



# WIAA Bulletin

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## Board of Control Rejects Basketball Rural/Urban Proposal; Approves State Boys Volleyball Move to Resch Center

The Board of Control voted in opposition to the most recent plan to address competitive equity and approved a number of coaches' committee recommendations and other action items at its January 31 meeting.

The Board voted 6-5 against advancing a basketball "Rural/Urban" competitive equity plan initiated by the Board to the Annual Meeting. The proposal sought to place schools in Divisions 3, 4 and 5 by enrollment and by U.S. Census data with classification codes based on proximity to urban areas.

Volleyball features the greatest number of changes for the season regulations with six. Highlighting the changes was the Board's approval to move the Boys Volleyball State Tournament to the Resch Center to coincide with the State Girls Volleyball Tournament in Green Bay for a four-year commitment beginning in 2019. The postseason schedule for regionals, sectionals and state tournament will be announced at a future date.

Two of the changes involve seeding for 2018. The top four teams will be seeded in the Division 1 bracket of the girls state tournament. The eight Division 1 coaches of qualifying teams will determine the seeds with the remaining four teams randomly drawn as opponents, identical to the procedure used for the boys state tournament since 2012. The other seeding-related action permits schools located 80 miles or more from a tournament seeding site the option to participate by live, electronic means without penalty.

The Board voted to adjust the match times of the State Boys Volleyball Tournament to schedule the #2-seeded team's quarterfinal match at 5:30 p.m. and the #3-seeded team's quarterfinal match at 8 p.m.

Other volleyball Board action includes recommending the Molten state tournament balls to be used during the WIAA Boys and Girls Tournament Series in 2018, and making

**See Board Rejects, page 2 >**

## Bob Gardner Announces Retirement as NFHS Executive Director



Bob Gardner

Bob Gardner, executive director of the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) since May 2010, has announced his retirement, effective August 1, 2018. Gardner notified the NFHS Board of Directors of his retirement plans at the NFHS Winter Meeting January 3 in Scottsdale, Arizona.

Gardner is the fifth full-time executive director of the NFHS, following H.V. Porter (1940-58), Cliff Fagan

(1958-77), Brice Durbin (1977-93) and Bob Kanaby (1993-2010).

Gardner's eight-year run as head of the national organization for high school athletics and performing arts activities will conclude a 48-year career in secondary education, including the final 18 years on the NFHS staff in Indianapolis.

Since assuming duties as NFHS executive director in 2010, Gardner has vigorously promoted the values **See Bob Gardner Announces Retirement, page 6 >**

## Board of Control Repeals Implementation of Basketball Shot Clock

The Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association Board of Control rescinded plans to implement a 35-second basketball shot clock and approved a number of action items at its December meeting.

After considerable discussion and statements made by school administrators and coaches, the Board voted 7-3 to reverse its decision to introduce the shot clock in basketball beginning in the 2019-20 season. Following its initial 6-4 vote in June to implement the shot clock,

the Board received significant and valuable feedback from the membership at the seven Area Meetings in September.

A Rural/Urban competitive equity plan – initiated by the Board in June – was modified, discussed and approved to advance through the membership's committee process beginning with advisory committee meetings in January. **Rural/Urban Competitive Equity Plan**

**See Board Repeals Implementation, page 8 >**

## WIAA Board of Control & Advisory Council Elections

Administrators at WIAA member senior high schools are reminded that February 27, 2018 is the deadline to announce their candidacy for positions on the Board of Control and High School Advisory Council.

District administrators, high school principals and assistants at these levels who are interested in becoming candidates in their district (Board of Control) or large/medium/small classification (High School Advisory Council) should state their intention via a letter to Joan Gralla (jgralla@wiaawi.org) at the WIAA office. Note: Candidates must have (1) Department of Public Instruction licensure allowing placement in the eligible set, (2) must be employed full-time or part-time in a qualifying position and (3) cannot be members of the teachers' bargaining unit.

Primary ballots (if needed) will be mailed March 6 with a return date of March 27. General election ballots will be mailed March 30 with a return date of April 12. Results will be announced April 25 at the WIAA Annual Meeting. Ballots will be mailed to the district administrator.

For complete information regarding powers and

**See Elections, page 17 >**

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# WIAA Statewide Network to Air State Basketball and Hockey Championships

The 2018 State Boys and Girls Basketball, and the Boys and Girls Hockey Championship Finals will again be carried live on the WIAA State Television Network.

Live television coverage of the WIAA State Basketball Tournaments began in 1960, and since then the telecast has grown to become a tradition in Wisconsin. For two weeks in March high school basketball takes center stage, as fans tune in at home and work to see their local teams in action. In 2018 those broadcasts are now produced in high definition, and can be watched around the world via the live web stream available from the TV station websites.

Wisconsin's live television coverage is unique in the country, with all thirty games in both boys and girls state tournaments televised live. The title games of the State Boys and Girls Hockey Tournament will be carried live Saturday. Quincy Media, Inc., has been the WIAA broadcast partner since 1968, with its' stations WKOW TV in Madison,

WAOW TV in Wausau, WXOW TV in La Crosse, WQOW TV in Eau Claire, WYOW TV in Eagle River, WMOW TV in Crandon, and KBJRMY9 in Superior/Duluth carrying the tournaments and producing the coverage. Partner stations WMLW TV in Milwaukee and WCWF W-14 in Green Bay and the Fox Valley complete the statewide network that brings all the excitement of tournament action to viewers across Wisconsin.

Many thanks to Rural Mutual Insurance Companies, Marshfield Clinic & Security Health Plan, Menards, Gerhards, Delta Dental and Jones Dairy Farm for their statewide telecast sponsorship and continuing support for WIAA programs. Our coverage is brought to you by the work of fine TV station personnel across the state, along with the efforts of technicians, production specialists, announcers, photographers, sales & marketing personnel, and many other dedicated Quincy Media, Inc., staff, who strive to produce a quality telecast every year. ●

## Board Rejects from page 1

them the mandatory volleyballs of the tournament series in 2019. Another item added to the volleyball season regulations impacts how the maximum allowed contests is calculated for ninth grade and junior varsity schedules. Subvarsity teams will be allowed to count a multi-school event as either a multiple school competition or as individual matches, not to exceed the season maximum in either of the two categories.

In football, the most significant action is the Board's support to begin developing a statewide football-only conference model to be presented at next December's Football Coaches Advisory Committee meeting. The goal of the plan is implementation for the 2020 football season.

For 2018 only, a waiver may be granted to permit the first day of football practice on July 31, which provides for the 14 days of practice mandated prior to a Thursday game in Week 1. The waiver will require the approval of both schools for the game to be played on Aug. 16.

Two of the football recommendations approved by the Board involves 8-player football. A two-year commitment, upon declaration in even years, will be required for schools participating in the 8-player tournament series beginning in 2018. In addition, 8-player programs will be ineligible to participate in the 11-player tournament until the next even year. The Board also upheld the current enrollment requirement to be eligible for the 8-player tournament series. Programs must have a three-year average enrollment of 200 or less in the first year of the two-year commitment. Schools will be allowed to participate in their second year of their commitment even if their average three-year enrollment exceeds 200.

The fifth football recommendation receiving Board approval reinstates language to the season regulations requiring the exchange of the two most recent game films at every level of the playoffs.

Three Board decisions impact the soccer season regulations beginning in 2018-19. One mandates application of the mercy rule to end the game after 60 minutes if the score differential is 10 goals or more. Another limits personnel in the team box at the state tournament to 35, and the third moves the first round of the boys and girls Division 1 and 2 regional games two days earlier to Tuesday.

In other soccer-related action, the Board approved the renewal of the agreement with Uihlein Soccer Park as host of the State Boys and Girls Soccer Tournaments through 2025. The facility has served as home for the soccer tournaments since 2003-04.

In swimming and diving, the Board supported adding language to the tournament procedures to address substitutions after the meet starts because of injury or illness. A second swimming and diving recommendation approved by the Board will require sectional swimming competitions to start no later than 1 p.m. beginning in 2018-19.

Additionally, a Board-amended Officials Advisory Committee recommendation to reduce the waiting period for coaches to rank officials from 36 hours to 12 hours after contests in all sports was passed.

Addressing requests for conference realignment, the Board gave its final approval to a plan that moves Cameron from the Lakeland Conference to the Heart O' North Conference for all sports beginning in the fall of 2019. First approval was issued for a plan that moves Alma/Pepin into the Dairyland Conference for all sports beginning in the fall of 2019.

Membership rules require a 40-day window for schools involved in realignment plans to appeal the first consideration of the Board before it takes final action. Thus, schools have until March 12, 2018, to file an appeal of the initial vote. The Board will give final consideration of the plan at its meeting on April 24, 2018.

The Board also amended a football-only realignment consideration for southwest Wisconsin, which impacts seven conferences and 48 schools. The plan will be presented for first consideration by the Board at its March 2 meeting. Details of the amended plan are available in the attached document.

Other topics presented in the executive staff reports to the Board were ongoing social media, marketing and technology efforts, as well as updates on the assistant director position search and the current standing of summer baseball. The Board also received liaison reports from Mike Thompson of the Department of Public Instruction, John Ashley of the Wisconsin Association of School Boards and Jeremy Schlitz of the Wisconsin Athletic Directors Association. ●

## WIAA Hockey Tournament Information

Welcome to the 2018 WIAA Tournament series. This is a very exciting time of year as all of our school programs enter the tournament with high expectations and requires one and all to be at their very best. We felt it would be helpful to school administrators, game managers, coaches and WIAA officials to pass along information pertaining to important situations that often occur during the tournament series.

- **First and foremost: The first school alphabetically wears light-colored jerseys this year.**

- **Overtime procedures remain as played in recent years. It is just like the NCAA overtime procedure:**

- For overtimes, there will continue to be a three-minute intermission followed by an eight-minute sudden victory period **with goalies switching ends.**
- **If still tied, a twelve-minute rest period followed by a 17-minute sudden victory overtime period occurs and goalies switch ends.**
- **If still tied, the overtime procedure found in #2 above will be repeated until a team has scored a goal.**
- **During overtime play during the WIAA tournament series, the ice will be resurfaced after the eight-minute overtime period and after each 17-minute overtime period.**

A reminder for officials and coaches that NFHS Rule 2-5 Change of Players indicates: "Substitutions may be made at any time **provided the player coming off the ice shall be at the players' own bench and out of play** before the substituting player enters onto the ice." We continue to see substitutions being made while players are still in the middle of the rink. Make sure players are making an effort towards their own bench and are near the bench area before their substitute hits the ice.

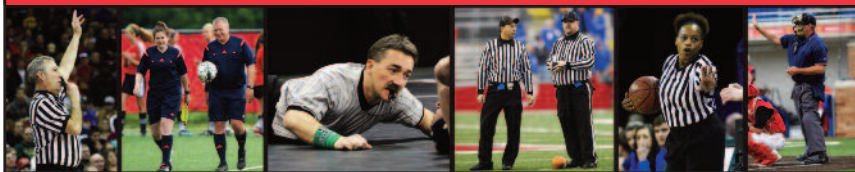
Checking from behind continues to be a significant injury risk in high school hockey. It is probably the most dangerous play in all of high school sport. Please be aware of NFHS Rule 6-7-2 Note, that reads: "The rules committee reminds coaches and players that the responsibility in this rule remains with the player approaching an opponent along the boards." Although discretion has been restored for officials to determine whether or not a CFB is flagrant, players have to be cognizant of catastrophic injury potential any time they are in close proximity to the side-boards.

In addition, contact to the head remains an illegal play and needs to be eliminated from high school hockey. Direct contact to the head or neck area is a flagrant foul. Direct contact occurs when the initial force of the contact occurs to the head or neck area and results in a Major or Game Disqualification penalty being assessed.

Eight years ago, the WIAA membership approved a three-game suspension for any student-athlete identified fighting during a WIAA hockey game. First, this regulation has been very successful in reducing the number of fights that have taken place since the rules inception. Please be aware, that any suspensions for fighting that include loss of eligibility for any WIAA tournament series contest, results in that student-athlete becoming ineligible for that contest and the remainder of the WIAA

**See Hockey Tournament Information, page 14 >**

## Officials Corner



*Congratulations!!*

## 2017 Fall Tournament Officials

**Cross Country** – Mary DeYoung, De Pere (Meet Referee); Keith Creuziger, Mosinee (Starter); John Miller, South Milwaukee (Starter); Peter Nielsen, Wales (Starter)

### Football –

Paul Feldhausen, REF, Muskego; Kevin Nault, UMP, Big Bend; Michael Colombo, L, Greenfield; Samuel Plumeri, LJ, Franklin; Kevin Grosseohme, BJ, Milwaukee

James Hebel, REF, Fond du Lac; Jaye Baus, UMP, Fond du Lac; Dan Loest, L, Fond du Lac; Dave Schroeder, LJ, Fond du Lac; David Oldenburg, BJ, Fond du Lac

Randall Koehn, REF, Columbus; Monte Spillane, UMP, Markesan; Paul White, L, Beaver Dam; Jeffrey Giese, LJ, Beaver Dam; Lee Fiedorowicz, BJ, Waterloo

Tim Lee, REF, Viroqua; Darin Geier, UMP, Westby; Andre Casabonne, L, Cashton; Craig Poshepny, LJ, Viroqua; Jason Rood, BJ, Viroqua

Steve Otto, REF, Onalaska; Dan Anderson, UMP, Holmen; Greg Grokowsky, L, Holmen; Nick Weber, LJ, La Crosse; Joseph Zietlow, BJ, Onalaska

Fred Strampe, REF, Waukesha; Paul Vanden Heuvel, UMP, Hubertus; Erich Uebersohn, L, Oconomowoc; David Schill, LJ, Pewaukee; David Hoeffert, BJ, Racine

Shawn Umland, REF, Minocqua; Buck Steiniger, UMP, Irma; Kevin Kirby, L, Rhineland; Philip Borchardt, LJ, Merrill; Thomas Meyers, BJ, Minocqua

### Standby Official –

Jack Albrechtson, Madison  
**Boys Soccer** – Eric Bayer, Campbellsport; Peter Bernardy, De Pere; Barrett Britt, Delavan; James Friel, Waukesha; Dean Gumz, Eau Claire; Mark Herdeman, West Bend; Justin Marien, South Milwaukee; Jamie Michalkiewicz, Neenah;

Dylan Seitz, Elkhorn; Anthony Voulgaris, Van Dyne; Brandon Wachholz, Wausau; Jeff Walker, McFarland

**Girls Swimming & Diving** – Linda Eberle, Mt. Pleasant; Stephen Good, Manitowoc; Steven Jensen, Rhineland; Barbara Schweitzer, Two Rivers; Steve Surprenant, Oregon

### Girls Individual & Team Tennis – Meet Referee –

Sharon Terry. **Umpires** – Chip Asta, Williams Bay; Denise Caldwell, Janesville; Deb Clausen-Kremer, Sun Prairie; Elizabeth Danner, Oneida; Dave Hammelman, Brookfield; Jan Hammelman, Brookfield; Sri Kordelli, Madison; John Knox, Madison; Patty Larson, Waunakee; Jon Nicoud, Fond du Lac; Jordan Robinson, Pleasant Prairie; Gary Schlei, Madison; Courtney Smith, Janesville; Sharon Terry, Janesville; Henry Thomas, Milwaukee; Bart Triefler, Glendale; Mark VanderZanden, Appleton; Nancy Wilson-Schlei, Madison; Robert Wilkins, Brookfield; Jim Yoshida, Madison

**Boys Volleyball** – James Hochevar, Hartland; Zachary Hochevar, Wauwatosa; Joel Jerominski, Greenfield; Mike Pfeifer, Neenah; Ryan Pfeifer, Neenah; Teague Prichard, Middleton; Jason Rieck, Glendale; Larry Schoenick, Waukesha

**Girls Volleyball** – Harry Babcock, Wisconsin Rapids; Paul Bloyer, Holmen; John Butschlick, West Bend; Linda Dahl, Pewaukee; Rodney Davis, Sharon; Duane Frankiewicz, Spooner; David Jass, Janesville; Richard Jones, Janesville; Jeff Kuglitsch, Janesville; Tom Maenpaa, Reedsburg; Brian Marx, Milwaukee; Lynn Michek, Highland; William Niebuhr, De Forest; Dianne Pacolt, Menasha; Daniel Rosenbush, Sarona; Francis Schelfhout, La Crosse; William Schweder, Janesville; Alexis Sheldon, Janesville; Randy Watts, Jackson; Darin Wilken, Platteville ●

## Officials Advisory Committee Openings

Openings for 2018-19 on the Officials Advisory Committee will exist in the following:

Gymnastics, soccer, softball, gender at-large (female) and ethnic at-large. *Note: Ethnic at-large refers to a person having origins in black racial groups of Africa; Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race Asian; Pacific Islander; American Indian; or Alaskan Native.*

Interested officials need to submit a

letter of interest along with officiating background information by April 9, 2018 to Joan Gralla at the WIAA to receive consideration for one of these openings.

The positions are 3-year commitments and require the official to attend one meeting annually at the WIAA office. This meeting is held the Wednesday after Thanksgiving.

If you have any questions regarding the Officials Advisory Committee, please contact Joan. ●

## Background Checks On All Officials For 2018-19

The WIAA will be requiring background checks on all officials upon submitting their licensing application for the 2018-19 school year.

When an individual submits their official's licensing application, whether new or a renewal, a background check will be performed before the licensing application will be processed. The WIAA covers 100% of the cost associated with this background check.

The WIAA began requiring background checks on officials for the 2013-14 school year. This will be the first follow-up recheck of all currently licensed officials since the initial check.

The process that is currently in place will remain. Once an application is submitted, you will receive an email from the WIAA office with the link to the Background Check Authorization Form. Once you have completed and submitted that online form and results have been submitted to our office, we will continue to process the licensing application.

### General Information

1. The name of the company providing this service is InCheck, Inc.
2. There is no additional cost to you to complete this process.
3. When you click on the link to access the forms, complete instructions are given as to what information is needed and the steps you need to take to complete the form.

This information will be provided to all officials in emails from the WIAA prior to the start of the 2018-19 licensing period. ●



Wisconsin Conference Commissioners Association 2017 Officials of the Year award recipients were honored at a luncheon at the November conference commissioner's meeting in Wisconsin Dells. Congratulations and thank you to these outstanding officials for their dedication to Wisconsin high school sports. Left to Right - District 3 (southwest) Recipient – Wilson Y. Leong of Milton, District 1 (northwest) Recipient – Bob Zahradka of Prescott, District 4 (southeast) Recipient – Dale Nault of Muskego, District 2 (northeast) Recipient – Mike Blasczyk of Appleton. ●

# 2018 State Individual Wrestling Championships

Kohl Center, Madison, Wis.

Doors open for fans one hour prior to the start of competition in sessions 1, 2, 3 & 4. Doors open for fans one and a half hours prior to the start of session 5 (finals).

**ATTENTION:** Fans should plan to allow extra time to enter. Metal detectors will be used on entry into the Kohl Center.

## Session 1 – Thursday, February 22 - Six Mats

Div. 1 Preliminaries - **3 p.m.** (Doors open at 2 p.m.) Weigh in: 1:30 p.m.

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

Div. 2 & 3 Preliminaries - **7 p.m.** Weigh in: 5 p.m. (Div. 2 on mats 1, 2 & 3; Div. 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 2 – Friday, February 23 - Six Mats

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

Div. 1 Consolations - **10 a.m.** (all mats) (Doors open at 9 a.m.)

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

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

Div. 2 & 3 Consolation Semifinals - Approximately **2:45 p.m.** (Div. 2 on mats 1, 2 & 3; Div. 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, February 23 - Six Mats

Div. 1, 2 & 3 Semifinals - **7 p.m.** (Doors open at 6 p.m.)

(Div. 1 on mats 1 & 2; Div. 2 on mats 3 & 4; Div. 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, February 24 - Six Mats

All Weigh Ins: 9:30 a.m.

Div. 1, 2 & 3 Consolation Wrestlebacks - **10 a.m.** (Doors open at 9 a.m.)

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

Div. 1, 2 & 3 Fifth Place\* (Div. 1 on mats 1 & 2; Div. 2 on mats 3 & 4; Div. 3 on mats 5 & 6)

Div. 1, 2 & 3 Third Place\* (Div. 1 on mats 1 & 2; Div. 2 on mats 3 & 4; Div. 3 on mats 5 & 6)

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

## Session 5 – Saturday, February 24 - Three Mats

**March of Champions - 5 p.m.** (Doors open at 3:30 p.m.)

Div. 1, 2 & 3 **Championships** - (Div. 1 on mat 1; Div. 2 on mat 2; Div. 3 on mat 3) ●

# 2018 State Team Wrestling Tournament Schedule

**UW Field House, Madison, WI**

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

## Friday, March 2, 2018

(One Session)

Division 1 Quarterfinals – 5:30 p.m.

Division 1 Semifinals – 7:30 p.m.

Weigh-ins – 4:30 p.m.

Admission \$13 for one session

## Saturday, March 3, 2018

(Two Sessions)

Division 2/3 Semifinals – 10 a.m.

Championships in all Divisions – 3 p.m.

Weigh-ins all divisions – 9 a.m.

Admission \$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. ●



FROM THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF STATE HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS

## Track & Field and Cross Country Rules Changes - 2018

**4-3-1, 4-3-1b, 4-3-1c:** Clarifies that for a track and field as well as cross country uniform to be considered legal, the singlet and bottom or one-piece uniform shall be school-issued or school-approved. This change for school approval addresses the need for athletes to purchase a part of their uniform, but such individual apparel shall be approved by the school coach to be certain it meets all rule requirements.

**Rationale:** Clarifies that the school may issue or approve an individually purchased item as part of the official school uniform.

**6-2-14 PENALTY (NEW), 6-2-10, 6-2-13:** Several prohibitions regarding competitors' actions were included but had no associated penalty should the rule not be followed which created confusion for enforcement. The appropriate penalty of disqualification from the event has been added.

**Rationale:** This rule was absent the necessary penalty.

**6-5-11:** The requirements for the length of the pole

vault crossbar has become more flexible as it can now be within a range in length like the high jump.

**Rationale:** Creates consistency in establishing a range for the length of the crossbar in pole vault. Provides flexibility in the length of the crossbar, like the high jump crossbar.

**8-6-1 (NEW), 4-3:** Duplicate language regarding the uniform has been removed from Rule 8, Cross Country, and all rules regarding the uniform for individuals, relay team members and cross country teams are now all contained in one rule, Rule 4.

**Rationale:** Eliminates duplicate language. These two rules are identical except for the rule on the soles of the shoes allowing for one-inch spikes in cross country.

### Major Editorials

4-6-1 NOTE 2, 3-1 NOTE: Establishes consistent NFHS language within the rules prohibiting the use of tobacco products and similar items and alcohol by participants, school personnel or officials.

5-3-1: Provides greater flexibility by expanding the professional positions which are qualified to survey and measure a track.

6-7-2: Corrects clerical error in maximum diameter for the boys indoor shot put.

6-8-9: Removes duplicate language which is covered in Rule 6-2-10 regarding broken javelin.

6-9-8: Removes duplicate language which is covered in Rule 6-2-3 regarding excused competitors.

2017-18 Track and Field Editorial Changes  
3-10-2, 4-3-1b(4), 5-2, 6-1-8, 6-2-6 PENALTY, 6-2-15, 6-2-16, 6-2-17, 6-6-5, 8-7

### 2017-18 Track and Field Points of Emphasis

1. Uniforms-Waistbands, Trim, Accents and Compliance
2. Providing Fluids to Competitors at Cross Country Competitions
3. Entry Limits for Individual Contestant
4. Officials Safety and Recommendations in the Long Throws ●



# Boys & Girls Basketball Tournaments to Begin Soon



The 2018 edition of the girls and boys state basketball tournaments are on the horizon. The order of games will stay the same with the Division 3 semifinals kicking off the tournament on Thursday at 1:35 p.m. Division 4 semifinal games will follow at 6:35 p.m. on Thursday evening. Friday morning will start off at 9:05 a.m with the Division 5 semifinals followed by the Division 2 and 1 semifinal matchups. Saturday will feature the same format that we've seen in past years with Division 5, 4 and 3 kicking off the morning/afternoon session followed by the Division 2 and 1 championship games Saturday evening. The 4th Annual 3-Point Challenge will start at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday morning. The ticket for the Divisions 5-4-3 championship games will also gain you admission to the 3-Point Challenge.

Again this year, the Green Bay Stadium District will be sponsoring a "Rush to the Resch" contest for those schools qualifying for the Girls



State Tournament. The school selling the most pre-sale tickets for their semifinal game, per division, will be awarded a \$2,000 check during the semifinal games. Schools are encouraged to have their fans purchase tickets at the school in order for the tickets to qualify for the grand total for their school. The Green Bay Stadium District has been a huge supporter of the girls tournament and this year are focusing their efforts on making the tournament better for those who actually attend the tournament.

For regional and sectional games, we will implement the 15- minute warm-up period that has been used all season. During the State Tournament games, there will be media time-outs at the 15, 11, 7 and 3-minute mark of each half and reducing the number of team time-outs to 4 (2 30-second time-outs and 2 60-second time-outs) respectively.

Right from the start, fans will notice that the home team (higher seed) will wear white uniforms (home uniforms) for all WIAA regional games. Once we reach the sectional and State games, the traditional alpha determination will be used to determine

team jersey colors. This year, the second school alpha will wear DARK uniforms for sectional/State games. In addition, the number of individuals provided with free admissions by team will be 22 – but this year 18 players in uniform per team will be allowed.

Coaches will meet to seed their groupings beginning on the weekends of February 10-11 for the girls and February 17-18 for the boys. Brackets with game matchups will be posted once a given division has been completely seeded. Again this year, the groupings contain more teams than many will remember. This is something that the coaches have been requesting for several years in order to seed their groupings more effectively to get the best schools through to the sectional level. It should also divide teams up so that regionals do not look like mini conference tournaments. Tickets are available for sale on the WIAA website. Anyone wishing to purchase tickets may do so now – season ticket packages are available for Thursday through Saturday or Friday and Saturday. ●

### Girls State Tournament Schedule

Thursday, March 8	Division 3 Semifinals	1:35 p.m.
Thursday, March 8	Division 4 Semifinals	6:35 p.m.
Friday, March 9	Division 5 Semifinals	9:05 a.m.
Friday, March 9	Division 2 Semifinals	1:35 p.m.
Friday, March 9	Division 1 Semifinals	6:35 p.m.
Saturday, March 10	3-Point Challenge	9:30 a.m.
Saturday, March 10	Division 5, 4, 3 Championships	11:05 a.m.
Saturday, March 10	Division 2 & 1 Championships	6:35 p.m.

### Boys State Tournament Schedule

Thursday, March 15	Division 3 Semifinals	1:35 p.m.
Thursday, March 16	Division 4 Semifinals	6:35 p.m.
Friday, March 16	Division 5 Semifinals	9:05 a.m.
Friday, March 16	Division 2 Semifinals	1:35 p.m.
Friday, March 16	Division 1 Semifinals	6:35 p.m.
Saturday, March 17	3-Point Challenge	9:30 a.m.
Saturday, March 17	Division 5, 4, 3 Championships	11:05 a.m.
Saturday, March 17	Division 2 & 1 Championships	6:35 p.m.

## Gymnasium Seating Capacities - Basketball

Abbotsford.....1500	Benton.....1300	Chetek/Weyerhaeuser.....1400	East Troy.....1200
Abundant Life Christian.....500	Berlin.....1200	Chilton.....1764	Eastbrook Academy.....350
Adams-Friendship.....2000	Big Foot.....800	Chippewa Falls.....1400	Eau Claire Immanuel Luth.....400
Albany.....850	Birchwood.....550	Clayton.....800	Eau Claire Memorial.....1450
Algoma.....1000	Black Hawk.....850	Clear Lake.....1240	Eau Claire North.....1750
Alma.....900	Black River Falls.....1750	Clinton.....1500	Edgar.....1800
Almond-Bancroft.....800	Blair-Taylor.....1200	Clintonville.....1500	Edgerton.....1000
Altoona.....1480	Bloomer.....900	Cochrane-Fountain City.....850	Edgewood.....1500
Amery.....2000	Bonduel.....750	Colby.....900	Elcho.....595
Amherst.....1000	Boscobel.....1000	Coleman.....1000	Eleva-Strum.....1250
Antigo.....2400	Bowler.....950	Colfax.....1700	Elk Mound.....1350
Appleton East.....2000	Boyceville.....1200	Columbus.....1200	Elkhart Lake-Glenbeulah.....700
Appleton North.....2100	Brillion.....1550	Columbus Catholic.....900	Elkhorn Area.....3500
Appleton West.....1700	Brodhead.....1500	Cornell.....750	Ellsworth.....1200
Aquinas.....1200	Brookfield Academy.....825	Coulée Christian.....284	Elmwood.....900
Arcadia.....1600	Brookfield Central.....2000	Grandon.....975	Evansville.....2000
Argyle.....850	Brookfield East.....2000	Cristo Rey Jesuit.....	Faith Christian (Will. Bay).....400
Arrowhead.....1400	Brookwood.....950	Crivitz.....2000	Fall Creek.....1000
Ashland.....1400	Brown Deer.....2250	Cuba City.....1200	Fall River.....600
Ashwaubenon.....3000	Bruce.....1100	Cudahy.....1300	Fennimore.....1400
Assumption.....800	Burlington.....2000	Cumberland.....1250	Flambeau.....900
Athens.....1000	Butternut.....800	D.C. Everest.....2200	Florence.....1000
Auburndale.....1200	Cadott.....900	Darlington.....1200	Fond du Lac.....2600
Augusta.....1200	Cambria-Friesland.....800	De Pere.....1600	Fort Atkinson.....2200
Badger.....1500	Cambridge.....1100	De Soto.....750	Fox Valley Lutheran.....1700
Baldwin-Woodville.....1700	Cameron.....1100	Deerfield.....700	Franklin.....1100
Bangor.....950	Campbellsport.....1300	DeForest.....1450	Frederic.....1100
Baraboo.....1800	Carmen Northwest.....250	Delavan-Darien.....1100	Freedom.....1600
Barneveld.....550	Cashton.....1200	Denmark.....879	Gale-Ettrick-Trempealeau.....1350
Barron.....999	Cassville.....900	Destiny.....400	Germantown.....1500
Bay Port.....2500	Catholic Central.....1000	Divine Savior Holy Angels.....1500	Gibraltar.....850
Bayfield.....540	Catholic Memorial.....1000	Dodgegland.....1600	Gillett.....1000
Beaver Dam.....1500	Cedar Grove-Belgium.....1276	Dodgeville.....1000	Gilman.....950
Belleville.....1100	Cedarburg.....2000	Dominican.....1000	Gilmanton.....475
Belmont.....1150	Central Wisconsin Christian.....785	Drummond.....400	Glenwood City.....1100
Beloit Memorial.....2400	Chequamegon.....1500	Durand.....1000	

See Gymnasium Seating, page 18 >

# Baseball Points of Emphasis - 2018

By NFHS on October 25, 2017

The NFHS Baseball Rules Committee and the NFHS Board of Directors believes there are areas of the game of interscholastic baseball 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 2018 high school baseball season, attention is being called to: Sportsmanship (bench jockeying celebrations, negative comments between opponents), Jewelry Rule Enforcement, Administration of NFHS Rules and Proper Pitching Positions. 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.

## SPORTSMANSHIP

### National Anthem Standoff

The standing and singing of the national anthem is a valued tradition that is held prior to sporting events. Staring down an opponent after the national anthem, trying to intimidate them or refusing to leave the respective baseline before the other team departs is not consistent with the mission of education-based athletics. Coaches are the closest role models to these students and are held accountable for the behavior of their players as they represent their school and community. If those actions are not representative of high school sports and what they stand for, then corrective measures should take place.

### Bench Jockeying, Celebrations and Negative Comments Between Opponents

Coaches, players, substitutes, attendants or other bench personnel shall not leave the dugout during live ball for any unauthorized purpose. Coaches or team personnel may not sit outside the dugout/bench on buckets or stools. Players are not

allowed to stand or kneel outside their dugout/bench and make "cat-calls" or any other disparaging remarks while the other team is taking infield practice. Rooting for your team is an integral part of high school baseball. However, making disparaging remarks toward your opponent does not improve the game; in fact it detracts from the contest. The purpose of interscholastic sports is educational. Chants/intentional distractions/loud noises (natural or artificial) directed at the opponent's pitcher prior to his pitching, or the batter getting ready to hit, or a fielder getting ready to make a play is not good sportsmanship. We should strive to have our young people play to the best of their ability and let their natural talent be the barometer of their success.

This is unsportsmanlike behavior and shall not be tolerated in interscholastic baseball. Umpires and coaches need to work together for the benefit of the students they officiate and teach. It is these game situations that provide coaches and umpires excellent "teachable moments" to reinforce proper behavior and perspective. The positive values that are learned at the baseball diamond will serve the young people long after their high school careers have ended.

### Enforcement of NFHS Jewelry Rule

Items that are attached except medical appliances/devices are considered to be jewelry. The primary cause for the restriction of jewelry is primary for risk minimization for the wearer and for the opponent. Earrings and various other piercings can be problematic for a player if the piercing gets caught on equipment and torn away from the body. Obviously, if a physician has provided documentation in support of a particular piercing, the local state association has the latitude (with proper justification) to make a special accommodation for the player. We need to be more vigilant to protect our players and their opponents.

See *Baseball Points of Emphasis*, page 14 >

## Bob Gardner Announces Retirement from page 1

of high school activity programs and expanded opportunities for participation by boys and girls nationwide. During his eight years as executive director, participation in high school sports has increased by almost 400,000, including the expanded opportunity for students with disabilities in high school sports.

Gardner has led the organization's focus on risk minimization in high school sports, with particular emphasis on concussion awareness, and has brought a heightened national presence to the work of the NFHS and its member state associations. In addition to the continual expansion of the NFHS Learning Center during his tenure, Gardner is credited with starting the NFHS Network, the first-of-its-kind digital coverage of high school sports with more than 25,000 events covered during the 2016-17 school year.

In addition, during his eight years as chief executive of the organization, operating revenue for the NFHS increased by \$4 million.

Ironically, Gardner's entire 48-year career was spent in the state of Indiana. He was a teacher and coach at three schools for eight years and also served as an athletic director for a period of time. In 1978, Gardner became principal of Milan Junior-Senior High School, followed by a stint as superintendent of the Milan Community Schools.

After serving on the Indiana High School Athletic

Association (IHSAA) Board of Directors during his time at Milan, Gardner joined the IHSAA staff in 1985 as assistant commissioner. He served 10 years in that role prior to becoming commissioner in 1995.

During his five years as IHSAA commissioner, Gardner led the change in the IHSAA football playoffs to permit participation by all schools, negotiated the association's largest corporate sponsorship agreement in history with Indiana Farm Bureau Insurance and led the transition to multiple classes in team sports.

Gardner joined the NFHS staff in 2000 as chief operating officer and served in that position for 10 years prior to becoming executive director. During this time, he chaired the NFHS Rules Review Committee and was responsible for day-to-day operations of the organization.

Gardner earned his bachelor's degree from the University of Evansville (Indiana) and his master's and Ed.S. degrees from Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana. He has served on the Board of Directors for USA Football, USA Basketball and the Indiana Sports Corporation. He is a member of the Indiana High School Wrestling Hall of Fame.

Following the March 1 application deadline, finalists for the position will be interviewed by the NFHS Board of Directors April 17-18 in Indianapolis, with the new executive director expected to begin duties August 1. ●

# Summer Coaching Contact

There are two types of coaching contact: School (unrestricted) and Nonschool (unlimited) allowed during the summertime. **NOTE:** During the school year, coaches are restricted to coaching contact during the sport season only.

## Unrestricted SCHOOL Coaching Contact

- Sports: All sports
- Time period: Last day of school to July 31 (except Football: July 21, 2018) in summertime
- Duration: Five days (does not have to be consecutive)
- School Equipment: May be used
- Funding: School funds may be used (Fund 10, 60, 80 and activity accounts)
- School Transportation: May be used
- School Facilities: May be used (as can non-school facilities)
- Participation: Open to any and all interested. May not be mandated.

## Unlimited NONSCHOOL Coaching Contact

An acceptable nonschool program or activity is one which is not limited to students on the basis of a school affiliation, athletic experience, team status, etc. and no school monies or resources can be applied.

- Sports: All sports except football.
- Time period: Last day of school to First day of school in summertime
- Duration: Unlimited during the time period.
- Equipment: with Board of Education permission and following school policy.
- Funding: School funds may NOT be used (Fund 10, 60 and activity funds).
  - Community Ed and School District Recreation funds may be used (Fund 80).
- School transportation: May NOT be used, but may be rented.
- School Facilities: May be rented by nonschool organization following school policy (as can nonschool facilities).
- Participation: Open to any and all interested. May not be mandated.

Examples of Nonschool organizations:

- Booster clubs (monies not in school funds)
- Lion's Club
- Rotary
- American Legion
- AAU basketball
- Youth athletic clubs
- Hockey associations
- School district recreation (fund 80)
- Joe's Pizza
- USAV (club volleyball)

NOTES:

- NONSCHOOL team is not a code word for SCHOOL team.
- Amateur Status rules apply. Athletes must return or purchase nonschool uniforms, warmups and shoes. ●

# Pitch Count Frequently Asked Questions

**Q: A pitcher throws 78 pitches and goes to a different position, is he allowed to pitch again later in the game?**

A: Yes. The count is a daily total. In fact, he could pitch in the second game of a doubleheader. But he is limited to the max of 100 in a day and must end on that batter.

**Q: How do you count an ambidextrous pitcher?**

A: If the pitcher is ambidextrous, the pitch count guidelines apply to the individual pitcher, not to the individual arm.

**Q: Are intentional walks counted as pitching?**

A: Only if the pitch is thrown from the pitcher to the catcher. In high school baseball, the defense can tell the umpire to walk the batter without pitching.

**Q: When competing in another state, which pitch count should we use?**

A: For WIAA members, the WIAA rules apply and should be used.

**Q: If a pitcher is effectively wild, but unhittable (think Nolan Ryan) – let's say he averages 5 to 6 pitches per batter, striking out most of them – he could conceivably reach the sixth or seventh inning of a PERFECT GAME and have hit the 100 pitch limit and would, therefore, have to leave the PERFECT GAME without finishing it – correct?** (Sub-question: Does the rule actually penalize strike out pitchers compared to pitchers who pitch to contact, since strikeout pitchers, by nature, throw more pitches? If so, do we really want this?)

A: Yes, he has to leave once the 100-pitch count is reached no matter the game situation. In fact, last year in the Major Leagues a rookie pitcher was pulled after reaching 100 pitches. Dodger's manager Dave Roberts pulled Ross Stripling after 7 1/3 innings on April 8, 2016, despite the fact that the rookie was throwing a no-hitter in his Major League debut. On April 28, 2016, Don Mattingly decided to pull pitcher Adam Conley after throwing 116 pitches despite not allowing a hit for 7 2/3 innings.

In an article, David Lennon stated: "Back in 2012, Terry Collins was in tears after letting Johan Santana throw the first no-hitter in Mets history, perhaps knowing what those 134 pitches eventually might cost his ace." And "And Santana? After the 134-pitch no-hitter, he went 3-7 with an 8.27 ERA the rest of 2012. And after that season, he never threw another major-league pitch." <http://www.newsday.com/sports/columnists/david-lennon/pulling-a-pitcher-from-possible-no-hitter-no-longer-a-no-n-o-1.11748057>

On September 9, 2016, "The Dodgers' Rich Hill was six outs away from throwing a perfect game against

the Marlins on Saturday, but manager Dave Roberts made the difficult decision to pull him after only 89 pitches due to a blister." <http://www.mlptraderu-mors.com/2016/09/dave-roberts-on-rich-hills-near-perfect-game.html>

The pitch count is a risk minimization rule addressing the health of the pitcher. It is not a penalty. A study published in the American Journal of Sports Medicine found that 58.9 percent of Tommy John surgeries were in athletes aged 15 to 19. Fleisig (American Sports Medicine Institute) found that a pitcher is more likely to suffer an injury if: 1) he throws more than 80 pitches in a game (four times more likely); 2) he throws more than eight months a year (five times more likely); and 3) he throws when fatigued in a game (36 times more likely).

**Q: At the previous 5 State Final tournaments, approximately half of the State championship games have had pitchers come in the game in relief that had pitched previously in the semifinal or quarterfinal. Almost all of these pitchers would now be unavailable in the State championship game because of the new rule. Correct?**

A: Pitchers have required days of rest according to the number of pitches in a day. If they pitch more than 30 in a day, a minimum of 1 day of rest is required. We don't know how many would have been ineligible last year. It is our hope that coaches will adjust their strategies, will develop pitchers, and will create opportunities for other athletes to pitch.

**Q: When originally proposed to the WBCA at last year's clinic, the original proposal stated that when a pitcher hit 100 pitches, he could finish the inning. The current rule was changed to finishing the at bat. Why the change?**

A: With the proposal to complete the inning, it was determined that the pitcher might throw too many pitches and the recommendation was to finish the batter. The number 100 was used for the last batter to allow the pitcher to complete the batter. Otherwise, it was a 112 pitch count and pull the pitcher immediately. So it was a reasonable compromise. ●

## WIAA Pitching Restrictions Effective 2017 Season

All baseball teams at all levels will maintain a pitch count log for all pitchers during the school baseball season (regular and WIAA tournament).

1. The pitch count is based on the number of pitches thrown to batters during an at-bat. Warm-up pitches allowed before the game, in between innings or allowed by the umpire in case of injury or game delay do not count.
2. Pitches are counted, and when the number of pitches reaches a certain level, the pitcher must take off the required days of rest. The maximum number of pitches is 100.

Age	Maximum Number of Pitches	Required Days of Rest (Pitches)				
		0 Days	1 Day	2 Days	3 Days	4 Days
HS	100	1-30	31-49	50-75	76-100	--
MS 11-12	85	1-20	21-35	36-50	51-65	66+
MS 13-14	95	1-20	21-35	36-50	51-65	66+

3. When the pitcher reaches 100 pitches, he may not pitch to another batter. He may only finish pitching to the current batter.
4. The pitching rule applies even though a game is called (ended) by the umpire because of darkness, rain or some other factor before it has become an official game.
5. At the pregame meeting, coaches should have a copy of their pitch count log for any questions about pitcher status. Each team will designate a pitch count person for their team. It is recommended (but not mandatory) that a responsible individual be a separate pitch recorder who will also record pitch counts from an area behind home plate.
6. At the end of each complete inning, coaches (and pitch count recorder if present) will meet at a location designated by the team host and/or umpire to review pitch counts. If there is a difference, the coaches must resolve the difference before beginning the next inning.
7. If the counts differ, the following will be used to determine the pitch count:
  - If a pitch count recorder is present and two of three agree, the majority will be considered official.
  - If a pitch count recorder is present and none of the three agree, the pitch count recorder will be considered official.
  - If a pitch count recorder is not present, the home counter will be considered official.
8. At the conclusion of the game, both head coaches and pitch counter if present will sign the pitch count chart.
9. It is not the responsibility of game officials to enforce the pitch count rule. Schools must report violation to the WIAA office following competition. Violations are considered in the same manner as a school using an ineligible student. The minimum penalty for such violations is forfeiture of the game. ●

## Baseball Comments On the Rules - 2018

By NFHS on October 25, 2017

**Modified That Baseballs Meet A NOCSAE Standard (1-3-1):** To maintain a consistent and uniformed standard for high school competition. To ensure that every baseball manufactured meets the same level of quality and playability. The effective date is January 1, 2019.

**Delineation Of What Cannot Be Attached To A Bat [1-3-2a(2)]:** Further clarification that attachments that would present a potential hazard are not permitted.

**Modified That Catcher's Chest Protectors Meet A NOCSAE Standard (1-5-3):** NOCSAE standard has been developed to protect the heart and the cardiac silhouette from commotio cordis. The effective date is January 1, 2020.

**Modified That Runners Who Reach First Base Safely Are Protected From Being Put Out (8-2-7):** Runners who reach first base safely may over-run, over-slide and return without the threat of being put out as long as they do not attempt or feint an advance toward second base. This change is easy to coach, officiate and execute as a player. All batter-runners are treated equally and consistently. ●

# Baseball Rules Changes - 2018

By NFHS on December 14, 2017

**1-3-1:** The ball shall be a sphere formed by yarn wound around a small core of cork, rubber or similar material and covered with two strips of white horsehide or two strips of white cowhide tightly stitched together. It shall be 5 to 5 ¼ ounces in weight and have a circumference of 9 to 9 ¼ inches. The Coefficient of Restitution (COR) shall not exceed .555. The ball shall meet the NOCSAE standard at the time of manufacture and the mark is required on all balls. (Effective January 1, 2019) A minimum of three umpire-approved baseballs shall be provided to start the game. Unless otherwise mutually agreed upon, the home team has this responsibility. No less than two baseballs shall be used to complete the game.

The NFHS Authenticating Mark is required on all balls that will be used in high school competition. A current list of NFHS authenticated products can be found on the website: [www.nfhs.org](http://www.nfhs.org).

**Rationale:** To maintain a consistent and uniformed standard for high school baseball competition. To ensure that every baseball manufactured meets the same level of quality and playability. This proposal is recommended and endorsed by the NFHS Sports Medicine Advisory Committee (SMAC) to minimize risk.

**1-3-2a2:** Non-wood bats shall not have exposed rivets, pins, rough or sharp edges or any form of exterior fastener or attachment(s) that would present a potential hazard.

**Rationale:** Clarification to better delineate what cannot be attached on a bat.

**1-5-3:** The catcher shall wear, in addition to a head protector, a mask with a throat protector, body/chest protector that meets the NOCSAE standard at the time of manufacture (Effective

January 1, 2020), protective cup (male only), and baseball protective shin guards.

**Rationale:** A NOCSAE standard has been developed to protect the heart and the cardiac silhouette from commotio cordis. The NOCSAE standard could be included in a product that is either a separate device/apparel or a device constructed into a traditional chest protector. This proposal is recommended and endorsed by the NFHS Sports Medicine Advisory Committee (SMAC) to minimize risk.

**8-2-7:** A batter-runner who reaches first base safely and then over-runs or over-slides may immediately return without liability of being put out provided he does not attempt or feint an advance to second.

**Rationale:** This is a simple change that is fair for all batters and is more umpire-friendly.

## 2018 Major Editorial Changes

**NFHS Case Book:** It has been recommended to amend the entire NFHS Case Book to reflect the nomenclature of how runners are identified in case situations. R1, R2, R3 will now represent the base that they (the runners) are occupying. In addition, the Batter-Runner will now be known as "BR" and the Batter will be identified as "B".

**Rationale:** Moving to this new identification of base runners will assist in promoting and educating officials through various NFHS print and electronic mediums.

## 2018 Points of Emphasis

1. Sportsmanship (National Anthem Stand-Offs, Bench Jockeying, Celebrations, Negative comments between opponents)
2. Jewelry Rule Enforcement
3. Proper Administration of NFHS Rules
4. Proper Pitching Positions ●

## Regulations for Baseball Pitcher Instruction

Baseball conditioning for pitchers may be conducted for five (5) days during the week prior to the first date for baseball practice (Sun. to Sat.). There must be a day of rest for at least one calendar day before the season begins. This activity is considered out-of-season and voluntary.

1. Only one session per day per athlete permitted—the maximum length of the session is two hours per individual.
2. The program can be conducted indoors or out depending on the weather.
3. The conditioning program is limited to pitchers and catchers in grades 9 through 12.
4. Balls, gloves and catcher's protective equipment are the only equipment permitted. Portable pitching mounds are permitted. (Bats, batting tees, fungos, batting cages, pitching machines, etc., are strictly prohibited.)
5. The program may consist only of warm-ups, stretching, calisthenics, weight training, running, other conditioning exercises and throwing. Throwing is permitted only because it is an important aspect of conditioning the arm.
6. A coach must be present at all conditioning sessions.
7. Safety Precautions – Catchers should wear full equipment. Do not use anyone to assume a batter's position while pitchers are throwing, since although pitching control may be an outcome of the program, it is not a program objective.

**NOTE:** It is a violation of WIAA rules to allow work on fielding, covering bases, pick-offs or any other related fundamental, and therefore, these types of drills are strictly prohibited. In addition, it should not be used as a tryout, and team cuts are not permitted. ●

## 2018 State Gymnastics Championships

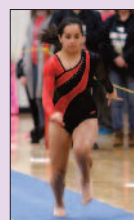
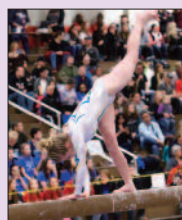
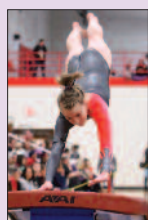
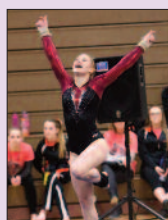
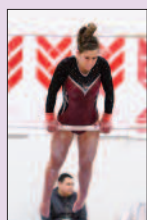
Friday & Saturday, March 2-3  
Wisconsin Rapids Lincoln Fieldhouse

### Friday Team Competition Schedule

- 11:45 a.m. – Building Opens
- 12:20 p.m. – Coaches Meeting
- 12:40 p.m. – Judges Meeting
- 12:30 - 1:10 p.m. – General warm-up & bar settings
- 1:35 p.m. – March-in
- 1:50 p.m. – First round warm-up begins
- 2 p.m. – Competition begins
- 7:30 p.m. – Approximate end of final round/awards

### Saturday Individual Competition Schedule

- 9 a.m. – Building Opens
- 9:15 a.m. – Coaches Meeting
- 9:30 a.m. – Association Meeting
- 9:45 - 10:30 a.m. – General warm-up & bar settings
- 10:45 a.m. – March-in
- 11 a.m. – First round warm-up begins
- 11:15 a.m. – Approximate start for competition
- 3:30 p.m. – Approximate end of final round/awards



## Board Repeals Implementation from page 1

The Board gave initial approval of a conference realignment plan that moves Cameron from the Lakeland Conference to the Heart O'North Conference for all sports beginning in the fall of 2019.

Membership rules require a 40-day window for schools involved in realignment plans to appeal the first consideration of the Board before it takes final action. Thus, schools have until Jan. 10, 2018, to file an appeal of the initial vote. The Board will give final consideration of the plan at its meeting on Jan. 31, 2018.

Among the action items approved by the Board were the 2016-17 independent audit report provided by Smith & Gesteland, general fund statements, general fund payments, the deferred liability fund report for September and the 2018-19 meeting dates calendar. Approval was also granted for a UW Sports Medicine girls volleyball injury study scheduled for the fall of 2018.

The Board also received liaison reports from Mike Thompson of the Department of Public Instruction, and Jeremy Schlitz of the Wisconsin Athletic Directors Association. ●

# Wisconsin-Based Trackwrestling Grows to National Prominence

What began with humble beginnings has grown into the premier management and scoring system for wrestling tournaments nationwide.

The true success story of Trackwrestling began with its founder Justin Tritz, a native of Vesper, Wis., located a few miles outside of Wisconsin Rapids. His objective was to produce a system that would assist wrestling tournament managers to seed events. His vision quickly expanded to development of the system that has revolutionized the operation and management of wrestling meets and tournaments from start to finish.

Tritz was a four-time State individual tournament qualifier for a Wisconsin Rapids Lincoln program that won State team titles in all four years of his prep career. He placed fourth in Division 1 at the 1996 WIAA State Individual Wrestling Tournament at the 112-pound weight class, and placed second and third at 119 pounds in 1997 and 1998, respectively.

He wasted little time melding his lifelong experience and love for wrestling with his professional objective while attending the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, graduating in 2003 with the majors of computer science and math. He developed the Trackwrestling prototype and was confident the system was ready for implementation. However, the challenge of generating awareness of the product and developing the market for it may have been the greatest obstacle if not for a modest encounter with the WIAA staff at the State Team Wrestling Tournament in 2004.

Tritz recalls his introduction to the WIAA. His opportunity to pitch and convey the system's capabilities to the WIAA was conducted in an equipment closet in the West Allis Central fieldhouse, the site of the team tournament until 2005.

"I was a kid in college sitting in the stands watching the State team tournament, and I built up my courage to introduce myself and explain what Trackwrestling was and how it could help manage both the

team and individual tournaments," Tritz said. "I was invited to come to the WIAA office for a demo to show how it works and how it would benefit the tournaments. We put a plan in place to use it for the first time during the tournaments that next year."

Despite some initial challenges in introducing and infusing Trackwrestling into how things were done manually for years by a veteran table crew, it didn't take long for everyone to see the system's efficiencies.

Since that fateful first year, Tritz indicated Trackwrestling has grown from managing 35 mostly Wisconsin-based tournaments to administering more than 8,500 tournaments worldwide annually, including 35 State Tournaments around the country, all levels of the NCAA championships and the World Championships.

"Each year we grew and added a lot more events from a percentage growth perspective, and we were adding more high-profile events," Tritz said. "I don't know if there was any moment that could be considered as the 'big' moment where we expanded. From the State Tournaments perspectives, when we formed a partnership with the National Wrestling Coaches Association in 2011, they had the contacts with many state associations, and they started pushing the scoring system."

Today, it's difficult to imagine the State Tournaments without Trackwrestling's real-time scoring and video, which has contributed to making the WIAA State Individual Wrestling Tournament one of the nation's premier state high school wrestling tournaments. The WIAA's partnership with Trackwrestling is in its 14th year with the confidence in continuing the relationship for years to come.

"We are sure that Trackwrestling will continue to provide the quality production crew that they have provided since their inception," WIAA Deputy Director Wade Labecki said. "I cannot say enough about

their quality offerings to include skin fold programming, tournament management and streaming."

In addition to the wrestling management system, Trackwrestling.com is now the official provider of video and data services for 40 state high school wrestling tournaments in 29 states, including Wisconsin, as the "Official Webcasting Partner" of high school wrestling on the NFHS Network.

The recent agreement with the NFHS Network will include live and archived streaming of more than 40 state high school wrestling tournaments. Trackwrestling.com will provide the live production and live data integration on every mat and every match that will be streamed live on the NFHS Network.

"Trackwrestling has a tremendous history of providing video services in wrestling for many of our state associations, so we are excited to be able to work together to showcase the great sport of high school wrestling throughout the country," said Mark Koski, CEO of the NFHS Network. "Having coverage of every mat and every match with Trackwrestling's world-class data integration will greatly improve the coverage of state high school wrestling tournaments on the NFHS Network."

"We could not be more excited to deepen our partnership with the NFHS Network and bring an unprecedented amount of high school postseason coverage to wrestling fans everywhere," said Tritz. "High school state tournaments are the highlight of most careers for wrestlers across the country, and we look forward to delivering those competitions into the homes of fans across the country."

Trackwrestling will provide live scoring for the 75th Annual State Individual Wrestling Tournament Feb. 22-24 and the State Team Wrestling Tournament March 2-3. In addition, Trackwrestling will produce the live streaming for the pre-finals on the WIAA.TV portal of the NFHS Network. ●

## Coaching Contact

**During the school year,** coaches are restricted to coaching contact within the sport season only.

Nothing has changed in regard to the time period of contact. During the school year, coaches may not have out-of-season coaching contact with the athletes they will coach the next season. Coaches may only have coaching contact with their athletes during the sport season while school is in session. The additional non-school coaching contact is only for the summer time that is defined as the last day of school to the first day of school.

**During the summer time** (last day of school to the first day of school), coaching contact is defined as Unrestricted SCHOOL and Unlimited NONSCHOOL.

**Unrestricted SCHOOL Coaching Contact** - All sport coaches have five days of unrestricted coaching contact opportunity during the summer, between the end of school and July 31; the days do not need to be consecutive. Unrestricted opportunities allow you to use school support and facilities as you would during the season. Unrestricted means teams can assemble with coaches, school monies and resources can be applied, and schools can sponsor the events/activities. The five contact days must be the same for all levels within a sport program. Unrestricted contact days are open to any interested student in your school. They are not allowed during the school year.

**Unlimited NONSCHOOL Coaching Contact** - In all sports except football, unlimited "non-school" contact may be used by coaches during the summertime. The sum-

mer being defined as when school is not in normal session, provided such non-school programs are not limited to students on the basis of school or team affiliation. An 'acceptable non-school program' is one which is not limited based on school and/or team status. Unlimited contact is open to any and all interested students in your community and other communities. No school monies and resources can be applied, and schools cannot sponsor the events/activities. Use of school support and facilities must be done in the same manner as any other non-school group such as 4-H, boy scouts, or local rotary.

### School and Coach Involvement

Students may assemble out-of-season in any manner they choose during the school year and during the summer time. However, their high school coaches and high schools many not be involved. The assembly must be open to any and all along with being voluntary.

The fundamental rule with coaching contact has not changed. Coaches may not have coaching contact with any athletes they will be coaching the following school season during restricted times (except their own children). Coaches include head coaches, assistant coaches, volunteer coaches, and coaches who may be coaching the next year. Coach involvement does include organizing, determining nonschool rosters, providing instruction, coaching at the contest, etc.

Coaches are not allowed to organize nonschool activity during the school year. Organize includes (but is not limited to):

- Holding player meetings outside the established season to discuss nonschool teams.
- Making contact with nonschool leagues to enter a team into the league during the school year.
- Paying entry fees for nonschool leagues and/or tournaments during the school year.
- Transporting to nonschool leagues or tournaments during the school year. Coaching at nonschool leagues or tournaments during the school year.
- Helping determine rosters for nonschool teams in nonschool leagues or tournaments.
- Directing others (ie: parents, players, community members, non-school coaches) to determine rosters, assignments, or make up of teams.
- No school monies and resources can be applied, schools cannot sponsor the events/activities.
- Use of school support and facilities must be done in the same manner as any other non-school group such as 4-H, boy scouts, or local rotary.

In short, coaches should be hands off during the summer and school year unless contact is during the school sport season, within the five unrestricted contact days during the summer before July 31 (July 21, 2018 for football), or is classified as unlimited nonschool contact during the summertime (from the last day of school to the first day of school). ●

# Annual Meeting Amendments

Listed below are the amendments to the Constitution, Bylaws and Rules of Eligibility under consideration for the Board of Control to advance to a membership vote at the Annual Meeting in April. The actual amendments that will be advanced and placed on the ballot for a membership vote will be determined by the Board at its March meeting.

## CONSTITUTION

### NUMBER 1 – MEMBERSHIP

*This change would update the requirements for new member schools.*

#### Article III – Membership

##### Section 2 – Admission – p. 14

- A. Application for membership shall be considered by the Board of Control of this Association upon receipt of the form provided for such purpose, of evidence that the school along with the following:
- 1) Minutes of school's governing board action authorizing application to the WIAA.
  - 2) The school's Board-approved extracurricular code of conduct.
  - 3) Department of Public Instruction school identification number.
  - 4) Indication of at least one independently sponsored, interscholastic athletic program for each gender (unless a single gender school) in each WIAA sport season (Fall, Winter, and Spring).
  - 5) For continued membership, schools must have administrative oversight of at least one independently sponsored interscholastic athletic program or co-op athletic program that is maintained throughout duration of membership.
  - 6) Completed WIAA membership application form provided as evidence that the school:
    - a. Is eligible as a public school or institution, substantially supported by taxation, . . .
    - b. Is eligible as a nonpublic school, qualifying for Section 501(c)(3) status . . .
    - c. Will conduct its athletic program under the CONSTITUTION, BYLAWS, . . .
    - d. Agrees to abide by decisions and respect interpretations of the Board of Control of this Association.
- B. New membership shall be probationary for three years. WIAA Area Meeting and Annual Meeting attendance shall be required throughout the probationary period.
- C. A school shall be a member in good standing for ~~one three~~ calendar years prior to programs becoming eligible for entry into Association tournaments.
- D. A school shall be a member in good standing for ~~one three~~ calendar years prior to being eligible for entering into cooperative team programming with another member school.
- E. Exceptions to items A4 and B of this section will be considered for approved charter schools, upon application from their public school governing bodies.

Note 1: Consideration will be given to residency, enrollment, the chartering authority and the number of charter schools under the jurisdiction of the chartering authority. It will be required that the chartering authority has also approved membership for at least one stand-alone member in good standing.

Note 2: In multi-high school districts, charter school students are eligible at the school of residence only. WIAA transfer rules apply

### NUMBER 2 – COOPERATIVE TEAMS

*This change would allow schools who miss the deadline for varsity co-ops to form co-ops for regular season only.*

#### Article VI – Powers and Duties of the Board of Control

##### Section 10 – Cooperative Teams – p. 20

- A. The Board of Control has the authority to approve cooperative team

sponsorship (one team in a given sport involving two or more member schools) under the following conditions:

- 1) The schools involved must be in the same geographical area.
- 2) The agreement for a cooperative team must specify two school years, but that agreement may be terminated by the Board of Control for documented extenuating circumstances
- 3) Applications for initial approval, or renewal of approval of a cooperative team, must include a completed and signed Cooperative Team Request Form, reflecting:
  - a. Approval of involved schools.
  - b. Approval of involved Board(s) of Education or Governing Bodies.
  - c. Approval of conference in which the cooperative team will participate.
  - d. The program will adhere to a 'no-cut' policy.

Note: Board of Control and conference approval is not required for nonvarsity cooperative teams

- 4) Total enrollment of schools involved in cooperative team will determine classification of competition in WIAA tournament series.
- 5) Requests for approval, or dissolution, and to add a cooperative team into the WIAA tournament competition must meet be received in the WIAA office by the following deadline dates to be considered for included in the subsequent school year's tournament program:

Fall Sports – February 1

Winter Sports – April 1

Spring Sports and Summer Baseball – June 1

## RULES OF ELIGIBILITY

### NUMBER 3 – RESIDENCE ELIGIBILITY

*This change would bring the residency rule into line with the transfer rule.*

#### Article II – Residence and Transfer

##### Section 1 – Determining Residence for Public School Students – p. 32

- B. Except in situations involving transfer after a student's ~~fourth sixth~~ consecutive semester, a full time student whose residence in a given district and attendance at a member school does not conform with any of the provisions outlined in Section 1-A above shall be eligible for nonvarsity competition only, for one calendar year, unless a waiver is provided as outlined in Section 5 of this Article.

#### Article II – Residence and Transfer

##### Section 2 – Determining Residence for Nonpublic School Students – p. 33

- A. A full-time student, whether an adult or not, is eligible for varsity interscholastic competition only if the student is residing full time with parents in their primary residence with these additional provisions:
- 1) In the event of a divorce or legal separation, whether pending or final, a student's residence at the beginning of the school year shall determine eligibility except in situations involving transfer after the fourth consecutive semester following entry into Grade 9. For the purpose of this rule, attendance at one day of school and/or attendance of one athletic practice shall determine

*See Annual Meeting Amendments, page 11 >*

'beginning of school year.' Under this rule, a student who transfers after the beginning of the school year shall be ineligible at the new school unless approval is granted by the Board of Control in accordance with the waiver provisions as described in Section 5 of this Article.

- 2) Residing full time with guardians shall determine eligibility in cases where both parents of a student are deceased. The execution of guardianship papers in situations where one or both parents are living does not by itself make a student eligible.
- 3) A student may continue being eligible in the same school even though parent(s) . . .
- 4) A student who has been in attendance in a nonpublic, self-contained school . . .
- 5) Students attending member residential schools shall be eligible at the member school provided they reside at the school or reside full time with parents in their primary residence, except in transfer situations occurring mid-year or after the ~~fourth~~ ~~sixth~~ consecutive semester following entry into grade 9.
  - a. Note: Section 1-A.-1) above.
- B. Except in situations involving transfer after a student's ~~fourth~~ ~~sixth~~ consecutive semester, a full time student attending a nonpublic school but not residing in accordance with any of the provisions outlined in Section 2-A above shall be eligible for nonvarsity competition only, for one calendar year, unless a waiver is provided as outlined in Section 5 of this Article.

**NUMBER 4 – NONSCHOOL PARTICIPATION**

*This change would clarify that a student reporting late to the school team due to non-school competition forfeits the opportunity to utilize the two school approved non-school opportunities.*

**Article VI – Nonschool Participation**

**Section 1 – In-Season – p. 36-37**

- A. It is the philosophy of this Association that a student owes loyalty and allegiance to the school and team of which he/she is a member during the season of a given sport. Athletes may compete in not more than two nonschool competitions with school approval during each regular sport season. The contest(s) will not count against the individual maximum for the athlete in that sport. Nonschool competition will not be allowed during the respective WIAA tournament series in a sport. A student becomes ineligible in a sport for the remainder of the season for competing in more than two nonschool games, meets, or contests in the same sport during the season of practice and competition established by the school. The penalty may be reduced, ~~with the forfeiture of the two nonschool opportunities,~~ upon request of a school on the basis of documented extenuating circumstances.
- 2) A student who was a member of a school team in a given sport during the previous year may not delay reporting for the school team beyond the school's official opening day of practice in order to continue nonschool training or competition, except in the fall-sponsored sports of cross country, tennis, golf, and swimming, provided the delay does not extend beyond the first interscholastic meet.

**EDITORIAL CHANGES**

*Editorial changes are attempts to clarify existing rules without making any change in the interpretation of the rule. In some instances, the change may be merely a word(s) or the addition or deletion of a sentence, while in other cases the change may reflect Board of Control interpretation of membership wishes.*

**CONSTITUTION**

*This change would reflect the fact that the qualification is outdated and that no teaching schools are run by universities or colleges.*

**Article III – Membership**

**Section 1 – Eligibility – p. 14**

- A. Membership in this Association is open to:
  - 1) Public high schools on a Grades 9-12 basis, and public middle level schools on a Grades 6-8 or any combination thereof, basis.
  - ~~2) Schools associated with state supported universities and colleges.~~
  - 2) State supported institutional schools offering instruction in any or all of Grades 6-12.
  - 3) Nonpublic schools enrolling Grades 9-12 that qualify for Section 501(c) (3) status under the declaration of the Internal Revenue Code.
  - 4) Nonpublic schools enrolling Grades 6-8 that qualify for Section 501(c)(3) status under the declaration of the Internal Revenue Code.
  - 5) Charter schools enrolling students in grades 9-12, whose chartering authority has approved membership for at least one other stand-alone member in good standing.
    - Note: A charter school's status shall be as an Associate member. Associate membership does not include voting or cooperative team privileges.
- B. For continued membership following their probationary period, schools must have administrative oversight of at least one independently sponsored interscholastic athletic program or co-op athletic program that is maintained throughout duration of membership.

**Article III – Membership**

**Section 2 – Admission – p. 14**

- A. Application for membership shall be considered by the Board of Control of this Association upon receipt of the form provided for such purpose, ~~of evidence that the school~~ along with the following:
  - 1) Minutes of school's governing board action authorizing application to the WIAA.
  - 2) The school's Board-approved extracurricular code of conduct.
  - 3) Department of Public Instruction school identification number.
  - 4) Indication of at least one independently sponsored, interscholastic athletic program for each gender (unless a single gender school) in each WIAA sport season (Fall, Winter, and Spring).
  - ~~5) For continued membership, schools must have administrative oversight of at least one independently sponsored interscholastic athletic program or co-op athletic program that is maintained throughout duration of membership.~~
  - 5) Completed WIAA membership application form provided as evidence that the school:
    - a. Is eligible as a public school or institution, substantially supported by taxation, . . .
    - b. Is eligible as a nonpublic school, qualifying for Section 501(c) (3) status . . .
    - c. Will conduct its athletic program under the CONSTITUTION, BYLAWS, . . .
    - d. Agrees to abide by decisions and respect interpretations of the Board of Control of this Association.
- B. New membership shall be probationary for three years. WIAA Area Meeting and Annual Meeting attendance shall be required throughout the probationary period.

**See Annual Meeting Amendments, page 12 >**

## Annual Meeting Amendments from page 11

*This change would reflect the fact that one Annual meeting is held in the Association.*

### Article IV – Annual Meetings – p. 15

#### Section 1 – Location

- A. The Board of Control shall designate a time and place for a ~~High School~~ ~~an Annual Meeting~~ and a ~~Junior High/Middle Level Annual Meeting~~ for the purpose of conducting the business of this Association.

#### Section 2 – Notice

- A. Written notice of the Annual Meeting shall be provided appropriate level member schools at least 30 days prior to the date of the Annual Meeting.

#### Section 3 – Vote

- A. Each appropriate level member school shall be entitled to one vote at the Annual Meeting, and this vote must be cast by the administrator, principal, or another person designated by the local Board of Education or recognized governing body.

#### Section 4 – Emergency

- A. The Board of Control may call a special meeting of the membership for emergency reasons, but not earlier than 30 days from the first notice of such a meeting.

*This change would reflect that officials are not members of the Association. They are licensed by the Association.*

### Article VI – Powers and Duties of the Board of Control

#### Section 9 – Game Officials – p. 20

- A. The Board of Control shall license game officials for interscholastic competition, and have the authority to determine qualification for ~~membership~~ ~~licensing~~, procedure for advancement, and conditions for revocation, suspension, or probation of license.

*This change addresses dissolved cooperative teams and the status of the schools as stand alone programs.*

### Article VI – Powers and Duties of the Board of Control

#### Section 11 – Cooperative Teams – p. 20

- A. The Board of Control has authority to approve cooperative team sponsorship (one team in a given sport involving two or more member schools) under the following conditions:
- 1) The schools involved must be in the same geographical area.
  - 2) The agreement for a cooperative team must specify two school years, but that agreement may be terminated by the Board of Control for documented extenuating circumstances.
  - 3) Applications for initial approval, or renewal of approval of a cooperative team, must include a completed and signed Cooperative Team Request Form, reflecting:
    - a. Approval of involved schools.
    - b. Approval of involved Board(s) of Education or Governing Bodies.
    - c. Approval of conference in which the cooperative team will participate.
    - d. The program will adhere to a 'no-cut' policy.

Note: Board of Control and conference approval is not required for nonvarsity cooperative teams

- 4) Total enrollment of schools involved in cooperative team will determine classification of competition in WIAA tournament series.

- 5) Requests, for approval or dissolution, must meet the following deadline dates to be considered for the subsequent school year:  
Fall Sports – February 1  
Winter Sports – April 1  
Spring Sports and Summer Baseball – June 1
- 6) If a cooperative team is discontinued, each school must reapply for tournament entry as a stand-alone program by the deadline dates. (See Bylaws, I-5-B)

### RULES OF ELIGIBILITY

*This change clarifies that students expelled from a school are ineligible for the length of the expulsion as determined by the previous school's Board of Education.*

### Article II – Residence and Transfer

#### Section 3 – Transfers – p. 34

- A. A full-time student may be afforded up to eight consecutive semesters of interscholastic eligibility upon entry into Grade 9. Transferring schools at any time may result in restrictions being imposed on eligibility, or in some cases a denial of eligibility. For the purpose of this rule attendance at one day of school and/or attendance at one athletic practice shall determine 'beginning of school year.' These additional provisions relate to transfer cases:
- 12) A student who transfers from any school, whether or not a member school, with a status of ineligibility for disciplinary reasons, academic reasons and/or as a result of another State Association's regulation or sanction, retains such status at his/her new school for the same period as decreed by the former school.

Note: A student who transfers due to expulsion or removal for disciplinary reason from the previous school is ineligible for the length of the expulsion as determined by the previous school's Board of Education.

*This change clarifies that athletes may not receive free and/or reduced rates at anytime that are not available to any and all interested students. The paragraph return distinguishes free and reduced as a separate element from use of picture.*

### Article IV – Amateur Status

#### Section 1 – Loss of Eligibility – p. 35

- B. A student shall be determined to be in violation if he/she:
- 3) Receives compensation or benefit, directly or indirectly, for the use of name, picture, and/or personal appearance, as an athlete because of ability, potential, and/or performance as an athlete. ~~This includes but is not limited to: receiving free and/or reduced rates on equipment, apparel, camps/clinics/instruction and competitive opportunities that are not identical for any and all interested students.~~
  - 4) Receives free and/or reduced rates on equipment, apparel, camps/clinics/instruction and competitive opportunities that are not identical for any and all interested students.
  - 5) Is identified as an athlete, provides endorsement as an athlete, or appears as an athlete, in the promotion of a commercial/advertisement and/or profit-making event, item, plan or service.

Note: When an athlete has been identified with or without permission and/or awareness resulting in a violation of this rule, the penalty may be reduced once the violation has been rectified.

- 6) Plays in any contest (school or nonschool) under a name other than his/her own name.

**See Annual Meeting Amendments, page 13 >**

# WIAA Award of Excellence in Its Second Year

The WIAA is continuing its initiative to recognize excellence in our member schools. Each member is eligible and encouraged to participate in the WIAA Award of Excellence program during the 2017-18 school year.

The program is designed to promote and recognize the efforts and achievements of schools in the areas of sportsmanship, ethics, integrity, leadership and character. Please take this opportunity to embrace the qualities of administrative excellence that the award represents.

The application form, once completed, requires the signatures of the school's athletic director, principal, superintendent and the school board president to verify their school has achieved the required criteria.

Recipients will be presented with a Award of Excellence certificate at the fall Area Meetings and will be recognized for the achievement on the WIAA website, Bulletin and at the Annual Meeting.

The criteria applied toward the Award of Excellence include:

- \* Athletic director conducted regular occurring meetings with a Captain's Club/Team Leadership Council/Etc.– sportsmanship, ethics and/or integrity is on the agenda and is discussed
- \* Athletic director conducted regular occurring

meetings with coaches - sportsmanship, ethics and/or integrity is a topic that is on the agenda and is discussed

- \* Athletic director conducted at least one informational meeting with student-athletes and their parents - sportsmanship, ethics and/or integrity is a topic that is on the agenda and is discussed



- \* Athletic director attended conference meetings - sportsmanship, ethics and/or integrity is a topic that is on the agenda and is discussed
- \* Coaches and student-athletes attended a sportsmanship summit/leadership conference/etc.
- \* There was school representation at one of the seven WIAA Fall Area Meetings

- \* There was school representation at WIAA Annual Meeting in April

- \* Athletic Director made the student body aware of sportsmanship initiatives through school assemblies, announcements, posters, etc.
- \* Three or more athletic teams gave back to their school or community through volunteerism
- \* Athletic director has taken the Free NFHS Sportsmanship course
- \* Three or more head coaches have taken the Free NFHS Sportsmanship course
- \* Athletic program had no coach ejections at any level
- \* Athletic program had no coach or player assault of an official at any level
- \* Athletic director nominated/submitted a boy and/or a girl for WIAA Scholar Athlete recognition (either for local or state level recognition)

The school application for the Award of Excellence is available on the WIAA website at: [www.wiaawi.org](http://www.wiaawi.org). Please submit your application between the completion of your spring sports season and the deadline of June 29, 2018. Any questions about the application or the Award of Excellence criteria, please contact the WIAA office at (715) 344-8580. ●

## Fall Tournaments Produce Five Team Sportsmanship Award Winners

The Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association, in cooperation with Rural Mutual Insurance Company, has selected the team Sportsmanship Award winners for the 2017 fall State Championships.

The recipients of the sportsmanship awards are Lodi in football, Benton in girls volleyball, Madison West in boys soccer, Amery in girls team tennis and Racine Horlick in boys volleyball.

The WIAA/Rural Insurance Sportsmanship Award is presented to one school program and community—or communities in the case of cooperative programs—in each of the State team tournaments that demonstrates outstanding sportsmanship. Award winners are deter-

mined by the conduct and sportsmanship displayed by athletes, coaches, cheer and support groups, mascots, bands and spectators. Additional consideration is given for the effort of school administrators and chaperones to ensure support for their teams are positive and that the highest ideals of sportsmanship are showcased.

Lodi is this year's recipient of the award for the State football finals. The Blue Devils earn the honor for the first time in the sport and for the fifth time overall. They also received recognition for the 2003 and 2005 team wrestling tournaments, in 2012 for boys basketball and in 2013 for girls basketball. A large contingent of Lodi supporters displayed outstanding

sportsmanship, enthusiasm and community support in a 17-10 victory over defending champion St. Croix Central in the Division 4 title game. It was the Blue Devils' second appearance in the State football championship game. Schools receiving honorable mention are Bangor, Black Hawk and Lake Country Lutheran.

Benton earned its second sportsmanship recognition with its positive support for the Zephyrs at the State Girls Volleyball Tournament. They also claimed the award in boys bas-

**See Fall Sportsmanship Winners, page 17 >**



### Annual Meeting Amendments from page 12

This change clarifies that students must pay for 100% of any expenses for any nonschool camps, clinics or specialized training.

#### Article VI – Nonschool Participation

##### Section 2 – Out-of-Season – p. 38

C. Other than during the actual school season and those days designated as unrestricted coach contact days in the summertime, the following provisions shall apply to nonschool participation in accordance with Section 2A above:

- 1) An acceptable nonschool program or activity is ...
- 2) The person who will be coaching a student in the following school season ...
- 3) With approval of its governing body, a school may issue its own equipment, ...

- 4) It is not permissible for any person or organization, except the student or parents, to pay for the entire any of the cost or fee of any kind of nonschool activity involving specialized training or similar instruction. Students must pay 100% of any expenses, including transportation, to any nonschool (out-of-season) camps, clinics, or specialized training. Schools are reminded that free and/or reduced rate opportunities afforded to select individuals can impact on amateur status.

Note: This provision shall not prevent a school from covering the costs of team participation in a clinic or similar activity during the season of a sport and/or unrestricted summer contact days. ●



# 2018 NFHS Softball Major Rules Changes

**6-2-2, 8-1-1c, 8-4-3a, 9-6-2:** The coach or catcher of the defensive team may request an intentional walk either before or during the pitch count.

**3-2-7c:** Language was added to address the use and placement of the wristband playbook/play card and defines this item as a piece of equipment. It also addresses restrictions on color.

**3-2-15, 10-2-3a:** This change removes the responsibility of the umpires to inspect equipment prior to the start of the game. Rule 4-1-2d already requires head coaches to verify that their players are legally and properly equipped.

**3-7-1 NOTE, 6-2-5 NOTE 2:** Added language provides umpires with the authority to allow a reasonable number of warm-up pitches to an incoming pitcher due to circumstances that require a pitcher to be removed by rule.

**6-1-2b:** The pitcher may now step back with the non-pivot foot at any time prior to the start of the pitch.

### Major Editorial Changes

**3-6-12:** The language provides clarity and consistency for restriction of alcohol and tobacco use.

**8-1-2, 10-1-6:** This change requires the batter to make an attempt to avoid being hit by a pitched ball in the area between the plate and the batter's box. This portion of the rule had been inadvertently omitted.

### Points of Emphasis

1. Coaches responsibility to verify players are legally equipped including all bats and helmets used in the game.
2. Rules associated with when batter must attempt to avoid being hit by a pitch.
3. Courtesy runner for the pitcher and/or catcher. ●

## Hockey Tournament Information from page 2

tournament series. We also strongly advise school administrators to review carefully any fights their students are involved with during a contest. Since the rink is considered an extension of the classroom, suspension from school needs to be reviewed for consistency in application of school penalties.

In addition, if a student-athlete receives a Game Disqualification in their last game of the season, the remaining suspension, whether it be one game or three games, is applied from the end of the hockey season to the beginning of the next season of varsity sports the player is involved in (WIAA Winter Season Regulations, 15., d.).

Next, school administrators, coaches and WIAA officials all need to be making certain that equipment is not modified from its original manufactured state and shall be worn in the manner the manufacturer intended it to be worn per NFHS Rule 3-4-1a. This means helmets have to have all their foam padding in place, even padding around the ears. Face mask clips all have to be fastened, chin straps have to be securely fastened to the head and all players, including goal-tenders shall wear and have properly inserted into their mouth during the course of play a tooth and mouth protector.

Pertaining to facilities, many ice complexes now have a "fog horn" used following a goal by the host school team. Foghorns are allowed to be blown during WIAA tournament games so long as they are **blown** following goals for both the host school team and the visiting team, otherwise not blown at all. Minor officials who are normally responsible for activating these devices are to remain neutral during WIAA tournament contests.

Officials are reminded to be in good position on the blue line for making "off-sides" calls. The bigger the game, the more officials have to work to get into proper position to make this call. NFHS Rule 6-1 reads: "A player is offside when both skates are completely over the outer edge of the blue line involved in the play at the instant the puck completely crosses the outer edge of that line. The position of the player's skates and not that of his/her stick shall be the determining factor in all instances in deciding an "offside."

Below we have identified a few additional "reminders" in hopes everyone can truly enjoy their tournament experience:

- All contests will be 17-minute periods with 12-minute warm-ups and 12-minute intermissions.
- The maximum number of participants for each tour-

namment game is 20 plus four non-players on the bench. A school may change its squad make-up from one tournament game to the next.

• Coaches need to monitor the behavior of their student-athletes. Officials have been asked to inform coaches of student-athletes that are having difficulty maintaining their self-control. This is especially necessary once the outcome of a game has been decided. If an athlete is becoming emotional to the point of being uncontrollable, take him/her out of the contest. Also, be certain their replacement is a player who can maintain their self-control.

• If an unruly spectator needs to be addressed, contest officials must bring this to the attention of the contest manager. The contest manager is the one who needs to address and determine action to be taken regarding spectators.

• Review NFHS regulations along with NFHS Points of Emphasis in the front pages of the NFHS Rules Book along with all the other NFHS rules.

• Review WIAA Winter Season Regulations for Hockey by using the WIAA website <<[wiaawi.org](http://wiaawi.org)>>, then go to PUBLICATIONS and click on WINTER SEASON REGULATIONS. Important tournament information is found here.

This year, the top four Boy's State Tournament qualifying teams will be placed in rank order, with the remaining four teams randomly drawn as opponents. There will be a conference call conducted on Sunday morning prior to the State Tournament to place and draw the teams in the State Tournament brackets. The procedures used for regional seed meetings, with the exception that only four teams are ranked, will be used and WIAA staff will conduct the meeting.

If you are involved in a co-op hockey program, please remember to renew your co-op application for the 2018-19 school year. Hockey co-ops are now all one-year approvals and must be renewed each year. The co-op renewal date for all winter sports this year is April 2, 2018.

Beginning in 2020, a two-year experiment will be conducted providing two divisions in boy's hockey. The tournament format will feature four teams in Division 1 and four teams in Division 2 with the smallest 32 programs by enrollment assigned to Division 2.

Your help with these and all the other WIAA and NFHS regulations helps to provide a classroom environment for all to enjoy. We hope you have a wonderful tournament experience and wish you well during the coming weeks. ●

## Baseball Points of Emphasis from page 6

### Enforcement and Administration of NFHS Rules

The rules of high school baseball are written for the age and skill level of varsity high school players. The role of interscholastic athletics is not to prepare young people for the next level. In fact, the purpose of education-based athletics is three-fold. First, the purpose of high school baseball rules is to minimize risk. Second, the rules are designed to maintain the balance between offense and defense. Third, the rules are to preserve the sound traditions of the game. Essentially, the NFHS and its member state associations use athletics to teach valuable life lessons. In addition, simplicity, fairness and ease to implement as an umpire or to teach or illustrate as a coach are additional reasons why our playing rules are designed in this manner. Other rules codes have significantly different objectives and rationales for their rules. When non-approved interpretations or rulings that are contradictory to NFHS rules as written are used, they can confuse students, coaches, umpires and fans.

### Proper Pitching Positions

The rules that govern the pitcher's movement and his position on the pitcher's plate have not varied over the years. However, modified or hybrid positions continually are developed and are attempted to be introduced into the high school game. While these creative pitcher's stances might work for advance levels of baseball, they are not appropriate for interscholastic baseball. Our rules are perfect for the age and skill level of the students for whom we write playing rules. The game has evolved over the years and new equipment and strategies have been very beneficial for our game. However, there are some things that stand the test of time and the proper position of the pitcher is one of those rules that enjoys a rich tradition.

The pitching requirements begin once he engages the pitcher's plate. In NFHS sanctioned baseball, there are only two positions the pitcher can possess, the windup and the set (also known as the stretch) position. The starting position of the non-pivot foot determines whether the pitcher is going to pitch from the windup or set position.

Pitchers in the windup position are required to have their non-pivot foot in any position on or behind a line extending through the front edge of the pitcher's plate. If a pitcher's non-pivot foot is in front of that line and he attempts to pitch from the windup, he has made an illegal pitch or committed a balk.

In the set position, he shall stand with his entire non-pivot foot in front of a line extending through the front edge of the pitcher's plate and with his entire pivot foot in contact with or directly in front of the pitcher's plate. He shall go to the set position without delay and in one continuous motion; he shall come to a complete and discernible stop, which does not include a change of direction with both hands in front of his body and his glove at or below his chin.

Going to the mouth while in contact with the pitcher's plate is a balk, not because the pitcher goes to his mouth, but because the action simulates the start of the pitching motion.

Umpires must be aware of the position of the non-pivot foot. Practice the skills to determine if the pitch is legal or illegal. It is imperative that the pitching positions and movement are completely understood. These requirements provide guidance that the batter and base runner(s) know when they can swing and run and when the pitcher is in a position to deliver the ball, creating a level playing field for all involved with the game. ●

# Open Gyms

The purpose of open gyms is to provide an opportunity for the students from a school to get together to play and recreate with one another. Coaches and schools cannot be involved in out-of-season practice for athletes. However open gyms do not violate WIAA rules if they are conducted according to the following guidelines:

1. The open gym is made known and available to any student in the designated population of that school that is interested in attending. Open gyms may be gender specific. It is also acceptable to include people from the community. Schools may conduct "open gyms" in any activity. It is not acceptable to include athletes from another school, public or nonpublic.
2. Keep in mind that softball and baseball protective equipment may be used. Softball and baseball coaches may not: pitch batting practice, drop balls into the pitching machine, hit grounders, or perform any task that is used in a practice.
3. There is **no instruction** during the open gym **by a coach or anyone else**.
4. Coaches may supervise open gyms, but they may not instruct, organize drills, etc. Coaches can also recreate with students in school sponsored, open gym settings that are purely recreational in nature, i.e., there is no instruction by the coach or anyone, sport skill demonstration, organized drills or resemblance of a practice being conducted.
5. There is no organized competition, such as established teams participating in round-robin competition, etc.
6. A member school is permitted to supervise conditioning programs under the open gym provisions, which may include weight lifting, speed, agility, fitness. The program must be limited to non-sport and non-sport-skill-specific instruction. Basic 'instruction' e.g., safe lifting, safe spotting, training regimen and rationale, are permitted. No sport implements and/or sport specific movement/drills should be part of the open gym or weight room. These conditioning programs must be made known and accessible to all interested students and must be voluntary. **Open weight room attendance must not be required or mandated by a coach, and attendance may not be recorded.**

Schools and coaches must clearly understand that the philosophy of the open gym is that youngsters from that school may attend, for wholesome **recreation**, or for purposes of improving their skills if they choose, but it's something they do on their own. It would be a violation of WIAA rules to mandate attendance at open gyms, or to provide incentives for athletes to attend open gyms, or to limit participation based on athletic status, or to allow athletes from other schools to come and work out or compete against your school's athletes. (BL – Art. II and RE – Art. VI, Sect. 2)

## Q: What is the school population?

A: The students from that school in grades 9-12.

## Q: Can students from the middle school in the district participate?

A: No. MS and HS students can attend separate open gyms. The HS students attend a HS open gym and the MS students attend a MS open gym. Students who have completed 8th grade may attend a high school open gym during the summer before their 9th grade year.

## Q: What would the definition of "people from your community" mean?

A: People from the community (adults and alumni) may attend. Graduates/alumni - home on break/summer vacation are typically afforded status as "members of the community." Most traditionally, members of the community will be parents and/or former students, as well as non-students, who come and recreate with the kids.

## Q: Can students from another school participate in our open gyms?

A: Open gyms are only for students and community members of that school. Your player cannot attend an open gym at another member school. The other school may not open the gym to students from other schools. With the co-op, students involved in the co-op may be allowed since they participate in your co-op program.

## Q: Can coaches recommend workouts for open gyms by posting programs?

A: No. Keep in mind this is designed for play and recreation, not workouts.

## Q: What is the designation of weight rooms?

A: Weight rooms are considered open gyms and should be operated as such. Here's the rule: A member school is permitted to supervise conditioning programs under the open gym provisions, which may include weight lifting, speed, agility, fitness. The program must be limited to non-sport and non-sport-skill-specific instruction. Basic 'instruction' e.g., safe lifting, safe spotting, training regimen and rationale, are permitted. No sport implements and/or sport specific movement/drills should be part of the open weight room. These conditioning programs must be made known and accessible to all interested students and must be voluntary.

**Q: I was wondering if you could assist me in a quick question. I have a student that is interested in lifting weights after school; however, the bus that would take him home doesn't drop him off at his house (our late bus doesn't go door to door, just to drop off points). The nearest drop off point is close to 6 miles from his house. My question is, could our school district**

**provide him with a ride home in a school vehicle right to his house or is that a violation of the rules?**

A: The only way this would be possible is if you have a late bus (or something similar) which takes any and all interested students home after school. If it is something for only one athlete or other athletes, then it would not be allowed. Schools may pay expenses and provide transportation to similar in-season activities in that sport and during unrestricted contact days in the summer. Students must pay their own expenses, including transportation, to any nonschool (out-of-season) camps, clinics, or specialized training. Schools may pay expenses and provide transportation to similar in-season activities in that sport and during unrestricted contact days in the summer.

**Q: Our football coach has proposed the following: 1) Require football players to sign in when reporting to the weight room in the off-season, and 2) Send a letter to football players who do not regularly attend open weight room regarding possible removal from the roster if their attendance does not improve. Is this allowed? Can the coach collect workout information at the end of a lifting session?**

A: What your football coach has proposed would be a violation of the membership open gym regulations and out-of-season coaching contact rules. Collecting workout information is akin to taking attendance. Simply stated, attendance may not be collected and/or used to determine team status, playing time, earning a letter, etc. (See #5 above)

**Q: Can a coach run with their voluntary team of runners in the winter at places like the XYZ Center?**

A: First, you cannot have a voluntary team out-of-season. The rule states "...students may voluntarily assemble at any time without school and/or school coach involvement" on page 37 of the Senior High Handbook. Open runs may be conducted the same as open gyms provided they are school organized, open to any and all interested students, limited to the school population, voluntary, and follow all open gym rules. In open runs, the coach could recreate in school sponsored open gym settings. However, if the running program is located at the XYZ Center; is not school run/organized; and is not limited to the school population, then a coach could not run with the athletes because it is not a school sponsored open gym. If a school open run was designated at the XYZ Center, then the limitations of your own students would enter into the equation. If you run at the XYZ Center with your friend and have zero interaction with your team, you could run there. ●



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.

## BOYS BASKETBALL

### Amherst vs. Platteville Jan. 27, 2018

This game was the total package basketball game. Class act coaches and players with a great atmosphere created by youth leading cheers and being positive sources of energy for their teams. Platteville girls varsity team is to be commended for leading cheers to support their boys team. The game went into overtime and it was just an amazing atmosphere. Great fans, great teams and great game!

*Reporting Official: Brian Kenney*

### Gillett @ St. Thomas Aquinas Jan. 23, 2018

The two teams played hard and displayed excellent sportsmanship. The fans were great. St. Thomas Aquinas had a group of girls that cheered on their team and never said anything bad about their opponents. It was a fun atmosphere to work in.

*Reporting Official: Michael Lyons*

### Turner @ Clinton Dec. 28, 2017

My officiating partners and I would like to commend the Clinton boys basketball team and coaching staff for the way that they conducted themselves during this hard fought game. The coaching staff openly asked our officiating group questions regard-

ing calls we had made. They were professional during each and every encounter, accepted our explanations and thanked us every time. The players did likewise. They played hard and were respectful throughout the course of the game. Clinton certainly proved to us that their coaching staff is teaching the right things and leading by example. Well done!

*Reporting Official: Martin Stewart*

### Cedar Grove-Belgium @ Lomira Dec. 11, 2017

We wanted to take this opportunity to express our appreciation to all members of both coaching staffs for their exceptional sportsmanship and high level of professionalism throughout the entirety of the game. Both coaching staffs placed a heavy emphasis on coaching their kids, which is to be commended. If there is a sportsmanship award, it should be given to Lomira and Cedar Grove-Belgium. We look forward to working at these schools in the future.

*Reporting Official: Todd Peterson*

### Suring @ Niagara Dec. 8, 2017

The game was extremely well played. It was obvious that these teams were well-coached. The players were respectful throughout the game, and the coaches coached their team and handled all discussions with the officials in a professional manner. The

fans cheered positively for their team. Sportsmanship was definitely observed and well appreciated.

*Reporting Official: Michael Lyons*

### Omro @ Randolph Dec. 2, 2017

After head coach Tyler Fischer (Randolph) gave a wonderful tribute speech about former Randolph standout Greg Steimsma's career and accomplishments, both teams gathered together at mid-court in a terrific display of sportsmanship and mutual respect while taking a picture with Steimsma. Coach Fischer and Head Coach Tyler Goss (Omro) were very professional throughout the contest and both teams played hard. A special thanks to Randolph AD Kevin Knudson and his staff for the wonderful hospitality. It was a really fun game to officiate and a great day of basketball between two classy programs!

*Reporting Official: Kirk Wieland*

### Young Coggs @ Milwaukee Marshall Nov. 28, 2017

Jontae Peterson of Young Coggs displayed a calming present for his team. He kept talking to teammates to stay calm and focus when the game was not going their way. He led by example when calls were called against him. He asked questions respectfully. He talked to his teammates that

**See Sports Report "PLUS", page 17 >**

## High School Out-of-Season Concerns

WIAA Bylaw, Article II, Section 2, A., 2), indicates "A school may not assemble athletes or prospective athletes in physical education classes, or some other manner, for purposes of teaching fundamentals, techniques, plays, etc., except during the designated school season of a sport." This includes the summer period, meaning that schools cannot conduct a **summer school class**, or community education program, on basketball fundamentals, for their basketball players. It doesn't matter if the class is open to all students. The one exception is in the summertime during the Board of Control approved unrestricted contact period between the end of school and July 31\* (5 days in all WIAA sports). \*Unrestricted coach contact ends July 21, 2018 for football.

This same Bylaw has another provision, indicating "A school may not organize conditioning programs limited to students with athletic team status, or to prospective athletes, except during the designated school season of a sport." Off-season weight-training programs are fine, as long as they are **not sport specific**. If a weight-training pro-

gram is conducted, and is available to anyone interested, and the activities that go on are not sport specific, then it is acceptable under WIAA guidelines. There **cannot, however, be incentives** put in place to encourage athletes to be involved in these off-season programs. For example, it is not appropriate to indicate that any football player attending a given number of weight-training programs, will receive a T-shirt. It is also unacceptable for schools to provide a T-shirt to a basketball player, who attempts so many shots during the off-season. Another example, of **unacceptable incentives**, would be to include off-season activities into the determination of who gets to start during the season, or who gets to play, or for participation in these activities to be included in eligibility for a letter in that particular sport.

Captains Practices: WIAA Rules of Eligibility allow students to voluntarily assemble during the school year and in the summertime without school and/or coach involvement. These assemblies may sometimes be referred to as "captains practices." ●

## Clinics and School Facilities

Schools may not be involved in conducting clinics outside the season, with the following exceptions. So long as participation is voluntary and available to all interested students:

1. There shall be no restrictions upon schools, school teams and school coaches (grades 9-12) relative to assembling in the summertime, for up to 5 days, which do not need to be consecutive. Unrestricted school contact days must conclude no later than July 31 (July 21 for football).
2. A school may conduct a clinic for students in grades 8 and below, where high school varsity and junior varsity coaches may use some or all of their high school athletes as clinicians. This may be done for a maximum of six days during the summer (when school is not in session) and must conclude no later than July 31 (except football with the dead period). Clinics not utilizing athletes as clinicians may be conducted throughout the summer up to the start of school.
3. School facilities may be used for nonschool programs, according to board of education policy, which can result in clinics being conducted, outside the season, by nonschool groups. The nonschool group must request the facilities from the board of education or governing board, through normal procedures and are encouraged to provide their own insurance protection. (BL - Art. II and RE - Art. VI, Sect. 2) ●

## Sports Report "PLUS" from page 16

appeared upset and kept them focused on the task at hand. Peterson displayed great sportsmanship throughout the game such as handing the ball to officials when applicable and not arguing calls that went against his team. For those aforementioned reasons, I feel he needs to be recognized for displaying excellent sportsmanship.

*Reporting Official: Barney Hall*

### GIRLS BASKETBALL

#### New Holstein @ Roncalli

Dec. 5, 2017

We were greeted by Athletic Director Dave Mueller. He was gracious to us showing us where our changing room was. As the game played on, both teams and coaches were outstanding in their behavior. Each team treated each other, as well as us officials with great respect. After the game, we were greeted with post-game "nourishment" and thanked for the services we provided. Roncalli provided "winning" hospitality to us officials.

*Reporting Official: Pat Tschimperle*

#### Beaver Dam @ DeForest

Nov. 30, 2017

Our crew had the privilege to observe outstanding sportsmanship displayed by both teams during the game. Regardless of score, both teams played incredibly hard, showed great respect for one another, and represented both of their programs with a ton of class. This contest stood out to our crew because of the outstanding character displayed by Head Coach Jerry Schwenn (DeForest), Head Coach Tim Chase (Beaver Dam), and all of their assistants, captains and players. When a player went down, others helped them back up. When the ball

went out-of-bounds, players got it for the officials. Coaches coached, players played, and officials officiated. Thank you all for being first-class role models and for providing us with such a positive officiating experience. We really appreciate it!

*Reporting Official: Doug Stampfli*

#### Wausaukee @ Green Bay West

Nov. 30, 2017

I just wanted to say how wonderful it was to see the sportsmanship and effort of the two teams in this game. It was a tight and enjoyable game to be a part of. The girls played hard and the coaches stayed focused on their teams. The end of the game was especially great with the fans cheering and making the gym loud right to the end. There was NO negative sportsmanship. Well done!

*Reporting Official: Michael Lyons*

#### Fall River @ Palmyra-Eagle

Nov. 28, 2017

The athletic director, Andy Pickett, greeted the officials at the gym. He provided support during the game by addressing the opposing fan's unsportsmanship behavior. The coach for Palmyra-Eagle also showed great sportsmanship by being positive with his players and not complaining about calls that could have been called either way. The fans for Palmyra-Eagle did not yell at the officials, and displayed a positive attitude.

*Reporting Official: Amy Siesennop*

#### Oneida Nation @ St. Thomas Aquinas

Nov. 28, 2017

The sportsmanship and hard work displayed by both teams was incredible. The two teams played

hard and fair and displayed what sportsmanship is all about. I especially applauded St. Thomas Aquinas. They played with just six players and never gave up as they battled right to the end. Both coaches were positive all night long and worked to improve their teams.

*Reporting Official: Michael Lyons*

#### Madison Country Day School @ Argyle

Nov. 21, 2017

We witnessed some of the best sportsmanship we have seen. Both coaches Kurt Ritschard (Argyle) and Tyson Rudd (Madison Country Day School) were busy coaching their teams and when we made calls, they were more concerned about coaching the girls and correcting the errors committed. As the game proceeded, Coach Rudd spent a lot of time being extremely positive with his team and working on the positive aspects of their play. He was also very complimentary of the opponents play. At one point he wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. After the game both teams made it a point to thank us for working their game and gave us each a high five or fist bump as they walked by. It was nice to see the players from both teams in good spirits and friendly after a contest.

*Reporting Official: Kevin Runde*

### WRESTLING

#### Arcadia Invitational

Jan. 20, 2018

Cochrane-Fountain City showed excellent sportsmanship all day. The coaches and wrestlers were very respectful to the officials.

*Reporting Official: Bradyn Korpala*

## Fall Sportsmanship Winners from page 13

ketball back in 2009. They advanced to State for the first time in the program's history. They fell in the semifinals to Lourdes Academy 25-23, 25-20, 25-15 in the Division 4 semifinals. Honorable mention for the award goes to Catholic Memorial, Kimberly, Lake Country Lutheran, Lakeside Lutheran, Merrill, Newman Catholic, Regis, Stratford and Waunakee.

Madison West is the recipient of the Sportsmanship Award in boys soccer, which marks the first time the Regents have received the award in any sport. They made their 15th appearance in the boys soccer State Tournament this season, which resulted in a 2-1 overtime loss to eventual champion Marquette in the Division 1 semifinals. Incidentally, Madison West possesses

the most State team championships of any school in the membership with 90. Amery, McDonell Central Catholic/Regis, New Richmond and Sturgeon Bay received honorable mention recognition.

Amery is the recipient of the Sportsmanship Award in its first-ever appearance in the girls tennis State Tournament. It marks the second time the school has been bestowed the honor overall, also winning the award in summer baseball back in 1996. The Warriors were eliminated from title contention following a 5-2 setback to Kenosha St. Joseph in the Division 2 semifinal round.

Racine Horlick was evaluated with sportsmanship efforts worthy of receiving the honor at the State Boys Volleyball Tournament. It is the

first time in school history the Rebels have been selected for the award in any sport. They lost 25-13, 25-17, 25-15 in the quarterfinals to eventual champion Marquette. It was their eighth appearance in the State Tournament. Honorable mention for the award was extended to Middleton.

Award winners receive a trophy and banner in recognition of the honor. Schools receiving honorable mention are acknowledged with a certificate of recognition. The selection process includes contributions and evaluations from contest officials, tournament management, police and security personnel, crowd control and ushers, WIAA staff members, and area hotels and restaurants on occasion. ●

## Elections from page 1

duties of the Board of Control and Advisory Council, please refer to Pages 15-23 of the WIAA Senior High Handbook.

All positions are for a 3-year term beginning with the 2018-19 school year. Positions open for which candidates must file by February 27 are as follows:

### BOARD OF CONTROL

**District 2 (northeast)** for position now held by Scott Winch, Stratford (eligible for re-election).

**District 5 (southwest)** for position now held by

Luke Francois of Mineral Point (eligible for re-election).

**Gender At-Large** for position now held by Pam Foegen of Regis (not eligible for re-election).

### ADVISORY COUNCIL

**Large Schools** for positions now held by Nicolas Been of River Falls (eligible for re-election), William Loss of Watertown (eligible for re-election) and Roger Rindo of Oconomowoc (eligible for re-election).

**Medium Schools** for position now held by Scott Bleck of Weyauwega-Fremont (not eligible for re-election).

**Small Schools** for positions now held by Cory Hinkel of Luck (eligible for re-election) and James Erickson of Webster (eligible for re-election).

**Gender At-Large** for position now held by Colleen Timm of Antigo (eligible for re-election).

**Non-Public School At-Large** for position now held by Melinda Skrade of Pius XI Catholic (eligible for re-election).

Please email letters of interest to Joan Gralla [jgralla@wiaawi.org](mailto:jgralla@wiaawi.org) by February 27, 2018. ●

## Gymnasium Seating from page 5

Golda Meir .....	120	Marinette.....	1200	Oshkosh North .....	2500	Southern Door.....	1400
Goodman .....	570	Marion .....	750	Oshkosh West .....	1850	Southwestern .....	1300
Grafton .....	1500	Markesan .....	1300	Osseo-Fairchild .....	1850	Sparta .....	1300
Granton .....	1050	Marquette University .....	1750	Owen-Withee .....	820	Spencer .....	850
Grantsburg .....	1000	Marshall .....	1000	Ozaukee .....	1000	Spooner .....	1650
Green Bay East.....	1400	Marshfield.....	3500	Pacelli .....	1450	Spring Valley.....	1460
Green Bay N.E.W. Lutheran .....	500	Martin Luther.....	800	Palmyra-Eagle .....	850	Stanley-Boyd .....	1160
Green Bay Preble .....	2000	Mauston .....	1610	Pardeeville.....	1152	Stevens Point.....	2500
Green Bay Southwest.....	2000	Mayville .....	900	Parkview .....	1100	Stockbridge .....	500
Green Bay West .....	1800	McDonell Central Catholic .....	1200	Pecatonica.....	800	Stoughton .....	1500
Green Lake .....	600	McFarland .....	1500	Pembine .....	785	Stratford .....	1000
Greendale .....	1275	Medford .....	1100	Pepin .....	1000	Sturgeon Bay.....	1000
Greenfield .....	1500	Mellen .....	500	Peshtigo .....	1200	Sun Prairie .....	2100
Greenwood .....	1000	Melrose-Mindoro.....	1400	Pewaukee .....	1500	Superior .....	2400
Gresham Community .....	800	Menasha .....	2300	Phelps .....	800	Suring .....	1300
Hamilton.....	1300	Menominee Indian .....	700	Phillips .....	1200	Tenor .....	350
Hartford Union .....	1800	Menomonee Falls.....	1460	Pittsville .....	1300	The Prairie School .....	1400
Hayward .....	1200	Menomonie .....	2200	Pius XI Catholic .....	1800	Thorp .....	980
Heritage Christian .....	250	Mercer .....	800	Platteville .....	1100	Three Lakes .....	1100
Highland.....	800	Merrill .....	1500	Plum City .....	900	Tigerton .....	500
Hilbert .....	1100	Messmer .....	1500	Plymouth .....	1800	Tomah .....	1550
Hillsboro .....	1000	Middleton.....	2160	Port Edwards .....	800	Tomahawk .....	1200
Holmen .....	1200	Milton .....	1000	Port Washington .....	1000	Tri-County .....	726
Homestead .....	3000	Milwaukee Acad of Science .....	475	Portage .....	1854	Turner .....	1000
Hope Christian .....	400	Milwaukee Arts.....	None	Potosi .....	800	Turtle Lake .....	1000
Horicon .....	1000	Milwaukee Bay View .....	1200	Poynette .....	1350	Two Rivers .....	2200
Hortonville.....	1400	Milwaukee Bradley Tech.....	1700	Prairie du Chien .....	1200	Union Grove .....	1400
Howards Grove .....	900	Milwaukee Collegiate Acad .....	500	Prairie Farm .....	1000	Unity .....	1000
Hudson .....	1800	Milwaukee Hamilton .....	1100	Prentice .....	1200	University Lake School .....	400
Hurley .....	1000	Milwaukee Juneau Complex .....	400	Prescott .....	1150	University School of Milw .....	450
Hustisford .....	1200	Milwaukee King .....	900	Princeton .....	550	Valders.....	1400
Independence .....	1000	Milwaukee Lifelong Learning .....	125	Pulaski .....	2200	Valley Christian .....	400
Iola-Scandinavia .....	1000	Milwaukee Lutheran .....	2000	Racine Case .....	2000	Verona Area .....	1800
Iowa-Grant.....	950	Milwaukee Madison Academy .....	1000	Racine Horlick.....	2400	Viroqua .....	1200
Ithaca .....	892	Milwaukee North.....	2500	Racine Lutheran .....	800	Wabeno .....	1000
Janesville Craig .....	2100	Milwaukee Pulaski .....	500	Racine Park .....	3000	Washburn .....	800
Janesville Parker .....	2200	Milwaukee Riverside Univ.....	1000	Racine St. Catherine's .....	1500	Waterford .....	1150
Jefferson .....	1200	Milwaukee Marshall.....	0	Randolph .....	750	Waterloo .....	650
Johnson Creek .....	600	Milwaukee Ronald Reagan .....	150	Random Lake.....	950	Watertown .....	2000
Juda .....	600	Milwaukee School Lang .....	150	Reedsburg Area .....	1850	Watertown Luther Prep .....	700
Kaukauna.....	2200	Milwaukee South.....	3200	Reedsville .....	1200	Waukesha North .....	2000
Kenosha Bradford .....	2000	Milwaukee Vincent .....	2400	Regis .....	1280	Waukesha South.....	2000
Kenosha Christian Life .....	1000	Milwaukee Washington .....	650	Rhineland .....	1500	Waukesha West .....	2200
Kenosha Indian Trail .....	2000	Mineral Point .....	1400	Rib Lake .....	600	Waunakee .....	1800
Kenosha St. Joseph.....	1000	Mishicot .....	1250	Rice Lake .....	1100	Waupaca.....	2000
Kenosha Reuther .....	300	Mondovi .....	1400	Richland Center .....	1500	Waupun .....	1400
Kenosha Tremper .....	1265	Monona Grove .....	1500	Rio .....	1000	Wausau East .....	2470
Kettle Moraine.....	1600	Monroe .....	1600	Ripon .....	1600	Wausau West.....	2500
Kettle Moraine Lutheran.....	1000	Montello .....	800	River Falls .....	1700	Wausaukee .....	1400
Kewaskum .....	1500	Monticello .....	850	River Ridge .....	750	Wautoma .....	1500
Kewaunee .....	1200	Mosinee .....	750	River Valley .....	1500	Wauwatosa East .....	1300
Kickapoo .....	1070	Mount Horeb.....	1075	Riverdale.....	1200	Wauwatosa West .....	1300
Kiel .....	1114	Mukwonago .....	1200	Roncalli .....	1100	Wauzeka-Steuben .....	850
Kimberly .....	2200	Muskego .....	1500	Rosholt .....	700	Wayland Academy .....	500
Kohler .....	1100	Necedah.....	1600	Royall .....	900	Webster .....	1200
La Crosse Central .....	1400	Neenah .....	3600	Saint Anthony .....	300	West Allis Central .....	3800
La Crosse Logan .....	1800	Neillsville .....	2200	Saint Croix Central .....	1000	West Allis Nathan Hale .....	1200
La Farge .....	800	Nekoosa .....	800	Saint Croix Falls .....	1400	West Bend .....	2500
Lac Courte Oreilles.....	300	New Auburn .....	1000	Saint Francis .....	700	West De Pere .....	2450
Laconia .....	1200	New Berlin Eisenhower .....	2000	Saint Joan Antida .....	150	West Salem .....	1500
Ladysmith .....	1200	New Berlin West.....	3500	St. John's NW Mili Acad.....	700	Westby .....	1600
Lake Country Lutheran .....	1600	New Glarus.....	1000	Saint Lawrence Seminary.....	400	Westfield Area .....	1500
Lake Holcombe .....	475	New Holstein.....	1800	Saint Mary Catholic .....	950	Weston .....	1000
Lake Mills .....	1100	New Lisbon .....	750	Saint Mary's Springs .....	1100	Westosha Central .....	2000
Lakeland .....	2000	New London.....	1600	Saint Thomas Aquinas Acad.....	900	Weyauwega-Fremont.....	650
Lakeside Lutheran .....	1200	New Richmond.....	2397	Saint Thomas More .....	1010	Weyerhaeuser .....	700
Lancaster .....	1300	Newman Catholic .....	900	Salam .....	75	White Lake .....	500
Laona .....	700	Niagara .....	1000	Sauk Prairie.....	1732	Whitefish Bay.....	2200
Lena .....	1200	Nicolet.....	1600	Seneca .....	800	Whitewater .....	1200
Lincoln .....	600	North Crawford .....	920	Sevastopol.....	700	Whitehall .....	1500
Lincoln Hills .....	300	North Fond du Lac .....	1140	Seymour .....	1820	Whitewater .....	1200
Little Chute.....	1500	Northland Lutheran .....	400	Shawano Community .....	1500	Whitnall .....	1200
Living Word Lutheran .....	360	Northland Pines .....	2100	Sheboygan Area Lutheran .....	1200	Wild Rose .....	920
Lodi .....	1500	Northwestern .....	1000	Sheboygan County Christian.....	700	Williams Bay .....	1000
Lomira .....	1500	Northwood .....	1000	Sheboygan Falls .....	2000	Wilmot Union .....	2550
Lourdes Academy .....	1400	Notre Dame .....	1400	Sheboygan North .....	3000	Winnebago Lutheran .....	1300
Loyal .....	1000	Oak Creek .....	2200	Sheboygan South.....	3000	Winneconne .....	1150
Luck .....	860	Oakfield.....	875	Shell Lake .....	1000	Winter.....	600
Luther .....	1200	Obama SCTE.....	800	Shiocton .....	950	Wisconsin Dells .....	1800
Luxemburg-Casco .....	900	Oconomowoc.....	2365	Shoreland Lutheran .....	700	Wisconsin Heights .....	1000
Madison Country Day .....	450	Oconto .....	1000	Shorewood.....	1600	Wisconsin Lutheran .....	955
Madison East.....	1300	Oconto Falls .....	1870	Shullsburg.....	1100	Wisconsin Rapids Lincoln .....	3000
Madison La Follette.....	1500	Omro .....	1252	Siren .....	800	Wisconsin Valley Luth .....	250
Madison Memorial .....	1300	Onalaska .....	2200	Slinger .....	1500	Wittenberg-Biramwood .....	1000
Madison West .....	2100	Oneida Nation.....	1500	Solon Springs .....	700	Wonewoc-Center .....	1000
Manawa .....	750	Oostburg .....	1200	Somerset .....	2100	Wrightstown .....	1600
Manitowoc Lincoln .....	3500	Oregon .....	1300	South Milwaukee .....	1700	Xavier .....	1050
Manitowoc Lutheran.....	750	Osceola .....	2200	South Shore.....	650	Young Coggs Prep .....	450
Marathon.....	1200						

## Discernment Part of Competitive Equity Consideration

Another plan intended to address competitive equity failed to gain traction with the membership's elected leaders in January.

Following a split vote by the athletic directors on the Sports Advisory Committee, the Board of Control and Advisory Council discussions of the Rural/Urban plan, which uses school enrollments and U.S. Census data to categorize schools by proximity to rural and urban areas, revealed too many questions and concerns to endorse forwarding the plan to the Annual Meeting for a membership vote.

For those keeping score, that's four plans the membership has considered to address the perception of competitive inequity for tournament divisional placement. The application of a multiplier, as well as a reducer were soundly voted down in 2015, and the ad-hoc committee's recommendation of a success factor was defeated in 2016.

It would appear the membership has identified concerns with all of the plans considered thus far to further legislate the complex concept of competitive equity. Some may even consider the subject ironic given the very nature and objective of competitive sports.

There are a couple things we have learned from the exercise to address competitive equity concerns, and what has been reaffirmed in the process. As a whole, members have not supported treating one segment of the membership population different than another, nor has it supported any notion that could be perceived as penalizing certain programs or members based on past success.

Based on the data from the School Perceptions survey of all member schools a couple years ago, it shouldn't be a surprise that an acceptable solution hasn't been identified. The survey revealed that an overwhelming percentage of respondents that believed there is an equity problem identified boys and girls basketball as the sports most "negatively impacted by competitive inequity." Football and girls volleyball were next in line. However, it's important to note less than half of all respondents (445 of 1050) to the survey identified a problem in any particular sport with boys basketball ranking the highest at 45 percent.

Furthermore, consider the fact that only 3-to-4 percent of all athletic directors, principals, presidents and superintendents indicated that winning conference, regional, sectional and state championships was the "best measure of success" in their high school programs. That response, on its surface, appears contradictory to the continuing efforts directed at impacting those same measures of success.

It is also prudent to reflect on the purpose and philosophy of interscholastic sports and this association. The executive staff and leadership of this membership are aware of the potential hazard in implementing rules and regulations that may test our self-governance on the subject. Through the passing of time, there are fewer and fewer school administrators that recall how we came to becoming a united membership.

We are where we are today because of the involvement of outside legislative pressures dating back as far as 1985. To make a long story short, our membership—including both public and private schools—is the result of an ultimatum issued to us by State governmental leaders at the time. It has been 18 years since the advent of the membership option for private schools, and there has yet to be that same form of legislative pressure to change how we determine divisional placements.

It is imperative that we continue to be cognizant that whatever change or future direction we consider there is the real possibility that outside interests may attempt to dictate our direction. And, that will affect the entire membership; so don't assume for a moment that any competitive equity plan only involves the smaller schools in the membership.

As we continue the pursuit for the ideal solution to a complex concept—or one that is suitably acceptable for the membership—the focus remains on your continued engagement in the process. At the same time, keeping our eyes wide open to the influences that contributed to where we are in this point in our history. ●

## Keep These Dates in Mind

February 13	Wrestling Team Sectionals
February 13, 15 & 16	Boys & Girls Hockey Regionals
February 16-17	Boys State Swimming & Diving Meet (Madison)
February 17	Wrestling Individual Sectionals
February 20, 23 & 24	Boys & Girls Hockey Sectionals
	Girls Basketball Regionals
February 22-23-24	State Wrestling Individual Tournament (Madison)
	Gymnastics Sectionals
February 27	Deadline to Announce Board/Council Candidacy
February 27, March 2 & 3	Boys Basketball Regionals
March 1-2-3	Boys State Hockey
March 1 & 3	Girls Basketball Sectionals
March 2	Board of Control Meeting
March 2-3	Girls State Hockey
	State Gymnastics
	State Team Wrestling
March 5	Earliest Day for Track & Field Practice
March 6	Board/Council Primary Ballot Mailed
March 8-9-10	Girls State Basketball (Green Bay)
March 8 & 10	Boys Basketball Sectionals
March 9	Scholar Athlete Nomination Due Date
March 12	Earliest Day for Softball Practice
March 13	Coaches Advisory Committee Meeting – Gymnastics
	Earliest Day for First Track & Field Meet
March 14	Coaches Advisory Committee Meeting – Wrestling (Stevens Point)
March 15-16-17	Boys State Basketball (Madison)
March 19	Earliest Day for Girls Soccer Practice
	Earliest Day for Baseball (Spring) Practice
March 20	Earliest Day for Softball Game
March 26	Earliest Day for Boys Golf Practice
	Earliest Day for Boys Tennis Practice
March 27	Primary Ballot Return Deadline
	Earliest Day for First Baseball Game
	Earliest Day for First Soccer Meet
March 29	Earliest Day for First Boys Golf Meet
March 30	Board/Council General Election Ballot Mailed
	Earliest Day for First Boys Tennis Meet
	Good Friday

April 1	Easter
April 3	Coaches Advisory Committee Meeting – Hockey (Stevens Point)
April 4	Coaches Advisory Committee Meeting – Basketball (Stevens Point)
April 6	Sportsmanship Committee Meeting
April 12	Board/Council Election Ballot Return Deadline
April 24	Board of Control Meeting (Stevens Point)
April 25	WIAA Annual Meeting (Stevens Point)
May 4	Medical Advisory Meeting (Stevens Point)
May 6	Scholar/Athlete Awards Program (Wausau)
May 15	Boys Basketball Regionals
May 18	Board of Control Meeting (Stevens Point)
May 21	Track & Field Regionals
May 21-22	Boys Tennis Sectionals
May 22-23	Boys Golf Regionals
May 22,23 & 25	Softball Regionals
May 23-24	Boys Tennis Sectionals
May 24	Track & Field Sectionals
May 24, 29, 30 & 31	Spring Baseball Regionals
May 28	Memorial Day
May 29-30	Boys Golf Sectionals
May 29-30	Softball Sectionals
May 29, 31 & June 2	Girls Soccer Regionals
May 31, June 1-2	State Boys Individual Tennis Tournament (Madison)
June 1-2	State Track & Field Meet (La Crosse)
June 4-5	State Boys Golf (Madison)
June 5	Spring Baseball Sectionals
June 7 & 9	Girls Soccer Sectionals
June 7-8-9	State Softball (Madison)
June 8-9	State Boys Team Tennis (Madison)
June 11	Sports Advisory Committee Meeting
June 12-13-14	State Spring Baseball (Appleton)
June 14-15-16	State Girls Soccer (Milwaukee)
June 20-21	Advisory Council Meeting
June 21	Board of Control Meeting
July 10 & 11	Summer Baseball Regionals
July 16	Summer Baseball Sectionals
July 20	State Summer Baseball
July 23	New AD Workshop



**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 2017-18 dates for ACT.

**ACT – 2017-18**

Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Fee Required
April 14, 2018	March 9, 2018	March 10-23, 2018
June 9, 2018	May 4, 2018	May 5-18, 2018
July 14, 2018*	June 15, 2018	June 16-22, 2018

**ACT – 2018-19**

September 8, 2018	April 13, 2019
October 27, 2018	June 8, 2019
December 8, 2018	July 13, 2019*
February 9, 2019*	

\* No test centers are scheduled in New York for the February and July test date.

**Did you know?**

Participation in school-sponsored athletics is associated with a 2% increase in math & science test scores and a 5% increase in Bachelor's degree attainment expectations.