

The BEST of Boys' Basketball

The history of the Minnesota high school basketball tournaments is storied and full of memorable moments that fill the hearts and minds of basketball fans everywhere. Making these unforgettable moments were many players, teams, and coaches. In honor of the 100th Basketball Tournament Celebration, an impartial group of the game's aficionados identified the Top 5 players, coaches, teams, games, shots, and finishes in tournament history.

Best Players:

Khalid El-Amin, Minneapolis North

State tournament appearances: 1995, 1996, 1997

State championships: 1995, 1996, 1997

Jim McIntyre, Minneapolis Patrick Henry

State tournament appearances: 1944, 1945

State championships: 1944, 1945

Mark Olberding, Melrose

State tournament appearances: 1971, 1972, 1973, 1974

State championships: 1971, 1974

Randy Breuer, Lake City

State tournament appearances: 1978, 1979

State championships: 1978, 1979

Isaiah Dahlman, Braham

State tournament appearances: 2004, 2005, 2006

State championships: 2004, 2005, 2006

Best Coaches:

Bob McDonald, Chisholm

State tournament appearances: 11

State championships: 1971, 1975, 1991

Ken Novak, Jr., Hopkins

State tournament appearances: 12

State championships: 2002, 2005, 2006, 2009, 2010, 2011

Jim Hastings, Duluth Central

State tournament appearances: 9

State championships: 1961, 1971, 1975

Russell "Butsie" Maetzold, Hopkins

State tournament appearances: 5

State championships: 1952, 1953

Jack Evens, Bloomington Jefferson

State tournament appearances: 8

State championships: 1976, 1982, 1986, 1987

Best Teams:

Minneapolis North, 1995 Sweet Sixteen Champion, 30-0

Hopkins, 2009 Class AAAA Champion, 31-0

Edina, 1967 Champion, 27-0

Edgerton, 1960 Champion, 27-0

Minneapolis Edison, 1937 Champion, 15-1

Best Shots:

Blake Hofferber, Hopkins

Two-handed shot lying on his back

Hopkins vs. Eastview,

2005 Class AAAA Championship, 71-60 (2 OT)

Jeff Nessler, St. James

Half court winner

St. James vs. Melrose, 1972 Class A Championship, 57-55

Earl Pennington

Half court buzzer beater

Mankato vs. Northfield, 1932 Quarterfinals, 17-15

Khalid El-Amin, Minneapolis

Three-point buzzer beater

Minneapolis North vs. St. Thomas Academy

1996 Quarterfinal (Sweet Sixteen), 67-65

Andy Snyder, Gilbert

Three-quarter court shot at the end of third quarter.

Gilbert vs. Canby, 1951 Championship, 69-52

Best Finishes:

1972 Class A Championship

St. James vs. Melrose, 57-55

1996 Quarterfinal (Sweet Sixteen)

Minneapolis North vs. St. Thomas Academy, 67-65

1997 Class A Semifinal

Wabasso vs. Red Lake, 117-113 (OT)

1981 Class A Championship

Bird Island-Lake Lillian vs. Winona Cotter, 49-47 (2 OT)

2007 Class A Championship

Ellsworth vs. Cass Lake-Bena, 74 -73

Best Games:

1997 Class A Semifinal

Red Lake vs. Wabasso, 117-113 (OT)

1960 Semifinal

Edgerton vs. Richfield 63-60 (OT)

1963 Championship

Marshall vs. Cloquet, 75-74

1946 Quarterfinal

Lynd vs. Crosby-Ironton, 58-47

2007 Class AAAA Championship

Buffalo vs. Robbinsdale Armstrong, 67-65



TOP FIVES

Additional information about the **Best of Series** can be obtained by visiting the League's web site at mshsl.org.