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Welcome to the 2022 Fall Sports Season!

On behalf of the National Federation of State High School Associations, we would like to thank you for your service as a fall sports official in Iowa this year. We appreciate your willingness to serve as a guardian of fair play for student-athletes in your state and for providing them the opportunity to play a game they love.

Officiating is a special and unique way to give back to the community you live in, a sport you love and to education-based athletics in your community. We know that officials do not always get the gratitude you deserve, and we wanted you to know that you are appreciated, supported, and admired by our office and by our member state associations. We thank you for answering the call and doing something that not enough people have the courage or the heart to do.

You hear it all the time - "Without officials, there can be no games." That is the truth! Every time you walk into one of your games, you are making a difference and allowing student-athletes more than just the opportunity to play a game. You are giving them a chance to learn character traits that extend beyond the classroom. Through their participation in athletics, they learn how to be better leaders and communicators. They learn about commitment, dedication, responsibility, and accountability. They learn how to deal with adversity and how to win with dignity and humility. You are an integral part of this extension of the classroom and that role is certainly an honor.

We applaud you for your willingness to be a part of something so important to so many and we hope that this season is successful and fulfilling for you. Thank you for being a part of the NFHS officiating family and for the time you give so willingly to keep high school sports going strong. We also thank your families, friends, employers and everyone in your life who serve as your support system as an official. Their role is vital in your success as an official.

Have a great season and know that what you do is not only recognized but is deeply appreciated by all of us here in Indianapolis. If there is ever anything I can do for you, please feel free to contact me at dpappas@nfhs.org.

Sincerely,

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Dana M. Pappas Director of Officiating Services

