

MPA Acceptable Use Policy

Effective Date: January 15, 2026

Approved by: MPA Board of Directors and Interscholastic Management Committee

1. Purpose

This Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) establishes standards for appropriate access to and use of data, content, and services available through the MPA website. The purpose of this policy is to protect the integrity, security, privacy, availability, and lawful use of MPA website data while supporting transparency, media access, and public information sharing.

2. Scope

This policy applies to all users of the MPA website, including but not limited to members, staff, contractors, volunteers, credentialed media representatives, applicants, and members of the public who access, view, download, submit, or otherwise interact with website data.

This policy is intended to operate in conjunction with the MPA Privacy Policy, Media Credentials Policy, and any applicable Terms of Service. In the event of a conflict, the more restrictive policy shall apply.

3. Definition of Website Data

For purposes of this policy, "website data" includes all information and resources made available through the MPA website, whether public or restricted, including:

- Tournament standings, standings detail, schedules rosters, text, documents, images, audio, and video content
- Databases, directories, forms, and downloadable files
- Media credential applications and supporting materials
- User-submitted information and correspondence
- Metadata, analytics, logs, and system-generated information

4. Acceptable Use

Users may access and use MPA website data only for lawful, legitimate, and intended purposes. Acceptable use includes:

- Viewing, downloading, and sharing publicly available information for personal, educational, journalistic, or organizational use
- Submitting applications, forms, and credential requests as authorized by MPA

- Using credentialed media resources solely for legitimate newsgathering and reporting purposes
- Sharing links to publicly accessible pages, provided content is not altered, taken out of context, or misrepresented

5. Prohibited Use

Users must not:

- Use website data for unlawful, fraudulent, deceptive, or misleading purposes
- Attempt to gain unauthorized access to restricted areas, systems, accounts, or non-public data
- Copy, modify, reproduce, distribute, sell, license, publish, or otherwise exploit website data except as expressly permitted
- Scrape, harvest, mine, or systematically collect website data using automated tools, bots, scripts, or similar technologies without prior written authorization from MPA
- Circumvent access controls, rate limits, or security measures
- Interfere with or disrupt the operation, availability, security, or performance of the website or its underlying systems
- Upload, transmit, or introduce malware, viruses, or other harmful or disruptive code
- Misrepresent the source, accuracy, or meaning of MPA website data

6. Media-Specific Use

Credentialed media representatives may access and use designated media-related website data in accordance with the MPA Media Credentials Policy. Media credentials and associated data may not be shared, transferred, or used for purposes unrelated to legitimate news coverage of MPA activities.

MPA reserves the right to limit, revoke, or deny media access for misuse of website data or violation of applicable policies.

7. Data Privacy and Confidentiality

Users must respect the privacy and confidentiality of any personal, sensitive, or non-public information accessed through the website. Such data:

- May only be used for the purpose for which it was provided
- Must be handled in accordance with applicable federal and state laws
- Must not be disclosed, retained, or repurposed beyond its intended use

Unauthorized disclosure or misuse of personal or confidential data may result in loss of access and additional action as permitted by law.

8. Intellectual Property

Unless otherwise stated, all website data is the property of MPA or its licensors and is protected by applicable intellectual property laws. MPA names, logos, trademarks, and copyrighted materials may not be used without prior written permission, except where permitted by law.

9. Monitoring and Enforcement

MPA reserves the right to:

- Monitor website usage to ensure compliance with this policy
- Investigate suspected or actual violations
- Restrict, suspend, or terminate access without notice
- Remove or disable access to content
- Pursue administrative, civil, or legal remedies as appropriate

10. Disclaimer

Website data is provided "as is" and "as available" without warranties of any kind. MPA does not guarantee the accuracy, completeness, timeliness, or availability of website data and disclaims liability for reliance on such data to the fullest extent permitted by law.

The MPA website uses cookies and similar technologies to support website functionality, security, and user preferences.

11. Cookies

Cookies are small text files stored on a user's device when visiting the website. MPA uses cookies for the following purposes:

- **Authentication and Security:** To identify users after they have provided valid login credentials, maintain secure sessions, and prevent unauthorized access
- **User Preferences:** To remember settings and preferences (such as accessibility options or display preferences) for both authorized and non-authorized users
- **Operational Functionality:** To ensure the website operates correctly and efficiently

MPA does not use cookies to sell personal information or to engage in targeted advertising.

Users may control or disable cookies through their browser settings; however, disabling cookies may limit access to certain features or functionality of the website, including secure areas.

By using the MPA website, users consent to the use of cookies as described in this policy, subject to applicable law.

11. Policy Updates

MPA may revise this Acceptable Use Policy at any time. Updates will be posted on the website with a revised effective date. Continued use of the website after changes are posted constitutes acceptance of the revised policy.

12. Public Records and Governing Law

Nothing in this policy is intended to limit, restrict, or supersede access to records as required under the Maine Freedom of Access Act (FOAA), 1 M.R.S. §§ 400–414, or other applicable state or federal law. Requests for records subject to FOAA must be submitted and processed in accordance with MPA's established public records procedures and applicable law.

This policy shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Maine, without regard to its conflict-of-laws principles.

13. Contact Information

Questions regarding this policy, requests for permission to use website data beyond what is permitted, public records requests, or reports of suspected misuse should be directed to MPA using the contact information provided on the website.