

2023-24

AREA MEETINGS



Wisconsin
Interscholastic
Athletic Association



WIAA AREA MEETINGS

SEPTEMBER 2023

Paul Pedersen, *WIAA Board of Control, President (Regis)*

Stephanie Hauser, *Executive Director*

Todd Clark, *Communications Director*

Mel Dow, *Associate Director*

Melissa Gehring, *Assistant Director*

Kassie Mortimer, *Assistant Director*

Kate Peterson Abiad, *Assistant Director*

LeVar Ridgeway, *Assistant Director*

Tom Shafranski, *Assistant Director*

Mark Gutknecht, *Technology Coordinator*

Megan Loken, *Graphic Designer & Social Media Specialist*



Welcome

New Athletic Directors

State Champions

State Tournament Officials





Award of Excellence
RECIPIENTS

2022-23



Appleton West

Ashland

Beaver Dam

Brookwood

Chilton

Cudahy

Delavan-Darien

Divine Savior Holy Angels

Fort Atkinson

Germantown

Hilbert

Hortonville

Jefferson

Kimberly

Lake Holcombe

Lake Mills

Little Chute

Luther

Marshfield

Milwaukee Lutheran

Necedah

Pewaukee

Portage

Saint Croix Falls

Seymour

Sheboygan Falls

Watertown

Waukesha West

Winnebago Lutheran

Wisconsin Dells

• *Leadership* • *Sportsmanship* • *Ethics* • *Integrity* •

AREA MEETING
OPEN FORUM



Wisconsin
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OPEN FORUM

DISTRICT 1

- Name, Image & Likeness (NIL) Language – *Austin Junker, New Richmond*
- Use of Current School Year Enrollment for Tournament Placement – *Michael Birtzer, Elmwood*

DISTRICT 2

- Allow Coaches to Run Youth Camps During School Year, In or Out-of-Season – *Nathan DeLany, Marshfield*

DISTRICT 3

- None

DISTRICT 4

- Officials Ratings – *Steve Walsh, Kiel*
- 8-Player Football Conference Realignment – *Jared Gosse, Green Bay NEW Lutheran*
- Tournament Placement – Sectional groupings based on geography – *Brad Jodarski, Oshkosh West*
- Membership Rules – Options based on school size – *Brad Jodarski, Oshkosh West*
- Board of Control Structure – More on school size than geography – *Brad Jodarski, Oshkosh West*
- Coach Contact During the School Year – *Ryan McGinnis, Kimberly*
- Amateur Status – *Dillon Maney, Bay Port*



OPEN FORUM

DISTRICT 5

- Name, Image & Likeness (NIL) – *Tanner Havens, Darlington & Brian Borowski, Waunakee*
- Scheduling of Spring Tournament Games – *Austin Bunder, Wauzeka-Steuben*
- Use of Current School Year Enrollment for Tournament Placement – *Mark Siegert, Potosi*

DISTRICT 6

- Use of Video Replay to Review Ejections – *Ryan Tomczyk, Kettle Moraine*
- Addition of Line Item for Hosting Cross Country & Wrestling, Similar to Track & Field – *Mike Daniels, Slinger*
- Allow Full Eligibility for Transfer When Sport is Dropped at a School – *Herm Christiansen, Wilmot*
- Summer Coaching Contact – *Mike Fink, St. John's Northwestern Academies*

DISTRICT 7

- Correction of Clerical Errors – *Jeremy Nichols, Milwaukee King*
- Coach Contact Rules Pertaining to Hiring of New Coach – *John Ruffalo, Kenosha Bradford*
- Video Replay Process – *Kyle LeMieux, Waukesha West*
- Simplification of WIAA Rules – *Ante Udovicic, South Milwaukee*
- Small School Conferences – *Maynard Nickson, Destiny*



REVIEW OF ANNUAL MEETING CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES

COMPETITIVE BALANCE

Constitution Article III Membership Section 3- Classification (p. 14)

- B. After determining the school enrollment as described above (Art. III Sect. 3-A), a tournament performance factor and procedures outlined in Appendix N will be used to determine divisional tournament placement for all WIAA sports, except swimming & diving and track & field.



REVIEW OF CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES

TOURNAMENT SUBSTITUTION

Bylaws Article I - Sports Program, Section 5-C -WIAA Tournament Entry (p. 23)

- C. When a member school withdraws from a team tournament for any reason, the most recently defeated opponent may replace that team.

Corresponding change to the following:

Bylaw Article II - School Competition and Practice Requirements, Section 6-A-2 Classes Interrupted (p. 25)



REVIEW OF CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES

SENIOR TRANSFERS

*Rules of Eligibility Article II - Residence and Transfer, Section 3-A
Transfers (p. 31)*

3. Students entering 11th and 12th grade are restricted to nonvarsity for one calendar year.
4. Students entering 12th grade as transfer students are ineligible to compete at any level for one calendar year, but may practice.



REVIEW OF CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES

COACHING CONTACT

Rules of Eligibility Article VI - Nonschool Participation, Section 2 Out of Season (p. 34-35)

2) The person who will be coaching a student in the following school season shall not be permitted to coach that student other than during the designated school season and Board of Control approved coach contact days in the summertime. Exception is that coaches can have coaching contact with students who have just completed 8th grade up until these 8th graders start their 9th grade year as a student or first day of practice (whichever comes first).



STUDENT LEADERSHIP

The WIAA office is exploring the creation of a student-athlete leadership group.

- A collection of diverse student-athlete leaders from member schools across the state.
- The group will provide a student voice to and with the WIAA and will be the point people for creating an annual leadership conference for their student-athlete peers in the state.
- Student-athletes will learn more about the sports industry and the work of the WIAA through various committee activities.



STUDENT LEADERSHIP

Potential Student Leadership Activities/Responsibilities

- Student-athlete led WIAA Area Meetings
- Leadership role at WIAA State Championships
- Multiple meetings throughout the year (team building, guest speakers, conference planning, etc.)
- Attendance at NFHS Student Leadership Conference (*Indianapolis*)
- Service projects
- What else?



STUDENT LEADERSHIP

HOW COULD A WIAA STUDENT LEADERSHIP GROUP BEST SERVE YOU?

- How could a WIAA student group enhance a current student leadership team at your school?
- Would the addition of a WIAA student leadership group entice you to start one in your district?
- What do you see as positives or negatives of a WIAA student leadership group?
- What elements of a WIAA student leadership group could potentially help you in your role?
- Do you see value in involving this group in the WIAA committee process?
- What suggestions do you have to promote this initiative to student-athletes and create buy-in with member schools?
- Member schools will receive follow-up communication seeking feedback.



CONFERENCE REALIGNMENT TIMELINE

- Application cycle begins – July 1
- Application initiation deadline – October 1
- Application due date for first review – November 1
- Application Final Deadline – November 15
- 2023 (odd year) – Non-football applications
- Fast Track approval process

**Conference Realignment
Flow Chart**

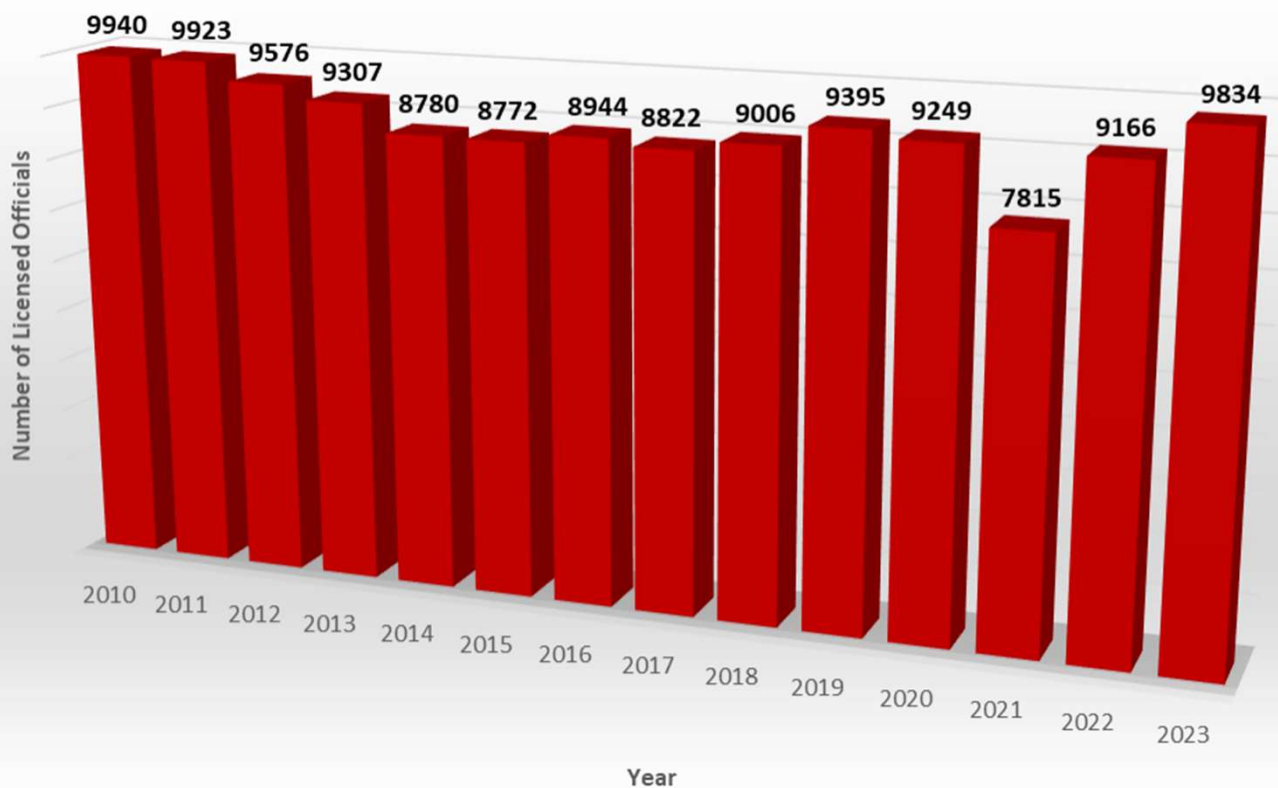




OFFICIALS RECRUITMENT & RETAINMENT

THE GOOD NEWS: 2022-23 was the best year of licensing officials since 2010
Final number 9,834 (up 668 from previous year)

Year by Year Totals: Licensed WIAA Officials





OFFICIALS RECRUITMENT & RETAINMENT

The Role you are playing ...

Improving the situation in the long-term:

High School Student Officials

- Interest in offering a high school class for students
 - **243** students licensed in 2021-22
 - **1,419** students licensed in 2022-23
- Prior to the start of the school year: 227 students from 97 high schools were/are licensed
- NFHS Rule Books
 - Available immediately for all sports in all seasons
 - Shared Google folder includes roster of all registered students
 - Can be transferred to your teacher - Send request to our office
 - Students must REGISTER, COMPLETE RULES VIDEO and EXAM
 - No longer a limit to number of sports



NIL & AMATEUR STATUS

Currently in Wisconsin, student-athletes are in violation of the members' amateur status rules if they:

- Accept, receive and/or direct to another, reimbursement or award in any form of salary, cash, or share of game or season proceeds for achievement in athletics. A student may receive: school mementos valued not more than \$200, an award valued no more than \$100 retail, and may retain nonschool competition apparel worn by the student as part of the team uniform.
- Sign a contract or agreement for services as a participating athlete.
- Receive compensation or benefit, directly or indirectly, for the use of name, picture, and/or personal appearance as an athlete.
- Receive free and/or reduced rates on equipment, apparel, camps/clinics/instruction and competitive opportunities that are not identical for all other participants. In addition, student-athletes and parents must pay all costs associated with attending camps and/or clinics.
- Are identified as an athlete, provides endorsement as an athlete, or appears as an athlete, in the promotion of a commercial/advertisement and/or profit-making event, item, plan or service.
- Play in any contest (school or nonschool) under a name other than his/her own name.



NIL & AMATEUR STATUS

- WIAA amateur status rules are established to prevent high school student athletes from being exploited for their accomplishments associated with their athletic talents.
- This not only prevents the student-athlete from profiting off of their own name, image or likeness, but it prevents others from doing the same including both for profit and non-profit entities.
 - Student-athletes can not appear in advertising (print, video, social media, etc.) to promote anything that generates funds. **Wishing them luck or congratulating a team or athlete** for their accomplishment is allowed, but these should be well vetted with the respective school administration first.
- Publications
 - No issues with the media and their efforts to tell the story of student-athletes or their teams accomplishments.
 - This is not to be confused with a publication that is intended to market a business or organization, as these are using the student-athlete to market their business.

Note: Member schools are exempt and are allowed to use their student athletes as they wish as well as the association.



NIL & AMATEUR STATUS

The landscape continues to change ...

- 32 states with approved NIL opportunities
- One year ago, there were 16 states
- Seven additional states considering it
- NFHS encourages states to discuss it



NIL & AMATEUR STATUS - EDUCATION

Partnership with Advance on NIL Education for High School Sports

- Customized NIL app for WIAA
- 45-60 minute virtual lesson for AD/coach
- Quarterly virtual lessons for parents/athletes
- 10% discount to WIAA app for families

ADs and school administrators - Virtual Lesson #1



Save the Date: September 28th @ 10 a.m.





COMPETITIVE BALANCE & CLASSIFICATION COMMITTEE

Process begins in **2024-25** | Planning begins in **2023-24**

Timeline

Co-ops:

October 1 (Fall), February 1 (Winter), May 1 (Spring)

Request for Division Placement Up or Down:

October 1 (Fall), February 1 (Winter), May 1 (Spring)

Appeal for Promotion due to Points:

December 1 (Fall), April 1 (Winter), July 1 (Spring)

- Application Forms available on Competitive Balance page or School Directory
- Classification Committee makes final determination
- Three-year Point Total - Senior High Handbook, Appendix N



LICENSED ATHLETIC TRAINERS

With the decreasing support from health care organizations for school-based athletic trainers:

- Schools could consider making the athletic trainer part of their permanent staff.
- Could share athletic trainers within a district to help with cost, but most importantly, still provide adequate coverage for student-athletes.
- Schools can be more proactive with contract discussions, may need to budget higher cost for athletic trainers - could there be a role for booster club funding?



HOME-BASED STUDENTS

Verify the student meets the eligibility requirements:

- Enrolled in homeschool (DPI form PI-1206)
- Student resides in your district (driver's license, utility bill, etc.).
- Is the student taking any classes at any school (public, private, virtual, etc.) in addition to being a bona-fide homeschool student.

The student must meet the required rules on the same basis and to the same extent that all other full-time students at the school:

- Physical, Code of Conduct, WIAA Rules, Emergency Locator, and Concussion Law

Determine how you will verify homeschool grades per the Athletic Code requirements (i.e., grade checks and quarter/semester grade reports).

General Questions to ask and to assess:

- Did the student attend a school (brick and mortar, public/private, in-person/virtual, etc.)?
- Is the student a transfer student?
- Are there prior academic or discipline issues that need to be addressed with suspensions?



ELIGIBILITY TECH UPDATES

Online Interstate Competition Form

- Hosting schools in Wisconsin will fill out the online form, participating schools will receive notification.
- Attending an event out of state will fill out the form
- WIAA sanction for four or more teams with one out-of-state or any event with three or more states.
- NFHS sanction for co-sponsored events, eight or more schools, five or more states, two or more countries.
- **Be aware of deadlines from NFHS and fees associated for missing them (\$150 for 60+ days, \$300 for 15-59 days, \$500 for 14 or less days).*

Online EVTS

- A few fields were changed (eliminated employment, added homeschool, more clear undue influence question, added lacrosse, sports listed school & nonschool, parent/guardian)

Other Tech Updates in the Works....



SEASON LENGTHS

- Last year, discussion at Annual Meeting, Area Meetings and Advisory Council.
- Discussion continues:
 - Possible Ad Hoc Committee to review - Season start dates, game maximums, and season length.



CO-SPONSORED EVENTS

Bylaw Article II Section 5-E

Contests conducted by non-school entity **MUST BE DONE IN PARTNERSHIP WITH A MEMBER SCHOOL TO ENSURE WIAA AND NFHS RULES ARE BEING FOLLOWED**

Examples:

- UW-Whitewater and UW-Platteville Indoor Track
- Disney Spring Training
- Cal Ripken Spring Ball
- Roy Griak Cross Country Invite @ University of Minnesota
- Woodside Sports Complex
- Just-a-Game



JV CO-OPS

Within the co-op language of the Constitution, it is permitted for schools to enter into nonvarsity co-op without conference or Board of Control approval.

- This is to allow for schools to combine teams and provide kids a chance to play where they otherwise would not have enough numbers to support a nonvarsity team.
- If your team is already in a cooperative agreement, this provision would allow for you to add another team at the nonvarsity level. It is NOT to create a different nonvarsity co-op than what you have for the varsity team.



NATIONAL EVENTS

- Current language only allows WIAA member schools to participate in events against schools that are full members of their state association in all sports.
- There are some states that allow schools to not be NFHS members in specific sports.
- The rationale behind the NFHS requirement is to ensure fair and equitable play. A non-NFHS member school would not be required to play by the same age, grade level, amateur status, etc., rules.
- The question is, do we want to allow our schools to compete against teams that are not NFHS members?



BREAK OUT TOPIC

The value of being a WIAA member school

- What are the non-negotiables/expectations of WIAA member schools?
- Discuss the options available to member schools when they encounter a rule or interpretation that impacts their school.
- Are there other things that could be implemented which would enhance the value of membership?



COACH CONTACT/SUMMER & FALL LEAGUES

School Programs in Disguise:

Concern is growing from members that the rule is being violated where coaches are coordinating the non-school programs to conduct team activities throughout the summer beyond the five sanctioned contact days.

By coaches coordinating the non-school programs, they are circumventing the contact rule and not honoring fair and equitable play.

Intent of the Rule: Provide a coach and a student athlete the opportunity to be involved in programming that is not school affiliated during the summer.

Application of the Rule: Outside entity organizes an event and secures a coach that MAY have members of that coach's high school team on it. The outside entity is responsible for all coordination and planning as well as liability of the team.

Liability Concern: Ask yourself with programs in disguise who would parents hold responsible if there was an injury, misconduct, lack of playing time, etc.

Examples of Concern: Summer Slam VB Tournament (WI Dells), Summer & Fall Leagues, AD Letter



COACH CONTACT/SUMMER & FALL LEAGUES

The intent for this summer league would be considered non-school programming.

The rationale was that since the school is not paying for this, it is non-school programming. (The school) was not responsible for any of the funding of this league. This cost is passed on to the players. This is not required for students to participate.

The part that struck me from our conversation was the part about who sets this up. Our coach, (coach), set this up for our girls volleyball players to participate in this league. In my discussion with (coach) she felt that she was following the rules because the school was not paying for this, not using school resources, it was not at the high school, and that this was not a mandatory requirement. She had cited that she was recently watching the WIAA rules video, and based on her interpretation, she thought she was doing things correctly. The part of disguising as a school team was something she recalled, however she felt that everything was above board and there was nothing that she was trying to hide or do that she felt was illegal.

(Coach) had also stated the YMCA sent an email to the coaches participating in the summer league, and many are high school coaches. Her understanding is these high school coaches handle league the same way. While we may think that the entire league handled this tournament like we did, I have no way of proving that nor is it my place to dive into this.

...My sense is that most of our schools in the (conference) are handling summer leagues similar to what we did and I feel that this will be helpful to share with the other Athletic Directors in our conference.

You had asked for dates for this league. The dates were June 13, June 20, June 27, July 11, July 18, July 25 and Aug. 1. She was not coaching on the July 25th date. She had used the 5 contact days outside of these dates.



COACH CONTACT/SUMMER LEAGUES

Unintended Consequences:

- Additional coaches pay for out of season duties,
- Athletes choosing programs
- Coach burn out
- Facility conflicts
- Liability

Moving Forward:

Consistent application of member rules

OR

Amendments to member rules to meet the interest of the membership

Establish communication with your coaches, provide them with training and understanding of rules, reach out for assistance before attempting something new or unusual. Don't assume that if another school is doing something ... they may just not have been identified...



BREAK OUT TOPIC

Coach Contact

- Acknowledge examples of violations in your area
- Discuss the benefits and the concerns of keeping the rule as is, while continuing to provide clarification and enforcing consistently at the local level.
- Discuss the benefits and the concerns of keeping the rule as is, but increasing the number of allowed school sanctioned contact days in the summer. How about during the school year?
- Discuss the benefits and the concerns of unlimited summer coaching contact.



2024 PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES

Bylaws Article II Section 2 (ROE Article VI Section 2)

Section 2 – Competition and Practice Restrictions

A school (or its staff) cannot be involved in sport-specific programming outside of the specified season during the school year.



2024 PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES

Bylaw Article II Section 2-B

Schools may conduct youth programming during the school year outside the season of competition ... [camps, clinics, etc.]



2024 PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES

Senior High Handbook - Constitution (Article VI – Powers and Duties of the Board of Control, Section 2 Authority) & Season Regulations (Rules Governing Competition)

NFHS Compliance - All sports must be in compliance with NFHS rules and regulations.



2024 PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES

Name, Image & Likeness

Rules of Eligibility Article IV Section 1-A

An athlete forfeits amateur status in a sport by capitalizing on athletic fame by receiving money, compensation, endorsements or gifts of monetary value in affiliation or connection with activities involving the student's school team, school, Conference or WIAA (scholarships to institutions of higher learning are specifically exempted).

1. This provision is not intended to restrict the right of any student to participate in a commercial endorsement provided there is no school team, school, Conference or WIAA affiliation.
2. The student does not appear in the uniform of the student's school and does not utilize the marks, logos, etc. of the school, Conference or WIAA as part of any endorsement.



2024 PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES

Use of Video Replay:

Video review is permitted by WIAA staff when requested by a member school administrator to eliminate the subsequent suspension (next day of competition and/or WIAA tournament) of a participant when there is misidentification of an ejected individual, an ejection caused by a direct misapplication of the playing rules or when incontrovertible video evidence shows that an ejection or suspension for flagrant contact with an opponent or intentional and/or aggressive contact with an official was in error.



2022-2023 YEAR IN REVIEW

NFHS WISCONSIN BOYS COACHES OF THE YEAR

Baseball: **Bill Miller**, Denmark

Basketball: **Brian Winchester**, De Pere

Cross Country: **Donn Behnke**, SPASH

Football: **Andrew Selgrad**, Columbus

Hockey: **John Larson**, New Richmond

Soccer: **Dave Perkins**, Verona

Swim & Dive: **Jenny Heck**, Rhinelander

Tennis: **Alex Ferruzzi**, Westosha Central

Track & Field: **Jon Schwantz**, Shiocton

Wrestling: **Jeff Matczak**, Kaukauna



2022-2023 YEAR IN REVIEW

NFHS WISCONSIN GIRLS COACHES OF THE YEAR

Basketball: **Sara Rohde**, Notre Dame

Cross Country: **CJ Michaud**, Muskego

Gymnastics: **Rachel Hauser**, Verona

Hockey: **Doug Trentor**, Superior

Soccer: **Chris Martinelli**, Edgewood

Softball: **Tim Roehrig**, Kaukauna

Swim & Dive: **Emily Schwabe**, Edgewood

Tennis: **Adam Westhauser**, Elkhorn

Track & Field: **Terry Anders**, Fall Creek

Volleyball: **Kat Hanson**, McDonell Central



2022-23 YEAR IN REVIEW

ADDITIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

- \$2.9 million returned to member schools during the 2022-23 school year
- Launch of InSideOut Initiative in partnership with the Green Bay Packers
- Hosted the Girls Wrestling State Championship at the Kohl Center for the first time
- Recognized 32 Scholar Athletes - Anne Marie Anderson as keynote
- Secured We Energies and WPS Foundations as a new sponsor and awarded \$1000 to each Student Athlete for the first time
- Welcomed Melissa Gehring as WIAA Assistant Director



AREA MEETING
ANNOUNCEMENTS
MEET & GREET

Thank you!

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