

Board of Control Approves Baseball Coaches & Staff Recommendations; Budget

The Board of Control acted on a pair of baseball coaches' recommendations impacting the season regulations, approved an amnesty provision and passed the 2016-17 operational budget at its October meeting.

Beginning in 2017, the first games of the summer baseball regional tournament will be held Tuesday with the regional final to be played Wednesday. This adds another day of rest relative to the new pitch count mandates and the possibility of rain outs, which will allow teams to have their entire pitching staff available for sectionals. In a related discussion, the methods for recording and tracking the pitch counts were presented to the Board.

In addition, the Board approved a baseball coaches' recommendation to reduce the distance required for traveling to regional seed meetings to 80 miles from the host school beginning in 2017. The former mandate states 120 miles from the host meeting site.

The sports of track & field and softball had no recommended changes to the Season Regulations. However, the proposed 2017 State Softball Tournament schedule with the five-division format was presented with seven games Thursday and Friday, and five championship games slated for Saturday. Other softball discussions identified Madison College as the preferred alternate State Tournament site.

The unanimous vote of the Board to provide temporary relief in the membership's Code of Conduct section of the Rules of Eligibility allows its members to conform to the state's amnesty law passed last spring. The decision temporarily suspends the WIAA rule requiring a suspension of at least one game for violations of a school's code for

possession or use of alcohol-in cases of victims reporting a sexual assault and who cooperate with law enforcement. Inserting the amnesty provision into the Rules of Eligibility permanently will require a vote of the membership at the Annual Meeting next April.

The Board gave its approval to the 2016-17 operations budget of approximately \$8 million. The budget continues to be largely driven by tournament series revenues and expenses, which is significantly influenced by weather and match-ups. The new budget reflects a steady flow of revenue from tournament gate receipts and sponsorship and royalties, and acknowledges the continued costs for hosting tournaments, legal fees and building maintenance.

The Board also approved a recommendation by the executive staff to support an amendment to the current NFHS Network agreement that continues the payment of rights fees at the same level for the next three years with an increase in the fourth and fifth year of the agreement.

Among the other topics discussed were potential Constitutional amendments, Area Meetings, Sports Medical Policies and Procedures Manual updates, reimbursements to schools when tournament games are moved to a different site, expanded school-sponsored summer coach contact, officials' payment practices and an awareness that the Wisconsin State Music Association State Marching Band competition is scheduled on the same day as WIAA Tournaments in the fall of 2017.

The Board received liaison reports from Mike Thompson of the Department of Public Instruction, John Ashley of the Wisconsin Association of School Boards and Tim Collins of the Wisconsin Athletic Directors Association. ●

Board of Control Reviewed Topics at September Meeting

The Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association Board of Control approved action items and received executive staff updates and reports at its September meeting on Sept. 9.

Among the action items receiving approval were the general fund payments for August, and renewal of the agreement with Visual Image Photography as the Official Photography Partner of the WIAA State Tournaments through 2021.

The Executive Staff provided the Board with reports on the Area Meetings in Mount Horeb and Oconomowoc, which are the first two of seven Area Meetings around the state this fall. In addition, the Board was provided an initial overview of the 2016-17 operations budget.

Other topics presented in the executive staff reports to the Board were ongoing social media promotional efforts and a membership survey designed to gather data from the membership on competitive equity and sport season placement. Conference realignment, corporate sponsorship and technology updates were also discussion topics. The Board also received a liaison report from Tim Collins of the Wisconsin Athletic Directors Association.

2016 Sportsmanship Summit Scheduled For December 7

The WIAA, in cooperation with Rural Mutual Insurance, is excited to offer the eighth biennial Sportsmanship Summit Wednesday, Dec. 7, at the Holiday Inn & Convention Center in Stevens Point, Wis.

Registration is open to all member schools. Each registered school will consist of six members that can include students, coaches, administrators, booster clubs or members of the community. The deadline to register a team for the Summit is Monday, Nov. 28.

The purpose of the Summit is to assist membership schools with their citizenship and sportsmanship efforts for students, student-athletes, adult fans, advisors, parents and booster clubs; developing plans to improve or maintain good sportsmanship locally; and assisting schools identify and implement a safe, respectful and education-based environment for high school sports.

The Summit is scheduled to begin with registration at 8:30 a.m. with the first session starting at 9 a.m. The cost of the event is \$125

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website < http://www.wiaawi.org > < info@wiaawi.org > General Use < refs@wiaawi.org > Officials Department

In Memoriam

The WIAA family is saddened by the loss of former Associate Director Don Herrmann, who passed away Monday, Sept. 5, at the age of 84.



Don Herrmann 1932-2016

Herrmann served 25 years in the executive office, retiring on Aug. 1, 1998. He joined the staff in July 1973 as an assistant to the director, replacing Les Ansorge. He assumed the duties for tournament planning and rule responsibilities for the sports of football, wrestling, tennis, softball and hockey.

Herrmann later added sports medicine responsibilities and was instrumental in development of the first wrestling minimum weight program in the nation, which implemented guidelines and restrictions for weight loss.

"In the minds of many-especially in Wisconsin's wrestling circle and beyond-Don's pioneering of the wrestling minimum weight program, the first in the nation, will be one of his most enduring legacies," WIAA Executive Director Dave Anderson said. "Don was not only an extraordinary thinker and 'doer' in his own right, but he was also very willing to look at other ideas and incorporate them into his own efforts as he strove to develop the best possible climate for student athletes."

In 1992, he was promoted to associate director and added coaches education and AODA workshops to his responsibilities.

During his service with the WIAA, he was a member of the National Federation of State High School Association rules committees in football, wrestling, softball and hockey. He was elected to the chairman position of the hockey and softball committees, as well as the NFHS Sports Medicine Advisory and Football Officials Manual Committees. In addition to his work on committees on the national level, he served as liaison to the Wisconsin Athletic Trainers Association and coordinated the TARGET Team.

In recognition of his dedication to high school sports, Herrmann was inducted into the George Martin Wrestling Hall of Fame in 1981 and was enshrined into the Wisconsin Football Coaches Hall of Fame in 1997.

The Chicago native graduated from Minocqua High School and attended the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. He participated in football, track & field and wrestling and graduated with an undergraduate degree in 1955. He was inducted into the university's Hall of Fame in 1995.

Herrmann taught on the faculty at Wittenberg, Wis., for one year and at Oconto, Wis., for four years before enrolling in graduate work at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and teaching part-time in Madison and Middleton. He joined the UW physical education department in 1965 and became the head of the American College of Sports Medicine. Herrmann also officiated football and wrestling and served as a rules interpreter in wrestling prior to joining the WIAA staff. ●

FROM THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF STATE HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS

Coaching Pole Vault

The indoor track and field season is rapidly approaching, so it is a great time for coaches and athletes to take advantage of the free online "Coaching Pole Vault" course. More than 10,400 courses have been delivered and the number of coaches and athletes taking the course continues to grow. It is a perfect course for pole vault education and risk minimization when coaching or participating in the event. The course is also valuable for parents of vaulters to review. Please share with your schools that the course is available at http://nfhslearn.com/courses.

Deadlines

CO-OP TEAM DEADLINES

Just a reminder that schools wishing to renew their existing coops or start new co-op programs for the 2017-18 school year need to abide by the following deadlines:

Fall Sports Deadline - February 1, 2017

Winter Sports Deadline - April 1, 2017

Spring Sports Deadline - June 1, 2017

Schools can check on the status of their co-op program by checking the WIAA website under Schools > Membership/Co-op Teams.

8-PLAYER FOOTBALL DEADLINE

If you are intending to participate in 8-player football for 2017-18, please remember that the deadline to declare is December 1, 2017.

OPT-UP 1 DIVISION

For schools wishing to opt up one division for the 2017-18 tournament series, in any sport, are reminded of the following deadlines:

Fall Sports Deadline - February 1, 2017

Winter Sports Deadline - April 1, 2017

Spring Sports Deadline - June 1, 2017

NEW SPORT OFFERING

Any schools planning to offer a new sport for the 2017-18 school year are reminded of the following deadlines for tournament participation:

Fall Sports Deadline - February 1, 2017

Winter Sports Deadline - April 1, 2017

Spring Sports Deadline - June 1, 2017 ●

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT AND CIRCULATION (Act of August 12, 1970; Section 4369, Title 39, United States Code)

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- 8. Known bondholders, mortgages and other security holders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages or other securities - None.
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I certify that the statements made by me above are correct and complete. Todd Clark



Officiating Volleyball: Ball Handling

The NFHS Officials Education Department is excited to announce the availability of the first sport specific online officials education course. "Officiating Volleyball: Ball Handling" is now available on www.nfhslearn.com.

"Officiating Volleyball: Ball Handling" gives an overview of tips and techniques that officials need to make correct ball handling calls. Video examples of various contacts by each position are provided to assist officials in visually identifying ball handling faults and legal player action. This course teaches and shows the difference between legal and illegal contacts, helping officials be more consistent in their ball handling calls. Units covered include Introduction to Ball Handling; Rules Governing Ball Handling; Techniques to Train the Eye; Variables and External Stimuli; and Overview of Each Skill. Short comprehension quizzes and "you make the call' scenarios are scattered throughout the course. The course will cost \$10 for NFHS Officials Association members and \$20 for any non-member official or other interested party.

Initiative Continues to Put Veterans in Stripes



The WIAA will continue to offer current and former military personnel the opportunity to license as a WIAA sport official by waiving the basic licensing and sport

fee for two years. This offer is extended to those current and former military personnel who are licensing as a WIAA sport official for the first time.

Regardless of the branch of service, the training, discipline and core values ingrained in military personnel are the same qualities demanded of sport officials. Because of these qualities, we believe that men and women with military experience would fit well into interscholastic sport officiating and in this small way, the WIAA wants to acknowledge those who serve and say "thank you."

Maj. Scott Hagen, a chaplain in the Army Reserve living in Sparta, became one of the first veterans to take advantage of the initiative's benefits. He has been certified for a number of years as a United States Soccer Federation reference

"This is actually the first time that I've applied to become a high school official," he said. "The offer to waive the registration fees for veterans kind of kicked me over the edge to go ahead and do it. I was thinking about it, but just hadn't gotten around to doing it."

The initiative and its benefits received widespread support prior to its launch and in its initial months of its availability. The program has been embraced by the Wisconsin Athletic Directors Association, Wisconsin Conference Commissioners Association, InCheck (WIAA's background check provider), various officials associations around the state and a number of state associations throughout the Midwest.

In further assisting armed service personnel, the WIAA is continuing efforts to solicit support from providers of officials equipment and apparel such as Gerry Davis Sports, Cliff Keen, Honig's, UmpAttire and Under Armour to offer special cost savings for soldiers entering the officiating ranks.

To increase awareness of the initiative among military personnel, the WIAA is working cooperatively with the Wisconsin National Guard and Reserves and the staff of state adjutant general, as well as the Wisconsin Employment Resource Connection, which partners with the state Department of Workforce Development and the state Department of Veterans Affairs in helping unemployed and underemployed service members and their spouses gain employment.

To get started, please download and complete a license application found on the WIAA website at www.wiaawi.org/officials/BecomeanOfficial.aspx and mail it to our office with some type of documentation verifying military service. Or, get started by calling or emailing us at 715-344-8580 or refs@wiaawi.org.

2016 Boys State Soccer Championships

The 2016 Boys State Soccer Championships will take on a new look this year. On Championship Saturday the games will be played in a new order – the first game on Saturday will be the Division 1 championship at 11 a.m. followed by the Division 4 championship game at 1:30 p.m. In the evening session, the Division 3 championship will begin at 4:30 p.m. followed by the Division 2 final at 7 p.m.

The Soccer Coaches Advisory Committee recommended the change, that was ultimately approved by the WIAA Board of Control, to change the order of their tournament games. It was felt by the Committee that a change to the order would be beneficial to all schools as the same division will not be placed against other events on the same night each year.

The tournament will kick off on Thursday, November 3 with the Division 1 semifinal games at 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. The Thursday evening session will feature the Division 4 semifinals. On Friday, November 4, the Division 3 semifinals will be played at 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. followed by the Division 2 semifinals Friday night at 4:30 p.m. and 7 p.m.

That sets up Championship Saturday with the schedule as noted above. The winners of each of four sectionals in each of the four divisions will advance to the State Tournament. Again this year, teams will play two 45-minute halves followed by two 10-minute overtime periods in the event the game is tied at the end of 90 minutes. There will not be sudden victory but two full 10-minute periods will be played in the overtime periods.

The higher seeded teams will wear white uniforms and be designated as the home team through the sectional semifinal games. For the sectional final and state games, the first school alphabetically will wear white jerseys.

The State games will be streamed live on the NFHS Network on Thursday and Friday. The Championship games on Saturday, November 5 will be live on FS Wisconsin and also streamed on the FoxSportsGo Network.

2016 Football State Championships

Thursday & Friday, Nov. 17-18
Camp Randall Stadium, Madison, Wis.

Thursday, Nov. 17

Division 7: 10 a.m.
Division 6: 1 p.m.
Division 5: 4 p.m.
Division 4: 7 p.m.

Friday, Nov. 18

Division 3: 10 a.m. Division 2: 1 p.m. Division 1: 4 p.m.

2016 WIAA Eight-Player Football Jamboree

Saturday, October 29

Stiehm Stadium, Schofield, Wis.

10 a.m. - #4 North vs. #4 South 1 p.m. - #3 North vs. #3 South 4 p.m. - #2 North vs. #2 South 7 p.m. - #1 North vs. #2 South

WIAA Sport Medical Advisory Committee

By Dr. Wade Labecki, WIAA Deputy Director

The History

In mid-1930, the WIAA Board of Control established the WIAA Benefit Plan to be overseen by the WIAA Secretary Neverman. "The WIAA also procured the services of a medical advisor for the Benefit Plan. The first such person was Dr. M. D. Bird of Marinette. He received a \$100 honorarium for his first year's work of reviewing unusual injury claims." (Otte, More Than A Game, 1996, 120)

With the creation of the WIAA Benefit Plan, the WIAA established days-out limitations on athlete injuries and determined a required recovery period. In fact, the WIAA Benefit Plan limited the return to play from a major head injury (concussion) to one calendar year and the return to play from a minor head injury to 30 days.

The WIAA Sport Medical Advisory Committee (SMAC) was established in 1974 to replace the State Medical Society's Subcommittee on WIAA matters because the latter group "has only one practicing physician involved in athletics." (Otte, 377) In 1975, the Committee met for the first time. The WIAA was among the first high school state associations in the country to develop a Sport Medical Advisory Committee.

Significant Health Moves

The WIAA Medical Policies and Procedures Manual was distributed to the WIAA membership in 1975 and revamped for the 1990-91 school year. The publication provides guidelines on many medical matters for interscholastic athletic practices and contests. It currently is updated bi-annually and a hard copy is sent to all WIAA member schools after each update.

The Sport Medical Advisory Committee established the Wrestling 7% Committee in 1989 and in 1990; the 7% Committee recommended the skinfold measurement system for all wrestlers to determine a minimum wrestling weight. The program became mandatory in 1991. (Otte, 432) Later in 1996, the 7% Committee recommended a hydra-

tion test to work along with the skin-fold measurement process.

In a 1989 opinion which resulted in a 1990 rule change, "The Medical Advisory Committee supports a strong position on the use of steroids, recommending that a student who has been found to use them be ineligible for a minimum of one year and not reinstated without testing to make sure the athlete has ceased using them." (Otte, 439) The rule change applied the code of conduct minimum to performance enhancing substances.

The WIAA, by Board of Control action as recommended by the Medical Advisory Committee, made a significant health move that was instituted at the beginning of the 1993-94 school year. Called the "day of rest" rule, it required teams in all sports to "rest from all physical activity for at least one calendar day after six consecutive days of practice or competition." (Otte, 440)

In 1995, the SMAC adopted the wrestling skin form to be utilized when a contagious skin condition may exist. The examination must be done no more than three days prior to wrestling and furnished at weigh-ins.

The Committee began the discussion of Female Osteoporosis concerns in 2008 and later developed the Female Triad guidelines in 2010. Female Triad was officially described as a syndrome of: disordered eating, lack of menstrual cycles, and osteoporosis in females. In addition, the SMAC identified concerns with Sickle Cell Trait.

In 2011, the SMAC worked with legislators to develop concussion legislation. As the concussion legislation was passed, the Committee worked with the Wisconsin Department of Instruction to provide educational materials for member schools and other youth athletic organizations.

The SMAC worked with the Wisconsin Football Coaches Association to develop an acclimatization plan in 2012 and a policy was implemented for the 2014 season. The SMAC also discussed player-on-

player contact. Player-on-player contact was limited beginning in the fall of 2014 to no contact the first week, 75 minutes the second week, and 60 minutes for the rest of the season. The plan was later adopted by the NFHS as a recommendation.

The Committee discussed transgender participation and eligibility in 2013. After reviewing the NCAA policy and several state associations' models, the SMAC made a recommendation to the Board of Control for adoption in June of 2013.

After discussions in 2004, 2007, and 2010, the SMAC prepared guidelines for sudden cardiac arrest to member schools in 2013. The Committee adopted the Anyone Can Save A Life emergency action plan for member schools and the NFHS Foundation provided a copy to be distributed to all WIAA member schools in 2015.

The Present

The SMAC began discussions in May of 2015 regarding baseball pitcher arm care. A study conducted on Tommy John surgeries from 2007-2011 stated that 50% of 790 surgeries during that time period were on adolescents in the 15-19 year-old age group. A pitch count was adopted with input of the Wisconsin Baseball Coaches Association in May 2016 for implementation in the spring of 2017.

At the May 2016 meeting, the SMAC adopted a change from the wrestling half-pound per day weight loss to the 1.5 percent per week weight loss plan based on the recommendation of the 7% Committee. The 1.5% weight loss program will provide an individualized weight loss plan for every wrestler based on their skin-fold measurement.

In addition, the SMAC adopted guidelines for Relative Energy Deficit in Sport (RED-S) to emphasize the condition affects all athletes; not just females. Due to the energy deficiency in RED-S normal body functioning is impaired and can affect metabolic rate, immunity, cardiovascular health, protein synthesis, as well as menstrual function, and bone health.



Stobber Appointed to NFHS Committee

Jill Stobber, the athletic director at Waterford High School, has accepted an appointment to serve on the National Federation of State High School Associations Sports Medicine Advisory Committee as liaison for the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association.



Jill Stobbe

mittee meeting in Indianapolis.

"I found my first meeting in Indianapolis this weekend to be a very rewarding and informative experience," Stobber said. "I hope my experience on this com-

She began her four-year appointment in October with a com-

and informative experience," Stobber said. "I hope my experience on this committee can be beneficial to both the WIAA and WADA during the next four years, as well as in my position for my district.

"Having spent 22 years as a Certified Athletic Trainer, this was a perfect opportunity to continue my passion for Sports Medicine with Athletic Administration" she added

The purpose of the Sports Medicine Advisory Committee is to provide information, vision, and guidance to the NFHS, while emphasizing the health and safety of students participating in interscholastic sports and activities.

Stobber currently serves on the WIAA Sports Advisory Committee, a position she has held since 2013. Prior to becoming the athletic director at Waterford in 2015, she held a similar position at Hartford High School.

Positions on Sportsmanship Committee Available

The Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association is accepting letters of interest for positions on the Sportsmanship Committee, beginning with the committee's meeting on Friday, April 7, 2017.

The Sportsmanship Committee, which was established in 1997, meets annually to advise the membership on developing policies and initiatives to enhance and promote sportsmanship at all interscholastic athletic events. Other committee responsibilities include planning and managing the Sportsmanship Summit held every even year since 2000. The Sportsmanship Committee meetings are scheduled early in April each year.

The committee is comprised of school personnel from various levels of administration representing small, medium and large school districts from various geographic locations in the state. A term of three years was implemented in 2001 with an option for a maximum of two successive terms on the committee.

Any athletic director or school administrator interested in serving on the committee should submit a message of interest via email to Todd Clark at: tclark@wiaawi.org. The deadline for expressing an interest in serving on the committee is Friday, Feb. 10, 2017. ●

Football Early Start 2017 & 2018 How We Got To Where We Are Today

Some have recently noticed that the football season will start on August 1, 2017, and July 31, 2018 with equipment issue on July 31, 2017, and July 30, 2018. The discussion that has come around since the dates were noticed have included solutions such as: 1) shorten the season to eight games, 2) remove a round of the playoffs thus reducing the field from 224 teams to 112 teams, and/or 3) bring back the district plan.

It's appropriate to review how we got here:

Football playoffs were proposed in 1971. The first playoff season was 1976 with four divisions. In 1980 the playoff field was expanded to five divisions and the schedule was compressed with three games in 10 days because the athletic directors did not want to give up the ninth game. Some schools started in the first week of August and many in the southeast portion of Wisconsin started in the second week of August. (Otte)

Interestingly, the basic reason for the demise of the original district plan offered by John Roberts in 1983 and the plan offered by the WIAA staff in 2009 was because of travel. Geography in the northern and northwestern parts of Wisconsin hasn't changed since 1983, 2009, or now.

In 1985, the Board of Control voted to eliminate three games in 10 days beginning in 1987, but the plan was scuttled when playoffs expanded in 1987. The Wisconsin State Legislature passed Wisconsin Act 16 in 2011 that requires school boards to start a school term after September 1st.

In the summer of 2009, the WIAA staff brought forward the football district plan. The plan essentially removed conference play in the sport of football and replaced conferences with 8-team districts. The district plan came forward as an idea to address three concerns: 1) inability of schools to schedule regular season games, size differentials in existing conferences which affects playoff eligibility, and concerns with three games in ten days from the last regular season game to Level Two of the playoffs. The plan was thoroughly discussed at WIAA Area Meetings. Notes were taken and reported back to the Board of Control.



The plan was essentially dead on arrival immediately after the Football Advisory Committee recommended the plan move forward in December of 2009. Reasons cited were travel, cost, traditional rivals, no all-conference teams, lower level games, and the details. The travel came to the forefront as the major obstacle with the impact as an economic hardship on our medium and small schools.

A tremendous amount of feedback was provided to WIAA staff. As a result of the volumes of letters of opposition from member schools, the few letters of support, and the removal of support from the Wisconsin Football Coaches Association, the staff recommended that the Board of Control not proceed with implementation of the plan.

However, an alternative for the three games in ten days was to be addressed with the growing discussion and concerns about concussions and the fact that Association season regulations stated that schools should only play one game per week. Solutions brought forward were: starting early (moving up 3 days), removing a game (8 regular season games), or playing the championships on Thanksgiving week (Friday and Saturday). A survey was conducted by the Executive Staff to determine how the membership wanted to address the schedule changes with one football game per week. There were 335 member schools that responded to the survey.

The results of the survey were:

- Start the season on the Wednesday of Week 5 in August instead of Monday of Week 6. – 154
- 2. Eliminate Week Nine and play eight regular season games. 103
- 3. Move the WIAA State Tournament one week later. 47
- 4. Reduce the play-off field to 112 teams. 31

At the 2010 Football Coaches Advisory Committee meeting, season dates were discussed. Discussion about the start date for freshmen was discussed, and ultimately the coaches believed that it was a local decision. The early start date in 2012 was discussed. If starting a week late with the championships after Thanksgiving wasn't an option, then and 8-game season with an optional ninth game for non-playoff qualifiers would be used.

The WFCA proposed an eight-plus-one solution that guaranteed a ninth game either in the playoffs or as a consolation game. The Board of Control in October of 2010 declined to guarantee a consolation game. Rather, the WIAA staff maintained a list for schools that wished to play an optional ninth game if they didn't qualify for the playoffs in 2012.

In addition, a solution to the scheduling problems and enrollment differences were: football only realignment, eliminating overall win/loss as qualifying criteria, and reduced (8) player football. It was a new area for the WIAA to step into the regular season with the district plan, as well as the manner of changing the playoff qualifying based on conference finish.



The Board of Control accepted a proposal to have the 2012 season limited to the eight games plus an optional ninth game. Therefore, a football Ad Hoc committee was created with members from the WFCA, WIAA Sports Advisory committee, WIAA Advisory Council, WIAA staff, and WIAA Board of Control.

The Football Ad Hoc Committee met three times in 2011. In the first meeting on February 16, 2011, the committee recommended that an 8-player option be available to member schools with an enrollment of 200 or less and a jamboree be made available for the 8-player teams. In addition, the committee passed a motion that no games extend beyond the weekend before Thanksgiving and the 2013 & 2014 seasons are to be nine games. Discussion around the Thanksgiving weekend centered on weather during the weekends surrounding Thanksgiving, the spectators or lack of spectators willing to adjust their holiday week events, deer hunting, and extending further into the winter seasons.

As a solution to not starting in the partial first week of August, the Football Ad Hoc proposed nine games in 2011, eight games in 2012, and nine games in 2013 and 2014. On multiple occasions, the committee was reminded that in 2017 and 2018, equipment handout would be in July with a July 31 start date for practice in 2018. A proposal for a 10-game season with seven conference games and three district games came forward.

On April 4, 2011, the goal of the Football Ad Hoc committee was to review each plan brought forward and to determine a plan to recommend to the WIAA membership. The recommendation was to practice in week six of the NFHS calendar, and to keep the current language to allow a 10 game season. Multiple other plans were reviewed. The Sport Medical Advisory Committee

See Football Early Start 2017 & 2018, page 13 ➤

NFHS Wrestling Rules

2016-17 POINTS OF EMPHASIS

- 1. Communicable Skin Conditions and Skin Checks
- 2. Control
- 3. Arm Trap
- 4. Sportsmanship/Good Sporting Behavior

The NFHS Wrestling Rules Committee and the NFHS Board of Directors believes there are areas of interscholastic wrestling that need to be addressed and given special attention. These areas of concern are often cyclical, some areas need more attention than others, and that is why they might appear in the rules book for consecutive editions. These concerns are identified as "Points of Emphasis." For the 2016-17 high school wrestling season, attention is being called to: communicable skin conditions and skin checks, control, arm trap and sportsmanship. When a topic is included in the Points of Emphasis, these topics are important enough to reinforce throughout the academic year because they are not being given the proper attention.

COMMUNICABLE SKIN CONDITIONS AND SKIN CHECKS

Communicable skin conditions continue to be a major concern in wrestling, in part because of recent MRSA and Herpes Gladiatorum outbreaks. If a participant has a suspected skin condition, NFHS Wrestling Rules require current, written documentation from an appropriate health-care professional stating the athlete's participation would not be harmful to an opponent. Cold sores are considered a skin lesion and are subject to the communicable skin condition rules.

The NFHS has developed a form that can be used for that documentation, and several state associations have adopted similar forms for use in their states. Regardless of the form used, it is imperative that ALL coaches perform routine skin checks of their wrestlers and require any wrestlers with a suspect condition to seek medical attention and treatment.

It is also imperative that ALL referees perform skin checks – or verify that skin checks have been done by a designated, on-site meet, appropriate health-care professional – as part of their pre-meet duties prior to EVERY dual meet and tournament. If there is a suspect condition, the wrestler or coach MUST present the proper clearance form at the weigh-in for any dual meet or tournament in order for the wrestler to be allowed to compete.

The only exception to the requirement of the proper clearance form would be if a designated, on-site meet, appropriate health-care professional is present and is able to examine the wrestler either immediately prior to or immediately after the weigh-in. The designated, on-site meet, appropriate health-care professional has the authority to overrule the diagnosis of the appropriate health-care professional who signed the proper clearance form presented to the referee at the weigh-in.

One of the keys to preventing the spread of communicable skin conditions is for coaches and referees to fulfill their responsibilities professionally. It is, however, only one of the keys.

The other and equally important key is proper prevention. While prevention can be complicated, in most cases it only requires that a few basic steps be taken by ALL involved in the sport.

- Educate coaches, athletes and parents about communicable skin conditions and how they are spread.
- Clean wrestling mats daily with a solution of 1:100 bleach and water or an appropriate commercial
- Maintain proper ventilation in the wrestling room to prevent the build-up of heat and humidity.
- Clean all workout gear after each practice including towels, clothing, headgear, shoes, knee pads, etc.
- Require each wrestler to shower or use a body-wipe after each practice and competition. Do not share bars of soap. Use individual soap dispensers.
- Perform daily skin checks to ensure early recognition of potential communicable skin conditions.

 Refrain from sharing razors or other personal hygiene supplies.

Covering an active infection does not meet the requirements of the NFHS wrestling communicable skin condition rule for competitions. An active infection shall not be covered in practice either.

It is a coach's professional responsibility to ensure that skin clearance forms presented by his or her wrestlers are legitimate and reflect the athletes' true conditions. Coaches and referees all play a vital role in controlling communicable skin diseases. They must err on the side of what is best for the health of all involved in the sport when dealing with communicable skin diseases.

Referees are the last line of defense in keeping wrestlers with communicable skin diseases off the mat. The safety of all who step on a competition mat is at stake. Coaches must realize that referees would not be placed in a position to make difficult participation decisions if coaches would perform skin checks on all of their wrestlers each day.

NFHS Wrestling Rule 3-1-4a states that "Before a dual meet begins, the referee shall perform skin checks or verify that skin checks have been performed by a designated, on-site meet, appropriate health-care professional."

NFHS Wrestling Rule 3-1-5a states that "Before an individual, combination or team advancement tournament begins each day, the referee shall perform skin checks or verify that skin checks have been performed by a designated, on-site meet, appropriate health-care professional." The skin checks should take place by referees or a designated, on-site meet, appropriate health-care professional at weigh-ins whenever possible.

In reference to multiple-day competitions, communicable disease "skin checks" shall take place at weigh-ins each day. Checking skin on the first day only is not an acceptable practice regarding the communicable disease detection procedure.

NFHS Wrestling Rules 4-2-2, 3, 4, 5 are very specific concerning a contestant who is suspected of having a communicable skin disease. It is the responsibility of the contestant, parents, coach and referee to identify a possible communicable skin disease and then have an appropriate health-care professional evaluate the condition if possible. Similarly, it is everybody's responsibility (coaches, referees, appropriate health-care professionals and tournament administrators) to ensure that all wrestlers are competing in an infection-free environment.

For more detailed information, refer to the "Skin Conditions and Infections" chapter in the NFHS Sports Medicine Handbook. Also, please refer to the following two NFHS Sports Medicine Advisory Committee (SMAC) documents: "General Guidelines for Sports Hygiene, Skin Infections and Communicable Diseases" and "Sports Related Skin Infections Position Statement and Guidelines." Both of these NFHS SMAC documents can be found on the Sports Medicine page on the NFHS website at www.nfhs.org.

CONTROL

Control is the very essence of the sport of wrestling. Simply stated, control occurs when an individual wrestler has gained control of his opponent in such a way that he or she has restraining power over them. A wrestler who has control over an opponent is in a position of advantage. Control has three phases - gaining, losing and changing. All three phases allow each wrestler an opportunity to score points. Wrestling is an extremely quick and fast-moving sport where control is gained, lost or changed in a matter of seconds. It is important that contest officials frequently hone their skills to be able to identify the various phases of control. Wrestling boasts specialists in various aspects of the sport. As one example, "takedown specialists" are known to accumulate points for taking their opponent to the mat frequently, not being able to get a fall or near fall but will use a strategy to outscore their opponent by means of repeated takedowns. The more familiar an official is with the various moves and maneuvers, the more valuable they will be to the young people they serve in this wonderful sport.

ARM TRAP

The rear-standing position with a trapped arm should be considered potentially dangerous and should be monitored very closely by the referee. Coaches, officials and competitors should be aware of the potential for injury in this situation if the defensive wrestler is returned to the mat and has no arm available to break his/her fall. Although a number of safe scoring opportunities may come from this hold, coaches, officials and competitors should must work together to educate and ensure that wrestlers are returned to the mat safely. Officials should pay special attention to the wrestler who is lifted off the mat with a trapped arm. In all situations, returning a wrestler to the mat in a controlled fashion should be one of the highest priorities.

SPORTSMANSHIP/GOOD SPORTING BEHAVIOR

When surveyed, young people have indicated that their primary purpose for participating is to "have fun." Winning is further down the list of expected outcomes. The beneficial effect of activity/athletic participation is annually researched as a good and healthy experience and is a precursor for future success in life. We all have a vested interest and role in preserving the positive benefits that young people experience when playing high school sports.

Officials and coaches need to work together. Each match is another opportunity for coaches and officials to teach not only wrestling, but also model good sporting behavior as well. The positive values that are learned will serve the wrestlers long after their wrestling experience has concluded. The first match of the season typically provides a coach the opportunity to identify a teachable moment to reinforce good sporting behavior.

STATE OF WRESTLING

The NFHS Wrestling Rules Committee continues to address the state of wrestling. Considerable time and discussion must continue with the committee and the wrestling community to address a significant decline in participation numbers at all levels of wrestling. A number of factors may be impacting this decline. The committee acknowledges that the traditional singlet uniform may be a potential barrier to those who are considering the sport, but providing alternative uniform options will not be the sole reason for young people not participating in the sport. The committee should continue to discuss the addition of a more traditional uniform option. The committee will continue to investigate other factors that provide barriers to young people from enjoying this wonderful sport. The committee believes that disparity of competition, lack of participation opportunities, skin conditions, lack of emphasis on dual meets, overuse injuries, and the length of competitions, are adversely affecting the image of our sport and subsequently preventing kids from choosing wrestling as an activity. The high school coach should take the lead to address each of these areas at all levels of wrestling which occur in or around her/her community.

2016-17 NFHS Wrestling Rules COMMENTS ON THE 2016-17 RULES CHANGES

CLARIFIED WHEN A WRESTLER SHALL BE AWARDED PENALTY POINT(S) (5-11-2i): The committee felt that when the defensive wrestler uses unethical techniques to avoid being pinned, the offensive wrestler should not only be awarded the near fall or fall points but should be awarded the appropriate penalty point(s) for that transgression at the next stoppage of the match.

CLARIFIED AN ADDITIONAL POTENTIALLY DAN-GEROUS HOLD WHEN AN ARM TRAP IS APPLIED (7-

2-2g,h): The committee identified another potentially dangerous hold when an arm trap is applied. From a standing position, when one wrestler is placed in a body lock with one or both arms trapped and then is lifted from the mat and is unable to use his arm(s) to break his fall – creating a potentially dangerous situation – the referee shall stop the match. ●

2016-2017 WIAA Wrestling Points of Emphasis

I would like to remind all officials that there will be an officials' clinic held in conjunction with the coaches clinic on Nov. 5th in Green Bay. Please contact Mike Blasczyk at mcblas@outlook.com if you will be attending. Our major goal is to have uniform officiating state wide. This is great way to achieve it.

Our Need for Officials

Let's talk again about official's recruitment. We all realize that Wisconsin is in dire need of young officials. As in the past, I encourage all officials' associations state wide to adopt a mentoring program to help develop young officials. In addition, all high school coaches should encourage their athletes to consider obtaining a limited-restricted license. This will allow them to officiate WIAA member school middle level and freshmen team events as well as non-varsity events in some sports if assigned with a non-high school licensed official. There is absolutely no fee to be paid by them for this license. What a great impact it would have if each high school would send forth one wrestling official each season or even every other season. Our concerns would be addressed.

Assistant Referee

The AR has been utilized in both state tournaments the past 2 seasons. This year we will be expanding its use in individual sectional competition, using it not only in the finals but also in the 2nd place wrestle backs in D1 and the 3rd place matches for D2-3. This request was brought forth by the coaches. Not all areas of the state have bought into the AR concept of officiating. We must continue to use it whenever possible. Like anything we do, repetition creates confidence and excel-

lence. Certification in its use can again be obtained by watching an updated on-line power point through the WIAA website. You will again be expected to view this short power point by Jan. 1, 2017 to be considered eligible to work the state tournaments. There is an updated handout on the responsibilities of the AR that will be located on the official's resource center of the WIAA website.

Viewing of Video Tapes

We have had some issues on how officials can use video replay throughout an event. Any videotaping presented to a referee to make a ruling or present an opinion regarding anything related to wrestling prior to, during, or after the conclusion of the event is strictly prohibited. This includes preweigh-in through post-wrestling.

Unsportsmanlike Conduct

We are seeing more subtle pushes, shoves and clubbing by wrestlers during the course of a match. This type of behavior (intimidation) has to stop and should be addressed promptly by the referee. It must/will be considered USC and penalized without delay. The idea that "boys will be boys" does not cut it anymore. This will hopefully prevent future retaliation and escalation as the match continues.

Stepping on Toes During a Takedown

I'm asked this every year. There is no rule that prevents a wrestler from setting up a takedown by stepping on the toes of his opponent as long as there is no UR involved.

Strip Tape and Weigh In

Using strip tape for extra muscle and joint support by a wrestler has increased greatly in the last few years. No wrestler will be allowed to weigh in with strip tape on their bodies. It must be removed

prior to inspection and stepping on the scales. In addition, after it is applied, the tape may be considered abrasive. It must be inspected prior to wrestling and legally covered if considered abrasive by the meet official.

Weigh in

Remember that all wrestlers must be in the WI facility (room) at the beginning of the weigh in. As an official, you should make appropriate announcements prior to the WI to hopefully make sure this happens. Wrestlers not present at the beginning of the WI will not be eligible to compete.

Red and Green Arm Bands

The NFHS rule states that green arm bands are to be worn on the right hand and red on the left. A number of veteran officials, through habit, found it extremely difficult to make that transition when the rule first came about. At that time, the WIAA took the position that those veterans could continue to wear red on right. Some of them are still around. Since that time the expectation has been that all new officials would follow the current rule. Through attrition, eventually everyone will be uniform. Bottom line is that it doesn't affect the quality of the official.

Officials Wearing a Microphone

Officials are not to be wearing a microphone while on the mat to benefit television or radio broadcasting. "Mic up" as it is sometimes called, will not currently be allowed in Wisconsin wrestling.

Hair Coverings

Hair nets are not an acceptable hair cover. By rule, hair covers must be a solid material and they

See Wrestling Points of Emphasis, page 14 >

Sports Report "PLUS" Exemplary sportsmanship as submitted by licensed officials.



The following reports of good sportsmanship have been submitted to the WIAA. Appreciation goes out to those officials taking the time to give recognition to those schools and individuals deserving of acknowledgement.

CROSS COUNTRY

Cumberland Invitational - Oct. 11, 2016

Once more, as the Chetek-Weyerhaeuser athletes, boys and girls alike, crossed the finish line, each of the runners recovered and joined in a group cheering in the upcoming finishers. The runners also approached me individually and thanked me for officiating their meet once more. This team is one of the first at each meet to get themselves checked in prior to the 3-minute call allowing me and my partner more time to get the stragglers checked in before the 3-minute call. The smiles on all the athletes faces are genuine and have now gotten other teams to start participating in the congratulations being extended to each runner at the end of the race, no matter how long they have to wait! Yup, right down to the very last runner. This sportsmanship plus behavior has been consistent at all the meets this year. Its been so significant I often hear the parents and other spectators comment on how nice it is to see!

Reporting Official: Dick Nerbun

Spooner Invitational – Sept. 1, 2016

As the acting referee, I was amazed to personally witness, once more, so many of the Chetek-Weyer-haeuser athletes cheering and encouraging all the runners as they crossed the finish line and leaving the chute area. Cheering and encouragement was just as loud for the early finishers as it was for the very last runner to cross the line. In fact, I was so impressed because the cheering was so loud, that I had to turn around for a second and used my Iphone to capture the athletes in action during a break in the finishers crossing the line.

These athletes were right at the back of the finish chute seen patting the finishing athletes on the back, assisting those who were spent from running all while cheering everyone on. They were doing this last year and kept up this year; so I feel it's a legitimate response by the team members. This team is the only team exhibiting such sportsmanship as such that I have seen and what a great thing to witness.

Reporting Official: Dick Nerbun

FOOTBALL Janesville Craig @ Madison West - Oct. 7, 2016

Both coaches--Ben McCormick of Craig and Brad Murphy of Madison West-modeled the highest level of sportsmanship throughout the game and this filtered down to the players on the field. All game long players were demonstrating good sportsmanship, they listened to instructions from the officials, and they played a hard-fought, but clean game. I also want to mention the game management provided for by Chuck Seils and his staff. Chuck personally made sure we had an escort to and from the field and made sure we were provided for before the game, at halftime, and postgame. This was the type of game experience that officials hope for on a weekly basis. Thanks again.

Reporting Official: Rich Fronheiser

Monroe @ Stoughton - Oct. 7, 2016

We would like to thank both the Monroe and Stoughton football teams, coaches, and fans for exhibiting outstanding sportsmanship. It began with being met at the front door by the athletic director Mel Dow and his professional staff and continuing to the coaches and

players. The players of both teams played hard on every play and they played clean on both sides of the ball. The Stoughton and Monroe players would make great hits and help each other up. They would go so far as to tell the guys across the ball that it was a great play or a great hit. The players sought out the nearest official on EVERY play to hand him the ball to keep it dry and keep the game moving. Not once was there any negative comments etc. This is a compliment that goes beyond the game; it goes to the parents of the athletes, the administration of the schools, the coaches and the teachers of the young people playing the game and finally to the players both on and off the field. It would be wonderful to have such a game every week. Sportsmanship is alive and well in both Stoughton and Monroe.

Reporting Official: Thomas Steward Crandon @ Florence – Oct. 7, 2016

The officiating crew would like to extend its gratitude to the school's football program and community. There were many aspects of the officiating process that made the Florence football contest a real quality experience. First, Athletic Director Kris Johnson possesses outstanding customer service skills. His communication and hospitality is second to none of the schools we visit. Second, the crew officiated on a well-maintained and marked field. The effort of their maintenance staff allowed the wing officials to clearly spot the ball and control the sidelines. Third, the crew of officials was impressed with the sportsmanship of the players and the coaching staff. The coaches were very positive with their

See Sports Report "PLUS", page 10 ➤

2017-2018 Enrollments

Listed below you will find the enrollments that will be used for the 2017-18 school year for divisional placement. The numbers listed below are the September 16, 2016 enrollment counts that your school provided. If you find a discrepancy in the enrollment listed for your school, please let Joan Gralla know by November 21, 2016. No changes will be made after this date. Note: If your school has a charter school that is a WIAA member those enrollment numbers will be added to your enrollment. e.g., Augusta 151 plus Wildlands Research 44 will give Augusta a total of 195 for tournament placement.

Note: Schools that have no enrollment
number listed did not submit informa-
tion prior to printing deadline.

number listed did not submit informa-
tion prior to printing deadline.
Abbotsford
Abundant Life Christian71
Adams-Friendship 491
Albany
Algoma
Alma
Almond-Bancroft 121 Altoona 416
Amery
Amherst
Antigo
Appleton East
Appleton North 1721
Appleton West
Aquinas
Arcadia
Arrowhead2175
Ashland 633
Ashwaubenon
Assumption
Athens
Auburndale
Audubon Technology & Communications 371
Augusta151
Badger1464 Baldwin-Woodville470
Bangor
Baraboo
Barneveld
Barron
Bay Port
Bayfield
Beaver Dam
Belleville 259 Belmont 103
Beloit Memorial
Benton90
Berlin
Big Foot
Birchwood
Black Hawk
Black River Falls
Blair-Taylor
Bonduel
Boscobel
Bowler
Boyceville
Brillion
Brodhead
Brookfield Academy
Brookfield Central
Brookwood
Brown Deer
Bruce
Burlington
Butternut
Cadott
Cambria-Friesland
Cambridge
Cameron 257 Campbellsport 425
Carmen Northwest
Carmen South
Carmen Southeast169
Cashton
Cassville
Catholic Central
Catholic Memorial
Cedar Grove-Belgium 352 Cedarburg 1130
Central Wisconsin Christian
Chequamegon
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Chetek-Weyerhaeuser	. 257
Chilton	
Chippewa Falls	
Clayton	
Clear Lake	
Clintonville.	
Cochrane-Fountain City	. 223
Colby	. 292
Coleman	
Columbus	
Columbus Catholic	137
Columbus Catholic	12
Cornell	. 110
Coulee Christian	
Crandon	
Cristo Rey Jesuit	
Crivitz	241
Cudahy	
Cumberland	. 272
D.C. Everest	
Darlington	
De Pere	
De Soto	
Deerfield	
Delavan-Darien	
Denmark	
Destiny	. 285
Divine Savior Holy Angels	1388
Dodgeland	
Dodgeville	
Dominican	
Drummond	
East Troy	
Eastbrook Academy	75
Eau Claire Immanuel Lutheran	. 108
Eau Claire Memorial	
Eau Claire North	
Edgar	514
Edgewood High School of the	. 510
Sacred Heart	. 536
Elcho	
Eleva-Strum	. 183
Elk Mound	. 316
Elkhart Lake-Glenbeulah	
Elkhorn Area	
Elmwood	93
Evansville	
Faith Christian	
Faith Christian Academy	
Fall Creek	
Fall River	
Fennimore	
Flambeau	
Fond du Lac.	
Fort Atkinson	
Fox Valley Lutheran	
Franklin	
Frederic	
Freedom	
Gale-Ettrick-Trempealeau	
Germantown	
Gillett.	
Gilman	
Gilmanton	46
Glenwood City	. 209
Golda Meir	
Goodman	
Oluncoll	. /

Grantsburg

C . D . E .	1001
Green Bay East	1284
Green Bay N.E.W. Lutheran	. 118
Green Bay Preble	2176
Green Bay Southwest	1125
Green Bay West	820
Green Lake	
Greendale	
Greenfield	
Greenwood	. 132
Gresham Community	. 105
Hamilton	1484
Hartford Union	
Hayward	. 504
Heritage Christian	
Highland	81
Hilbert	. 129
Hillsboro	
Hmong American Peace Academy	
Holmen	
Homestead	1334
Hope Christian	. 305
Horicon	
Hortonville	
Howards Grove	
Hudson	
Hurley	. 162
Hustisford	140
Independence	
Iola-Scandinavia	
Iowa-Grant	
Ithaca	. 134
Janesville Craig	1687
Janesville Parker	
Jefferson	. 00/
Johnson Creek	
Juda	
Kaukauna	1181
Kenosha Bradford	1620
Kenosha Christian Life	
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Kenosha Indian Trail	2303
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Kenosha Reuther	. 382
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Riverdale Roncalli Rosholt Rosholt Royall Saint Ambrose Saint Anthony Saint Croix Central Saint Croix Falls Saint Francis Saint Joan Antida Saint Lawrence Seminary Saint Mary Catholic		Waukesha North 1246 Waukesha South 1351 Waukesha West 1197 Waunakee 1236 Waupaca 679 Waupun 548 Wausau East 1035 Wausau West 1324 Wausaukee 159 Wautoma 427 Wauwatosa East 1094 Wauwatosa West 1075 Wauzeka-Steuben 98	Glenwood City Glenwood City Trans. Skill Center	Verona Verona Exploration Academy. Viroqua Better Futures High School	28 69 . 7 37 39 66 67
Riverdale Roncalli Rosholt Royall Saint Ambrose Saint Anthony Saint Croix Central Saint Croix Falls Saint Francis Saint Joan Antida Saint Lawrence Seminary		Waukesha North 1246 Waukesha South 1351 Waukesha West 1197 Waunakee 1236 Waupaca 679 Waupun 548 Wausau East 1035 Wausau West 1324 Wausaukee 159 Wautoma 427 Wauwatosa East 1094 Wauwatosa West 1075	Glenwood City Glenwood City Trans. Skill Center	Verona Verona Exploration Academy. Viroqua Better Futures High School	28 69 . 7 37 39 66 67 25

2017 State Individual Wrestling Championships

Kohl Center, Madison, Wis.

Doors open for spectators one hour prior to the start of competition each session.

Session 1 - Thursday, Feb. 23 - Six Mats

Division 1 Preliminaries - 3 p.m. Weigh in: 1:30 p.m.

Division 1 Quarterfinals - Approximately 5:15 p.m.

Division 2 & 3 Preliminaries - 7:00 p.m. Weigh in: 5:00 p.m.

(Division 2 on mats 1, 2 & 3; Division 3 on mats 4, 5 & 6) **Note:** All weight classes will be wrestled in consecutive order from 106 lbs.-

Session 2 - Friday, Feb. 24 - Six Mats

285 lbs. on next available mat.

Division 1 Weigh Ins: 8:30 a.m. / Div. 2-3 Weigh Ins: 9:00 a.m.

Division 1 Consolations - 10 a.m. (all mats)

Division 2 & 3 Quarterfinals - Approximately 11:15 a.m. (Division 2 on mats 1, 2 & 3; Division 3 on mats 4, 5 & 6)

Division 1 Consolation Semifinals - Approximately 1:45 p.m. (all mats)

Division 2 & 3 Consolation Semifinals - Approximately 2:45 p.m. (Division 2 on mats 1, 2 & 3; Division 3 on mats 4, 5 & 6)

Note: All weight classes will be wrestled in consecutive order from 106 lbs.-285 lbs. on next available mat.

Session 3 - Friday, Feb. 24 - Six Mats

Division 1, 2 & 3 Semifinals - 7:00 p.m.

(Division 1 on mats 1 & 2; Division 2 on mats 3 & 4; Division 3 on mats 5 & 6)

Note: All weight classes will be wrestled in consecutive order from 106 lbs.-285 lbs. on next available mat.

Session 4 - Saturday, Feb. 25 - Six Mats - All Weigh Ins: 8:30 a.m.

Division 1, 2 & 3 Consolation Wrestlebacks - 10:00 a.m.

(Division 1 on mats 1 & 2; Division 2 on mats 3 & 4; Division 3 on mats 5 & 6)

Division 1, 2 & 3 Fifth Place*

(Division 1 on mats 1 & 2; Division 2 on mats 3 & 4; Division 3 on mats 5 & 6)

Division 1, 2 & 3 Third Place*

(Division 1 on mats 1 & 2; Division 2 on mats 3 & 4; Division 3 on mats 5 & 6)

* Fifth-place and third-place matches will run concurrently by weight class following all consolation matches.

Session 5 - Saturday, Feb. 25 - Three Mats

March of Champions - 5:00 p.m.

Division 1, 2 & 3 Championships

(Division 1 on mat 1; Division 2 on mat 2; Division 3 on mat 3)

2017 State Team Wrestling Tournament Schedule

UW Field House, Madison, WI

Doors open for spectators one hour prior to the start of competition each session.

DIVISION 1

Quarterfinals - Friday, March 3 - 5:30 p.m.

Match 1: Sectional G winner vs. Sectional H winner

Match 2: Sectional E winner vs. Sectional F winner

Match 3: Sectional A winner vs. Sectional B winner

Match 4: Sectional C winner vs. Sectional D winner

Semifinals - Friday, March 3 - 7:30 p.m.

Match 5: Winner of Match 1 vs. Match 2

Match 6: Winner of Match 3 vs. Match 4

Final - Saturday March 4 - 3 p.m. (Gates Open - 2 p.m.)

Championship: Winner of Match 5 vs. Match 6

DIVISION 2

Semifinals - Saturday, March 4 - 10 a.m.

Match 1: Sectional A winner vs. Sectional C winner Match 2: Sectional B winner vs. Sectional D winner

Final - Saturday March 4 - 3 p.m.

Championship: Winner of Match 1 vs. Match 2

DIVISION 3

Semifinals - Saturday, March 4 - 10 a.m.

Match 1: Sectional A winner vs. Sectional C winner

Match 2: Sectional B winner vs. Sectional D winner

Final - Saturday March 4 - 3 p.m.

Championship: Winner of Match 1 vs. Match 2

Friday Weigh-ins at 4:30 p.m.
Friday Admission is \$13
Saturday Weigh-ins all divisions at 9 a.m.
Saturday Admission is \$8 for each session

Pre-sale tickets are only available at participating schools. Tickets for this event are not sold online. Cash and checks are accepted at the door. Credit cards are not accepted at the door.

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words to players and officials as they controlled the field of play and their sideline well. This positive approach bled to the players of both teams on the field. The players played hard and stayed optimistic. The players help the opposing team off the turf, and the captains kept the positive spirit alive. This only occurs when there is a community that supports high school activities. The fans were loud with their cheers and supported both teams. The entire process was constructive from the meeting of the athletic director to the positive comments by the fans to officials after the contest.

Though a very small school, it is easy to see the vast support the community has for all of the educational elements in Florence's school system. The positive sportsmanship of fans, players, and coaches; the excellent playing of a small group of band students; and the hospitality of the entire school made officiating at Florence a very enjoyable experience. We applaud the Florence athletic program and Coach Kent Walstrom's efforts to teach sportsmanship, along with the other wonderful lessons sports provide our youth.

Reporting Official: Shawn Umland
Madison West @ Sun Prairie – Sept. 30, 2016

Our crew would like to take the time to recognize

the highest level of sportsmanship and strong leadership displayed by the players, game managers and coaching staff at Sun Prairie. The crew would like to specifically recognize the amazing leadership of a certain individual on the Madison West—#85 Sam Escher. Sportsmanship is a direct result of positive culture and climate and the culture and climate at Sun Prairie related to the game of football is thriving in Sun Prairie. Keep up the good work !!!

Reporting Official: Brian Kenney Loyal @ Abbotsford – Sept. 30, 2016

Both teams were undefeated coming into this game and, as expected, it was a physical, hard-fought game. As intense as a conference matchup of unbeatens can be, both teams showed excellent sportsmanship throughout the entire contest. Players on both teams would help their opponents up off the ground, there were no issues with conduct after the whistle, and players would address us officials with respect and replying "yes sir" or "no sir." Also, both coaching staff's were very professional and respectful. The Abbotsford and Loyal teams, schools, and communities should be proud.

Reporting Official: Michael Lindau

Chetek-Weyerhaeuser @ Bloomer - Sept. 30, 2016

Coach John Post and William Knickerbocker did an exceptional job as head coaches promoting sportsmanship Friday night. Both coaches controlled their teams and their assistant coaches. They were both respectful to us as officials, and when players started to get out of control, they assisted us by pulling those kids aside and telling them to play smart and in control of themselves. Outstanding job by both coaches and great leadership on the part of both teams as it was a rivalry with first place on the line and both teams brought intensity and made it a great game to work. Thanks to both schools for the privilege.

Reporting Official: Nate McNaughton

Onalaska @ Tomah - Sept. 30, 2016

I would like to congratulate the Tomah Timber-wolves on outstanding sportsmanship. This was the second game we have officiated for them this season and for the second time they exemplified what we hope to see from all teams every week. Such sportsmanship starts with the head coach, Brad Plueger. The game was intense and was tied with four minutes left

See Sports Report "PLUS", page 12 ➤

NFHS Basketball Rules Interpretations - 2016-17

Rules Book Corrections: Page 59, Rule 9-12, Penalties (Section 11 – 12) 10-3-9 should be 10-4-9; Page 68, State Association Adoptions #2 NOTE 10-5-1a should be 10-6-1a; Page 71, Technical Foul Penalty Chart, Head Coach 20 seconds should read 15 seconds.

Case Book Corrections: Page 19, 3.3.5 Situation B change 20 seconds to 15 seconds; Page 20, 3.3.6 Situation C change 0 seconds to 15 seconds; Page 41, 5.4.19 change 20 seconds to 15 seconds; Page 76, 9.12 Situation B Ruling Correction; A2 has committed a goaltending violation. No points can be scored. Since this goaltending violation occurred during a free throw, the penalty is a technical foul. Team B will be awarded two free throws and a throw-in from the division line opposite the scorer and timer table. (4-22; 10-4-9 PENALTY)

Arm Bar: An arm bent across one's chest is an arm bar. When a defender has the bent arm across his/her chest and on the offensive player with no exertion, there is no foul. When a defender uses this bent arm and extends it out away from the chest to push an offensive player away or to control his/her movement, it is illegal and a foul should be ruled.

SITUATION 1: A6 has reported to enter the game. A6 is wearing an undershirt that contains a visible logo "Nike Pro Combat" with dimensions that do not meet those of 2 1/4 square inches and not exceed 2 1/4 inches in any dimension.

RULING: The official should instruct the coach and the player that he/she will not be able to wear the undershirt because the "Nike Pro Combat" logo exceeds the allowable size dimensions. The player will need to leave the bench and go to the locker room to remove the undershirt. (3-5-6)

SITUATION 2: B2 is in a marked lane space after free thrower A1 releases a final free-throw attempt. B2 enters the free-throw semicircle before the ball strikes the ring, contacting A1, whose free-throw attempt is unsuccessful. The official rules a foul on B4 and awards A1 bonus free throws as B4's foul is the eighth team foul.

RULING: The official was correct to rule a foul on B4—illegal contact occurred. However, the official was incorrect to only award bonus free throws. B4 committed a delayed free-throw violation and A1 should have been given a substitute free throw with the lane cleared prior to the administration of the bonus free throws. Play resumes with the result of A1's bonus free throws. NFHS/Referee Basketball Preseason Guide 2016. (9-1 PENALTIES 2b)

SITUATION 3: The spirit group/cheerleaders move onto the playing court during a time-out.

RULING: The referee shall remove the spirit group/cheerleaders from the court and inform the group's captain of the reason for removal. (1-20)

SITUATION 4: A spirit group member(s) or a photographer has set-up within the free-throw lane lines extended area.

RULING: The lead official shall request the group member(s) or photographer to move from the restricted area. (1-20)

SITUATION 5: The media person or spirit group member(s) is located toward the sideline completely outside of the free-throw lane line extended area.

RULING: The location of the spirit group member(s) and/or media person is legal. (1-20)

NOTE for SITUATIONS 3, 4, 5: Should the spirit group, photographer, etc., not be cooperative, the referee shall request the athletic administrator or game site manager to address the situation.

SITUATION 6: Team's school colors are blue and gold and the predominant color of the team's jerseys is white. Prior to the game, an official observes that several team members are wearing beige pre-wrap around the entire head and blue wristbands.

RULING: The headband and wristbands do not meet the color requirements. The official should notify the coach that the headbands and wristbands must be removed because they do not meet the color requirements. NOTE: Pre-wrap when worn around the head is considered to be a headband and must meet the color requirements. Pre-wrap when worn around the hair, such as a ponytail, is a hair-control device. (3-5-4)

SITUATION 7: A1 has been disqualified from the game for committing his/her fifth foul or a flagrant foul. The coach of Team A is notified and then the official instructs the timer to begin the replacement period. The player is then notified of the disqualification. The coach of Team A rises from the bench and (a) talks until the sounding of the warning horn with the remaining four players who have gathered near the boundary; (b) immediately sends A6 to the table to report in. The coach then gathers the players at the sideline for a conference; or (c) sends A6 towards the table but the time indicates the 15 seconds have expired before A6 gets there.

RULING: Legal in (a), as long as a substitute reports before the 15 seconds lapsed. In (b), play will resume as soon as A6 has reported to the scorer. In (c), a technical foul is charged directly to the head coach. It is not an administrative technical. (2-12-5; 10-6-2)

SITUATION 8: A1 is fouled prior to the bonus, but erroneously A1 is awarded the one-and-one penalty. The error is discovered: (a) after A1's first free throw is successful; (b) after both free throws are successful; (c) after B1 has the ball for a throw-in following the second successful free throw; (d) after B2 has control of the throw-in pass from B1 following the second successful free throw; (e) after B1 has secured the rebound following A1's unsuccessful second free throw.

RULING: In (a) and (b), the successful free throw(s) is canceled. Team A is awarded a throw-in at the spot out-of bounds nearest to where B1 originally fouled. In (c), the successful free throws are canceled. Since the throw-in that was underway is the result of the successful free throws, it is also canceled. The point of interruption is the foul by B1. Team A is awarded a throw-in at the spot out-of-bounds nearest to where B1 originally fouled. In (d) and (e), the successful free throws are canceled. Play resumes with a throw-in awarded to Team B since Team B had the ball inbounds when the game was interrupted for the correction. (2-10; 4-36)

SITUATION 9: Player A1 has the ball at his/her disposal for a single free throw when A2 steps into the lane and then pushes B1.

RULING: The ball became dead when A2 violated the lane and the official rules a violation on A2 and disallows the free throw attempt by A1. The push by A2 may be considered incidental and the ball awarded to Team B for a throw-in at the nearest spot. (9-1 PENALTIES 1)

SITUATION 10: A technical foul is issued at the start of the game on Team A and the game begins with free throws. Team B brings in substitute B6 to shoot the free throw.

RULING: Legal substitute. The ball becomes live to start the game when placed at the disposal of B6. B6 and B5 are subject to proper substitution rules. B5 may not re-enter until the next opportunity to substitute after the clock has been properly started. (3-2-2a, 3-3-4)

SITUATION 11: Team A is awarded an alternatingpossession throw-in. After A1 releases the ball, B1 commits a kicking violation.

RULING: A1's throw-in has ended because of B1's kicking violation. A new throw-in is awarded to Team A at the spot out-of-bounds nearest to where the kicking violation occurred.

NOTE: Because the defensive team committed a violation during the alternating-possession throwin, the alternating-possession arrow is not switched

NFHS Basketball Rules Changes - 2016-17

1-20 NEW: Non-playing personnel, e.g., spirit participants, media, shall remain outside of the playing area during a 30-second or less time-out during the game. Non-playing personnel shall stand outside the free throw lane lines extended toward the sidelines throughout the game.

Rationale: Making officials aware of the standards set for the spirit participants allows the official to manage them when they may not be in an appropriate place.

2-12-5: Sound a warning signal to begin the 15 seconds (maximum) permitted for replacing a disqualified or injured player, or for a player directed to leave the game.

Rationale: The amount of time presently given is too long and allows for gamesmanship to be deployed.

3-5-6: Undershirts shall be a single solid color similar to the torso of the jersey and shall be hemmed and not have frayed or ragged edges. If the undershirt has sleeves, they shall be the same length. See 3-6 for logo requirements.

Rationale: This would now allow all extra apparel that is worn to have one logo. Last year we simplified the color requirements to be consistent on all sleeves, tights, wristbands and headwear. This would be one more step to assist our officials in simplifying the enforcement of the uniform rules

3-5-7: Removed the compression shorts rule; add compression shorts to Rule 3-5-3 which means compression shorts now must meet the quidelines outlined in this rule.

Rationale: This rule is no longer needed and would simplify the enforcement of the uniform rules for our officials. Compression shorts will be added to rule 3-5-3.

9-1-3h NEW: Players occupying marked freethrow lane line spaces may not enter the freethrow semicircle until the ball touches the ring or until the free throw ends.

Rationale: The addition of this information makes the rule complete and easy to understand. lacktriangle

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in the game. The coaches were coaching up the kids in a positive fashion all evening. Our line judge, Jordan Steward stated that it was the cleanest sideline he has had all season. The coaches were empathic about not being out of the sideline box. I would also like to say that the sidelines were the same way for Onalaska. Although Tomah may not have won their homecoming game they will always be winners for this group of offi-

Reporting Official: Tom Steward Waukesha South @ Muskego - Sept. 30, 2016

It's a long drive from Oshkosh to Muskego, especially with the road construction around Milwaukee. We made it okay, thanks to the help from the Muskego athletic department and athletic director Scott Kugi. Scott sent us directions on how to get to the school, and we had a phone number to call in case we got hung up in traffic and would be late in arriving. He also had parking spaces in front of the school reserved for our crew. Not only were we met at the parking lot and escorted into the school, but the checks were waiting for us in the locker room. Scott met us on the field and checked with us to see if there was anything we needed and met us at halftime, providing food and drink. He also met us after the game and had more food and drink. Wow, what a great experience! Now we know what it is to be treated like royalty. Thank you, Scott, and all the people who made it a pleasure to work the Waukesha South-Muskego football game.

Reporting Official: Dave Grey

University School @ Lake Country Lutheran - Sept. 23, 2016

Players, coaches, and fans for both schools were great in regards to sportsmanship during the entire game. The coaches for both schools thanked us for coming to work the game. In addition, the fans from both schools were positive to their student/athletes throughout the game. Players who were great in terms sportsmanship during the game were #4 and #30 for University school and #87 and #25 for Lake Country Lutheran. These players showed leadership, determination, and hard work for their teams. These acts included giving encouragement to other players, handing the ball to officials, and helping up players. In addition, these players gave second and third effort on numerous plays. The schools should be proud of the sportsmanship and effort by these players and their entire teams.

Reporting Official: James Schaefer Brookwood @ Royall - Sept. 16, 2016

Both teams were very courteous and respectful. The sidelines were well managed and it was truly a joy to officiate this game. No negativity and only encouraging and positive comments from the players and coaching staffs of both teams.

Reporting Official: Joel Kuchta Pecatonica/Argyle @ Highland - Sept. 23, 2016

The crew would like to recognize Ross Linscheid from Highland High School for his outstanding sportsmanship during this past Friday's game vs Pecatonica/Argyle. Throughout the game Mr. Linscheid would help the opponent off the ground after a tackle and would "pat" the opponent on the shoulder pad with a word of "Good Job." Mr. Linscheid continued to be a team leader throughout the game, especially noticeable during the latter part of the game as Pecatonica/Argyle secured the victory. Mr. Linscheid's actions reflect highly on himself, as well as the entire coaching staff. We commend him on a "JOB WELL DONE."

Reporting Official: Curt Ladwig

Mondovi @ Elk Mound - Sept. 23, 2016

Our officiating crew would like to commend the coaches and players from Elk Mound and Mondovi. Our game this past Friday started with the scoreboard not working, causing us to keep time on the field with

a stop watch. As the quarter continued, the clock decided to cooperate and both benches thanked us for keeping the game going smoothly. The players from both teams definitely learned sportsmanship from their coaches. Players were polite to us, and helped each other up after plays. When there were questions about penalties, all involved were respectful of our decisions. After the QB for Elk Mound knelt on the final play, players from both teams came to us and thanked us for our time. It was not the coaches telling them to do it, but rather them choosing to thank us. These players are learning more than just football at Elk Mound and Mondovi. Kudos to Coach Lew of Elk Mound, Coach Mike Sinz of Mondovi, AD Mike Schiszik of Elk Mound, and AD Randy Pongratz of Mondovi.

Reporting Official: Tom Moon

Wrightstown @ Waupaca - Sept. 19, 2016

The players, coaches, and fans were excellent in regards to sportsmanship throughout the game. Coaches from both schools were professional during interactions with the officials before, during, and after the game. Players from both schools played hard and were excellent during their interactions with opponents. They talked to each other respectfully and helped each other up after plays. The fans cheered for their teams but were respectful and positive with the officials all night. This was a great event to be a part of. Both communities are to be commended for the positive impact their schools have on their students.

Reporting Official: James Schaefer

Stratford @ Chequamegon - Sept. 16, 2016

Our officiating crew would like to acknowledge the fine sportsmanship of the Stratford football program. We would like to extend our gratitude to Head Coach Jason Tubbs and his coaching staff for such a positive representation of their community regarding the outstanding sportsmanship displayed. Our crew was impressed with the sportsmanship of coaches, players, and the fans as the officials of this contest urged me to write a letter expressing our contentment with the actions by all involved. The coaching staff was cooperative and respectful with the wing official and asked questions in a positive manner. When answers were provided to the coaching staff, they accepted the explanations and said thank you. The coaches did an excellent job of coaching, being organized and monitoring the coaching box. This respect was channeled onto the playing field with the players. The players motivated their teammates and would help the opposing team off the turf. The team was well-coached and the players' language directed towards each other, the opposing team, and officials were very sportsmanlike. Most impressively, our crew appreciated an audience that showed true sportsmanship. Both communities were positive with their cheers and never once did we hear negative comments about the officiating. Fans like these occur because of the positive modeling provided by parents, communities, and the schools. Hats off to these parties for encouraging their fans to take the high road. The actions of the entire community were on display that evening and only positive sportsmanship was exhibited!

Reporting Official: Shawn Umland

Mukwonago @ Arrowhead - Sept. 16, 2016

Neither Arrowhead or Mukwonago players ever gave up in Friday's game at Arrowhead's Tom Taraska Field. Even though the momentum ebbed and flowed like the tide, the players continued block and tackle as though the score was tied. The game was extremely hard-hitting right down to the last play, but the players on both teams kept their "cool" throughout. Players helped opponents off the ground once the play had ended and coaches and fans were in control of their emotions the entire evening. In a game that ended in a 10-7 score, the real winner was "sportsmanship." The communities, the schools and the parents have good

reason to be proud of these young men. Both teams played the game like it is taught to be played and both teams showed character and class in the way they respected their opponents and officials.

Reporting Official: Dave Grey

Cedar Grove-Belgium @

Howards Grove - Sept. 9, 2016

I was the line judge (Howards Grove sideline) for this game. I just want to applaud the coaching staff (led by Head Coach Dave Schmid) on their coaching techniques. Howards Grove lost this game by a bunch to a very good Cedar Grove-Belgium team. All comments towards their players was always followed with a positive, such as: you'll get 'em next time, or keep working hard, or nice play (after a good block or tackle). This was done consistently throughout the game. In return, their players were respectful to their coaches, the officials, and their opponent. I've been officiating for a very long time. I've heard it all. I've seen it all. With so much negativity going on in our state, nation, world; this kind of behavior needs to be recognized. Dave Schmid and his staff are teaching life lessons, positive life lessons through their experiences on the football field. This is the kind of coaching staff you would want your kid to play for (no doubt about it). This may not have been their night, but believe me it made my day, week & year for officiating. Thank you Howards Grove! You are the winner!

Reporting Official: Scott Otten

Plymouth @ New Berlin Eisenhower - Aug. 19, 2016

It was an outstanding game and sportsmanship by both schools. Coaches Knaus and Kern were outstanding to work with throughout this contest. It was a very humid evening with weather issues throughout the game. We had to delay the start of the game due to lightening and then again at halftime. The coaches were understanding with the weather issues and we worked through the plan and were able to complete the game with the coaches, participants, fans, and game managements cooperation. The players for both teams were outstanding in regards to sportsmanship and made officiating the game routine. Lastly the game manager, Bill, even made us cookies for after the game. Thank you to both schools for your outstanding

Reporting Official: James Schaefer Notre Dame @ Ashwaubenon - Sept. 2, 2016

These two schools in the Green Bay community should be proud of the wonderful display of sportsmanship the two schools displayed during their game. Coaches Nowak and Jonas were respectful to officials throughout the game and were exceptional leaders of their teams. The players for both teams played hard but were very respectful of opponents and officials. Participants for both teams were frequently observed helping opponents off the turf, talking with opponents, and handing the ball to officials. One player who stood out was #5 for Notre Dame. He was the primary back and took many hard hits. He would promptly get up and help opponents off the turf and congratulate opponents for a hard hit. Nice work coaches and participants! Keep up the good work!

Reporting Official: James Schaefer Cambridge @ Nekoosa - Sept. 2, 2016

Our crew had the great fortune to officiate this game. We had a very hard-hitting football game with very few penalties. We were so impressed that the coaches from both teams were coaching their young student athletes. There was no yelling or screaming, but coaching. There was discussion between players and coaches. When there was a foul the players often asked what happened and in a couple cases what they had to do to correct their teammates acts (Captains). Coaches requested a couple of times for explanations

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Football Early Start 2017 & 2018 from page 5

would reduce the number of required practices for a scrimmage to eight, but would not reduce the number of practices required for contests from 14. An advisory recommendation to eliminate week one games was proposed. The Ad Hoc committee reviewed several plans and eliminated moving forward with the Ad Hoc proposal of seven conference games plus three district games.

The Football All-Play Discussion

- 2001 the WFCA rejected all-play and proposed a 7th division with the addition of nonpublic schools as members of the WIAA.
- **2011** the WIAA Football Ad Hoc Committee determined a 9 game season, no all-play, no moving the season back, and an early start.
- 2012 the WIAA Football Coaches Advisory committee requested a nine game season to continue without moving back in 2017 and 2018.
- **2013** the WIAA Football Coaches Advisory committee again voted against all-play, 7-0.
- 2016 at the WFCA clinic a survey was announced which didn't want all-play and early start was discussed. No final solution was determined, but individuals brought up an 8-game season and reducing the field to 112

The Ad Hoc committee was going to meet in May, but the Executive Staff did not believe there were any items for the agenda. At the Area Meetings in the fall, the eight or nine game season would be discussed. In addition, the Ad Hoc plan with seven conference games plus three district games that was described as all-play would be discussed. While members of the Ad Hoc committee did not want to discuss specific aspects of the plan for fear of coaches viewing through the scope of competitiveness rather than objectiveness, the staff felt the details should be made available when discussing the plan.

When the question about the nine-game season were posed to the membership at the seven



WIAA Area Meetings, the numbers would indicate through a show of hands that the majority would be for eight games. With respect to the football tournament, the majority would keep the current tournament plan. The 2012 season was to be an eight-game season, and schools should have the opportunity to experience a football season with eight games only.

Football would be the only sport to lose games during a season. Other sports have increased the number of contests allowed during a season

The Ad Hoc committee met on November 30, 2011, 8-player football was discussed in detail. A deadline to announce the switch was determined. In addition, schools must commit for two years and a 3-year average enrollment of 200 would be used to qualify for the jamboree conducted in week 11 of the football season. The committee moved into the discussion of 11-player football.

Coaches expressed that one game per week was better. The focus of the committee was eight or nine games. While the season had equipment issue on Tuesday and practice beginning on Wednesday, the committee discussed moving the days up to Monday and Tuesday as in the past. In 2012, everyone would experience the 8-game season with the opt-in option for a ninth game. Most committee members would favor starting early rather than lose a game.

The consensus was to keep 2013 and 2014 at nine games. Discussion then went to the 2017 and 2018 seasons. The committee was reminded several times that the start would be in July. Several members expressed that the season should be nine games.

A motion was made and seconded to maintain the current nine game season format in 2013 and beyond. Concern was expressed that coaches would look at the short term when the early start moved in. The motion passed unanimously.

The committee discussed tournament structure. Discussion about the proposed seven conference games plus three district games with all teams playing in week 8 (the first round of the tournament) was conducted. There were some concerns brought up, and the committees decided to either forward the plan or dismiss it. Again, the trade-off that the committee struggled with in each plan was travel versus enrollment size match-ups.

At the Football Coaches Advisory Committee meeting on December 6, 2011, the discussion centered around the eight-game season and the sentiment was that the kids should not be denied a nine-game season and personal issues for the coaches should receive second consideration. The option for an eight-game season plus an additional game was presented. The coaches also brought forward the 8-player football recommendations of the Football Ad Hoc committee.

The 2012 season was scheduled to begin on August 1, but at the request of the Wisconsin



Football Coaches Association and the Football Coaches Advisory Committee, the season was reduced to eight games and the start date was moved to August 7, 2012 with equipment issue on the 6th

On December 4, 2012, the Football Coaches Advisory Committee met again. Season dates were discussed with a motion to start practice on Tuesday and issue equipment on Monday every year to allow JV games on Thursday. It was noted that 2016 and the following years would be an issue. The coaches agreed that each season would have a nine-game schedule from 2013 forward.

As time passed, the coaches discussed the season start date, but identified seeding, hosting by the higher seeds in levels one, two, and three; an 8-player state championship; acclimatization; player-on-player contact; and individual contact limits as higher priorities.

At the December 2015 Football Advisory Committee, discussion on the early start in 2017 and 2018 was discussed as a reminder. Many possibilities came up to help relieve the early start issue as it comes up every five-to-six calendar cycles. The issue brought back discussion on the eight-game seasons, but the committee was reminded that the WIAA membership denounced the idea via the Football Ad Hoc committee. With no new solutions, no action was taken

At the most recent Area Meetings in September of 2016, the WIAA Executive Staff addressed questions of concern regarding the early start with the member schools. In all but one meeting, there was little enthusiasm to go to an eight game season. The exception was the Antigo area meeting with 12 members wishing to reduce 8 games and 15 to reduce to 112 qualifiers or removing the first round of the playoffs.

Maintaining our current tournament structure is the right thing to do. If the wheel is not broken, we have nothing to fix with the tournament. If we wish to maintain nine games for all, then we need an early start.

What are our solutions? 1) Cancel summer contact camps in the years that the season starts early. 2) Don't bring in the freshmen until later in the month of August. 3) Hand out equipment on the first allowed day of practice. 4) Hold the first varsity game on Saturday and hand out equipment and begin practice on Thursday.

Sports Report "PLUS" from page 12

as well. Players helped teammates and opponents up after tackles or blocks. It was the way we dream football would be every time it is played.

Reporting Official: Tom Steward

New London @ Xavier - Aug. 19, 2016

What a great way to start off another football season. Everything was perfect. The weather was warm, the field lush and green, no rain, players and coaches that were respectful and an athletic director at Xavier who was well prepared for the start of the season. Kathy Bates, athletic director at Xavier, had all the information about the game in our hands three days prior to the game. We were met in the parking lot by one of her staff members and escorted to our locker room. We did not have to wander around looking for help. New London and Xavier coaches handled the pre-game flawlessly and team captains on both sides agreed to handle problems themselves...should any arise. But no problems arose. We did not have to throw a flag for personal fouls and unsportsmanlike conduct the entire game and we did not have to speak with any players about bad language. These young men from both schools were gentlemen. It was a great way to start the season.

Reporting Official: Dave Grey Brookfield Central @ Whitefish Bay – Aug. 18, 2016

The head coach for Whitefish Bay, Jake Wolter, did an outstanding job as the leader of his football team. He was observed speaking to his team in a positive and professional manner during all timeouts. In addition, during his interactions and communication with officials he was respectful and positive. The Whitefish Bay community should be proud of Coach Wolter's outstanding ability to teach sportsmanship and leadership to the young men he coaches. Nice work Coach Wolter!

Reporting Official: James Schaefer

BOYS SOCCER

Waupun @ Central Wis. Christian - Sept. 24, 2016

It was my pleasure to officiate this match The atmosphere was electric, the stands filled with enthusiastic students singing supportive soccer chants and supportive parents. The pregame activities included an on the field handshake by the high school players with the Waupun youth players and topped off with the local VFW Color Guard for the National Anthem. The match was hard fought with both teams answering each others offensive charges. Even with the challenges, the sportsmanship exhibited by both the players, coaches and fans was at a high level, helping each other up after a hard challenge, complimenting good plays by the other team, and being respectful to the referees. The game is what high school sports should be. Fittingly, the match ended in a 2-2 tie, with the real winner, the Waupun soccer community!

Reporting Official: Tim Holzman

Lourdes Academy @ Omro - Sept. 20, 2016

Officiating this match was a privilege. Omro played hard and did well to encourage each other rather than $\,$

get down on themselves and others or take out frustration on the other team. Nic Douglas, Omro's head coach and players were all gracious. After the game, Coach Douglas again told me he was pleased how I handled situations in the game, and how I refereed according to the rules of the game It was a relief to have the coaches be so understanding, and it was truly a pleasure to partake in a match in which coaches, players, and parents were all respectful of each other, of the officials, and of the game.

Reporting Official: Aaron Duke

BOYS VOLLEYBALL Kenosha Tremper @

Waukesha North Invitational - Sept. 19, 2016

I had Kenosha Tremper for a couple matches at the Waukesha North boys volleyball invitational Saturday. During that event, #11, who was the captain of his team, showed excellent poise, an even keeled attitude, and great leadership for his team. Even though not every call went his team's way, he always interacted with officials in a very respectable manner that showed his strong character. He was a great role model for the others around him. He definitely deserves some recognition

Reporting Official: Patrick Mott

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

North Crawford @ Seneca - Oct. 6, 2016

My partner and I had the pleasure of being a part of a positive experience we will never forget while officiating at Seneca's parent and senior night. After Seneca was finished introducing all of their player's parents and their one senior player Becky Trautsch #13, Seneca head coach Dawn Ray called for the guest North Crawford seniors onto the court. At this time, to the North Crawford senior players' surprise they were presented bouquets of flowers from Seneca senior captain Becky Trautsch. This was a great example of the sportsmanship in high school sports that my partner and I were fortunate enough to be a part of. We would like to extend a congratulations to both schools' players, spectators, coaches and communities for all of your positive sportsmanship that carried over to the match where the players played, coaches coached, officials officiated and the spectators cheered for the positive plays of the match!

Reporting Official: Wayne Hannes

Dodgeland Invitational – Sept. 10, 2016

This is an invitational that I have worked for three years. This year was by far the most enjoyable. Marcia at Dodgeland does a great job of making everyone feel welcome and informed of what to expect for the day. Beyond that, this year's coaches, fans, and players were the most respectful and enthusiastic that I have ever seen! For as long as invitational days can be, having everyone being positive and staying positive really makes the day more enjoyable and seem to go much quicker.

Reporting Official: Scott Jacquart

Wrestling Points of Emphasis from page 7

must be attached to the head gear. In addition, the ear guards and hair covering should be purchased together as a self-contained unit.

Winter Season Regulations

All coaches are encouraged to read the winter season wrestling regulations. Many questions that we receive could be prevented by taking a few minutes reviewing these regulations prior to the season.

Reminders from 2015 Injury Time, Blood Time, and Recovery Time

Remember, an official can "suspend" IT, BT, & RT. If you are waiting for an AHCP to attend your injured or bleeding wrestler then the official could suspend the clock until the health care professional arrives to attend the athlete. Once they arrive – again start the clock. If the official feels that a particular school or coach has found a way to abuse this interpretation, please file a report with the WIAA.

Defaulting After RT/BT Runs Out

Remember that the NFHS supports the right of a wrestler and / or coach to default the match "at any time". This could occur when it is determined that either wrestler will not be able to continue wrestling after IT, RT or BT is about to run out. Either wrestler can default the match and award it to his opponent. In many situations, this could be considered a great act of unselfish sportsmanship. It would most likely (but not always) occur when it is apparent that the injured wrestler is running out of recovery time and is greatly overpowered by a superior wrestler. Rather than win by default, he (or coach) could elect to lose by default.

Female's Uniform Reminder

A female wrestler must wear a uniform designed for a female, or wear a male uniform with a suitable t-shirt. It is possible that the female uniform will not satisfy the requirement without an approved t-shirt. The uniform and t-shirt must always be inspected and approved by the referee. His decision shall be final.

Velcro Shoulder Wrap

As mentioned last year, velcro shoulder straps must be covered with a t-shirt if the official views them as abrasive or an opponent could get their fingers caught within the layers (which is usually the case).

JV Weigh In

As mentioned last year, all contestants, including JV contestants, must be weighed-in on the day of the event, at the host school, by the referee or other authorized personnel.

2016 Sportsmanship Summit from page 1

per team, which includes Summit materials, a commemorative t-shirt and lunch.

The Summit will feature two keynote addresses and three time slots for five different break-out sessions, which focus on the ideals of sportsmanship/citizenship. The morning keynote address will be presented by Craig Hillier, author of "Playing Beyond the Scoreboard." The afternoon keynote address will be presented by Ross Bernstein, best-selling author and professional speaker. He has written nearly 50 sports books.

Participants will also attend three morning break-out sessions. The subjects for the five, 40-minute break-out presentations available during the three time slots are "The Coach and Partici-

pants Role in Sportsmanship" by Steve Jones, football coach at Kimberly and Bruce Moriarty, girls volleyball coach at Neenah; "School Sportsmanship Expectations" by Nick Senger and Jeremy Martin of the WIAA Sportsmanship Committee; "Sportsmanship: The Officials Prospective" by Jeff Dorschner, veteran WIAA licensed official; "Responsible and Respectful Social Media" by Dave Petroff, sports information director at Edgewood College; and "Sportsmanship Roundtable Discussions" moderated by Shane Been & Todd Fischer of the WIAA Sportsmanship Committee.

A link to the registration form and a copy of the promotional flyer on the WIAA website has been emailed to each school athletic director and principal. A link to the promotional flyer will also be available on the sportsmanship page of the WIAA website.

Schools interested in registering for the 2016 Sportsmanship Summit should complete the online registration form by Monday, Nov. 28 to reserve participation in the Summit. Please contact the WIAA with any questions regarding the Summit by calling (715) 344-8580, or by emailing to tclark@wiaawi.org.

Schools wishing to reserve hotel rooms the night prior to the Summit should contact the Holiday Inn in Stevens Point directly at (715) 344-0200. The room rate for the Summit is \$99 for a single or double.



Discussion Groups Credited in Invigorating Area Meetings

Even before the Fall Tournament Series began in late September, there was already a big winner this fall–the membership.

School administrators attending any of the seven WIAA Area Meetings in September exercised their willingness to engage in the discussions that establishes the agenda for the foreseeable future and beyond.

The Open Forum provides the opportunity to introduce topics of discussion that are of interest to members and are not necessarily included on the meeting agenda. The specific topics of interest in one area of the state are not always consistent with those in other areas. However, when the same topic comes up in multiple meetings, it signals a higher level of attention to the discussion.

The topic introduced in the open forums more than any other was the starting date for football this fall and next season. Sentiments were shared at multiple meetings relating to starting football the first couple days of August or at the end of July, which will occur again in 2018. However, football has a history of starting during that same period, and the options and scenarios to move to a later start were exhausted by the football coaches and an ad-hoc committee a few years back. A detailed review of those discussions is provided in Wade Labecki's column on page 5.

The new pitch count rules in baseball was also a subject of open forums at multiple Area Meetings. The discussions focused on recording and tracking methods, and the impact on pitching rotations.

The most positive comments from the Area Meetings were the reaction to the group discussions. The breakout groups greatly enhanced the interaction and dialog on the four topics identified as relevant for the membership to address. Those topics were virtual school eligibility, cooperative teams, seasonal placements and best practices for promoting school-based athletics.

Several minutes of conversations for each topic were followed by a spokesperson presenting a recap of their group's discussions to the rest of the assembly. The new wrinkle to the Area Meetings is a credit to the membership's receptiveness to altering the long-standing and traditional "sit-n'-git" format of the Area Meetings to enhance greater involvement.

Discussions on virtual schools produced a number of groups suggesting to extend eligibility consistent with home-school students, but

they also revealed concerns with tracking grades, enrollment counts and code violations, as well as the impact on the school community and what is considered the "school" team.

The co-op conversations widely recognized that the existing practices are serving the membership's needs in providing opportunities for students. However, concerns also surfaced that the focus on participation may be taking a back seat to competitiveness in the establishment of some programs, particularly in larger co-ops. Other factors are present as well, which further adds complexity to the co-op discussion, such as available facilities, school budgets, student transfers and transportation costs.

The seasonal placement discussion was relevant in determining if the current placements are meeting the needs of member schools and their student-athletes. The perceived consensus from the group reports indicated no change is most preferred. The concerns with facility scheduling and overuse, availability of licensed officials, coach staffing and the negative impact a change would have on current multi-sport athletes were shared. In addition, any consideration for seasonal changes would most likely need to consider flipping seasons as opposed to adding to or stacking in existing seasons.

A number of ideas used by schools to promote education-based athletics were shared and reported out to the assembly. Some of the ideas shared included having a greater presence on social messaging platforms, live streaming of their athletic events, weekly emails to parents, honoring scholar and multi-sport athletes, presenting athletics-related topics at school board meetings and participating in outreach programs with community-based projects.

The executive staff and Board of Control members present at the meetings welcomed the exchanges and sharing of opinions. Maybe on an unprecedented scale, we were able to gauge and note the sentiment of the membership on a number of hot-button topics.

Thank you to those who attended and shared in the discussions. We look forward to future dynamic discussions that influence the rules and direction of this membership. We'll see you again on the fall tournament trail.

Keep These Dates in Mind

October 27 & 29	Boys Soccer Sectionals
	Girls Volleyball Sectional
October 28	Boys Volleyball Regionals
	Level 2 Footbal
October 29	State Cross Country Meet (Wisconsin Rapids
November 1 & 3	Boys Volleyball Sectionals
	State Boys Soccer Tournament (Milwaukee
	State Girls Volleyball Tournament (Green Bay
November 4	Girls Diving Sectionals
	Level 3 Footbal
November 5	Girls Swimming Sectionals
November 7	Earliest Day for Gymnastics Practice
	Earliest Day for Hockey Practice
	Earliest Day for Girls Basketball Practice
November 9	. Coaches Advisory Meeting - Soccer (Stevens Point
November 11-12	State Boys Volleyball (Milwaukee
	State Girls Swimming & Diving Meet (Madison
	Level 4 Footbal
November 14	Earliest Day for Boys Swimming & Diving Practice
	Earliest Day for Wrestling Practice
	Farliest Day for Boys Baskethall Practice

November 16	Earliest Day for First Girls Basketball Game oaches Advisory Committee Meeting – Cross Country Coaches Advisory Meeting – Volleyball (Stevens Point) Football Playoff Championship Games (Madison)
	Earliest Day for First Hockey Game
November 22	Earliest Day for First Boys Basketball Game
	Earliest Day for First Boys Swimming & Diving Meet
	Thanksgiving Day
	Earliest Day for First Wrestling Meet
	Officials Advisory Committee Meeting (Stevens Point)
December 1	Earliest Day for First Gymnastics Meet
December 2	Board of Control Meeting (Stevens Point)
December 5 Coaches	Advisory Meeting – Swimming & Diving (Stevens Point)
December 6 Coaches	Advisory Committee Meeting – Football (Stevens Point)
	Sportsmanship Summit (Stevens Point)
	Coaches Advisory Meeting – Tennis (Stevens Point)
	New Year's Day
	Sports Advisory Committee Meeting
	Middle Level Council Meeting (Stevens Point)
3	Advisory Council Meeting (Stevens Point)
	Board of Control Meeting (Stevens Point)
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Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association

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Test Dates

Students participating in interscholastic sports often find conflicts between these events and college test dates.
Listed below are the 2016-17 and 2017-18 dates for ACT.

ACT - 2016-17

Test DateOct. 22, 2016
Dec. 10, 2016
Feb. 11, 2017*
April 8, 2017
June 10, 2017

DeadlineSept. 16, 2016
Nov. 4, 2016
Jan. 13, 2017
March 3, 2017
May 5, 2017

Registration

Late Fee Required Sept. 17-30, 2016 Nov. 5-18, 2016 Jan. 14-20, 2017 March 4-17, 2017 May 6-19, 2017

ACT - 2017-18

September 9, 2017 October 28, 2017 December 9, 2017 February 10, 2018* April 14, 2018 June 9, 2018

No test centers are scheduled in New York for the February test date.

Did You Know?

Participation in extracurricular activities is associated with a greater likelihood of voting in national and regional elections, and volunteering for community and religious groups according to national data.