



BMHS  
Athletic Association

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **What is the BMHS Athletic Association (BMHSAA)?**

The BMHSAA is a parent-run volunteer organization that encourages, promotes and rewards more than 1,000 BMHS student-athletes annually for their efforts in athletic competition and excellence in the classroom. Our primary objectives are: award 20 scholarships to graduating seniors annually; fund the purchase of all awards and host three seasonal ceremonies; consider grant requests from individual teams or entire athletic program for booster donations.

### **Why does my family need to pay annual dues to the BMHSAA?**

The BMHSAA asks that each family pay a small annual membership fee (\$20) to become a member of the organization. Student-athletes of member-families are eligible for scholarships in their senior year. Funds from member dues are used to fund the organization's activities of scholarship, awards, and athletic-related items.

### **How do I pay my annual family membership and when is it due?**

Each year we ask for \$20 annual family membership fee by December 31<sup>st</sup>. The fee may be paid online at [www.bmhsaa.org](http://www.bmhsaa.org), or by submitting a check and membership form to your sports representative, or directly to the treasurer. Membership is based upon the school year September through June.

### **Is my membership fee tax deductible?**

Yes, the BMHSAA is a 501c3 organization and membership dues are tax deductible. Other items purchased in support of the organization may also be deducted, less the value for that item. For example, if you buy an event ticket for \$50, and food valued at \$20 is served, then you may claim \$30 which is the difference above what you received in return. Only a donation with nothing in return is worth its full amount. For more information on tax deductions visit: <http://www.irs.gov/uac/Eight-Tips-for-Deducting-Charitable-Contributions>

### **How is the money donated to the BMHSAA different than the \$150 athletic fee?**

Funds donated to the BMHSAA are used to award twenty scholarships to graduating seniors, host three seasonal award ceremonies and fund the purchase of all awards, three-letter jackets, varsity letters, plaques, and pins. The \$150 paid to the BMHS athletic department is used by the school to pay for uniforms, equipment, stipends for coaches, officials' fees, and transportation to games.

### **How do I volunteer with the organization?**

BMHSAA members may be elected to an officer position, volunteer for a year-long sports representative or director position, a seasonal coordinator position, or volunteer for three specific activities such as concession stand worker, 50/50 raffle sales, or spirit gear sales.

### **What are the benefits of volunteering?**

Parents who volunteer as an officer, sports representative, or director-level positions have the family membership dues waived for that year of service and receive a pass providing complimentary access to all home athletic games. Those parents who undertake a seasonal coordinator position, or who volunteer for three activities (e.g. work a concession stand at three football games) will receive a pass providing a \$2.00 discount off all home sporting events. These passes exclude MIAA playoff games held in Billerica.



BMHS  
Athletic Association

**Can students volunteer at BMHSAA events?**

Yes, students may volunteer at BMHSAA events under the supervision of an organization member. Students receive credit for the number of hours worked which may fulfill honor society or church volunteer obligations. Students may not volunteer at events where alcohol is served.

**Are there monthly meetings?**

Yes, the BMHSAA holds monthly meetings on the first or second Monday at the Billerica Town Hall (7:00 PM). All members are welcome to attend but attendance is only required for sports representatives and executive board members. The meetings are posted on the BMHSAA Calendar located on the home page of the BMHSAA website ([bmhsaa.org](http://bmhsaa.org))

**What is the Seasonal Sports Program and Proud Parent page?**

Each season the BMHSAA publishes a sports program which includes team photos, action shots of athletes, business ads, and proud parents pages. The program makes a nice keepsake for athletes and is available for \$5. Inside the program are Proud Parent pages for each sport which parents may add their name to for \$5. T-shirts for each sport may also be ordered for \$5. A special fan package is available for \$13. Order forms for the programs are available on the BMHSAA website and from sports representatives on information night. The forms for the fall program are due by mid-October; winter is due mid-February, and spring program order forms are due by mid-April. The program and t-shirt will be given to the athletes who purchase them on awards night.

**Who should receive the Fan Pack order form?**

Parents may turn order forms into their team sports representative. Team sport representatives will then give the counts to the appropriate coordinator and money is handed in to the treasurer.