

# IHSAA NEWS RELEASE

Indiana High School Athletic Association, Inc.

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**December 1, 2023**

## **IHSAA Foundation announces Officiating 101 Grant Recipients**

The Indiana High School Athletic Association, Inc. (IHSAA) and IHSAA Foundation are pleased to award over \$32,000 to eight member schools with support to activate officiating curriculum as part of the Officiating 101 Program.

The Officiating 101 Grant, designed to provide support for schools offering officiating curriculum to their students, awards funding to member schools through seat licenses of the RefReps curriculum. Grants range from \$2,700 to \$7,560, providing multi-year support for students to complete training in four IHSAA sanctioned sports each year. Each member school is given the opportunity to choose sports which need officials within their own communities.

Schools receiving the inaugural grants are:

- Boonville High School
- Concord High School
- Mooresville Christian Academy
- Mt. Vernon Senior High School (Posey)
- Tell City Junior-Senior High School
- Tri Junior-Senior High School
- Triton Junior-Senior High School
- Westfield High School



Upon completion of each sport's curriculum, high school students will be prepared with the skills necessary to become an official and will immediately become employable. Students can apply for a provisional IHSAA officiating license in any curriculum they have completed, preparing them to officiate youth and community competitions. Upon graduation from high school, students will be eligible and prepared to become an IHSAA licensed official.

IHSAA Assistant Commissioner Brian Lewis is grateful for the support and what it means for the next generation of sports officials and student-athletes.

“We are excited to support this inaugural class of grant recipient schools and bring this needed program to students around the state,” Lewis said. Without officials, we cannot have education-based athletics and all the benefits that they bring. We appreciate the support of all who donate – both monetarily for programs like the Officiating 101 Grant and those who choose to give of their time, energy, and skill to officiate competitions.”

The Officiating 101 Grant Program is funded through private donations from individuals, private organizations, and community groups.

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### **IHSAA Assistant Commissioner Brian Lewis**

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#### ***About the IHSAA Foundation, Inc.***

*The IHSAA Foundation was created in 2015 as the philanthropic arm of the IHSAA. Its mission is to help protect, sustain, and nurture high school sports in Indiana for the 411 high schools it serves. The 16-member Foundation Board is made up of member-school superintendents from each of the three IHSAA districts, a member-school athletic director, the Chair of the IHSAA Executive Committee, the current IHSAA Commissioner, and 10 at-large members from all corners of the state. Members of the Board are appointed by IHSAA Commissioner, Paul Neidig.*

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#### ***About the Indiana High School Athletic Association, Inc. (IHSAA)***

*The IHSAA is a voluntary, not-for-profit organization that is self-supporting without the use of tax monies. Since its founding in 1903, the Association’s mission has been to provide wholesome, educational athletics for the secondary schools of Indiana. Its 411-member high schools - public, institutional, parochial, and private – pay no annual membership fee or incur entry fees to play in the Association’s tournaments. A state tournament series is conducted annually in 22 sports, 10 for girls, 10 for boys and two co-eds (unified flag football, unified track and field). A 19-person board of directors, elected by member school principals, governs the organization.*