



November 13, 2023

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

COACHES AND ROSTERS ANNOUNCED FOR 50TH ANNUAL MINNESOTA HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL ALL-STAR GAME

DECEMBER 2 AT U.S. BANK STADIUM

The Minnesota Football Coaches Association (MFCA) and the Minnesota Vikings have announced the 12 coaches and 88 players who will participate in the 2023 Minnesota High School Football All-Star Game (50th Annual MFCA All-Star Football Game). The 50th Annual All-Star Game will showcase outstanding senior players from the 2023 Minnesota high school football season.

The Minnesota High School Football All-Star Game is sponsored by the Minnesota Vikings and the Minnesota Football Coaches Association (MFCA) and is presented by Andersen.

The 50th annual All-Star Football Game will be on Saturday December 2, with the kick-off at 1:00 PM. The All-Star Game will be played for the seventh time at U.S. Bank Stadium. The 2023 All-Star Game will also be the 61st overall in Minnesota high school football history, dating back to 1945.

Players and coaches representing 85 schools and 37 Sub-Districts will participate in this year's game. They were selected by members of the Minnesota Football Coaches Association.

For the 13th consecutive game, the game will feature the North All-Stars vs the South All-Stars. In the 2022 game, the South All-Stars defeated the North All-Stars 29-0 at U.S. Bank Stadium. The South All-Stars lead the current North-South series 10-2. The South also leads the overall North-South series (1945-1960, 1974-1979, 2011-2022) 18-10-1 after 29 games.

2023 All-Star Game Coaches

Name	School/City	Team	Position	District-Sub District	Class
Jack Negen	Robbinsdale Armstrong	North	Head Coach	Northstar-East-Maroon	5A
Ryan Bartlett	White Bear Lake	North	Assistant Coach	Metro-East	6A
Chad Gustafson	New London-Spicer	North	Assistant Coach	Skyway-Copper	3A
Darrell Salmi	Stillwater	North	Assistant Coach	Metro-East	6A
Greg Spahn	Grand Rapids	North	Assistant Coach	Northeast-Red	4A
Dan Zubich	Mountain Iron-Buhl	North	Assistant Coach	9 - North-North	9M

Name	School/City	Team	Position	District-Sub District	Class
Nick David	Mound Westonka	South	Head Coach	Skyway-Bronze	4A
JJ Helget	Mankato West	South	Assistant Coach	Northstar-South-Gold	5A
Brad Johnson	Fairmont	South	Assistant Coach	South Central-Red	3A
Chris Mensink	Fillmore Central	South	Assistant Coach	Mid Southeast-East	1A
Joel Swanson	Kasson-Mantorville	South	Assistant Coach	Skyway-Platinum	4A
Dirk Wells	Lakeville South	South	Assistant Coach	Metro-South	6A

Co-Sponsored by the Minnesota Vikings and Minnesota Football Coaches Association, presented by Andersen

Game Director - Dave Fritze * 1182 Lexington Ridge Court * Eagan MN 55123 * 651-683-6926 (W) * 651-230-1007 (C) * email: davefritze@gmail.com

Assistant Directors: Jim Becker & Bill Magnuson; Public Relations / Game Historian: Dave Giles

Here are some facts regarding the 2023 All-Star Game rosters:

Player totals by MSHSL class:	9-Player 2, 1A 3, 2A 8, 3A 18, 4A 11, 5A 22, 6A 24
Most representatives (one school) = 3:	Mankato West (one coach, two players)
Most players (one school) = 2 (13 schools):	Alexandria, Andover, Centennial, Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton, Eden Prairie, Lakeville North, Mankato West, Minneapolis North, Rocori, Rogers, Rosemount, St. Thomas Academy, Stewartville
Most players (one Sub-District) = 7:	Metro-South, Metro-West
Most consecutive years represented = 16:	Mankato West (2009-2023); record is 23 years (Stillwater, 1976-1998)
Largest and smallest schools represented:	Minnetonka (enrollment 3,348) and Edgerton (enrollment 88)
First representative in 2023 (1):	Edgerton (player), Two Rivers (player)
First player representative in 2023 (2):	Edgerton, St. Clair/Loyola, Two Rivers (first player under the Two Rivers name; 11 prior players were under the previous school name Henry Sibley)
First player in more than 10 years:	Lake City (1998), Rockford (2008), Springfield (2013), St. Agnes (2007), Win-E-Mac (1992)
Representatives in State Football Tournament:	45 (5 coaches, 40 players)

University of Minnesota recruits = 5

Jide Abasiri	Prior Lake	South	DE
Harrison Brun	Rockford	North	OLB
Mason Carrier	Detroit Lakes	North	LB
Mo Saine	Eden Prairie	South	DE
Jalen Smith	Mankato West	South	WR

Upcoming announcements and events

The All-Star training camp will be at Minnetonka High School (South) and Concordia University St. Paul (North) from Wednesday November 29 to Saturday December 2. The training camp schedule will be posted on the MFCA All-Star Football website at <http://www.allstarfootball.org>.

All-Star Game History

The Minnesota Football Coaches Association is proud of this game and its history. The first All-Star Football Game was played in 1945. The All-Star Game has been an annual event since 1974.

The All-Star Game was played in a North vs South format from 1945 through 1960 and from 1974 to 1979, a Metro vs Outstate format from 1980 to 2010 and back to a North vs South format in 2011 (to present).

Through the years, over 4,900 players and 547 coaches have participated in this game. A total of 104 participants from the All-Star Football Game have played or coached in the National Football League, including current Minnesota Vikings player CJ Ham (2011, North All-Stars).

Questions may be directed to Game Director Dave Fritze at 651-230-1007. Game history questions may be directed to Dave Giles at dtkgiles@yahoo.com or 651-274-9359.

Tickets:

Tickets for the Minnesota High School Football All-Star Game are \$18 for adults (age 18 and up); \$8 for students (age 6-17). Tickets can be purchased at this link:

[2023 High School All-Star Game | My Vikings Account \(ticketmaster.com\)](#)

More information:

For more information, visit the Minnesota High School Football All-Star Game website at:

[Minnesota High School Football All-Star Game | Minnesota Vikings – vikings.com](#)

We also invite you to visit the MFCA All-Star Football website at <http://www.allstarfootball.org>.

A complete list of the North and South players and coaches follows. Please direct questions to Game Director Dave Fritze at 651-230-1007. Please direct game history questions to Dave Giles at dtkgiles@yahoo.com or 651-274-9359.