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## Fall 2020 Newsletter

**What a Year!** A tip of the hat to all Athletes, Coaches, Officials, AD's, and Administrators that have successfully navigated the uncharted waters of this fall sports season. You and your teams went through many ups and downs, uncertainties, and unknowns, that no one has ever before dealt with. Congratulations! You made History! We are not the only state that had to adjust to these circumstances but, based on what I hear from other directors around the country, Montana did it as well as any, and better than many. Well Done!

The upcoming winter sports season, with indoor venues only, will likely face even greater challenges. There will be schedule changes and venue adjustments, but like the previous season, it can be done. Guide your team with wisdom, leadership, and patience. Have a great season! ~ Don

### MCA Fall Sports COY Ballots emailed to all Active Coaches

Fall COY ballots will be emailed in early December to all active members (Associate members are not eligible to vote). Voting is quick and easy. Your vote is important! Please take time to complete your ballot!

### **Congratulations to all Fall COY nominees!**

The March winter ballot and newsletter will be sent email only. If you receive this newsletter as hard copy, we don't have an email address for you. **Please send us a correct email address** and any address changes to [donomca@3rivers.net](mailto:donomca@3rivers.net)

### COY Status & Membership Deadlines

20 top-four finishing head coaches were not members by the October 1<sup>st</sup> deadline and thus, are not eligible for COY nomination. This is a great reason to join in May, when membership info comes out, so you don't forget. Please help by reminding your fellow-coaches to join before the cut-off date for each season:

**September 15<sup>th</sup>** for A and AA Golf, **October 1st** for Fall sports,  
**February 1st** for all Winter sports and **May 1st** for all Spring sports.

### All-State - All-Conference - Academic All-state Certificates

Templates for these certificates are emailed to ADs and Principals each season (not available on the website). Please save them and share with your appropriate staff. Contact Shirley Chesterfield-Stanton with questions or suggestions – [MCAaward@gmail.com](mailto:MCAaward@gmail.com)

**We ask that you carefully guard and honor MCA integrity and yours, as you print and present these awards.**

### Membership

MCA membership stands at 1680, down 374 from last year at this point. AD's and Administrators have been a great help, passing on our emails and promoting MCA membership. Coaches have been doing more promotion within their sport. Thank you!

**We sincerely appreciate the 67+ schools** who pay dues and/or clinic fees for their coaches. Our multi-member online option allows schools to sign up and pay for several coaches at once.

Head coaches, please talk to your assistants and lower level coaches about the benefits of MCA. We find that new coaches are often unaware of the benefits of joining MCA. **You are our ambassadors to your district coaches, so please encourage them to join.** Membership application and benefits are on the website.

## Liability Insurance

As an active MCA member, you have \$1,000,000 liability coverage while actively coaching for a K-12 school. **This is one of the biggest benefits of MCA membership!** If you have questions, contact Loomis and LaPann. Their contact info is on your membership card and a current copy of this year's insurance overview is on the MCA website (membership tab). Please note new exclusion: "This insurance does not apply to any loss, cost or expense arising out of infectious or communicable disease".

## MCA Hall of Fame is on the Website

**The MCA Hall of Fame is now on the MCA website!** Check it out at [www.montanacoaches.com](http://www.montanacoaches.com). A google search for any MCA HOF member should take you to our site. HOF members are asked to let us know right away if you find **errors** on your page.

The information on each page is taken from the original HOF application. We will do a **one-time update** for each member **after you retire from coaching**. Send all corrections and/or end-of-career updates to Shirley Chesterfield-Stanton at [MCAaward@gmail.com](mailto:MCAaward@gmail.com)

## In Memoriam

Please notify us if an MCA member or contributor to Montana athletics passes away. We hope to honor them "In Memoriam" each summer at our annual Awards Ceremony. Your help is appreciated as we don't always know.

## 2020 MCA Clinic Cancelled

We worked hard to prepare, and thought we were going to be able to host the 2020 MCA Coaches Clinic and Awards Ceremony, but just 3 weeks out, new COVID19 restrictions made it impossible. Thanks to those of you who registered and planned to attend. While we feel the Clinic is extremely important for coaches, we also did not want to take risks that would deter the fall season. The good news is that we have an outstanding roster of speakers to consider for 2021 and we hope to make it happen. Stay posted!

## 54<sup>TH</sup> MCA CLINIC JULY 28, 29 & 30 AT CMR HIGH

Please mark your calendar & plan to attend. We are hopeful that by then we can make it happen. This is an outstanding opportunity for professional development, and it will mean more than ever, after not being able to have it last year. Don will be working on speakers. Your suggestions for presenters are always welcome. Let him know asap, as he will be working on speakers soon

## HALL of FAME - Assistant COY

The **MCA HOF** and **Assistant COY** awards are based on longevity, success, and service. *Please think about coaches that are deserving of these awards and take the time to nominate them. There are some long-serving coaches out there that are worthy of this recognition.*

**HOF**- Contact Scott King - deadline is **March 1st**  
**Assistant COY** - Contact Shirley Chesterfield-Stanton - deadline is **May 1st**

## Ralph Halverson Scholarship

**2020 Ralph Halverson Scholarship** donations stand at \$2120, to-date. While there were a few larger donations, most were somewhere between \$5 and \$100. These generous gifts add up and assure that Ralph's Scholarship will continue for many years. Two \$1300 scholarships are awarded to graduating seniors each year. What a wonderful tribute to Ralph and his family.

## 2020 MCA Scholarships Awarded

### **Ralph Halverson Scholarships (\$1300 each)**

Shelby Paulson - Belt  
Caden Rettig - North Star

### **MCA Scholarships (\$750 each)**

Tyson Krahe - Great Falls  
Kimberly Peacock - Columbia Falls  
Samantha Clevenger - Alberton,  
Crisha Polk - Great Falls

### **Frontier Conference Scholarships (\$1000 each)**

Thank you, **Frontier Conference!**

Jonathon Baer - Colstrip,  
Brooklyn Kenelty - Ronan

The 2021 Scholarship application opens 1/1/21 on the MCA website (athletic tab). **Application Deadline is May 1st.**

## Longevity Awards

If you have coached for 15 years or more in Montana, you are eligible for **MCA Longevity Awards**. You **MUST APPLY** if you want the award. Longevity is **not** awarded based on your membership application. 15-year applicants receive certificates which may be upgraded to plaques for \$15. MCA awards Longevity plaques at 5-year intervals beginning at 20 years. Longevity Awards are presented at the MCA Coaches Clinic in July. **The Longevity application deadline is June 15th.** <https://montanacoaches.powermediallc.org/longevity-form/>

## MCA Coach of the Year Rings

Each first-time "Coach of the Year" receives a COY ring, compliments of MCA. Repeat winners may order a second ring at your own expense. Rings and COY Plaques will be awarded on Thursday, July 29th at the MCA Awards Ceremony.

# Thank you to the MCA 2020 Pre-Clinic Sponsors

## VENDORS

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(406) 541-8000, sales@wingatemissoula.com

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(406) 752-6116, crownphoto@centurytel.net

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**Montana Army National Guard,** (406) 498-9605,  
todd.j.carver.mil@mail.mil

**Montana Fellowship of Christian Athletes,**  
(760) 835-6993, bveroulis@fca.org

**New Look Custom Socks,**  
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(406) 731-8964, carleyknudson@benefis.org

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**Town Pump Hotel Group,**  
(406) 565-0489, joank@townpump.com

**Universal Athletic,**  
(406) 600-2745, bpepper@universalathletic.com

## We are also grateful to the following firms and individuals for assistance

**Crown Sports Photography** (Award pictures)

**GTM Sportswear** (Golf prizes)

**Red Rock Sporting Goods** (Staff shirts & Clinic Bags)

**Roger Hatler & Tom Storm** (Speaker fishing trips)

**Town Pump Hotel Group** (Hospitality Snacks)

**Universal Athletic** (Staff Shirts, Clinic t-Shirts & Horse Race Hosts)

## 2020 FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT

**Eagle Falls Golf Course**

**CMR High School Administration & Custodial & Secretarial Staff**

**Great Falls School District #1**

**Great Falls Park and Rec. Department**

**Meadowlark Country Club**

## DOOR PRIZE DONORS (non-exhibitors)

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## HOSPITALITY DONATIONS BY

**Coca Cola Bottling Company** 761-3794

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**Himco, Inc. (4 McDonald's in Great Falls)** 761-0624

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**Town Pump Hotel Group** 565-0489

**Wendy's** 252-5125

## Something to think about...

The following is a portion of an article written by Tim Wallstrum, President of the North Dakota Coaches Association. I thought it was worth sharing.

I often teach my students that most textbooks say that there are five elements required in a democracy: **The Fundamental Worth of the Individual, Equality of all Persons, Majority Rule and Minority Rights, the Necessity of Compromise, and Individual Freedom.** These elements require a democracy's citizens to be of **good moral character.** Where do we get this morality? For hundreds of years, it has come from our religions. I ask them, what do you see happening to religion in our country? .....Is it a surprise that several of our founding fathers wrote that they did not expect a democracy to last much more than two hundred years? Sorry, I had to delve into politics... it is that time of year.

It is also that time of year to be thankful, and I am. One of the reasons I am thankful, is that coaches serve with little recognition and in fact with a purpose of recognizing others. I am proud because even though our youth now have little exposure to morality, this is still one place they get it. They get it in our playing arenas because you and other coaches are exposing them to it every day. So, maybe our democracy is yet in good hands and maybe our posterity will be able to work together and get along, even though they are competitors and have differences of opinion. Maybe the reason has everything to do with you!

## **NHSACA Convention in Lincoln, Nebraska**

The 2020 NHSACA (National High School Athletic Coaches Association) **Annual Convention**, scheduled in Lincoln, Nebraska was cancelled due to Covid19 concerns. All finalists are invited back to Lincoln, July 26-29, for the 2021 Convention. Our 15 Finalists selected last year will represent Montana in 2021. During the National Convention, there are sport specific seminars and leadership classes available for 5 graduate credits at a very reasonable price. Check out their website: [hscoaches.org](https://hscoaches.org)

## **MCA Cards - Game Attendance**

Your MCA membership card normally allows MCA members free attendance to regular season high school and most regular season college athletic events. This year has been different. Most schools have kindly continued to honor MCA cards if the member was able to attend a game. We appreciate your understanding and continued MCA support.

## **Athletes are not Immune to Suicidal Thoughts**

We are concerned about Covid-19, but maybe we should be even more concerned about these statistics:

*Each day in our nation, there are an average of over 3,703 suicide attempts by young people grades 9-12. If these percentages were applied to grades 7 & 8, the numbers would be higher.*

*Four out of Five teens who attempt suicide have given clear warning signs.*

*Please check out The Jason Foundation suicide prevention website at*

**<https://jasonfoundation.com/>**