

Minneapolis Schools Adapted Athletics Philosophy

The philosophy of Minneapolis Adaptive Athletics is to provide a safe and fun experience for students with special needs to participate in competitive athletics. To provide coaching, learning, and skill development through contact with supportive adults. To enhance the student's social experiences with practices, games, sportsmanship, and friendships.



Physically Impaired (PI)

The MSHSL Adapted Athletics PI Division program is specifically intended for students with physical impairments who have medical clearance to compete in competitive athletics.

Cognitively Impaired (CI)

The MSHSL Adapted Athletics CI Division program is specifically intended for students with cognitive impairments who have medical clearance to compete in competitive athletics.

Sports/Seasons

FALL (Starts Early September): *Adapted Soccer CI & PI*
Played in a gym, with two opposing teams of seven players. In the Physically Impaired (PI) division two athletes on each team must use wheelchairs or walkers (assistive devices).

Winter (Starts Mid-November): *Adapted Floor Hockey CI & PI*
- Played in a gym, with two opposing teams of six players. In the Physically Impaired (PI) division two athletes on each team must use wheelchairs or walkers (assistive devices).

Spring (Starts Mid March): *Adapted Softball CI & PI*
Played in a gym, with two opposing teams of six players. In the Physically Impaired (PI) division two athletes on each team must use wheelchairs or walkers (assistive devices).

Adapted Bowling CI & PI - Practices are held at bowling alleys weekly. As many as eight athletes can bowl at a time. The State tournament is the big competitive event.

MSHSL Track and Field Wheelchair Division - Eligible students may compete in the following events: 100m, 200m, 400m, 800m, 3200m, shot put and discus. Practices are held at high schools and students participate as a full member of the Track and Field team.

Summer (Starts in June): *Special Olympics* - Eligible students practice and compete in various track and field events



Meet new friends!



Adapted Athletics

Playing beyond our limits!

MPS Athletic Department Mission: To Excel in Creating Excellent Athletic Opportunities for All Students.



Who is eligible?

All MPS students in grades 7-12 who have a Physical or Cognitive impairment are eligible.

PI Division – 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 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) Cardiorespiratory 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.

Specific exclusions to PI competition: There are health conditions without coexisting physical impairments as outlined above that do not qualify the student to participate in the PI Division even though some of the conditions may be considered Health Impairments by an individual's physician, student's school, or a government agency. Please refer to the list on the MSHSL website.

CI Division – A student is eligible to compete in the CI Division with the following criteria. The student must have a diagnosed and documented cognitive impairment. Cognitively impaired refers to students with sub-average intellectual function defined by a **Full Scale** intelligence quotient of 70 or below, using a standardized, nationally-normed, technically adequate, and individually administered intelligence test.

Specific exclusions from CI competition:

A student becomes ineligible to participate in Adapted Athletics when they have attained a level of cognitive performance that exceeds the eligibility requirements. A student whose Full Scale IQ score increased above 70 after the start of a season will be permitted to complete that sports season. Please refer to the list on the MSHSL website.

Host Sites

Adapted sports practice at different sites.
Transportation is provided between schools.

South High School - All PI Adapted Sports
Roosevelt High School - All CI Adapted Sports
All High Schools - Adapted Bowling
Green Central School - Special Olympics

Transportation

All participating student athletes are provided transportation. School buses will transport students from their schools to all practices and games. Buses will also bring students home.

Contacts

Please contact the Athletic Director in charge of your school for transportation needs, forms and eligibility requirements.

Minneapolis Athletic Directors

Edison High School / Heritage Academy High School
Brett McNeal 612.668.1302

North High School
Dr. Leo Lewis 612.668.1727

Patrick Henry High School / FAIR High School
Guillaume Paek 612.668.1947

Roosevelt High School / Wellstone International High School
Dennis Stockmo 612.668.4859

South High School
Amy Cardarelle 612.668.4324

Southwest High School
Ryan Lamberty 612.668.3035

Washburn High School
Reginald Perkins 612.668.3456

History

In 1969, a student with a Physical disability, Jim Christy asked his Marshall U High School Physical Education teacher, Ed Prohofsky, why Special Education students could not participate in athletic competition like regular education peers? After Jim graduated, two other Special Education students, Paul Pranghofer and TonyLeBaun took up his cause. They also wanted to play sports in an organized format. The first organized league of Adapted Floor Hockey was organized in 1974. In 1979 Adapted Soccer was formed. The movement continued to progress and in 1992, Minneapolis South Athletic Director, Cathy Peterson, presented to the Minnesota State High School League a proposal for Adapted Athletics to be accepted into the MSHSL. It was unanimously approved. Jim Christy went on to teach in the Minneapolis Public Schools and coach Adapted Athletics at South High School. For more History please check out the Minnesota Adapted Athletics History Webpage:

<http://mnadaptedathletics.org/se3bin/cliente.cgi?G5buton=14&articleID=3>

Links

Minnesota State High School League

www.mshsl.org

MAAA - Minnesota Adapted Athletics Association

<http://mnadaptedathletics.org/>
www.maaconference.org

MPS Athletics - Minneapolis Public Schools Athletics

www.mplsacity.org