

The High School Varsity Team Democracy MVP Challenge

Objective- The High School Varsity Teams Democracy MVP Challenge encourages high school athletic departments to make democratic participation a core value of their athletic curriculum. The goal is to foster an environment for students to take on leadership roles and become poll workers for the November general election. The team that is able to recruit the most poll workers will be put on our website and be recognized by Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson as the winner of the Varsity Challenge. Any team that recruits more than 50 poll workers will be put into a random drawing with a chance to win tickets for the entire team for a Lions game.

STEP 1: Commit Your High School Team

Athletic Directors reach out to their schools' varsity football coaches about the challenge. They explain that democracy is a team sport, the MVPs on Election Day are the poll workers and that their players can lead their school to be an important part of democracy.

STEP 2: Work With Varsity Coaching Staff To Assemble Your Team

Coaches meet with their team and discuss the challenge. In addition, explain why democracy is a team sport, that the MVPs of Election Day are poll workers and how their role in this challenge is so important to upholding our democracy.

1. Get the team to participate in the challenge. Michigan.gov/DemocracyMVP
2. Explain what the requirements to be a poll worker are.
3. You don't have to be a member of the team to sign up under their name. Uplift players to encourage friends and family to sign up as poll workers as well under their team name! Students ages 16-17 can be poll workers!

STEP 3: Develop Your Action Plan

Teams will need to register as Democracy MVP's under their Greek name on the Democracy MVP sign-up form. [This is how we will track each recruitment number.] In addition, the team should identify another school's team they want to challenge.

Are you a member of a group or team signing up to be election workers together?

Yes ↕

If so, what group?

School Name, Team, Sport

STEP 4: Time For The Snap

It's time for the team to put their plan to action! The team should record a message that indicates they have accepted the challenge and who they are challenging.

1. Record your message

“The [*name of school and what varsity team you are accepting the challenge for*] is excited to announce our team has accepted the Democracy MVP High School Varsity Challenge.

We are committing to **recruiting poll workers** through the Democracy MVP program.

Please help us win this challenge and join our team. Go to **Michigan.gov/DemocracyMVP** to register as an MVP. Under “affiliated organization,” please type in [*name of school and what varsity team*]

We challenge [Rival school team or different varsity team in the school] to do the same!”

2. Push your challenge video out on social media. Utilize your school's and players' social media platforms and use the #DemocracyMVP**SCHOOLNAME/Team**
 - a. Facebook
 - b. Twitter
 - c. Instagram
 - d. Tiktok
3. Recruit everyone! Coaches and players continue to encourage their classmates to be a part of their team and become poll workers after they have launched their video.

STEP 5: The Final Push

Participate in the Democracy MVP event hosted by the SOS a week before the election.

STEP 6: Be Recognized

All participants will be recognized for joining the challenge. Schools will be added to the Secretary of State's partnership website. After the November general election, our team will tally up the numbers and announce the winner of the challenge shortly after.