



# WIAA Bulletin

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Charter Member  
National Federation of  
State HS Associations

## Board of Control Approves New Conference Realignment Process, Fall Sports Changes

The Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association Board of Control unanimously approved a task force recommendation to revamp the conference realignment process, and voted on changes to the fall sports season regulations at its Jan. 30 meeting.

The new conference realignment process will feature a more formalized manner for member schools to request relief from conference affiliations. A committee has been established to evaluate all realignment requests with the Board retaining the authority to make final determinations in conference alignment decisions.

The new collaborative model is intended to add structure, enhance communication with all member schools and provide transparency in the realignment process. All levels of school administration at each member school will be informed of the committee's deliberations at each step of the new process.

The Board also reviewed and acted on 36 proposed fall coaches' and officials' advisory committee recommendations with 21 receiving approval.

The four football proposals approved by the Board include implementation of instant replay—if

approved by the NFHS for state adoption—for the State finals played at Camp Randall Stadium on scoring plays and turnovers once protocol and technical ability is established; developing a sub-committee by 2020 to review football-only, eight-player conferences; implementing the use of an electronic system for auto seeding the playoff field beginning in 2019; and allowing girdles on the third, fourth and fifth days of the acclimatization protocol.

There were eight changes to the volleyball season regulations. Approval was granted for Sectional 1 in Division 1 of the girls tournament to play the sectional semifinals at two different sites if all four schools advancing are in agreement. The Executive Staff will determine the second site.

The Board also supported an amended recommendation to schedule sectional final double-headers when possible with the boys match scheduled for 4:30 p.m. and the girls match at 7 p.m.

Three of the volleyball changes involve seeding. The first prescribes that all eight qualifying teams for the boys State tournament be seeded. Likewise for

**See Board of Control Approves, page 2 >**

## Board of Control Conducts December Meeting

The Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association Board of Control conducted its December meeting at the executive offices on December 7, 2018.

Among the action items approved by the Board were the 2017-18 independent audit report provided by BDO, general fund statements, general fund payments, the deferred liability fund report for September, as well as the 2019-20 meeting dates calendar.

Topics discussed by the Board included an update on the conference realignment task force, football-only conference realignment, school safety committee involvement, residential school status, transitioning from single-gender schools and a review of the fall tournaments.

The Board also received liaison reports from John Ashley of the Wisconsin Association of School Boards, Todd Sobrilsky of the Wisconsin Athletic Directors Association and Pam Foegen of the National Federation of State High School Associations Board of Directors. ●

## Deadline to Announce Candidacy for Board of Control and Advisory Council Positions

Administrators at WIAA member senior high schools are reminded that February 26, 2019 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 inten-

tion 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 5 with a return date of March 26. General election ballots will be mailed March 29 with a return date

of April 11. Results will be announced April 17 at the WIAA Annual Meeting. Ballots will be mailed to the district administrator.

For complete information regarding powers and 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 2019-20 school year. Positions open for  
**See Deadline to Announce Candidacy, page 3 >**

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# WIAA Statewide Network to Air State Basketball and Hockey Championships

The 2019 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 2019 those broadcasts are 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 of Control Approves from page 1

the girls State tournament, all eight teams in Division 1 and all four teams in Divisions 2, 3 and 4 will be seeded. The third requires girls regional seed meetings to be conducted in-person or by real-time electronic means, such as video conferencing.

In a tournament series hosting alteration, the highest-seeded team will host the sectional semifinals unless its venue does not have appropriate seating or facilities. In sectionals that vote to separate into smaller regional groupings, the executive office will assign predetermined sites for the sectional semifinals.

The Board approved the recommendation to afford the opportunity for licensed student officials to serve as line judges during the tournament series. It also supported removing the requirement to request a six-set waiver for players participating at multiple levels on the same day in all divisions.

Six soccer recommendations received the Board's approval. It supported a recommendation to extend experimenting with 45-minute halves for three additional years to provide the opportunity for the Wisconsin Soccer Coaches Association to collect data for the NFHS.

Two of the soccer regulation changes are schedule related. When a tournament play-in game is necessary in Division 1 and Division 2, the games will be played on the Saturday preceding the Tuesday of regional semifinals or on a mutually agreed upon date. In addition, seed meetings must now be held no later than 10 p.m. on the Sunday nine days prior to the Tuesday of the first regional game.

Starting in 2019-20, special consideration will be given applications to host sectional final games that have a field at least 110 yards long and 75 yards wide. The final soccer recommendation to receive Board acceptance permits a host school to use a substitute field provided the venue is on the WIAA's Approved Site list.

Among the three changes to the season regulations in tennis is seeding all eight of the teams in the

State Team Tournament. Another places 66 percent of schools possessing the largest enrollments that sponsor tennis in Division 1 with the remaining 34 percent of schools with the lowest enrollments in Division 2. The third change requires the seeding of the top five positions at sub-sectionals by majority vote of coaches with additional seeding and placements allowed.

A pair of recommendations proposed by the Officials Advisory Committee were approved by the Board. Officials will now receive advancement credit for completing the NFHS officials training video for all sports. The Board also supported including felony DWI and OWI convictions to the guidelines for denying officials licensure for 10 years following a conviction.

The Board approved a number of other action items. It gave approval of extending the agreement with Wilson Sporting Goods as the exclusive supplier of the Official WIAA Football and the ball used at Level 3, 4 and the State finals through August 2024. Following a presentation from a member school requesting a review of residential/boarding school requirements, the Executive Staff was directed by the Board to develop a membership standard and definition of what constitutes a residential/boarding school to present to the membership by the 2020 Annual Meeting.

The November and December general fund payments and statements, as well as the December deferred liability fund and fall sports financial statements were also approved by the Board.

Other topics of discussion included a preview of Constitutional amendments and the agenda for the Annual Meeting in April, football-only conferences, associating seed meeting hosts with schools hosting sectional finals, the transition of traditional single-gender schools to co-ed status and reviewing school event safety.

The Board also received a liaison reports from Pam Foegen of the NFHS Board of Directors and Jeremy Schlitz of the Wisconsin Athletic Directors Association. ●

## 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 27, 2019) 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 nonschool 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.

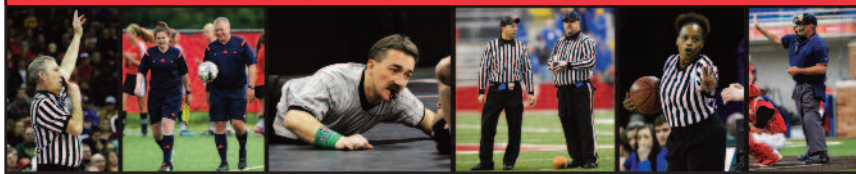
### Examples of Nonschool organizations

- 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. ●

## Officials Corner



*Congratulations!!*

## 2018 Fall Tournament Officials

**Cross Country** – John Miller, South Milwaukee (Meet Referee); Barry Brubaker, Stratford (Starter); Dave Nickels, Manitowoc (Starter); Peter Nielsen, Wales (Starter)

### Football –

Jack Albrechtson, REF, Madison; Mark Shingler, UMP, Sun Prairie; David Wollin, L, Sun Prairie; David Schroeder, LJ, Waukesha; Peter Zehren, BJ, Johnson Creek

Gary Guendert, REF, Greendale; Anthony Sibley, UMP, Greenfield; Mike Scharber, L, Milwaukee; Michael Guendert, LJ, Milwaukee; Lee Kleszczynski, BJ, Greenfield

Jeffrey Linehan, REF, River Falls; Mark Brine, UMP, Hudson; Robert Zahradka, L, Prescott; Pete Vrieze, LJ, New Richmond; Mike Elling, BJ, River Falls

Thomas Moon, REF, Cameron; Michael Breed, UMP, Cameron; Ty Rogers, L, Cameron; Wayne Cyscon, LJ, Cameron; Scott Tahtinen, BJ, Barron

Rick Prince, REF, Colfax; Timothy Prince, UMP, Ladysmith; Jeff Prince, L, Colfax; Travis Logglett, LJ, Chippewa Falls; Clark Yoltz, BJ, Colfax

James Schaefer, REF, De Pere; Steve Luedeman Jr., UMP, Denmark; Kyle Christiansen, L, Cato; Rhoderick Fields, LJ, Appleton; Marc Shield, BJ, De Pere

Tom Senecal, REF, Green Bay; Brian Hannum, UMP, Green Bay; Richard Lund, L, De Pere; Rick Jurkanis, LJ, Green Bay; Jared Spude, BJ, Brussels

**Standby Officials** – Jack Albrechtson, Madison; Jeff Stern, Saint Francis

**Football (8-player)** – Michael Wudi, REF, Medford; Trent Weik, UMP, Rib Lake; Pat Heinrichs, L, Stetsonville; David Koester, LJ, Medford; John Clausnitzer, BJ, Stetsonville

**Boys Soccer** – Greg Baugher, Chippewa Falls; Eric Bayer, Campbellsport; Peter Bernardy,

DePere; David Grable, Oshkosh; Mark Herdeman, West Bend; Jay Koebert, Germantown; Todd Mader, Madison; Raffi Mesdjan, Oregon; Patrick Murphy, Wausau; David Nett, Hudson; Jonathan Schrantz, Waukesha; Steve Van Deurzen, Kaukauna

**Girls Swimming & Diving** – Bruce Barbee, Hartland; Patricia Baus, Fond du Lac; Stephen Good, Manitowoc; Scott Hertting, Appleton; Tom Wencil, Middleton

**Girls Individual & Team Tennis – Meet Referee** – Sharon Terry. **Umpires** – Richard Arians, Minneapolis (MN); Anthony “Chip” Asta, Williams Bay; Denise Caldwell, Janesville; Deb Clausen-Kremer, Sun Prairie; Elizabeth Danner, Oneida; Tom Derouin, Savage (MN); Angie Feltz, Fond du Lac; Dave Hammelman, Brookfield; John Knox, Madison; Jon Nicoud, Fond du Lac; Jean Root, Muskego; Courtney Smith, Janesville; Sharon Terry, Janesville; Henry Thomas, Milwaukee; Mark VanderZanden, Appleton; Jim VanLieshout, Madison; Kris Williams, Green Bay; Jim Yoshida, Madison

**Boys Volleyball** – Patti Dawson, New Berlin; James Hochevar, Hartland; Zachary Hochevar, Wauwatosa; Sarah Palmer, Madison; Teague Prichard, Middleton; Larry Schoenick, Waukesha; Rod Wilde, Madison; Jody Witty, New Berlin

**Girls Volleyball** – Jed Block, Appleton; Paul Bloyer, Holmen; Linda Dahl, Pewaukee; Paul Dean, Marshfield; John Delsman, Manitowoc; Richard Delsman, Whitelaw; Duane Frankiewicz, Spooner; Richard Jones, Janesville; Brian Marx, Milwaukee; Andrew Riechers, Belmont; Jason Rieck, Glendale; William Roberts, Fort Atkinson; Daniel Rosenbush, Sarona; Francis Schelfhout, La Crosse; Jerry Schewe, Platteville; Jeffrey Scott, Marshfield; Jeff Sears, Appleton; Alexis Sheldon, Janesville; John Truesdale, Whitewater; Kevin Voge, Milwaukee ●

## Officials Advisory Committee Openings

Openings for 2019-20 on the Officials Advisory Committee will exist in the following: Baseball, basketball and volleyball.

Interested officials need to submit a letter of interest to Joan Gralla at [jgralla@wiaawi.org](mailto:jgralla@wiaawi.org) by March 25, 2019 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. ●



Wisconsin Conference Commissioners Association 2018 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 1 (northwest) Recipient – Karen Sorenson of Spooner, District 2 (northeast) Recipient – Pam Steiger of Hortonville, District 3 (southwest) Recipient – Jan Adkins of Sun Prairie, District 4 (southeast) Recipient – Charles “Chuck” Hardrick of Milwaukee. ●

## Deadline to Announce Candidacy from page 1

which candidates must file by February 26 are as follows:

### BOARD OF CONTROL

**District 1 (northwest)** for position now held by Eric Russell of Baldwin-Woodville (eligible for re-election).

**District 6 (south central)** for position now held by Bernie Nikolay of Cambridge (eligible for re-election).

**District 7 (southeast)** for position now held by Steven Knecht of Kenosha Tremper (not eligible for re-election).

**Non-Public School At-Large** for position now held by Ted Knutson of Aquinas (not eligible for re-election).

### ADVISORY COUNCIL

**Large schools** for positions now held by Robert Kobylski of Nicolet (eligible for re-election) and Dan Retzki of Green Bay Preble (eligible for re-election).

**Medium schools** for positions now held by Jeffrey Sauer of Dodge Land (eligible for re-election) and Michael Endreas of Spencer (eligible for re-election to a small school position. Spencer will be a small school for the 2019-20 school year).

**Small schools** for positions now held by Kyle Luedtke of Sevastopol (eligible for re-election) and Paul Manriquez of Pecatonica (eligible for re-election).

Please email letters of interest to Joan Gralla at [jgralla@wiaawi.org](mailto:jgralla@wiaawi.org) by February 26, 2019. ●

## 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.

See Open Gyms, page 14 ►



# 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 summertime that is defined as the last day of school to the first day of school.

**During the summertime** (last day of school to the first day of school), coaching contact is defined as Unrestricted SCHOOL and Unlimited NON-SCHOOL.

**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 summer 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 may 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 non-school 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 27, 2019 for football), or is classified as unlimited non-school contact during the summertime (from the last day of school to the first day of school). ●

## Softball Rules Changes – 2019

(By NFHS)

**1-1-7, 2-22-4, Table 5-1, 5-1-10:** The media shall be prohibited from being in live-ball area. The home team or game management may designate an area for the media in dead ball territory.

**Rationale:** Clarifies that game management may designate a media area in dead ball territory.

**1-5-2a:** The knob may be molded, lathed, welded or adjustable, but must be permanently fastened.

**Rationale:** Clarifies that an adjustable knob is permissible, provided the knob is permanently fastened by the manufacturer.

**1-8-4:** Defensive players are permitted to wear a shield on their face/head protection in the field but it must be constructed of a molded, rigid material that is clear and permits 100 percent (no tint) allowable light transmission.

**Rationale:** In an effort to promote risk minimization, tinted eye shields are prohibited for defensive face/head protection.

**6-1-1 PENALTY, 6-1-2 Thru 4 PENALTY, 6-2-1 PENALTY, 6-2-7 PENALTY:** In the case of an illegal pitch, the batter is awarded a ball. The penalty that permitted base runners to be awarded one base without liability to be put out is removed.

**Rationale:** The new language creates more balance between offense and defense. The batter should receive the award rather than runners already on base.

### 2019 SOFTBALL MAJOR EDITORIAL CHANGES

**2-65-2:** Clarifies there can be no appeal of the play that occurred prior to the umpire awarding an intentional walk.

**6-1-2a, b:** Clarifies what motion constitutes the start of the pitch and when the step back of the non-pivot foot may be taken.

**APPENDIX H:** An Appendix regarding DP/FLEX rules was added for quick reference.

### 2019 SOFTBALL EDITORIAL CHANGES

2-65-2, 3-5-1 NOTE, 5-1 Table, 5-1-1k, 6-2-5, 7-1-2 PENALTY 3, 8-2-4 PENALTY, 8-4-3, 10-1-1 ●

## 2019 State Gymnastics Tournament Schedule

**Wis. Rapids Lincoln Fieldhouse – Wis. Rapids**

### Friday, March 1 – Team Competition

11:30 a.m. Building opens

12:40-1:10 p.m. General stretching and bar settings

1:45 p.m. March in

2 p.m. Competition begins

7:30 p.m. Approximate conclusion of awards presentation

### Saturday, March 2 – Individual Competition

9 a.m. Building opens

9:45-10:30 a.m. General stretching and bar settings

11:15 a.m. March in

11:30 a.m. Competition begins

3:30 p.m. Approximate conclusion of awards presentation ●



## Gymnasium Seating Capacities – Basketball

Abbotsford	1500	Coleman	1000
Abundant Life Christian	500	Colfax	1700
Adams-Friendship	2000	Columbus	1200
Albany	850	Columbus Catholic	900
Algoma	1000	Cornell	750
Alma	900	Coulee Christian	284
Almond-Bancroft	750	Crandon	975
Altoona	1480	Cristo Rey Jesuit	
Amery	1700	Crivitz	2000
Amherst	1000	Cuba City	1200
Antigo	2400	Cudahy	1300
Appleton East	2000	Cumberland	1100
Appleton North	2100	D.C. Everest	2200
Appleton West	1700	Darlington	1050
Aquinas	1200	De Pere	1600
Arcadia	1600	De Soto	750
Argyle	800	Deerfield	700
Arrowhead	1400	DeForest	1450
Ashland	1400	Delavan-Darien	1100
Ashwaubenon	3000	Denmark	1677
Assumption	800	Destiny	400
Athens	1000	Divine Savior Holy Angels	1200
Auburndale	1584	Dodgeand	1600
Augusta	1200	Dodgeville	1000
Badger	1500	Dominican	1000
Baldwin-Woodville	1700	Drummond	400
Bangor	950	Durand	1000
Baraboo	1900	East Troy	1200
Barneveld	450	Eastbrook Academy	350
Barron	999	Eau Claire Immanuel Luth	400
Bay Port	2500	Eau Claire Memorial	1450
Bayfield	540	Eau Claire North	1700
Beaver Dam	2200	Edgar	1800
Belleville	1100	Edgerton	1000
Belmont	1150	Edgewood	1500
Beloit Memorial	2400	Elcho	1200
Benton	1300	Eleva-Strum	1250
Berlin	1200	Elk Mound	1350
Big Foot	800	Elkhart Lake-Glenbeulah	700
Birchwood	550	Elkhorn Area	2400
Black Hawk	850	Ellsworth	1200
Black River Falls	1750	Elmwood	900
Blair-Taylor	1200	Evansville	1800
Bloomer	900	Faith Christian (Will. Bay)	400
Bonduel	750	Fall Creek	1000
Boscobel	1000	Fall River	600
Bowler	950	Fennimore	1400
Boyceville	1200	Flambeau	900
Brillion	1550	Florence	1000
Brodhead	1500	Fond du Lac	2600
Brookfield Academy	825	Fort Atkinson	2000
Brookfield Central	2000	Fox Valley Lutheran	1700
Brookfield East	2000	Franklin	1100
Brookwood	950	Frederic	1100
Brown Deer	2250	Freedom	1600
Bruce	1100	Gale-Ettrick-Trempealeau	1350
Burlington	2000	Germantown	2200
Butternut	800	Gibraltar	850
Cadott	900	Gillett	1000
Cambria-Friesland	800	Gilman	950
Cambridge	1100	Gilmanton	475
Cameron	1100	Glenwood City	1100
Campbellsport	1575	Golda Meir	120
Carmen Northwest	250	Goodman	570
Cashton	1200	Grafton	1500
Cassville	900	Granton	1050
Catholic Central	850	Grantsburg	900
Catholic Memorial	1000	Green Bay East	1400
Cedar Grove-Belgium	1276	Green Bay N.E.W. Lutheran	500
Cedarburg	2000	Green Bay Preble	2000
Central Wisconsin Christian	785	Green Bay Southwest	2000
Chequamegon	1500	Green Bay West	1800
Chetek/Weyerhaeuser	1400	Green Lake	600
Chilton	1764	Greendale	1275
Chippewa Falls	1400	Greenfield	1500
Clayton	800	Greenwood	1000
Clear Lake	1240	Gresham Community	800
Clinton	1500	Hamilton	1300
Clintonville	1500	Hartford Union	2200
Cochrane-Fountain City	850	Hayward	1200
Colby	900		

See Gymnasium Seating, page 18 ►

## Boys & Girls Basketball Tournament Information

We are nearing the end of the regular season for basketball and **Tournament Time** is just around the corner!! The excitement is rising as every team prepares to play their best games when it matters most! Whether you are playing, coaching, administering, or just cheering we want you to enjoy this year's journey!

Here is a breakdown of what this year's Tournament Series will look like:

### Girls Basketball

Regional Quarterfinals – Tuesday, February 19

Regional Semifinals – Friday, February 22

Regional Finals – Saturday, February 23

Sectional Semifinals – Thursday, February 28

Sectional Finals – Saturday, March 2

STATE – March 7-9



### Boys Basketball

Regional Quarterfinals – Tuesday, February 26

Regional Semifinals – Friday, March 1

Regional Finals – Saturday, March 2

Sectional Semifinals – Thursday, March 7

Sectional Finals – Saturday, March 9

STATE – March 14-16



### 3-POINT CHALLENGE

Throughout this season, we have been tracking the progress of our state's best 3-point shooters! Coaches have been required to input their shooter's statistics into WisSports.net at various checkpoints throughout the year. We have ONE FINAL ENTRY DEADLINE that must be met, in order for a player to be in consideration for the 3-Point Challenge at the State Tournament. Be sure to get your final stats in by the deadlines listed below

**Girls:** Monday, February 18 (Noon)

**Boys:** Monday, February 25 (Noon)

### RALLY YOUR FANS!

We are excited to announce that the Green Bay Stadium District will once again be sponsoring an event called RUSH TO THE RESCH, as a promotion for our Girls State Basketball Tournament. The four qualifying schools in each division will have a fan competition to see who can sell the most tickets for their semifinal game. The winners in each division will be awarded a \$2000 award 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. We want to give a HUGE Thank You to the Green Bay Stadium District who has donated \$10,000 each of the past 2 years to fund this terrific competition. Let's get your fans to the games!



### SEEDING MEETINGS

It is mandatory for each school to have a representative present at the seeding meetings. Schools who are located 80 miles or more from the seeding meeting sited may opt to participate via electronic means. The meetings must take place on the following dates: **Girls** – Saturday, February 9 or Sunday February 10. **Boys** – Saturday, February 16 or Sunday, February 17. The details of how the meetings will be run can be found on pages 9-10 of the Basketball Tournament Procedures.

### STATE TOURNAMENT TICKETS

Reminder that State Tournament tickets are on sale now! Let's make this a year to remember by supporting the amazing young people who will be competing in these tournaments! ●

# Annual Award of Excellence in Third Year; Additional Criteria to be Considered in Year Four

The awareness and prestige of the WIAA Award of Excellence has grown since its inception in 2016-17. Now in its third year with the original set of criteria, a planned review of the award's criteria may identify additional measures to qualify for the honor in 2019-20.

The award recognizes member schools for their efforts and achievements in the areas of sportsmanship, ethics, integrity, leadership and character, commitment to engage in educational and leadership programming, participation in membership events and complying with membership requirements and expectations.

Among the membership responsibilities that may be considered to add to the list of criteria are a threshold for head coaches ranking officials, head coaches' completion of mandatory rules video and exams, and a satisfactory percentage of results entered in the Score Center database. In addition, members are welcomed to contact the WIAA to share ideas to enhance the awards' prominence.

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

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, in the Bulletin and at the Annual Meeting.



The current 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). The deadline for applications is June 28, 2019. Any questions about the application or the Award of Excellence criteria, please contact the WIAA office at (715) 344-8580. ●

## Softball Points of Emphasis - 2019

(By NFHS)

### Pitcher Simulating Taking a Signal -

While on the pitcher's plate and prior to bringing her hands together, the pitcher must take or simulate taking a signal from the catcher. A signal may be taken from a coach either by hand signals, verbal call, or by looking up on a wristband with a playbook/playcard. The signal obtained from the coach can be taken while on the pitching plate or while standing behind the pitcher's plate prior to taking a position on the pitcher's plate. By rule, the only requirement is that no matter where or from whom the actual signal is obtained, the pitcher must take a position on the pitcher's plate with the hands separated and simulate taking a signal from the catcher. Requiring the pitcher to take position on the pitching plate and simulating taking a signal from the catcher prior to bring her hands together allows the batter to prepare for the start of the pitch. If the pitcher does not pause after stepping onto the pitcher's plate to simulate taking a signal from the catcher prior to bringing her hands together, an illegal pitch should be called.

**Proper Technique When Sliding** - One of a coach's responsibilities is to help reduce risk and injury to players whenever possible. This includes teaching proper sliding techniques as well as educating players on executing a legal slide (Rule 2-52). Ensuring that players

utilize proper technique when sliding will help reduce the potential injuries seen when a slide is performed. Ensuring that the slide is performed legally will also reduce the risk to the defender when a tag is being applied to a player sliding into a base.

### Head Coach Listed on Lineup Card -

Although not a requirement by rule, it is considered a best practice that the head coach list his/her name on the lineup card submitted at the pre-game conference. By listing his/her name on the lineup card, it assists both the umpire and other team if communications dealing with the game are required.

**Illegal Pitch Penalty** - The NFHS Softball Rules Committee voted to remove the advancement of runners when an illegal pitch is called. Since the intent of an illegal pitch in softball is to deceive the batter, the committee felt that only the batter should receive an award when an illegal pitch occurs. The change to the penalty for an illegal pitch will result in a ball being called on the batter, but runners will only advance if forced as the result of the batter being awarded first base. Exceptions to the penalty for an illegal pitch in Rule 6, Section 1, Article 1 have also been modified in order to be in compliance with the new penalty and ensure that runners are no longer advanced as a result of an illegal pitch. ●

## 2019 State Team Wrestling Tournament Schedule

### UW Fieldhouse - Madison

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

*Teams will be seeded on Saturday, Feb. 23, and posted after seed meetings.*

### Friday, March 1

One Session - Weigh-ins - 4:30 p.m.  
Admission \$13 for one session.

### Division 1 Quarterfinals - 5:30 p.m.

Match 1 - #1 seed vs. #8 seed  
Match 2 - #4 seed vs. #5 seed  
Match 3 - #3 seed vs. #6 seed  
Match 4 - #2 seed vs. #7 seed

### Division 1 Semifinals - 7:30 p.m.

Match 5 - Match 1 winner vs. Match 2 winner  
Match 6 - Match 3 winner vs. Match 4 winner

### Saturday, March 2

Two Sessions - Weigh-ins all divisions - 9 a.m.

### Divisions 2 & 3 Semifinals - 10 a.m.

Match 1 - #1 seed vs. #4 seed  
Match 2 - #2 seed vs. #3 seed

### Championship in all Divisions - 3 p.m.

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. ●

## 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 27, 2019 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) ●

## 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 27, 2019 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 program 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." ●

## 2019 State Individual Wrestling Championships

Kohl Center, Madison

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 21 – Six Mats

Div. 1 Preliminaries – 3 p.m. (Doors open 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, Feb. 22 – 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 9 a.m.)

Div. 2 & 3 Quarterfinals – Approximately 15 minutes following previous round  
(Div. 2 on mats 1, 2 & 3; Div. 3 on mats 4, 5 & 6)

Div. 1 Consolation Quarterfinals – Approximately 15 minutes following previous round (all mats)

Div. 2 & 3 Consolation Quarterfinals – Approximately 15 minutes following previous round (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, Feb. 22 – Six Mats

Div. 1, 2 & 3 Semifinals – 7 p.m. (Doors open 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, Feb. 23 – Six Mats

All Weigh Ins: 8:30 a.m.

Div. 1, 2 & 3 Consolation Wrestlebacks - 10 a.m. (Doors open 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, Feb. 23 – Three Mats

March of Champions – 5:30 p.m. (Doors open 4 p.m.)

Div. 1, 2 & 3 Championships

(Div. 1 on mat 1; Div. 2 on mat 2; Div. 3 on mat 3) ●



# WIAA Fall Team Tournament Sportsmanship Awards Selected

The Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association, in cooperation with Rural Mutual Insurance Company, has selected the team Sportsmanship Award winners for the 2018 fall State tournaments.

The recipients of the sportsmanship awards are River Ridge in girls volleyball, Stratford in football, McFarland in boys soccer, Brookfield East in boys volleyball and Homestead in girls team tennis.

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 determined 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.

River Ridge earned its second sportsmanship recognition with its positive support for the Timberwolves at the State Girls Volleyball Tournament. They also claimed the award in football back in 1997. They advanced to State for the first time in the program's history. They lost to Clayton 26-24, 26-24, 25-20 in the Division 4 semifinals. Honorable mention for the award went to Clayton, Grantsburg, Greendale and Sun Prairie.

Stratford is this year's recipient of the award for

the State football finals. The Tigers earned the honor for the second time with both coming in football. They also received recognition following the 2006 football finals. The Stratford contingent displayed outstanding sportsmanship, enthusiasm and community support in a 20-17 loss to St. Mary's Springs in the Division 5 title game. It was the Tigers' eighth appearance in the State football championship game. Schools receiving hon-



orable mention were Black Hawk, Iola-Scandinavia, St. Croix Central and West De Pere.

McFarland is the recipient of the Sportsmanship Award in boys soccer, which marks the second time the Spartans have received the award in any sport. Their previous recognition came in girls soccer in 2007. They made their second State tournament appearance this season, which resulted in a State runner-up finish. They blanked Plymouth 2-0 in the Division 3 State semifinal before falling 3-1 to Pius XI Catholic in the championship game. Amery, Baldwin-Woodville, Cedarburg, Holmen, Kettle Moraine Lutheran,

Marquette, New Berlin Eisenhower and Plymouth received honorable mention recognition.

Homestead is the recipient of the Sportsmanship Award in girls tennis for the second time in the past three seasons, having also earned the recognition in the sport in 2016. It marks the third time the school has been bestowed the honor overall. The Highlanders also won the award in boys tennis in 2010. They captured the Division 1 title this fall by downing Neenah 6-1 in the quarterfinals, defeating Whitefish Bay 5-2 in the semifinals and edging Divine Savior Holy Angels 4-3 in the championship match. Badger and University School of Milwaukee were given honorable mention for the award.

Brookfield East was determined to possess the most outstanding sportsmanship on a short list of schools qualifying for the State Boys Volleyball Tournament. It's the second time the Spartans have been recognized for their sportsmanship. The other was also in boys volleyball, having received the honor in 2013. This season, they lost 25-17, 25-18, 25-16 in the State quarterfinals. Honorable mention for the award was extended to Franklin.

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. ●

## Baseball Points of Emphasis - 2019 (By NFHS)

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 2019 high school baseball season, attention is being called to: Sportsmanship, Compliance of Player's Equipment and Baserunner's Responsibilities. 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 oppo-

nent'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.

### **COMPLIANCE OF** **PLAYER'S EQUIPMENT**

In preparation of the new equipment that will have the NOCSAE stamp being introduced into high school baseball, it is appropriate to begin to have those discussions with players, coaches, umpires and parents. The NOCSAE stamped base-

**See Baseball Points of Emphasis, page 17 ►**



# 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 double header. 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, in the past 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." <https://www.newsday.com/sports/columnists/david-lennon/pulling-a-pitcher-from-possible-no-hitter-no-longer-a-no-no-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.mlptraderumors.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 semi-final 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, 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

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. ●

# 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 reflect the fact that the tournament entry is only available to WIAA members who are in good standing.*

#### 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) 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. Membership is not available to schools belonging to another Wisconsin state-wide interscholastic athletic association.

Note: WIAA assigned conferences are excepted.

*Corresponding changes to the Bylaws:*

#### Article I – Sports Program

##### Section 5 – Tournament Entry – p. 25

- A. A member school must have an officially-adopted program in a sport in order to enter a team and/or individuals in the WIAA tournament series of that sport. WIAA Tournament participation is only available to WIAA member schools who only belong to the WIAA.

#### Article II – School Competition and Practice Requirements – p. 26

##### Section 5 – A School shall not Participate in:

- A. Post-season contests (other than Association tournament games).
- B. Contests on Sunday, unless ...

Note: With respect to Sunday competition ...

- C. Contests with nonmember schools. No contest shall be held or scheduled with a school that is eligible for membership in this association, but is not a WIAA member in good standing.

- D. Contests held in conjunction with professional, semiprofessional and other ...

- E. ....

etc.

### NUMBER 2 – TOURNAMENT HOSTING

*This change would clarify that the Board of Control may remove opportu-*

*nities to host WIAA tournament contests from member schools if deemed necessary.*

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

##### Section 3 – Penalties – p. 19

- A. Any of the following penalties may be imposed upon member schools, which violate Association rules and regulations, if such action is regarded as necessary for maintenance of discipline:
- 1) Suspension of membership for not more than one year.
  - 2) Probation for not more than one year.
  - 3) Denial of participation in Association tournament program.
  - 4) Denial of any area of Association services and benefits.
  - 5) Monetary fine equal to Association expense incurred in any investigation and actual reimbursement of costs resulting from the violation.
  - 6) Forfeiture (team sports) of contests won by school or (individual sports) of points/places won by individuals.
  - 7) Loss of opportunity to host Association tournament events for not more than one year.
  - 8) Loss of conference affiliation.

Note: All parties concerned may be convened after 48 hours of notice to consider charges filed against a member school.

### NUMBER 3 – COOPERATIVE TEAM DEADLINES

*This change would clarify that co-ops for football shall meet a December 1 deadline for Football-Only Conference realignment.*

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

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

**See Annual Meeting Amendments, page 11 ►**

- 5) Requests for approval and to add a cooperative team into WIAA tournament competition must be received in the WIAA office by the following deadline dates to be included in the subsequent year's tournament program:

Fall Sports – February 1

Note: Football Co-op deadline is December 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)

## **BYLAWS**

### **NUMBER 4 – TOURNAMENT ENTRY**

*This change would clarify that football (both 11 and 8-player) declarations shall meet a December 1 deadline for Football-Only Conference realignment.*

#### **Article I – Sports Program**

##### **Section 5 – WIAA Tournament Entry – p. 25**

- A. A member school must have an officially-adopted program in a sport in order to enter a team and/or individuals in the WIAA tournament series of that sport.
- B. Requests to add a team into WIAA tournament competition must be received in the WIAA office by the following deadline dates to be included in the subsequent year's tournament program:

Fall Sports – February 1

Note: Football (both 11 and 8-player) deadline is December 1

Winter Sports – April 1

Spring Sports and Summer Baseball – June 1

Note: The WIAA membership-sponsored tournaments are the collective property of the Association ...

- C. When a member school withdraws from a tournament ...

## **RULES OF ELIGIBILITY**

### **NUMBER 5 – RESIDENCE ELIGIBILITY**

*This change would provide unrestricted eligibility for transfer students who did not participate in athletics.*

#### **Article II – Residence and Transfer**

##### **Section 3 – Transfers – p. 33**

- 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:

- 1) A student who transfers into a member school without ever participating in a try-out, practice, scrimmage, or contest on a team sponsored by a school or a club in a WIAA recognized sport while attending classes at any school in grades 9-12 is unrestricted.

- 2) A student who transfers from any school into a member school after the sixth consecutive semester following entry

into Grade 9 shall be ineligible for competition at any level for one calendar year, but may practice, unless the transfer is made necessary by a total change in residence by parent(s). The calendar year (365 days) will be determined from a student's first day of attendance at the new school.

etc.

### **NUMBER 6 – RESIDENCE ELIGIBILITY**

*This change would restrict students who transfer with a pre-existing athletic relationship with anyone in the school the student is transferring into. The pre-existing relationship will include athletes on the same non-school team, school coaches working with the non-school team, school coaches from a previous school, summer contact whether school or non-school, personal training, etc.*

#### **Article II – Residence and Transfer**

##### **Section 3 – Transfers – p. 33**

- 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:

- 1) A student who transfers into a member school whether by a total and complete change of residence by the student and/or parent(s) or by any other means but has a pre-existing athletic relationship in a WIAA recognized sport to anyone in the new school shall be ineligible for competition at any level for one calendar year, but may practice. A pre-existing athletic relationship includes, but is not limited to: a) the student was involved in a nonschool or school activity that was coached or directed by a coach, administrator or parent at the new school; b) the student received private skill instruction by a coach, administrator or parent at the new school; c) attended a summer contact session at the new school; and/or d) is involved in summer athletic activities with a coach, administrator, parent, and/or athlete of the new school before attending that school.

- 2) A student who transfers from any school into a member school after the sixth consecutive semester following entry into Grade 9 shall be ineligible for competition at any level for one calendar year, but may practice, unless the transfer is made necessary by a total change in residence by parent(s). The calendar year (365 days) will be determined from a student's first day of attendance at the new school.

etc.

### **NUMBER 7 – CODE OF CONDUCT**

*This change would prevent a student who has been charged and/or convicted of a felony from competing until the student has satisfied all of the requirements of the court.*

#### **Article VII – Health and Behavior/Compliance**

##### **Section 3 – Code of Conduct – p. 39**

- A. A school shall have a code of conduct ...
- B. The WIAA is against the use of anabolic-androgenic steroids ...
- C. A student is required to follow the school's code of conduct on a year-round (12 month) basis.

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



- 1) In-season violations of the school code will result in immediate suspension of the student from interscholastic competition for no less than one day of competition (but not less than one complete game or meet) for acts involving (a) possession and/or use of alcohol, (b) possession and/or use of tobacco, including chewing tobacco and/or (c) use, possession, buying, or selling of controlled substances, street drugs and performance enhancing substances (PES).

Note 1: When the suspension results in a fraction of a game, the number shall be rounded up to the next whole number of games (i.e. 2.1 or 2.8 games equals 3 games).

Note 2: This is a minimum penalty and may not be reduced by any other provision of the school code.

Note 3: Any portion of the suspension not completed during the current season will carry over to the next sport or sport season.

Note 4: Victims of sexual assault and bystanders who report a sexual assault, request emergency assistance, cooperate with and assist law enforcement, and stay on the scene or who encounter law enforcement at a medical facility at which the victim is being treated cannot be issued a code of conduct violation. The victim or bystanders must meet the State Amnesty Law Requirements. The victim may not falsely claim amnesty knowing that the situation that he or she reports does not exist.

- 2) The member school will determine minimum penalties for violation of any other provisions of its code of conduct, including all out-of-season offenses.
- 3) The member school will determine minimum penalties for any other unacceptable conduct contrary to the ideals, principles, and standards of the school and this Association, including but not limited to criminal behavior.
- 4) Any student charged and/or convicted of a felony shall, upon the filing of felony charges, become ineligible for all further participation until the student has paid his/her debt to society and the courts consider the sentence served (including probation, community service, etc.).

Note: Except for conduct violations under paragraph (4) felony charges, the school must provide an opportunity for the student to be heard prior to any penalty being enforced. If a student appeals a suspension, according to the school's appeal procedure, the student is ineligible during the appeal process.

## **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.*

*These changes would remove summer baseball from references in the Constitution, Bylaws, and Rules of Eligibility.*

## **CONSTITUTION**

### **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 ...
  - 3) Applications for initial approval, or ...
    - 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 ...

- 4) Total enrollment of schools ...

- 5) Requests for approval and to add a cooperative team into WIAA tournament competition must be received in the WIAA office by the following deadline dates to be included in the subsequent year's tournament program:

Fall Sports – February 1

Winter Sports – April 1

Spring Sports – June 1

~~and Summer Baseball~~

- 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)

## **BYLAWS**

### **Article I – Sports Program**

#### **Section 5 – WIAA Tournament Entry – p. 25**

- A. A member school must have an officially-adopted program in a sport in order to enter a team and/or individuals in the WIAA tournament series of that sport.
- B. Requests to add a team into WIAA tournament competition must be received in the WIAA office by the following deadline dates to be included in the subsequent year's tournament program:

Fall Sports – February 1

Winter Sports – April 1

Spring Sports – June 1

~~and Summer Baseball~~

### **Article II – School Competition and Practice Requirements**

#### **Section 1 – WIAA Tournament Entry – p. 26**

- A. A school is required to follow season regulations, playing rules, and tournament procedures as annually revised and published by the Board of Control. These regulations, rules, and procedures are found in the publications entitled SEASON REGULATIONS.

SEASON REGULATIONS are published in three separate editions. The first edition covers fall sports (cross country, football, girls golf, boys soccer, girls swimming & diving, girls tennis, and volleyball). The second edition covers winter sports (basketball, gymnastics, hockey, boys swimming & diving, and wrestling). The third edition covers spring sports (baseball, boys golf, girls soccer, softball, boys tennis, and track & field) ~~and summer baseball.~~

**See Annual Meeting Amendments, page 15 ➤**

## 2018-19 HS Baseball Rules Changes Focus on Pitching Mechanics

The elimination of the requirement for the entire pivot foot to be in contact with the pitcher's plate is among the changes approved for the 2018- 19 high school baseball season.

This revision in Rule 6-1-3 was one of three changes recommended by the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) Baseball Rules Committee at its June 3-5 meeting in Indianapolis. All changes were subsequently approved by the NFHS Board of Directors.

"We are very fortunate that the state of high school baseball is in an excellent position, which is indicative of the few rules changes that were passed," said Elliot Hopkins, NFHS director of sports and student services and staff liaison for baseball. "We appreciate the hard work of dedicated coaches who, in addition to minimizing risk associated with the sport, teach the game in a way that makes our young people enjoy playing for their high school. We must also acknowledge the highly professional and responsible game umpires. Without their thorough knowledge and implementation of NFHS rules, we would not be able to enjoy the small injury rate and increase in player participation."

The rationale behind the change to Rule 6-1-3 is a result of the difficulty for pitchers to consistently make contact with the pitcher's plate when pivoting. Before starting the delivery, the pitcher 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 the pivot foot in contact with or directly in front of and parallel to the pitcher's plate.

"The committee concluded that many pitching mounds are such that it is problematic for a pitcher to have his entire pivot foot in contact with the

pitcher's plate," Hopkins said. "Therefore, no advantage is gained by having some of the pivot foot not in direct contact with the pitcher's plate."

The committee also approved two new umpire signals. The two new signals, indicating calls for "Correct Rotation" and "Information Available," were approved to further improve communication between partners.

"It is always wise to be able to communicate clearly with your partner(s) during a game," Hopkins said. "With so many moving parts (defensive players, base runners, umpires), it is imperative that umpires communicate easily and inconspicuously from players and fans. These mechanics say a lot without brining attention to the signaling umpire."

The "Correct Rotation" signal comes when in a three- or four-man mechanic, the umpires indicate to their partner(s) where they are rotating to a specific base for coverage of an anticipated play. The umpire(s) points with both hands in the direction of the base that they are moving toward.

To assist in providing pertinent information between partners, the "Information Available" signal occurs when the game umpire is indicating that he/she has some information that is relevant to their partner by tapping two times over the left chest (heart).

Additionally, the NFHS Rules Review Committee extended the implementation date to January 1, 2020, for baseballs to meet the NOCSAE standard.

According to the 2016-17 NFHS High School Athletics Participation Survey, there are 491,790 boys participating in baseball at 15,979 schools across the country, and 1,145 girls playing the sport in 269 schools. ●

## Baseball Comments on the Rules - 2019

(By NFHS)

**Modified That Baseballs Meet a NOCSAE Standard by January 1, 2020 (1-3-1)** –To maintain a consistent and uniformed standard for high school competition, every baseball manufactured should meet the same level of quality and playability. However, due to the number of baseballs that some high schools have in their inventory, the implementation date was moved back to accommodate that surplus. The effective date is January 1, 2020.

**Removing an Element of the Pivot Foot Requirement (6-1-3)** – This rule change eliminates the requirement for the entire pivot foot to be in contact with the pitcher's plate. Many pitching mounds are constructed such that it is problematic for a pitcher to have his entire

pivot foot in contact with the pitcher's plate. No advantage is gained by having some of his pivot foot not in contact with the pitcher's plate.

**Umpire Signal - Correct Rotation** – When using a 3- or 4-person mechanics, the umpires indicate to their partner(s) where they are rotating to a specific base for coverage of an anticipated play. The umpire(s) points with both hands in the direction of the base that he/she is moving toward.

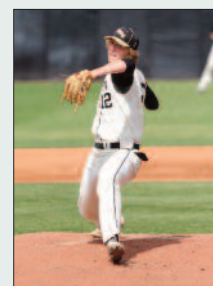
**Umpire Signal - Information Available** – The game umpire indicates to his/her partner that he/she has some information that is relevant by tapping two times over his/her left chest (heart). ●

## 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. ●



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. ●

## Softball Comments on the Rules - 2019 (By NFHS)

**1-1-7:** In an effort to more clearly define where representatives of the media are permitted, game management may designate such an area in dead-ball territory. It is no longer acceptable to designate any area in live-ball territory for media to occupy during the game. Game management is still free to designate a media area anywhere in dead-ball territory. The change minimizes risk of participants and others involved in the game. Previously, a ball was declared dead if the media area was occupied but remained live if it was unoccupied. The possibility that an area

is considered a dead-ball area only at certain times during a game could create an unfair advantage for one team.

**1-5-2a:** Added language in reference to the recently approved "adjustable knob device" that is permanently fastened to the bat by the manufacturer. A knob may be adjustable but must be permanently affixed while being used in the game.

**1-8-4:** Addresses shields attached to face/head protection being constructed of non-tinted and non-glare material. The intent of this change is to make

these shields, if worn, consistent with shields on batting helmets (1-6-7) and catchers masks (1-7-1).

**6-1-1, 6-2-1:** Language to address the change in the penalty for an illegal pitch was changed. Previously all base runners were advanced one base as well as a ball being called on the batter. The approved change removes the advancement of base runners. Considering that an illegal pitch is designed to hinder the batter, the Softball Rules Committee felt that only the batter should receive an advantage from the penalty. ●



## RULES OF ELIGIBILITY

### Article V – Attendance and Scholarship

#### Section 2 – Academic Eligibility – p. 36

- A. A student must meet school and DPI requirements defining a full-time student and have received no more than one failing grade (including incompletes) in the most recent (school issued) grade-reporting period.

A senior who has acquired all necessary credits toward graduation is not exempt from this rule.

- 1) A student who becomes academically ineligible may regain eligibility ...
- 2) A student regains eligibility immediately if incompletes ...
- 3) A student may erase ineligibility status related to the last grade-reporting period of the school year through summer school courses (including correspondence courses) at the same or some other school, provided:
  - a. The student successfully completes not less than the same number of courses which caused ineligibility.

**Note:** This section does not apply to summer baseball participants who are governed under 7) b below.

- 4) A student who is ineligible for a minimum of 15 scheduled school days, ...
- 5) A student who is enrolled in some courses in a university/college ...
- 6) A student who is enrolled in any state-approved EEN program ...
- 7) The ineligibility status described in the introduction to this Section (A) will be adjusted as follows for students in fall sports in which the date of earliest allowed competition is before the first day students are in class and for students in summer baseball:
  - a. Fall Sports – The minimum ineligibility period shall be the lesser of (1) 21 consecutive calendar days beginning with the date of earliest allowed competition in a sport or (2) one-third of the maximum number of games/meets allowed in a sport (rounded up if one-third results in a fraction).
  - b. Summer Baseball – The ineligibility period shall be a minimum of three weeks (21 consecutive calendar days) as of the end of the second semester.

### Article VI – Nonschool Participation

#### Section 3 – All-Star Activities – p. 38

- A. It is the philosophy of this Association that all-star games ...
- B. A student becomes ineligible in a sport for a maximum of one year from date of last offense for participating in an all-star game or similar activity.
- 1) An all-star team consists of students chosen on the basis ...
  - 2) Activities within the confines of each member school ...
  - 3) Activities during the summertime within the confines of an established league...
  - 4) A senior who violates this rule forfeits all remaining high school eligibility in the same specific sport as the all-star event, with the following exception:
    - a. Summer baseball players after the spring baseball tournament series, are exempt from all provisions of this Sec-

tion as it pertains to the official coaches all star competition, provided such all star competition lasts no more than two consecutive calendar days.

## RULES OF ELIGIBILITY

*This change removes the terms “open enrolled and/or tuition paying” to reflect the general application of the rule.*

### Article II – Residence and Transfer

#### Section 3 – Transfers – p. 33

- 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:
- 1) A student who transfers from any school into a member school after the sixth consecutive semester following entry into Grade 9 shall be ineligible for competition at any level for one calendar year, but may practice, unless the transfer is made necessary by a total change in residence by parent(s). The calendar year (365 days) will be determined from a student’s first day of attendance at the new school.
  - 2) ~~Open enrolled and/or tuition paying~~ Students entering 9th and/or 10th grade at the beginning of the school year and who are within the first four consecutive semesters of high school will be afforded unrestricted eligibility provided all other rules governing student eligibility are met.
  - 3) ~~Open enrolled and/or tuition paying~~ Students entering 11th grade are restricted to non-varsity for one calendar year.
  - 4) ~~Open enrolled and/or tuition paying~~ Students 12th grade as transfer students are ineligible to compete at any level for one calendar year, but may practice.
  - 5) 9th grade students who transfer after the beginning of the school year ...
- etc.

*This change clarifies that a student competing in non-school competition without school approval will result in the student becoming ineligible.*

### 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 **not receiving school approval beforehand and/or** 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. ●



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.

## BASKETBALL

### Argyle @ Wauzeka-Steuben

Jan. 26, 2019

Wauzeka-Steuben team, coaches and fans should be applauded. Everything I saw and heard was positive and very encouraging. The coaching staff was coaching and doing a great job. They questioned some calls, and when they were answered, they accepted the answer and moved forward. After the game was even more encouraging following a loss. The coaches said it was the best officiated game they had been in all year. Thank you! Even after a tough loss they were being a professional all the time. Awesome job!

*Reporting Official: Henry Bray*

### Niagara @ Wausaukee

Jan. 11, 2019

The atmosphere was a fun in which to work. The two teams played hard with a great sense of sportsmanship. Each team battled hard but with respect for each other and the game. The fans were great for both teams. They cheered appropriately for their teams.

*Reporting Official: Michael Lyons*

### Green Bay West @ Sturgeon Bay

Jan. 11, 2019

I would like to give a shout out for the experience our basketball officiating crew had in this girls game. First and foremost a thanks and appreciation to Athletic Director Todd Mickle and his team, which on this night included his wife, for their hospitality and overall hospitality and overall respectful demeanor. They truly made us feel welcomed and appreciated. Todd went out of his way to have his wife help assist with arrangements for the female member of our crew to insure here accommodations and privacy were met. Also having an opportunity to have a discussion with Todd post-game, he is an administrator who gets the true meaning of the value of high school sports. I am confident that this respect and appreciation for the value of sports is reflected in a positive attitude and respect for officials for all of the sports programs in general at Sturgeon Bay High School. I would also like to acknowledge both coaches. Tom Mackey of Green Bay West and Erik Tauscheck of Sturgeon Bay. Both were focused on teaching, effort and respect for the game throughout the entire evening. They coached and taught and allowed us to do our best to provide a healthy, positive environment for the athletes to compete in. The effort, teaching and opportunities to succeed were on full display with desire and passion. I am still inspired by coaches such

as Tom and Erik who are not influenced by results but continue to emphasize the important aspects of sports - teamwork, discipline, selflessness and life lessons that will hold true long after the game is finished. Results are important but must be kept in perspective of the overall goals to be achieved. It was a privilege to be a part of this experience. Thanks for the opportunity to share this experience.

*Reporting Official: Stephen Sanders*

### Barron @ Cumberland

Jan. 11, 2019

In a close conference match-up with schools within close proximity to each other and in a full gym, we were blown away by the great sportsmanship demonstrated from both schools' players and coaches. If a player fell to the floor, players from both teams would hustle over help them up and tell them good hustle or good job. Even though it was a close game throughout, no matter what the call or situation, both coaches would ask questions in a very respectful manner and then thank us for our answer. Both teams showed a tremendous amount of respect towards the officials and each other.

*Reporting Official: Matthew Atkinson*

### Boscobel @ Mineral Point

Jan. 3, 2019

This was not the first time we had been the officiating crew for a game involving the Boscobel varsity girls basketball team, and once again we witnessed exemplary sportsmanship by the players and coaching staff. The players retrieved dead balls and returned them to our crew, often with a smile on their face when we thanked them for their effort. More than once when an opposing player went down, the Boscobel players immediately extended a helping hand to their opponent. This sportsmanship didn't end on the floor. Early in the first half and during the remainder of the game not once did the Boscobel coaches direct their frustration in any aspect. Rather, they continued to teach as coaches while still remaining passionate about their role, but without a harsh word towards their players. The parents, district and community should be made aware that what we witnessed as a crew was outstanding. Undoubtedly, these young women will move forward in their lives possessing character values that will serve them well.

*Reporting Official: Jeff Taylor*

### Oneida Nation @ Niagara

Dec. 11, 2018

This game was a pleasure to work. The teams were extremely well-coached and played a great game. Both teams displayed outstanding

sportsmanship, not only to each other, but to the game officials as well. This game would be an example of how sportsmanship should be displayed.

*Reporting Official: Michael Lyons*

### Clinton @ Turner

Dec. 11, 2018

I wanted to take a moment this morning to recognize Hannah Welte of Clinton High School for her good sportsmanship. When officiating the game last night, I noticed every time I administered the ball to Clinton she in-bounded the ball and said, "Thank you!" This threw me off at first as it's not a normal thing for a player to do that. I spoke to both of my partners and she also said, "Thank you!" to them as well. I started to say, "Thank you!" as well myself to any player that handed me the ball when I needed to administer it in any way. Not only did Hannah demonstrate this act of "respect" and "politeness" she was also the player on the court that had the most hustle in my opinion and also my partners. We as officials carpooled together to and from the game as most officials do when they can and we discuss items such as this all the time. This game as a whole was one of the best games we have seen in awhile when it came to: hustle, sportsmanship, flow of the game, crowd/fan involvement, coaches coaching, and certainly not least, Pep Band! I will want to officiate these teams again as they are well coached and have the right ethics instilled upon them from their coaches. So I speak for my crew when I say, "Thank you!" for allowing us to officiate your game!

*Reporting Official: Ryan Johnson*

### Cameron @ Chetek

Saturday, Dec. 1, 2018

Throughout the rival game it became more and more apparent we wouldn't have any sportsmanship issues. It was apparent that both teams had respect for the game, officials, and opponents! I went out of my way after game to tell both coaches, as well as the Chetek athletic director that I was super impressed with the sportsmanship and respect of the players and coaches.

*Reporting Official: Nick Pack*

### Neillsville @ Greenwood

Tuesday, Dec. 4, 2018

Last night we worked a girls varsity game at Greenwood High School. We were greeted by the AD at the door and taken to our room. The AD was friendly and always asking if anything was needed. During the game both coaches,

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

fans and players were fantastic to work a game with. Coaches had questions but asked them in a great way. Fans were cheering for their team. Players were playing hard as a team and very friendly and receptive to feedback we provided. Post game the AD was there and promptly took us to the locker room and thanked us for our time. It was truly a great game to officiate.

*Reporting Official: Franklin Searer*

### **West Bend West @ Waterford Nov. 16, 2018**

Upon arrival to the game we were greeted by the Athletic Director, Jill Stobber. She showed us to our locker room where we were greeted by a student-athlete who was a representative of the Waterford H.S. Sports Officiating and Coaching Class. We were each given a "goody bag" which contained some snacks, a bottle of water, a thank you card from the officiating class. The class is taught by Ashley Ingush at Waterford H.S.. This was very much appreciated by all three officials. I wanted to not only thank the Waterford H.S. officiating class and their instructor but also want to praise the efforts of the Waterford School District and community for their sportsmanship and appreciation of the officials. In addition, the officiating and sports class will help raise an awareness to our youth of how important coaching and officiating is in the education of our youth. Thank you Waterford H.S. for your support of coaches and officials and helping to make youth sports enjoyable for all.

*Reporting Official: Paul Dengel*

## **HOCKEY - BOYS**

### **Fond du Lac @ Stevens Point Jan. 4, 2019**

As a crew, we were impressed with how both coaching staff handled their players and game situations. The players never used foul language and were always respectful. Both coaching staffs we're very polite and handled adversity with stride. With it being a close game neither team lost composure. It was a very fun game to officiate and be a part of.

*Reporting Official: Brock Kuklinski*

## **BOYS SWIMMING**

### **Verona JV Meet Dec. 7, 2018**

During the junior varsity 400 freestyle relay, the last swimmer of a Madison East relay was the only swimmer that had not finished, and was struggling to complete the second 50 meters. His entire team was at the turn end, encouraging him vigorously and loudly. He stopped. He

started. He had trouble keeping his head above the water. The noise grew louder and louder. He made it to the last turn and, by this time, led by the example of the enthusiasm of his Madison East teammates, the other two teams (Verona/Mount Horeb and Janesville Parker) joined the cheering as this swimmer flipped on to his back and completed the last 25 doing the backstroke. His teammates were ecstatic at his accomplishment, and his effort was celebrated. His persistence and tenacity appreciated. He was a treasured teammate and his team rallied around him. Hats off to the Madison East boys swim team for illustrating by their actions what good sportsmanship means.

*Reporting Official: Pat Coyne*

## **WRESTLING**

### **Wilmot @ Union Grove Jan. 17, 2019**

I officiated the Union Grove vs. Wilmot wrestling dual last night and had one of the most wonderful experiences in my time as an official. Both coaching staffs and teams were very respectful towards myself and each other. The kids wrestled hard and were gracious in both victory and defeat in a competitive dual. It was very refreshing to witness and it would be a pleasure to work with either of these programs again. Special kudos to the student athletic leadership team at Union Grove for providing the officials at each level a snack bag and thank you note for working the match. It was a very thoughtful gesture. Great job to both programs! You both did your schools proud!

*Reporting Official: Billy Kraus*

### **Neenah @ Oshkosh On the Water Invitational Dec. 28, 2018**

I would like to recognize Kyle Kluskens and the Neenah wrestling team for good sportsmanship. As a coach of Neenah, he demonstrates great leadership in coaching. He is very positive with his kids and is always coaching his kids and not the officials. I am very impressed with his kids and the respect they show when they are competing. They wrestle hard and are always respectful to their opponent and the official. Great job Kyle for showing the proper way to handle yourself and instilling a great attitude into your team!

*Reporting Official: Mike Schumacher*

### **West Allis Central Invitational Dec. 15, 2018**

The coaches and wrestlers at Coleman HS were an absolute pleasure to work with all weekend. Their kids wrestled hard and were gracious in victory and defeat. It was very refreshing to watch.

*Reporting Official: Billy Kraus*

## **Baseball Points of Emphasis from page 8**

ball will be available for use during the 2019 high school baseball season. The transition will be easier when all the baseballs have both the NFHS Authenticating Mark and NOCSAE seal effective January 1, 2020, but in the interim, balls that have the NFHS Authenticating Mark are permissible for use this season.

It is critical that coaches understand their responsibility regarding being knowledgeable about the equipment that their players possess and use for game competition. The NOCSAE standard for body/chest protectors is an important piece of equipment that is designed to protect the heart and cardiac cavity and reduce the risk of commotio cordis. All high school catchers will have to have new body/chest protectors beginning January 1, 2020. When a coach is asked to verify that his players are properly equipped in accordance with NFHS rules, he/she shall also verify that the participants are using only legal equipment, including bats that are unaltered from the manufacturer's original design, production and meet the provisions of Rule 1-3-2 and helmets that meet the provisions of Rule 1-5-1 and are free of cracks and damage.

### **BASERUNNERS' RESPONSIBILITIES**

The baserunner is arguably one of the most important roles in baseball. Without him/her there can be no scoring. However, the baserunner has tremendous responsibilities. Beside Definitions, Baserunning is the second largest rule in the NFHS Rule book. The Baseball Rules Committee wants to emphasize that the advancing baserunner has to touch the bases in the correct order (including awarded bases), he/she should not miss any base or leave a base too early, but if that occurs, he/she must return to touch the base immediately. In addition, the committee wants to point out that if the baserunner runs more than three feet away from a direct line between bases to avoid a tag or to hinder the defensive player he/she will be declared out. They must slide in a direct line between the bases. When he/she elects to slide (by rule he/she does not have to slide) it must be legal. The baserunner cannot cause illegal contact and/or illegally alter the actions of the defensive player in the immediate act of making a play or on a force play. Jumping, hurdling and leaping are all legal attempts to avoid the fielder as long as the fielder is lying on the ground. Diving over a fielder is illegal. Attention to the intricacies of base running will enhance better rule knowledge and compliance, elevate fair play and promote risk minimization. ●



## Gymnasium Seating from page 5

Heritage Christian	250	Melrose-Mindoro	1400	Pecatonica	800	Spring Valley	1460
Highland	800	Menasha	2300	Pembine	785	Stanley-Boyd	1160
Hilbert	1100	Menominee Indian	700	Pepin	1000	Stevens Point	2500
Hillsboro	1000	Menomonee Falls	1460	Peshigo	1200	Stockbridge	500
Holmen	1200	Menomonie	2200	Pewaukee	1500	Stoughton	1500
Homestead	3000	Mercer	800	Phelps	800	Stratford	1000
Hope Christian	400	Merrill	1500	Phillips	1200	Sturgeon Bay	1000
Horicon	1000	Messmer	1500	Pittsville	1300	Sun Prairie	2100
Hortonville	1400	Middleton	2160	Pius XI Catholic	1600	Superior	2400
Howards Grove	900	Milton	1000	Platteville	1100	Suring	1000
Hudson	2500	Milwaukee Acad of Science	475	Plum City	900	Tenor	350
Hurley	1000	Milwaukee Arts	None	Plymouth	1800	The Prairie School	1400
Hustisford	1200	Milwaukee Bay View	1200	Port Edwards	800	Thorp	980
Independence	1000	Milwaukee Bradley Tech	1700	Port Washington	1000	Three Lakes	1100
Iola-Scandinavia	1000	Milwaukee Collegiate Acad	500	Portage	1854	Tigerton	500
Iowa-Grant	950	Milwaukee Hamilton	1100	Potosi	800	Tomah	1550
Ithaca	892	Milwaukee Juneau Complex	400	Poynette	1350	Tomahawk	1200
Janesville Craig	2100	Milwaukee King	900	Prairie du Chien	1200	Tri-County	726
Janesville Parker	2200	Milwaukee Lifelong Learning	125	Prairie Farm	1000	Turner	1000
Jefferson	1200	Milwaukee Lutheran	2000	Prentice	1200	Turtle Lake	1000
Johnson Creek	708	Milwaukee Madison Academy	1000	Prescott	1150	Two Rivers	2200
Juda	600	Milwaukee North	2500	Princeton	550	Union Grove	1400
Kaukauna	2200	Milwaukee Pulaski	500	Pulaski	2200	Unity	1250
Kenosha Bradford	2000	Milwaukee Riverside Univ.	1000	Racine Case	2000	University Lake School	400
Kenosha Christian Life	1000	Milwaukee Marshall	1000	Racine Horlick	2400	University School of Milw	425
Kenosha Indian Trail	2000	Milwaukee Ronald Reagan	175	Racine Lutheran	800	Valders	1400
Kenosha St. Joseph	1000	Milwaukee School Lang.	150	Racine Park	3000	Valley Christian	400
Kenosha Reuther	300	Milwaukee South	3200	Racine St. Catherine's	1500	Verona Area	1800
Kenosha Tremper	1265	Milwaukee Vincent	2400	Randolph	1250	Viroqua	1200
Kettle Moraine	1600	Milwaukee Washington	650	Random Lake	950	Wabeno	1000
Kettle Moraine Lutheran	1000	Mineral Point	1400	Reedsburg Area	1850	Washburn	800
Kewaskum	1500	Mishicot	1250	Reedsville	1200	Waterford	1150
Kewaunee	1200	Mondovi	1400	Regis	1280	Waterloo	650
Kickapoo	1070	Monona Grove	1500	Rhineland	1500	Watertown	2700
Kiel	1114	Monroe	1600	Rib Lake	600	Watertown Luther Prep	700
Kimberly	2200	Montello	800	Rice Lake	1100	Waukesha North	2000
Kohler	1179	Monticello	850	Richland Center	1500	Waukesha South	2000
La Crosse Central	1400	Mosinee	920	Rio	1100	Waukesha West	2200
La Crosse Logan	1800	Mount Horeb	1075	Ripon	1600	Wauwaukee	1800
La Farge	800	Mukwonago	2000	River Falls	1700	Waupaca	2000
Lac Courte Oreilles	300	Muskego	1500	River Ridge	750	Waupun	1400
Laconia	1200	Necedah	1600	River Valley	1500	Wausau East	2470
Ladysmith	1200	Neenah	3600	Riverdale	1200	Wausau West	2500
Lake Country Lutheran	1400	Neillsville	2200	Roncalli	1100	Wausaukee	1400
Lake Holcombe	475	Nekoosa	800	Rosholt	700	Wautoma	1500
Lake Mills	1100	New Auburn	1000	Royall	900	Wauwatosa East	1300
Lakeland	2000	New Berlin Eisenhower	2000	Saint Anthony	300	Wauwatosa West	1300
Lakeside Lutheran	1200	New Berlin West	2800	Saint Croix Central	1000	Wauzeka-Steuben	850
Lancaster	1300	New Glarus	1000	Saint Croix Falls	1462	Wayland Academy	500
Laona	700	New Holstein	1800	Saint Francis	700	Webster	1200
Lena	1200	New Lisbon	750	Saint Joan Antida	150	West Allis Central	3800
Lincoln	600	New London	1600	St. John's NW Mili Acad	700	West Allis Nathan Hale	1200
Lincoln Hills	300	New Richmond	2397	Saint Lawrence Seminary	400	West Bend	2400
Little Chute	1500	Newman Catholic	900	Saint Mary Catholic	950	West De Pere	2450
Living Word Lutheran	360	Niagara	1000	Saint Mary's Springs	1100	West Salem	1500
Lodi	1500	Nicolet	1600	Saint Thomas Aquinas Acad	900	Westby	1600
Lomira	1245	North Crawford	920	Saint Thomas More	1250	Westfield Area	1500
Lourdes Academy	1000	North Fond du Lac	1140	Salam	75	Weston	1000
Loyal	1000	Northland Lutheran	400	Sauk Prairie	1732	Westosha Central	2000
Luck	860	Northland Pines	2100	Seneca	800	Weyauwega-Fremont	1006
Luther	1200	Northwestern	1000	Sevastopol	700	Weyerhaeuser	700
Luxemburg-Casco	900	Northwood	850	Seymour	2120	White Lake	500
Madison Country Day	450	Notre Dame	1400	Shawano Community	1500	Whitefish Bay	2200
Madison East	1300	Oak Creek	2200	Sheboygan Area Lutheran	1200	Whitewater	1200
Madison La Follette	1500	Oakfield	875	Sheboygan County Christian	700	Whitehall	1500
Madison Memorial	1300	Obama SCTE	800	Sheboygan Falls	1500	Whitewater	1200
Madison West	2100	Oconomowoc	2365	Sheboygan North	3000	Whitnall	1200
Manawa	750	Oconto	1000	Sheboygan South	3000	Wild Rose	920
Manitowoc Lincoln	3500	Oconto Falls	1870	Shell Lake	1000	Williams Bay	1000
Manitowoc Lutheran	750	Omro	1252	Shiocton	950	Wilmot Union	2550
Marathon	1200	Onalaska	2200	Shoreland Lutheran	700	Winnebago Lutheran	1300
Marinette	1200	Oneida Nation	1800	Shorewood	1600	Winneconne	1150
Marion	750	Oostburg	1200	Shullsburg	1100	Winter	600
Markesan	1400	Oregon	2200	Siren	800	Wisconsin Dells	1800
Marquette University	1750	Osceola	2200	Slinger	1050	Wisconsin Heights	1000
Marshall	1000	Oshkosh North	2500	Solon Springs	700	Wisconsin Lutheran	955
Marshfield	3500	Oshkosh West	1850	Somerset	2100	Wisconsin Rapids Lincoln	3000
Martin Luther	800	Osseo-Fairchild	1850	South Milwaukee	1700	Wisconsin School of Deaf	400
Mauston	1610	Owen-Withee	820	South Shore	650	Wisconsin Valley Luth	250
Mayville	900	Ozaukee	1000	Southern Door	1400	Wittenberg-Biramwood	1000
McDonnell Central Catholic	1200	Pacelli	1450	Southwestern	900	Wonewoc-Center	1000
McFarland	1500	Palmyra-Eagle	850	Sparta	1300	Wrightstown	1600
Medford	1100	Pardeeville	1152	Spencer	850	Xavier	1050
Mellen	500	Parkview	1400	Spooner	1650	Young Coggs Prep	450

## Tournaments Offer Best of Winter Tradition & Excitement

The transition from January to February shifts our focus to the start of the membership's winter tournaments, which is a staple of local culture in communities throughout Wisconsin.

For the many of us sports enthusiasts throughout the state, tournament time equates prime time.

The tournament concept dates back to the beginning of the Association in the late 1800s and early 1900s. Nowhere in the WIAA's Constitution does it mention its role in conducting tournaments. However, their existence has served the membership since its inception for the primary purpose of determining a high school champion among members adhering to a uniform set of rules.

Determining a champion has been part of athletic culture since the dawning of sport competition. Humankind's insatiable interest in determining an indisputable winner or champion embraces the principles and objectives of the tournament experience. The compelling drama resulting in elation or heartbreak determined by the outcome in an elimination tournament format—which advances the victor toward its ultimate goal or crushes the hopes and aspirations of the fallen—captivates the sports world like no other.

In a single elimination tournament model, there is no room for taking any opponent for granted. Any doubt, ask a coach with a talented team with aspirations of advancing to State tournament. The history of the WIAA tournaments are marked with upsets along the path to local folklore. The lone fact there are upsets implies the team that wins a game or the gold trophy isn't always referred to as the "best;" it can only be defined as the best at that single point in time.

Here is an important distinction to make clear. Tournaments are objective in identifying a champion, and not necessarily subjectively defining the best. A State tournament champion is often considered the "best" based on actual performance and results. The distinction is relevant because the membership's tournament philosophy and procedures are continually scrutinized—most often by non-members—in an effort to somehow improve the quality of an already engaging tournament experience.

Geographical representation remains an integral component of the WIAA tournament series concept. Programs and communities from all corners of the state

are afforded the opportunity to experience the State tournaments as representatives from their respective areas. As accepted as this concept may appear, it shouldn't come as any surprise that as long as there has been a tournament, there has been posturing to "enhance" the manner in which teams advance to the State tournament.

These discussions predominantly focus on the idea that the subjectively pre-determined "best" teams should be the ones showcased in the State tournament, which in a perfect world doesn't create a rift. But, there are no guarantees in a single-elimination tournament that the best teams will always advance to the State tournament or win the State championship. We can pick any sponsored sport and identify what areas of the state lay claim to the perception of having a greater number of quality programs.

The advent of seeding at the entry level has provided some advantages for those teams considered the best in a regional bracket. However, seeding doesn't resolve the concerns of those that believe deserving programs are unable to advance out of their regional or sectional because of the strength of teams in those groupings.

Most recently, the membership has opted to reseed teams once they have advanced to the State level in an attempt to enhance the tournaments' match-ups and appeal in determining a champion.

Maybe what makes the whole tournament experience in sports so engaging is not only the drama itself, but also its perceived flaws and imperfections that encourage the endless discussion and pursuit of perfection in determining a champion. Each level of competition—professional or amateur—and every means of determining a champion is perpetually scrutinized. More teams? Who hosts? How many divisions? Reseeding?

The tournament series, with all of its educational and entertainment value, does as intended. It determines a champion while giving programs and communities throughout the entire state the same opportunity to experience the State tournament with a shot at the gold trophy or medal.

Now, let's enjoy what promises to be another exciting tournament season! ●

## Keep These Dates in Mind

February 15-16	Boys State Swimming & Diving Meet (Madison)
February 16	Wrestling Individual Sectionals
February 19, 22 & 23	Boys & Girls Hockey Sectionals Girls Basketball Regionals
February 21-22-23	State Wrestling Individual Tournament (Madison) Gymnastics Sectionals
February 26	Deadline to Announce Board/Council Candidacy
February 26, March 1 & 2	Boys Basketball Regionals
February 28, March 1 & 2	Boys State Hockey
February 28 & March 2	Girls Basketball Sectionals
March 1	Board of Control Meeting
March 1-2	Girls State Hockey State Gymnastics State Team Wrestling
March 4	Earliest Day for Track & Field Practice
March 5	Board/Council Primary Ballot Mailed
March 7-8-9	Girls State Basketball (Green Bay)
March 7 & 9	Boys Basketball Sectionals
March 8	Scholar Athlete Nomination Due Date
March 11	Earliest Day for Softball Practice
March 12	Coaches Advisory Committee Meeting – Gymnastics Earliest Day for First Track & Field Meet
March 13	Coaches Advisory Committee Meeting – Wrestling (Stevens Point)
March 14-15-16	Boys State Basketball (Madison)
March 18	Earliest Day for Girls Soccer Practice Earliest Day for Baseball (Spring) Practice
March 19	Earliest Day for Softball Game
March 25	Earliest Day for Boys Golf Practice Earliest Day for Boys Tennis Practice
March 26	Primary Ballot Return Deadline Earliest Day for First Baseball Game Earliest Day for First Soccer Meet
March 28	Earliest Day for First Boys Golf Meet
March 29	Board/Council General Election Ballot Mailed Earliest Day for First Boys Tennis Meet

April 2	Coaches Advisory Committee Meeting – Hockey (Stevens Point)
April 3	Coaches Advisory Committee Meeting – Basketball (Stevens Point)
April 5	Sportsmanship Committee Meeting
April 11	Board/Council Election Ballot Return Deadline
April 16	Board of Control Meeting (Stevens Point)
April 17	WIAA Annual Meeting (Stevens Point)
April 19	Good Friday
April 21	Easter
May 3	Medical Advisory Meeting (Stevens Point)
May 5	Scholar/Athlete Awards Program (Wausau)
May 17	Board of Control Meeting (Stevens Point)
May 20	Track & Field Regionals
May 20-21	Boys Tennis Subsectionals
May 21-22	Boys Golf Regionals
May 21 & 23	Softball Regionals
May 22-23	Boys Tennis Sectionals
May 23	Track & Field Sectionals
May 23, 28, 29 & 30	Spring Baseball Regionals
May 27	Memorial Day
May 28-29	Boys Golf Sectionals
May 28 & 30	Softball Sectionals
May 30 & June 1	Girls Soccer Regionals
May 30-31 & June 1	State Boys Individual Tennis Tournament (Madison)
May 31 & June 1	State Track & Field Meet (La Crosse)
June 3-4	State Boys Golf (Madison)
June 4	Spring Baseball Sectionals
June 6 & 8	Girls Soccer Sectionals
June 6-7-8	State Softball (Madison)
June 7-8	State Boys Team Tennis (Madison)
June 10	Sports Advisory Committee Meeting
June 11-12-13	State Spring Baseball (Appleton)
June 13-14-15	State Girls Soccer (Milwaukee)
June 19-20	Advisory Council Meeting
June 20	Board of Control Meeting



## 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 2018-19 dates for ACT.

### ACT – 2018-19

Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Fee Required
April 13, 2019	March 8, 2019	March 22, 2019
June 8, 2019	May 3, 2019	May 17, 2019
July 13, 2019	June 14, 2019	June 21, 2019

### ACT – 2019-20

Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Fee Required
September 7, 2019	August 9, 2019	August 25, 2019
October 26, 2019	September 27, 2019	October 13, 2019
December 7, 2019	November 1, 2019	November 18, 2019
February 8, 2020	January 10, 2020	January 17, 2020
April 18, 2020	March 13, 2020	March 30, 2020
June 13, 2020	May 8, 2020	May 25, 2020
July 18, 2020	June 19, 2020	June 29, 2020

## Did you know?

This winter approximately 36,900 student-athletes are participating in WIAA sports on 1,600 teams from around the state. ●