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October 30, 2009

**MINNESOTA HIGH SCHOOL TOURNAMENT SIDELINES TO BE  
MORE SECURE FROM SUDDEN CARDIAC ARREST**

*Minnesota State High School League acquires 8 mobile AEDs from HeartSine, making healthy investment in lives of tournament players, spectators, officials.*

MINNEAPOLIS (October 30, 2009) – The Minnesota State High School League (MSHSL) and HeartSine Technologies have teamed up to make the Minnesota State High School tournaments a safer place for the players, coaches, spectators, and officials. The MSHSL has purchased eight mobile Automated External Defibrillators (AED) from HeartSine and Wilson Safety in an effort to immediately respond to Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA), which is the leading cause of death in young athletes and the leading overall cause of death in the United States.

According to MSHSL Associate Director Jody Redman, SCA claims more than 250,000 lives annually. She explained that the portable AEDs will be deployed by medical personnel who are stationed on the fields or sidelines at the state tournament venues. "By having the AEDs close to where an SCA event might occur, we can ensure that we have all of the tools in place so that we can respond and give the victim a chance of survival."

This is especially timely given that October is Sudden Cardiac Arrest Awareness Month. In conjunction with this month-long observance and the Minnesota State High School League's fall tournaments, HeartSine and Wilson Safety have offered all MSHSL member schools an opportunity to purchase additional AEDs at the same reduced cost that they made available to the league through the end of November. More information is available at

<http://www.mshsl.org/mshsl/news/TU2009AEDSpecialOffer.pdf>

The HeartSine samaritan PAD was cited for its compact size and portability, as they would be transported to various events. Also, the units' durability when exposed to harsh Minnesota elements, and their relatively low cost of maintenance were key issues for the MSHSL.

Redman noted that awareness of SCA is heightened because of the increased number of incidents in the last two years. There have been approximately 10 reported SCA incidents in Minnesota since January 2008. In addition to the AEDs on the sidelines, in May 2009, the MSHSL launched its "Anyone Can Save a Life" program. This is a comprehensive school-based educational program that provides students and

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other non-medical professional with the tools to recognize the signs of SCA, along with the latest in CPR/AED education including development of emergency response plans.

“One of the primary purposes of the Anyone Can Save A Life program is to provide assistance to schools in creating and sharing “after school” emergency response plans for quickly accessing the victim and getting them the help they need. This is the goal of the program” Redman said.

**About HeartSine Technologies (<http://www.heartsine>):** A world leader in public access defibrillators, HeartSine's mission is to advance the deployment of lifesaving defibrillation therapy in public access areas of care through the development of proprietary technologies and quality products.

For more information, contact Tom Kuelbs, 215-860-8100, ext. 102.

For more information about Wilson Safety, contact Dale Wakasugi, 651-315-4553.

**About the Minnesota State High School League (<http://www.mshsl.org>):** The Minnesota State High School League is a voluntary, nonprofit association of public and private schools with a history of service to Minnesota's high school youth since 1916. The Minnesota State High School League provides educational opportunities for students through interscholastic athletics and fine arts programs, and provides leadership and support for member schools. For more information, contact Jody Redman at 763-560-2262.

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