINIC IN MT. PLEASANT

March

9 2025 PRACTICE BEGINS

18 FIRST CONTEST



2026 CLINIC SPEAKER LINEUP



Adam Vrable
Louisville



Matt Shoemaker
Former MLB



Chris Andrews
Portage Northern



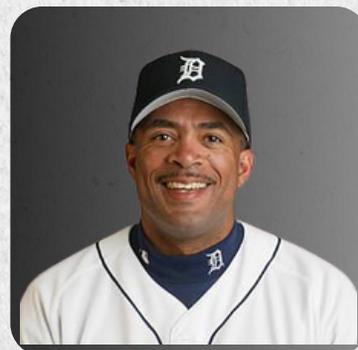
Corbin Boone
Ethos Training



Brian Nelson
Oakland



Chris Newell
Oakland



Bruce Fields
Former MLB



Wayne Welton
Chelsea



Dan Cimini
De La Salle



Brad Bush
MHSAA



Joe Welton
Chelsea



Daniel Fields
Former Pro

SPEAKERS TIMES



Jan 9



12:00 PM - 9:15 PM



Jan 10



9:00 AM - 11:15 AM



CONGRATULATIONS MHSBCA HALL OF FAME CLASS OF 2026



BRIAN DEAL
VICKSBURG



BEN WRIGHT
CHIPPEWA HILLS



BILL FLOHR
NORTHVILLE



TOM PASSINAULT
TC ST. FRANCIS



MATT FOURNIER
LIVONIA FRANKLIN



ANDY SCHRAMEK
LAKE ORION

**JOIN US IN HONORING THESE
ICONS ON JAN 9TH & 10TH**



Michigan Legends

When a conversation turns to "legendary high school coaches" in Michigan, Frank Sumbera of Grosse Pointe North is one of the first names that comes to mind. An inductee into both the Michigan high school football and baseball Hall(s) of Fame, Coach Sumbera led the Norsemen to a 1097-442-1 record, two state championships (1980 and 2006), four MHSSA "Final Four" appearances, 10 Regional Championships, 15 District Championships and 22 league championships over the course of a 45-year career that ended in 2018.

However, while Coach Sumbera was a four-sport athlete at Chesaning High School (Class of 1965), he actually got his start in sports other than baseball. After a basketball career at Central Michigan University was cut short by injury, Coach Sumbera graduated from CMU with an education degree in 1969. A tip from a roommate led him to apply with Grosse Pointe Public Schools, where he immediately joined the football staff. "I've only had one job interview ever, with Gross Pointe. I was interviewed on a Tuesday, and

hired that Friday, so it didn't take long." Eventually, Coach Sumbera joined the baseball staff and became the head baseball coach of the Norsemen in 1973, while also serving as a pioneering member of the Michigan High School Baseball Coaches Association.

The rest, as they say, is history, and Coach Sumbera is grateful for the support of the Grosse Pointe community that he has always received (particularly in the Little League program and the Redbird summer team led by former Detroit Tiger Dave Bergman), and for a stable of excellent assistant coaches that have been a part of his career in both sports. But his highest appreciation is reserved for his wife (MaryEllen), his children (Frank IV, Natalie and his son William, who unfortunately passed away in 2019), his grandchildren and his closest friend, Dan Griesbaum of Grosse Pointe South (a high school baseball legend in his own right). "MaryEllen and I have been married for 50 years, and I was gone a lot. She did a tremendous job raising the kids while supporting my coaching. Dan and I are very close.... the North-



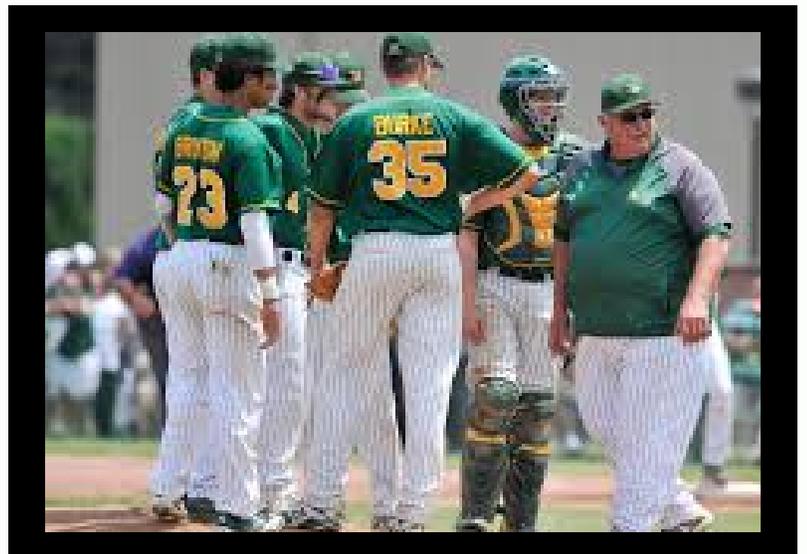
Michigan Legends

South rivalry has been outstanding, and Dan has been instrumental in making it so good."

In his retired life, Coach Sumbera continues to serve his other two passions: education and baseball. He is still a member of the MHSBCA Executive Board, and after earning master's degrees in education from CMU and vocational education from Ohio State ("I don't like to tell people about that one," he joked), the Frank Sumbera Foundation still provides scholarships to Grosse Pointe students...whether they play sports or not. In those endeavors and, especially, his coaching career, Coach Sumbera has left a lasting legacy. "We were always competitive, and I'm proud that we were able to keep it successful for all of those years." The Grosse Pointe community, without a doubt, is just as proud of Coach Sumbera.



Frank Sumbera Scholarship



If you have stories that you feel are worthy of mention in future installments of the MHSBCA Newsletter, please reach out to hermank@mylakers.org. We'd love to hear them and share them with the entirety of the MHSBCA.

Kris Herman
MHSBCA Historian