

Baseball (Boys)

TOURNAMENT PROCEDURE

1. ASSIGNMENT OF SCHOOLS WILL BE ON A GEOGRAPHICAL BASIS IN FOUR DIVISIONS (1-2-3-4).

The largest 112 schools sponsoring baseball are in Division 1, with the remaining schools divided equally between Divisions 2, 3 and 4.

Note: If there is an uneven number of schools for Division 2, 3, and 4: with one extra school, Division 4 will include one more school or with two extra schools, Divisions 3 and 4 will include one more than Division 2.

- a. Schools may be allowed to play up one division in any sport from where its enrollment would otherwise place it if an application is submitted prior to July 1. This will not cause other schools to be displaced.

Note: Please refer to tournament performance factor and procedures outlined in the Constitution. Article III, 3B and Appendix N.

2. THE TOURNAMENT PLAN – LEVELS OF COMPETITION, DATES, PAIRINGS AND SITES – IS AS FOLLOWS:

Note: In the event scheduled classes are interrupted or terminated due to infectious/communicable disease, refer to WIAA Bylaws, Article II, Section 6-A. (p. 28) of WIAA Senior High Handbook.

- a. Schools are assigned to:

Division 1 – One of 8 sectionals with regional competition on Tuesday and Thursday, June 2 and 4.

Division 2-3-4 – One of 4 sectionals (8 regionals) with regional competition on Thursday, May 28; Tuesday, June 2 and Wednesday, June 3.

- b. Each grouping will be seeded by the coaches in that group.

- (1) The higher seed of each pairing will host each tournament game until the sectional level. The most important consideration is getting the game played when scheduled. If the field is not playable, the game should be moved to an alternate site provided by the highest seeded team or moved to the opponent's field.

Note 1: In the event of a conflict in which one school has graduation scheduled on the date of a regional game and mutual agreement cannot be reached on a rescheduled time or date, the start time will be 1 p.m. on the published date of the regional game.

Note 2: If the date of the regional game is changed due to graduation and the contracted umpires are not available due to the change, they must be paid their game fee according to the contract. It is the responsibility of the schools to find new officials and pay the additional fees. WIAA will reimburse for the two officials working the game, and the schools must absorb the cost of the contracted officials.

- (2) All sectional games will be played at sites predetermined by the WIAA.

- (3) There is no repairing of schools for sectional play.

- c. Sectionals

- (1) Winners of regionals participate in one of eight Division 1 or one of four each Divisions 2, 3 or 4 sectionals on Tuesday, June 9.

- d. State

- (1) The State Tournament involving eight Division 1 sectional champions and four each Divisions 2, 3 and 4 sectional champions will be played on Monday-Tuesday-Wednesday-Thursday, June 15-16-17-18 in Appleton (Fox Cities Stadium).

- (2) The schedule of games is:

Division 1 – Quarterfinals Monday morning and afternoon; semifinals Wednesday evening and finals Thursday evening.

Division 2 – Semifinals Wednesday morning and finals Thursday late afternoon.

Division 3 – Semifinals Tuesday afternoon and finals Thursday afternoon.

Division 4 – Semifinals Tuesday morning and finals Thursday morning.

- (3) The head coaches of qualifying teams in each division will determine the seeds using the Seed Meeting guidelines outlined in the Tournament Procedures. WIAA staff will conduct these meetings.

3. RULES GOVERNING COMPETITION

All specifications of Numbers 8 and 15 under SEASON REGULATIONS (pages 4-5) will apply with these exceptions and additions:

Athletes who are ineligible during the WIAA Tournament (for any reason) may not appear in uniform, participate in warm-ups, and may not participate in the awards ceremony at the WIAA Tournament. Exception: An injured athlete will be allowed to participate in the awards ceremony provided he/she is included in the roster allotment for that game.

ADDITIONS

Note: The Ten Run Rule (NF 4-2-2) shall be used in all WIAA regular season and tournament series competition.

- a. A school may not compete in the tournament program if it has played more than 26 games or in less than four games during the regular season.
- b. The highest seeded team shall be the home team for all regional tournament games.
- c. The maximum number of participants for each tournament game is 18. There is no limitation on the number of players in uniform for each tournament game.

Failure to comply with this regulation will result in forfeiture of the contest. Alleged violations must be called to the attention of the Association office no later than the following day (not including Saturdays, Sundays, or holidays).

- d. Host schools are NOT permitted to allow participating schools to practice on their facilities prior to their tournament.
- e. WIAA Tournament UAV Policy

The Board of Control has approved a policy for Unmanned Aerial Vehicles or drones at outdoor WIAA State Tournament Series events. UAVs are prohibited at all WIAA indoor tournaments. Drone operation requires a Remote Pilot Command license. Operators must also receive written consent from the WIAA executive office at least 24 hours in advance, as well as approval of the host facility event management. The complete policy for UAVs is located on page 50 of the Senior High Handbook. Contact the WIAA office with all requests to operate drones at WIAA Tournament events.

- f. For information about non-school participation, refer to Rules of Eligibility, Article VI, Section 1 of the Senior High Handbook and consult with Athletic Administration.

SEEDING PROCEDURES

- a. The Seeding Meeting
 - (1) The entire sectional will be seeded together in Division 1. Divisions 2-3-4 will be seeded in half-sectional groups. Seeding meeting hosts should contact all schools in their grouping to determine whether to hold an in-person or virtual meeting. A hybrid option may be allowed. Coaches with travel more than 80 miles one-way may participate in the seeding meeting using a video conferencing tool as determined by the host school. Note: Fax and email only is not allowed.
 - (2) Seeding Meetings must be held between May 18-21 for Divisions 2-3-4. Division 1 seeding meetings will be May 24-27.
 - (3) Each coach must share scores of their team's games to every other school in their regional grouping two days prior to the Seeding Meeting using the online season summary form.
 - (4) The Seeding Meeting host must report the seeding results/pairings using the online form as soon as possible upon the completion of your meeting.
- b. At the Seeding Meeting
 - (1) Coaches are required to participate in seeding meetings.
 - (2) Each school will designate one person to speak on behalf of their school.
 - (3) If a school is not represented at the seeding meeting, their school may still be seeded, if appropriate. If the school is not deserving of a seed, they may be ranked/positioned last.
 - (4) Each coach will update his/her Season Summary to include any games played to date.
 - (5) Prior to the start of the meeting, have the coaches draw to determine the order of presentations. Each coach should be allowed three minutes to discuss their season.
 - (6) Coaches should consider these factors when determining their seeds:
 - (a) Coaches comments.
 - (b) Head-to-head competition against teams in their regional grouping.
 - (c) Comparative scores against like opponents.
 - (d) Conference standings.
 - (e) Relative strength of schedule.
 - (f) Overall win-loss record.
 - (g) Other special factors (e.g., injury of a key player, etc.).
 - (7) Once everyone has had the opportunity to speak, coaches should complete their Ranking Sheet. Coaches are not allowed to rank their own team.
 - (8) After all Ranking Sheets are turned in, the individual conducting the Seeding Meeting will record the ballots of each school alphabetically in a visible manner (e.g., chalkboard, chart, overhead, etc.).
 - (9) The rankings shall be tallied and the team with the lowest number will be the #1 seed, the team with the second lowest number shall be the #2 seed, etc., until all seeds are determined.
- c. Breaking Ties

If a tie results during seeding, move to the tie-breaking procedure below:

 - (1) The coaches involved in the tie shall have one minute to state his/her claims to the higher seeded position.
 - (2) All coaches not involved in the tie will have one vote to determine which team gets the higher seeded position. The Seeding Meeting host will ask coaches to vote for the team that should receive the higher seeded position. No coach is allowed to abstain from voting.
 - (3) After all ballots are turned in the Seeding Meeting host will record the ballots in a visible manner.
 - (4) The team with the most votes receives the higher seeded position.
 - (5) If the vote results in a tie, repeat this procedure.
 - (6) If after two attempts, the tied vote remains, a coin flip will determine the higher seeded team.
- d. Appeal Procedure

If a team feels it should have received a higher seeded position, once the votes have been tabulated, it may appeal its position relative to that of any other team. The following procedures shall be used:

 - (1) Appeals may NOT be made for a lower seed. Always start from the bottom and work toward the top seed when working through the appeal process.
 - (2) The coach making the appeal shall have one minute to state his/her claims to the higher seeded position. The coach of the team being challenged will then have one minute to state his/her claim to that position.
 - (3) All coaches NOT involved in the appeal will have one vote to determine which team gets the higher seeded position. No coach is allowed to abstain from voting.
 - (4) A request/appeal for a higher seed and a subsequent concede must go to a vote (it is not an automatic change).
 - (5) After all ballots are turned in, the individual conducting the Seeding Meeting will record the ballots of each school alphabetically in a visible manner.
 - (6) The team with the most votes receives the higher seeded position.
 - (7) A team may make any number of appeals, but an appeal between the same teams cannot be repeated. Teams may only appeal one seed higher at a time.

Example: School is seeded 6 and feels they should be the 4 seed. First, they must appeal for the 5 seed. If successful in obtaining the 5 seed, they could then appeal for the 4 seed.
 - (8) If when voting on an appeal a tie vote occurs, the original placement shall stand.
 - (9) If this is an attempt to break a tie from the original placement of teams, continue to hash it out until the vote determines the placement of teams. Use a coin flip only when it appears there is no way to break the tie.

(10) A team cannot appeal a tie-breaking vote.

(11) All disagreements regarding seeding must be settled at this meeting. Once the meeting is over, the seeds are final. The WIAA will not change the results of your seeding meeting or hear appeals.

- e. If a disqualifying violation is confirmed after brackets have been seeded, the opponent of the disqualified team shall advance regardless of their bracket position and no other adjustments shall be made within the bracket.

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- a. After the seeds are determined, the schools should be placed on the Bracket Form on the predesignated line.
- b. For all regional tournament games, the highest seeded team shall be the home team. Note: in all sectional semifinal games as well as Division 1 sectional finals, the higher seeded team will be the home team. A coin flip will determine the home team for Divisions 2, 3 and 4 sectional final games.

(1) At the State tournament, the higher seed in all divisions will be the home team throughout.

- c. If the host school's facility is unplayable on game day, the game should be moved to an alternate site provided by the highest seeded team or moved to the opponent's field.

4. REGIONAL TOURNAMENT

- a. Scheduling of Competition

The host school determines the schedule within the dates specified under Section 2.

Note 1: In the event of a conflict in which one school has graduation scheduled on the date of a regional game and mutual agreement cannot be reached on a rescheduled time or date, the start time will be 1 p.m. on the published date of the regional game.

Note 2: If the date of the regional game is changed due to graduation and the contracted umpires are not available due to the change, they must be paid their game fee according to the contract. It is the responsibility of the schools to find new officials and pay the additional fees. WIAA will reimburse for the two officials working the game, and the schools must absorb the cost of the contracted officials.

- b. Officials

(1) The WIAA will contract two officials licensed with the WIAA as umpires. Names will be provided to the host school. The host school shall issue contracts and checks to officials for game fee and expenses as provided below.

(a) Opt outs of forfeits after WIAA has contracted officials may require school to pay for official fees.

(2) Officials will be paid:

(a) Officiating Fee - **\$90** per game.

(b) Expenses - 55¢ per mile (round trip) for travel.

(c) Officials shall travel together when geographically feasible with mileage paid to one official. If officials choose to travel separately, the mileage for the longest trip may be split between the officials.

- c. Awards

(1) Plaque to championship teams (Divisions 2, 3 and 4 only). Sent to winner following contest.

- d. Finances

(1) Host School Allowances

(a) A financial report provided by the WIAA must be filed by each school conducting an event.

(b) The following items are authorized for payment out of tournament receipts.

1) Fees and expenses of officials.

2) Host School - **\$85** per game and manager fee - **\$75** per game.

(c) If a balance remains after payments are made as listed above, the WIAA and the host school will share equally (**50-50**) in this amount.

(d) If tournament receipts do not cover items listed in (b) above, the WIAA will subsidize the difference.

(2) Allowance to Participating Schools

None.

(3) Ticket Prices – Child/Student/Adult – \$6

(a) Host schools may sell, if their facilities permit, single admission tickets for \$1 for children under 6 years of age.

(4) Admission Policies

Free admissions shall be provided only for:

(a) 18 uniformed players on the roster.

(b) Five additional individuals (coaches, managers, etc.)

(c) A maximum of eight individuals designated by the participating schools. It is expected that staff members from that pool will be available for any assistance associated with contest management. Whether a program is a stand-alone or part of a multi-school co-op, a maximum of 8 individuals will be provided free admission. The same allotment may be applied to host schools which are not playing in the tournament.

5. SECTIONAL TOURNAMENT

- a. Scheduling of Competition

The host school determines the schedule within the dates specified under Section 2.

- b. Officials

(1) The WIAA will contract three L5 or Master officials as umpires. Names will be provided to the host school. The host school shall issue contracts and checks to officials for game fees and expenses as provided below.

(2) Officials will be paid:

(a) Officiating Fee - **\$100** per game.

(b) Expenses - 55¢ per mile (round trip) for travel.

- (c) Officials shall travel together when geographically feasible with mileage paid to one official. If officials choose to travel separately, the mileage for the longest trip may be split between the officials.
- c. Awards
 - (1) Plaque to championship teams.
 - (2) Plaque to runner-up teams (Division 1 only).
 - (3) Medals to members (18) of championship and runner-up teams.
- d. Finances
 - (1) Host School Allowances
 - (a) A financial report provided by the WIAA must be filed by each school conducting an event.
 - (b) The following items are authorized for payment out of tournament receipts.
 - 1) Fees and expenses of officials.
 - 2) Host School - **\$96** per game and manager fee - **\$85** per game.
 - (c) If a balance remains after payments are made as listed above, the WIAA and the host school will share equally (**50-50**) in this amount.
 - (d) If tournament receipts do not cover items listed in (b) above, the WIAA will subsidize the difference.
 - (2) Allowance to Participating Schools
None.
 - (3) Ticket Prices – Child/Student/Adult – \$7
 - (a) Host schools may sell, if their facilities permit, single admission tickets for \$1 for children under 6 years of age.
 - (4) Admission Policies
Free admissions shall be provided only for:
 - (a) 18 uniformed players on the roster.
 - (b) Five additional individuals (coaches, managers, etc.).
 - (c) A maximum of eight individuals designated by the participating schools. It is expected that staff members from that pool will be available for any assistance associated with contest management. Whether a program is a stand-alone or part of a multi-school co-op, a maximum of 8 individuals will be provided free admission. The same allotment may be applied to host schools which are not playing in the tournament.

6. STATE TOURNAMENT

- a. Scheduling of Competition – The higher seed team will be the home team on the scoreboard and for batting order.
 - Monday, June 15
 - Division 1 Quarterfinals – 9 a.m.
 - Game 1 – #4 Seed vs. #5 Seed
 - Game 2 – #1 Seed vs. #8 Seed
 - Division 1 Quarterfinals – 2:30 p.m.
 - Game 3 – #3 Seed vs. #6 Seed
 - Game 4 – #2 Seed vs. #7 Seed
 - Tuesday, June 16
 - Division 4 Semifinals – 9 a.m.
 - Game 1 – #2 Seed vs. #3 Seed
 - Game 2 – #1 Seed vs. #4 Seed
 - Division 3 Semifinals – 2:30 p.m.
 - Game 1 – #2 Seed vs. #3 Seed
 - Game 2 – #1 Seed vs. #4 Seed
 - Wednesday, June 17
 - Division 2 Semifinals – 9 a.m.
 - Game 1 – #2 Seed vs. #3 Seed
 - Game 2 – #1 Seed vs. #4 Seed
 - Division 1 Semifinals – 2:30 p.m.
 - Game 5 – Winner of Game 1 vs. Winner of Game 2
 - Game 6 – Winner of Game 3 vs. Winner of Game 4
 - Thursday, June 18
 - Division 4 Finals – 9 a.m.
 - Division 3 Finals – Noon
 - Division 2 Finals – 3 p.m.
 - Division 1 Finals – 6 p.m.
- b. Seeding Procedures
 - (1) The Seeding Meeting
 - (a) Coaches of the state qualifying teams will meet on Wednesday following sectionals at 6 p.m. If teams are still competing that Wednesday, then the meeting will be at 8 a.m. on Thursday.
 - (b) In Division 1, all eight qualifying teams will be placed in rank order in bracket format.

- (c) All Division 2, 3 and 4 coaches will meet together to seed the four teams in each division.
 - (d) Each coach will update his/her team Season Summary to include all team competition and provide to all other State teams (Division 1 group or Divisions 2, 3 and 4 groups) by noon on Wednesday after sectionals.
- (2) At the Seeding Meeting
Seeding procedures listed on page 7 under b., c., and d. will be followed.
- c. Officials
 - (1) The WIAA will select 12 umpires for the State Tournament. Four person crews will officiate each game of the State Finals series.
 - (2) Officials will be paid:
 - (a) Officiating Fee - **\$110** per game.
 - (b) Expenses - \$25 per day and 55¢ per mile (round trip) for travel.
 - (c) Officials shall travel together with mileage paid to one official. If officials choose to travel separately, the mileage for the longest trip may be split between the officials.
- d. 2026 - Official State Tournament Ball: Diamond D1-PRO.
- e. Awards
 - (1) Trophy to championship and runner-up teams.
 - (2) Medals to members (18) of championship and runner-up teams.
- f. Finances
 - (1) Participating Schools Allowance
Schools will receive an allowance for lodging that is necessary for when they are competing only. Once a school is eliminated from the tournament, the expenses incurred will become the responsibility of the school. The following factors will be used to determine the amount each school receives:
 - (a) Travel to and from State Tournament city (each day if necessary) at the rate of **\$2** per mile.
Note: No allowance will be paid to schools located in State Tournament city.
 - (b) Meals at the daily rate of **\$10** for breakfast, **\$10** for lunch, and **\$12** for dinner for each player in uniform plus two other persons.
Note: The amount of meal allowance received is contingent upon departure time to State Tournament site and arrival time from State Tournament site, but the minimum meal allowance will be **\$10** on each day.
 - (c) Lodging at the rate of **\$35** per night for each player in uniform plus two other persons. Schools less than 50 miles from Appleton will not be reimbursed for lodging.
 - (2) Ticket Prices Child/Student/Adult – Children two and under do not require a ticket.

Single Session.....	\$11*
All Day Pass (in and out privileges).....	\$20*

*Online ticket sales subject to processing and handling fees.
 - (3) Admission Policies
Free admissions will be provided only for:
 - (a) 18 uniformed players on the roster.
 - (b) Five additional individuals (coaches, managers, etc.).
 - (c) A maximum of eight individuals designated by the participating schools. It is expected that staff members from that pool will be available for any assistance associated with contest management. Whether a program is a stand-alone or part of a multi-school co-op, a maximum of 8 individuals will be provided free admission. The same allotment may be applied to host schools which are not playing in the tournament.

6. RADIO AND TELEVISION (See Radio and Television Section in HANDBOOK)