

Appendix N

Competitive Balance

Overview of the Process

1. Enrollment
2. Classification committee considers requests for placement (up or down)
3. Tournament Performance Factor Applied
4. Divisional placement released
5. Schools that were moved up based on performance factor can appeal to the classification committee
6. Classification committee considers appeals
7. Divisional placement finalized

Overview of the Process (football only)

1. Tournament Performance Factor Applied
2. Divisional promotion released to schools that would be moved up
3. Schools that are moved up based on performance factor can appeal to the classification committee
4. Classification committee considers appeals
5. Divisional placement finalized using qualifying schools enrollment, tournament performance factor application, and classification committees' appeal decisions

Tournament Classification Procedure

1. Enrollment numbers will be submitted by schools to the WIAA per procedures outlined in WIAA Constitution, Article III, Section 3A & 3B.
2. Each school may submit a **request** to WIAA indicating the classification (division) in which the school wishes to compete in each sport by the established deadlines. A school failing to meet the designated deadline will not be permitted to request a classification other than the one assigned by the WIAA. The classification committee will consider the following factors:
 - a. Prior year out-of-building student percentage on rosters or historical movement of student athletes
 - b. Socioeconomics of the school's population
 - c. Demographics of the school's population
 - d. Competitive history and balance
 - e. Geography
 - f. School's enrollment trend
 - g. Student participation rate in WIAA-sponsored activities
 - h. Student enrollment factors (i.e open enrollment, students from outside your school's location)
3. The tournament performance factor will be calculated after each season and applied on a sport by sport basis. **Note: Track & Field & Swim & Dive will continue to use only enrollment.**
 - a. The tournament performance factor will be a three-year cumulative total of no less than six points per division.
 - b. Teams that have accumulated at least six tournament performance points will be promoted to the next highest division from the previous year. No team will be moved more than one division per year.
 - c. If tournament performance factor points total over the previous three years falls below the six points in all divisions, promoted teams will move down a division, unless the school enrollment places them in the higher division, per tournament regulations for that sport.
 - d. Cooperative Teams
When a new co-op forms, the co-op will receive a point total equal to the combined total of all schools in the co-op.
 - e. Calculating the tournament performance factor:
 - 1) Points will be cumulative for a three-year period. (The inaugural point total will be calculated beginning with the 2021-22 school year)
 - 2) Points will be awarded based upon the following system.
 - (a) The points earned are those assigned to the highest level of tournament success, not a cumulative total of points. The maximum points a team can earn in a given season is four (4) points.

Bracketed Sports

Baseball, Basketball, 11-player Football, Hockey, Soccer, Softball, Volleyball, Wrestling

- (a) 1 point for advancing to the state quarterfinal, sectional final or Level 3 11-player FB, (final 8 teams)
- (b) 2 points for advancing to the state semifinal (final 4 teams)
- (c) 3 points for advancing to the championship game
- (e) 4 points for winning a state title

Non-bracketed Sports

Cross Country (Boys & Girls)

- (a) 1 point for qualifying for the state meet
- (b) 2 points for placing 3rd or 4th place at the state meet or for Sectional Champion
- (c) 3 points for winning the state runner up
- (d) 4 points for winning the state title

Golf (Girls)

- (a) 1 point for qualifying for the state meet
- (b) 2 points for placing 3rd or 4th place at the state meet or for Sectional Champion
- (c) 3 points for winning the state runner up
- (d) 4 points for winning the state title

Golf (Boys)

- (a) 1 point for qualifying for the state meet
- (b) 2 points for placing 3rd or 4th place at the state meet or for Sectional Champion
- (c) 3 points for winning the state runner up
- (d) 4 points for winning the state title

Gymnastics

- (a) 1 point for qualifying for the state meet
- (b) 2 points for placing 3rd or 4th place at the state meet or for Sectional Champion
- (c) 3 points for winning the state runner up
- (d) 4 points for winning the state title

Tennis (Boys and Girls) Division 1

- (a) 1 point for Sectional Champion
- (b) 2 points for placing 3rd or 4th place at the state meet
- (c) 3 points for winning the state runner up
- (d) 4 points for winning the state title

Tennis (Boys and Girls) Division 2

- (a) 1 point for Sectional runner-up (if schools tie, all schools receive points)
- (b) 2 points for Sectional final champion (final 4)
- (c) 3 points for winning the state runner up
- (d) 4 points for winning a state title

4. After application of the tournament performance factor, divisions will be assigned based upon the season regulations/tournament procedures for that sport.

Note 1: A team cannot be moved down a division due to another team's promotion if the aforementioned team has earned any tournament performance factor points in that division during the previous three years. The next smallest school without tournament performance factor points in that division during the previous three years will be moved down.

Note 2: If a team is moved down a division, the next biggest school will move up if it is necessary to fulfill the tournament procedures and schedule for that sport.

Note 3: The previous school year enrollment will be used to break a tie in enrollment.

5. Schools will be allowed to appeal their placement to the classification committee using any/all of the factors below as rationale. A successful appeal requires a favorable vote of a simple majority of classification committee members voting.
- a. Prior year out-of-building student percentage on rosters or historical movement of student athletes
 - b. Socioeconomics of the school's population
 - c. Demographics of the school's population
 - d. Competitive history and balance
 - e. Geography
 - f. School's enrollment trend
 - g. Student participation rate in WIAA-sponsored activities
 - h. Student enrollment factors (i.e open enrollment, students from outside your school's location)

6. All decisions of the classification committee are final.

Classification Committee - 15 members with a 3-year term/rotation appointed by WIAA staff. An effort will be made to diversify the Classification Committee so that it is representative of the membership.

1 - Athletic Director from each WIAA district

1 - Superintendent or Principal from each WIAA district

1 - Conference Commissioner