

MN Boys HSVB Association “Vote Yes” Message:

1. A yes vote will give 50 to 60 high schools and 800-1000 boys who will play this coming spring, an opportunity to bring their proposal for a sanctioned high school season to the Representative Assembly for consideration.
2. Sanctioning a boys season is not a huge expense for the MSHSL. Girls volleyball makes money for the MSHSL and has for many, many years. There is every reason to believe a boys' season will make money for the League also.
3. Because girls' volleyball is already in our schools, the start up costs for a boys' volleyball season are minimal. With participation fees and fund raisers already a main part of an activity budget in our schools, a boys volleyball season will not be expensive and could actually be a money maker in schools.
4. Finding facilities for activities in our school is an issue and always has been. But, once spring sports are outdoors there will be few conflicts for gym time. For the two or three weeks of the spring when outdoor sports use the gyms, boys volleyball would need one court for two hours anytime between 3:00 and 9:00 pm. That does not seem insurmountable.
5. For those who might vote no because their school does not have the boys available to support another spring activity, please consider these points.
 - a. Of the 800 boys playing in our high school club league last spring 85% were not involved in another spring sport.
 - b. There are enough schools and enough boys playing in the spring right now to support a sanctioned season and a State Tournament. Lacrosse had only 32 schools playing when it was sanctioned.
 - c. Voting yes to sanctioning the sport will not require your school to have a team, but voting no will deny those 800-1000 boys already playing a chance to bring their case for sanction to the Rep. Assembly.
6. Boys asking for a sanctioned season argue that almost every other team sport sanctioned by the MSHSL has an option for both boys and girls. This includes, basketball, hockey, swimming, track, soccer, lacrosse, cross country, baseball/softball, etc. They feel that regarding equal opportunity their request for sanction makes sense. They make a good point.
7. If you are voting no because you believe boys volleyball should be in the fall, because there are fewer activities for boys, please consider...
 - a. The actual difference in numbers of boys involved in fall and spring activities is relatively small. And, recall that 85% of those playing in the spring had either been cut from a spring roster or were not out for a spring sport.
 - b. As has been outlined in the proposal and the packet sent to you, a fall season has been considered extensively and is just not realistic. Again, boys' volleyball is a spring sport across the nation. Also, there is not enough coaching or officiating or infrastructure resources in the fall as those interested are involved in the girls' game.
 - c. As importantly, we know by the number of schools and the number of boys currently playing in the spring, that a spring season works and makes sense.