

ADAPTED ATHLETICS – ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

The MSHSL has two competitive interscholastic divisions: Physically Impaired (PI) and Cognitively Impaired (CI). Participation in the interscholastic program of a high school is limited to students in grades 7 through 12. Students in an ungraded setting are first eligible when their age peers are in the 7th grade. Student will be eligible for 12 consecutive semesters (6 years), beginning with their or their peers initial entrance into the 7th grade.

The MSHSL requires a sports qualifying exam every three (3) years for participants in competitive athletics. The MSHSL acknowledges that some students with disabilities, like some students without disabilities, will be unable to participate in adapted athletics due to the competitive nature of the programs and for reasons unrelated to their disability. Like other students who do not "make the team", these students should be directed to alternative programs which are less competitive and more recreational in nature.

Students may not participate in both PI and CI divisions. If a student participates in both divisions, the penalty for the use of an ineligible player will be enforced and result in an automatic forfeiture of the game.

PI Division – The MSHSL Adapted Athletics PI Division program is specifically intended for students with physical impairments who have medical clearance to compete in competitive athletics. A student is eligible to compete in the PI Division with one of the following criteria.

The student must have a diagnosed and documented impairment specified from one of the two sections below (Must be diagnosed and documented by a Physician and/or Physician's Assistant):

1. Neuromuscular, postural/skeletal, traumatic, growth, or neurological impairment that affects motor function, modifies gait patterns, or requires the use of a prosthesis or a mobility device including but not limited to, canes, crutches, or wheelchairs.
2. Cardio/respiratory impairment that is deemed safe for competitive athletics but limits the intensity and duration of physical exertion such that sustained activity for over five minutes at 60% of maximum heart rate for age results in physical distress in spite of appropriate management of the health condition.

Note: A condition that can be appropriately managed with appropriate medications, which eliminate physical or health endurance limitations, will NOT be considered to be eligible for adapted athletics.

Specific exclusions to PI competition: The following health conditions without coexisting physical impairments as outlined above do not qualify the student to participate in the PI Division even though some of the conditions below may be considered Health Impairments by an individual's physician, student's school, or a government agency. This list is not all-inclusive and the conditions are examples of non-qualifying health conditions; other health impairments that are not listed below may also be non-qualifying for participation in the PI Division. Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD) Attention Deficit Hyperactive Disorder (ADHD) Emotional Behavioral Disorder (EBD) Autism Spectrum Disorders (including Asperger's Syndrome) Tourette's Syndrome Neurofibromatosis Asthma Reactive Airway Disease (RAD) Bronchopulmonary Dysplasia (BPD) Blindness Deafness Obesity Depression Generalized Anxiety Disorder Seizure Disorder Other Similar Disorders.