

Section (24) - Process for adding a new sport or activity. Emerging Sports

The purpose of this rule is to grow meaningful interscholastic participation opportunities for students in athletics and activities for interested students that have the potential to meet the required_number of schools participating to be considered for official sanctioning by the MHSA.

Listed below are the steps required to request designation as an Emerging Sport/Activity and the timeline involved. Any sport/activity that meets these requirements must successfully complete a two-year provisional period before consideration for adoption as an officially sanctioned sport/activity.

- a) Have at least 10 member schools or 25% of the schools in a Classification participating in the sport/activity and/or written indication from schools willing to offer the sport/activity on a provisional basis.
- b) Submit a request to the MHSA Executive Board for approval.
- c) Contest limitations, individual player limitations and the applicable season of participation will be determined and specified in the approval by the MHSA Executive Board.
- d) If approved, the sport/activity will be listed as an emerging sport/activity in the MHSA Handbook and registration in the sport/activity will be offered.
- e) If approved, a committee shall also be formed to help determine specific rules and any other necessary information for the sport/activity.
- f) Emerging sports/activities approved on a provisional basis will be limited in the services they receive until they become officially sanctioned by the MHSA. The following MHSA administrative services will not be offered to emerging sports/activities:
 1. Assigned rules interpreters, but the MHSA will assign a sports / activity liaison to assist with questions and implementation.
 2. Sport/Activity section on the MHSA website
 3. State Championships administered by MHSA – although the MHSA will work with the committee to investigate and implement a state championship.
 4. MHSA Membership Dues will be charged as student athletes are covered under the MHSA catastrophic and concussion insurance.
- g) Emerging sports/activities approved on a provisional basis, along with member school student and coach participants, must abide by all MHSA Regulations.

At the end of the two-year provisional period, the sport/activity committee shall report back to the Membership at the next MHSA Annual Meeting to summarize the progress that has been achieved.

The Membership will vote to officially sanction the sport/activity, keep the sport/activity in provisional status, or remove it from the list of emerging sports/activities.