

OFFICERS & DIRECTORS
President
Mike Sauvageau
P.O. Box 754
Three Forks, MT 59752
(w) 285-3224 (h&c) 581-9899
msauvageau@threeforks.k12.mt.us

President-Elect
Tracy Scott
2309 Lyman Ave.
Billings, MT 59102
(w) 245-6651 (h&c) 861-1973
t_scott10@hotmail.com

Past President
Sandy Mikeson
P.O. Box 135
Stanford, MT 59479
(w) 566-2265
(h) 566-2748 (c) 788-9372
smikeson@stanford.k12.mt.us

Directors:
AA
Linda Paull
2036 Jerome Pl
Helena, MT 59601
(w) 324-2362 (c) 431-7323
lpaul@helena.k12.mt.us

A
Dennis Murphy
1015 21st
Havre, MT 59501
(w) 265-6731 (c) 390-0236
(h) 265-2431

B
Kip Ryan
P.O. Box 886
Big Timber, MT 59011
(w) 932-5993
(h) 932-5219 (c) 930-1047
ryank@sgchs.com

C
Jim Oberweiser
38 Edwards St.
Drummond, MT 59832
(w) 288-3281
(h) 288-3474 (c) 546-3948
joberweiser@blackfoot.net

Ex-Officio
Richy Powell
401 Cooke
Glendive, MT 59330
(h&c) 989-0144
coachpowellr@gmail.com

Ex-Officio
Assistant Clinic Director
Kathleen Howard
868-7311
kathleen_howard@gfps.k12.mt.us

COMMITTEE CHAIRS:
Ex-Officio
Awards Chairman
Shirley Chesterfield-Stanton
101 Fairway Dr.
Helena, MT 59601
(c) 459-2555 (h) 449-2500
MCAaward@gmail.com

Hall of Fame & Asst COY Award
Scott King
Box 622
Malta, MT 59538
sking@malta.k12.mt.us
(c) 654-7302 (w) 654-2002

Golf Chairman
Jerry Kuntz
2705 5th Ave. No.
Great Falls, MT 59401
(h) 453-7308 (c) 899-3917
jkuntzfam@gmail.com

Scholarship Chairman
Kip Ryan (see above)

BBQ Chairmen
Paul Bills & Scott King



Don Olsen
Executive Director
& Clinic Director
375 Ramble Inn Road
Fort Shaw, MT 59443
donomca@gmail.com
PH/FAX: 406.264.5435

MCA Spring Newsletter – April 2015

ONLINE VOTING FOR MCA COY

The Winter Ballots are online for all active Class AA, A, B & C coaches (associate members are not eligible to vote). Please vote ASAP at <http://montanacoaches.powermediallc.org/winter-coach-of-the-year/> (member tab) Ballots **votes after April 13th will not be counted.**

Congratulations to our COY nominees who are current MCA members and have coached teams to top four finishes in the recent state tournaments. Well Done! Unfortunately, 6 wrestling, 2 swimming and 5 basketball coaches missed being nominated because they were not members. We emailed ADs and individual coaches with membership reminders early in the season. Please help us out by sharing the value of MCA membership with your fellow coaches.

2015 MCA CLINIC- DALE BROWN IS COMING TO TOWN!

Dale Brown, legendary LSU coach and world renowned motivational clinician will be our keynote speaker. We are pleased to have Dale back! Mick Dennehy is helping us secure excellent football speakers. **Dr. Spencer Wood**, an internationally known speaker and dynamic trainer of both athletes and coaches will address, “Mental Skills and Toughness” and a second session on “Athletic Speed, Agility, and Quickness”. **Boo Snexnyder** (Jumps and Sprints) and **Dan West** (Pole Vault) will be back by popular demand. Don and his board are working hard to bring in a great bunch of speakers to round out the clinic. Clinic brochures will be out in mid-May. **Mark your calendar: July 29, 30, 31st.**

Former basketball great Shaquille O’Neal returns to LSU to visit with Dale Brown, the coach who helped make it all possible. This presentation of SEC Storied Shaq & Dale premieres April 13th 9pm ET on SEC Network. <http://espn.go.com/video/clip?id=12476689>



Huge thanks to the Great Falls Tourism Improvement District for their generous donations to support the Clinic the past four years and another grant this year. Their support makes a significant difference in the quality of the clinic!

PERKS THAT MAKE THE MCA MULTI-SPORTS CLINIC THE MOST HOSPITABLE CLINIC IN THE COUNTRY:

Tuesday night – The Frontier Conference colleges, led by Executive Director Kent Paulson, host a reception at the Hi-Ho Tavern.

Starting at **7:30 Wednesday, Thursday and Friday**, a complimentary continental breakfast is served in the exhibit area. The rest of each day, ice cream products, chips, and other snacks are available, with coke products, water, coffee & milk.

Wednesday evening a huge BBQ is served at the Mike Mansfield Center, featuring choice 12oz NY steaks, baked potatoes, Bush’s baked beans, rolls and nearly all the aforementioned beverages, plus 10 kegs of complimentary beer donated by Dick Zadick and the **Flamingo Lounge**. Huge thanks to Dick and his crew who have done a tremendous job of catering the food for many years.

Thursday at 7:00 am, the **Fellowship of Christian Athletes** holds a complimentary breakfast meeting, with a breakfast furnished by FCA.

Thursday @ 11:30 am, the Awards Ceremony is held in the GFHS Auditorium followed by a complimentary luncheon served to all attendees. Friends and family of award recipients are invited.

Thursday @ 5:30 pm, 50-75 golfers tee off at the Anaconda golf course in a 9-hole scramble golf tourney, vying for outstanding prizes, a chance at a \$5000.00 hole-in-one prize, plus two bonus par 3’s and a \$500.00 prize for an ace. Participants receive a T-shirt

(continued on back page)

RALPH HALVERSON SCHOLARSHIPS

Two \$1,000 scholarships will be given again this year, one for a boy and one for a girl from the 2014 graduation class of Montana high school seniors. Mark Reed, Ralph's friend, former student and athlete, started the scholarship fund in hopes that others would contribute to the fund to keep it going. He has contributed \$6,000 in cash and pledged \$1,000 per year for the next four years. Anyone wishing to donate may make a contribution payable to the **RALPH HALVERSON SCHOLARSHIP FUND** and mail to MCA (address above). There is a place on the 2015 membership application to add a scholarship donation. We thank Mark and all the folks who have generously donated. Kip Ryan, the MCA Scholarship chairman is the contact person.

**Applicants for scholarships please apply on-line
(same application for all scholarships),
by May 1st at www.montanacoaches.com**

COY RINGS

Congratulations COY winners! Coach of the Year rings are awarded to each first-time COY recipient. We ask that you go to the MCA website and order as soon as you are notified, so that your ring is shipped on time and ready for your presentation at the Awards Ceremony. Once you have mailed or faxed your order to Richard at Balfour, please call him to confirm your order. Our goal is to have all rings ready in time for the Awards presentations. Call Don if you have any problems. Rings take 6-7 weeks so orders so please order ASAP.

LIABILITY INSURANCE

The Liability coverage year runs August 1st-July 31st, so anyone working a camp this summer and needing liability coverage in June or July, must join the MCA for 2013/14. As members of MCA, coaches also have the opportunity to purchase liability and medical coverage for student athletes. See Partners link at <http://montanacoaches.com>. As a member coach, you are covered under MCA's liability coverage, but if your school requests to be listed as additionally insured, there will be an extra charge. If you have any questions, please call Greg Joly or Karen at Loomis & LaPann (800) 566-6479.

LONGEVITY AWARD

Active coaches, who have coached 15 years or 5 year intervals beyond that, may be eligible for an MCA Longevity award. 15 and 20 recipients receive a certificate and may upgrade to a plaque for \$13. Plaques are awarded to recipients at 5 year intervals, beginning at 25 years. Application is online this year at <http://montanacoaches.powermediallc.org/longevity-form/>.

SPRING SPORTS COACHES

A recruiting e-mail has been sent to all AD's, to forward to their spring sport head coaches, reminding them of the **May 1st membership deadline for eligibility for COY nominations**. The letter also details eligibility requirements for a sport to hold COY status. If a sport has 46 or more head coaches, the minimum requirement is 35 member head coaches. For sports that have less than 46 teams, 75% of the head coaches must be members. As of now, Softball needs 13 more member head coaches to qualify, Girls' Tennis needs 10 and Boys' Tennis needs 11. Without these additional members by May 1st, these sports will be on the special sports ballot, along with Soccer, in May.

CERTIFICATES

Electronic templates for All-State, All-Conference and Academic All-State have worked out well. Each AD and Principal receives the interactive template and instructions via e-mail. **We ask that you carefully guard and honor our integrity and yours as you print and present these awards**. This allows you to spell names correctly, print on the computer and use a better quality paper if desired. All-conference and All-state awards criteria are determined by each classification. Academic All-State is awarded to athletes, managers and cheerleaders of MHSAA sanctioned sports, who receive a varsity letter and have a grade point of 3.5 or higher. Contact Shirley Chesterfield Stanton with certificate questions - MCAaward@gmail.com

MCA MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Thanks to all who have given our online membership a try! This method saves Marian so much time. Our current membership stands at 1843, down 30 from last year. Please invite your fellow coaches to join MCA. Benefits and online membership are available online.

NHSACA HALL OF FAME

Dan Hodge and Jeff Carroll will be inducted into the NHSACA Hall of Fame at their Annual meeting in Rochester, Minnesota. The HOF Luncheon will be at noon on June 19th. Montana will be well represented by these respected coaches. Thank you, Dan & Jeff for your contribution to Montana Athletics.

Dan Hodge-Flathead

During his tenure as head track & field coach at Flathead High School, Dan's teams have won 6 state and 17 divisional championships. They have also placed second in state meets 7 times and second in divisional meets 10 times. Dan has been an MCA COY 7 times, a finalist for National Coach of the Year 4 times, recognized as National Coach of the Year for 2012, and was inducted into the Montana Coaches Hall of Fame in 1998. Dan believes the major reason for his teams' successes is due to his long-serving coaching staff and out-of-season program that he runs from mid-November until the start of the T&F season. Originally from Butte, Dan was an all-conference performer in both Football and T&F at MSU and then served in the U.S. Army as a helicopter pilot in the Viet Nam War before starting his teaching and coaching career.

Jeff Carroll-Billings Senior

Jeff Carroll has been the head volleyball coach at Billings Senior HS for the past 29 years. During that time, his teams have won 14 conference championships, 12 state championships and 5 runners-up finishes. He has been named Montana "AA" Coach of the Year 12 times, was inducted into the Montana Coaches Hall of Fame in 2009 and selected as the NHSACA National Volleyball Coach of the Year in 2010. In 2011, Jeff was chosen National Co-Coach of the Year by the American Volleyball Coaches Association and coached the East All-Stars in the Under Armour High School All-American match held in San Antonio that year. He has an overall record of 670--200 including a 32-1 record this past season.

8 NHSACA FINALISTS

MCA is pleased to announce that 8 MCA members are finalists for National High Schools Coaches Association awards. **Dennis Murphy**, AD at Havre will be honored as a finalist for NHSACA Athletic Director of Year and the following seven Montana coaches are finalist for National Coach the Year: **Terry Thomas**-Football-Beaverhead; **Dustin Gordon**-Girls' Basketball-Fairfield; **Georgia Forney**-Swimming-Hardin; **Mark Garber**-Girls' CC-Belt-Centerville; and **Ann Funk**-VB-Choteau Our two finalist for assistant coach of the year are **Bob Raeth**-Boys' assistant and **Paul Bills**-Girls' assistant. Each nominee will receive a plaque and the National winners will be announced at an Awards Banquet on the evening of June 20th in Rochester, Minnesota.

2015 MCA HALL OF FAME

The Montana Coaches Association will induct five new Hall of Fame members at 11:30 on Thursday, July 30th at the MCA Clinic Awards Ceremony in the GFHS Auditorium. Family and friends are invited. All attendees will be served a complimentary luncheon in the cafeteria immediately after the ceremony. Congratulations to these 5 outstanding coaches and fine gentlemen!

Paul Barta - Columbus

Paul has coached 37 years in Montana. Following five years at Medicine Lake and five at Glasgow, Coach Barta settled in Columbus, where he has served the last 27 years. Over the years Barta's boys' and girls' basketball teams have won an incredible 757 games, playing in 29 district and 18 divisional championship games while making 27 state appearances.

A 37 year member of the MCA, Barta has been a 9 time nominee for COY and has presented at both the MCA and Wyoming Clinic. He has served as District and Divisional President and managed numerous district and divisional track meets. He has coached the Radisson Senior Classic for 22 years and served as an assistant for the MT-WY All-Star Game.

Dustin Gordon - Fairfield

Serving as a head coach for 24 years, Dustin has been head mentor in boys' basketball, girls' tennis and also an assistant in T&F, but it is in the girls' basketball circles where Coach Gordon is best known. His 120 game winning streak at Fairfield High is a Montana record and ranks 6th longest in the nation. During his tenure, the Fairfield girls posted four amazing, unblemished seasons as well as a "State Best" as they notched four consecutive State Championships. In his 9 years as head of the Lady Eagles, they have played in the Chipper 7 times, winning 6. He also notched a 2nd and 3rd place State finish at Chester.

Coach Gordon is a 6 time MCA COY and a finalist this year for the NHSACA COY in Girls' Basketball. He has served 9 years as head coach for the Treasure State Classic and 2 years as the B Coach for the Hi-Line Classic. He has been MHSA State Tennis bracketing Coordinator, Divisional Tennis Director, District and Divisional Volleyball Director, and District and Divisional T&F Manager. For 12 years he was a basketball and football MOA

John LaBonty - Glasgow

John has been a head mentor for 28 of his 36 years coaching; the last 34 years at Glasgow. A 36 year MCA member, Coach LaBonty has served in a variety of sports and positions, but it is in track & field and volleyball where he has created a legacy. Under his guidance, athletes have won 20 district championships, 11 divisional championships and 9 state trophies, including 3 third place finishes, 2 runners-up and 4 State Championships (2 in Volleyball, 2 in Girls' T&F)

LaBonty has been nominated for MCA COY 8 times and named COY twice in volleyball and 3 times in girls track & field. He has served as District and Divisional Track manager numerous years.

Rollie Sullivan - Pablo

Rollie has spent 33 years in the coaching ranks, 28 of those as head boys' basketball coach and 3 at the helm of girls' basketball teams. For 5 years he headed up track & field and softball teams. After stints at Outlook, Frenchtown and Circle, Coach Sullivan spent the next 23 years at Sidney. His boys' basketball teams notched an impressive 389 victories, including 3 State Championships, one 2nd and one 3rd place trophy. His girls' basketball teams were an impressive 62-16 for a winning percentage of 80%. Altogether, his teams made 12 appearances at the State Tournament. Rollie was nominated for MCA COY 6 times and named COY three. A 33 year MCA member, he has spoken at several MCA clinics also served many times as district tournament manager.

Bret Thompson - Charlo

A 29 year MCA member and 28 year head coach, Bret has spent all of coaching career at Charlo and they are fortunate that he did. During his Charlo tenure, his teams have won an amazing 51 District and 13 divisional titles along with 5 State Championship trophies. His 493 wins in girls' basketball include 13 district, 3 divisional and one State title. In boys' T&F, 20 district, 8 divisional and 4 State trophies are on the walls. His girls' T&F teams have 18 district and 2 divisional titles as along with 8 top five finishes at State.

A 5-time MCA COY and 8-time nominee, Coach Thompson has also spent time coaching the Western C Team at the Treasure State Classic and served as long-time coach of the Mission Valley All-Star Tournament.

NEWLY EXPANDED

****ASSISTANT COY AWARD****

Head coaches and athletic directors, we need your help! You know how important assistant coaches are to our athletic programs in Montana. Nominate your long serving assistant coach today! The MCA will recognize more assistant coaches by selecting one assistant coach in each classification: AA, A, B and C. . To qualify, assistant coaches must be a current member of the MCA, have been an assistant for 10 years and not have been a head coach in another sport at the same time. Nominees must have been an assistant during this school year or retired for not more than one year. Nomination forms may be obtained by emailing Shirley Chesterfield-Stanton, at MCAaward@gmail.com. Nominations must be returned by **May 1st**. Please help us recognize these important members of our athletic programs.

PERKS THAT MAKE THE MCA MULTI-SPORTS CLINIC THE MOST HOSPITABLE CLINIC IN THE COUNTRY: (continued from front page)

Thursday at 7 pm, the Flamingo Lounge hosts an evening with complimentary beer, dance band, mechanical bull and “horse racing” game led by personnel from Universal Athletics.

The **exhibit area** is open Wednesday and Thursday, traditionally with over 50 spaces. Many exhibitors give away items and/or conduct drawings for excellent prizes. **Many drawings will be made Thursday and Friday mornings in the exhibit area. The MCA will hold drawings for six \$50 cash prizes, requiring presence to win.**

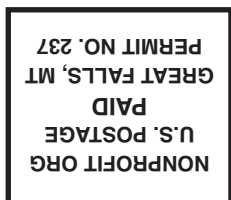
Vendor fees help keep our clinic rates low. Your time visiting with them keeps them coming back. Registrants in each sport are assigned a session during which they are urged to visit the exhibit area and hospitality tables.

Each registrant and vendor receives a shoulder bag courtesy of Red Rock Sporting Goods, that contains 4 complimentary food coupons, two each by McDonalds of Great Falls and Wendy’s of Montana, a legal pad, a great MCA pen and a variety of other items.

Registrants can earn OPI renewal units to satisfy their requirements to maintain teaching certificates or **UM Western will offer 1 or 2 post graduate credits** at a reasonable cost.

MCA/SCHEDULE STAR SCHOLARSHIPS

MCA Scholarships will be awarded to 4 high school senior student athletes (2 girls, 2 boys). As a non-profit corporation, the MCA can’t limit scholarships to the daughters or sons of members, but we strongly encourage graduating athletes with MCA member parents, to apply. We have a new online application on the website. Deadline is May 1st.



montana coaches association
375 Ramble Inn Road, Fort Shaw, MT 59443

