

**NATIONAL FEDERATION OF STATE
HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS**



NEWS RELEASE

Mary Struckhoff Announces Resignation from NFHS Staff

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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INDIANAPOLIS, IN (August 5, 2011) — Mary Struckhoff, assistant director of the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) for the past 12 years, will leave the NFHS staff, effective September 30, to pursue other interests in athletics and officiating.

Struckhoff, who has directed the NFHS Officials Association and served as rules editor for the sports of basketball and softball, will be working as a consultant in her areas of expertise, particularly officiating. Since January 2006, Struckhoff also has served as national coordinator of women's basketball officiating for the NCAA.

Membership benefits in the NFHS Officials Association have expanded under Struckhoff's leadership, especially exclusive online educational content such as searchable NFHS rules and case books, and video and animation of NFHS rules and

mechanics. She was instrumental in starting the NFHS Officiating Central Hub in association with ArbiterSports. The first online course for officials will be available during the 2011–12 school year.

Struckhoff has guided NFHS rules committees in basketball and softball and has become the nationally recognized expert in those sports. Basketball and softball are the second– and fourth–most popular sports in terms of participants, respectively, at the high school level. She annually serves as editor of five NFHS basketball rules publications and two softball rules publications.

In addition to her duties with basketball, softball and officials, Struckhoff also has assisted with workshop topics and speakers for the NFHS Summer Meeting and the National Athletic Directors Conference sponsored by the NFHS and the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association.

Prior to joining the NFHS staff in 1999, Struckhoff was assistant executive director of the Illinois High School Association (IHSA) for three years. She was the administrator for boys/girls tennis, boys/girls swimming, girls softball and chess, and she served as administrator of the IHSA officials department.

Struckhoff was a teacher, coach and athletic director at the high school and college levels for 12 years before joining the IHSA. She coached volleyball and softball and was athletic director at two St. Louis high schools (St. Elizabeth Academy and

Ursuline Academy) from 1982 to 1989. She then served as an administrator and coach at the University of Chicago and Chicago State University for two years, and athletic director at Maria High School in Chicago for three years.

Before assuming her position with the NCAA, Struckhoff was an accomplished basketball official. She officiated NCAA women's basketball in seven Division I conferences. She has worked several postseason tournaments, including conference championship finals, the NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Championship and the WNIT.

A native of St. Louis, Struckhoff, earned a bachelor's degree in physical education in 1982 from Benedictine (Kansas) College and a master's degree in athletic administration in 1991 from Western Illinois University.

About the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS)

The NFHS, based in Indianapolis, Indiana, is the national leadership organization for high school sports and fine arts activities. Since 1920, the NFHS has led the development of education-based interscholastic sports and fine arts activities that help students succeed in their lives. The NFHS sets direction for the future by building awareness and support, improving the participation experience, establishing consistent standards and rules for competition, and helping those who oversee high school sports and activities. The NFHS writes playing rules for 17 sports for boys and girls at the high school level. Through its 50 member state associations and the District of Columbia, the NFHS reaches more than 19,000 high schools and 11 million participants in high school activity programs, including more than 7.6 million in high school sports. As the recognized national authority on interscholastic activity programs, the NFHS conducts national meetings; sanctions interstate events; produces publications for high school coaches, officials and athletic directors; sponsors professional organizations for high school coaches, officials, spirit coaches, speech and debate coaches and music adjudicators; and serves as a national information resource of interscholastic athletics and activities. For more information, visit the NFHS Web site at www.nfhs.org.

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