Mark Uyl, Executive Director
Michigan High School Athletic Association
1661 Ramblewood Drive
East Lansing, MI 48823
517-332-5046 | MHSAA.com

August 26, 2026

Mr. Marshall Grate, Attorney
Clark Hill
BY EMAIL

Dear Mr. Grate,

Thank you for your letter of August 25 which summarized your firm's investigation and findings on behalf of Kenowa Hills Public Schools.

Article II of the MHSAA Constitution describes the process by which schools become members of the MHSAA. Through their boards of education, member schools voluntarily join the MHSAA annually by adopting a Membership Resolution which stipulates the school district has adopted the association's rules as its own and agrees to the enforcement of those rules and penalties.

Based on the information provided in your correspondence, we confirm that violations of *MHSAA Handbook*, Regulation II, Section 11H have taken place relative to impermissible out-of-season coaching activity in your school's football program.

Given these violations, and consistent with *MHSAA Handbook* penalties, past practices and your school's proposed actions, here are the penalties that will be applied in this matter.

1. Once personnel changes have been finalized within your athletic department, an in-person meeting is required with your new athletic director and MHSAA staff within thirty days. The focus of this meeting will be on future staff education, compliance practices (in-season, out-of-season and summer periods) and violation reporting requirements and timeframes.

2. We accept your school's suspension of Coach Fellows for two games, which shall occur on September 3 and 11. During these two contests, suspended personnel cannot be present onsite or be within sight or sound of the contest beginning one hour prior to kickoff through the end of the game.

3. Following the 2026 season, your football program's out-of-season activities will be restricted as follows:
   - Only general strength and conditioning activity is allowed from November 29-January 31. No sport-specific 4-player workouts in football will be permitted until Feb. 1, 2027.

- For the summer of 2027, the number of permitted coaching days for football will be reduced from 15 to 12. These are days on which coaches may conduct workouts, camps or competitions involving more than 7 football players.

4. The athletic program at Kenowa Hills High School is placed on probation through the end of the 2027-28 school year. Please know that any further or future penalties will result in progressive discipline, up to and including removal from MHSAA membership privileges.

If further or new information is discovered, or if the information that was provided is found to be inaccurate or incomplete, the MHSAA reserves the right to amend and increase the current penalties accordingly.

The information contained in your redacted report on this matter was thorough, providing an accurate timeline, history and context for this situation. Your own efforts in investigation and in voluntary disclosure have been taken into consideration as factors in reviewing the appropriate remedy at this time. This is a serious situation, and we support and respect the time, attention and findings that you have provided to the MHSAA in a professional manner.

In conclusion, member schools of the MHSAA resolve, through actions by their boards of education each summer, to adopt and follow the regulations as published, which serve to create a fair and level playing field for MHSAA members. We expect your school to take the necessary steps to ensure ongoing compliance with MHSAA regulations and to prevent similar violations from occurring in the future.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

MARK UYL
Executive Director

Cc: Erin LaBotz, Board President of Kenowa Hills Public Schools
Kenowa Hills Public Schools Board of Education
Dr. Cherie Horner, Superintendent