

Lacrosse (Boys and Girls)

TOURNAMENT PROCEDURE

1. ASSIGNMENT OF SCHOOLS WILL BE ON A GEOGRAPHICAL BASIS IN ONE DIVISION

- a. Cooperative teams are placed into divisional competition on the basis of the combined enrollment of the schools involved.

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. 25) of WIAA SENIOR HIGH HANDBOOK.

- a. Schools are assigned to one of two sectionals.
 - (1) Each regional will be seeded by the coaches in that group.
- b. Regional semifinal games will be scheduled for Thursday, May 28 (girls) and Friday, May 29 (boys).
- c. Regional final games will be scheduled for Tuesday, June 2.
- d. Sectional semifinal games will be scheduled for Thursday, June 4.
- e. Sectional final games will be scheduled for Saturday, June 6.
- f. Each grouping will be seeded by the coaches in that grouping.
 - (1) The higher seeded team will host through the sectional final game, provided that school has a facility, or access to a facility on the approved site list.

Note: A school may prearrange to host at another facility, BUT that facility must still be listed on the approved site list.
 - (2) If the higher seeded team does not have access to a field on the approved site list, the opponent will be given the opportunity to host under the same criteria.
 - (3) If neither team is able to secure a field on the approved site list, the higher seeded team will host.

Note: Criteria for Approved Site List (must be updated annually) deadline September 15, 2025.

Site must be able to charge admission AND

Boys fields must meet (a) or (c) below.

Girls fields must meet (b) or (c) below.

 - (a) Boys: 53 ½ to 60 yds width, 110 length. Crease 9 ft radius.
 - (b) Girls: 110-140 length, 60-70 width - NFHS requirements. Crease = 8.5 ft radius.
 - (c) Unified: (Boys and Girls on same field) 120 length x 53 ½ to 60 yds width, 110 length. Crease 9 ft radius.
- g. Sectional final games will be hosted by the higher seed. If unable to host, a neutral site will be used.
- h. Final approval of all sites will rest with the WIAA.
- i. State Tournament

Note: Beginning in the 2025-26 season, a cooperative team is eligible for the WIAA team tournament series if it is approved by the Co-op committee. The criteria for approval will include an assessment of the number of schools in the co-op, the number of districts represented, the number of athletes, total school enrollment, years of existence, and competitiveness (state appearances).

- (1) Winners of the two sectionals participate in the State Tournament. The State Tournament Championship games will be played Saturday, June 13 at Bank of Sun Prairie Stadium at Ashley Field, Sun Prairie. The girls championship game will be played at 1 p.m. Boys championship game to follow immediately after the awards ceremony.
- (2) The four head coaches of qualifying teams seed the State brackets.
- (3) If a team is disqualified from the State Tournament and replaced by the last defeated opponent, teams will be reseeded using the specific sport state seeding criteria if the disqualification occurs 24 hours prior to the start of the first game of the State Tournament series (regardless of division).

Anytime after the 24 hour deadline, a replacing team will be placed in the bracket where the disqualified team was originally seeded.

3. RULES GOVERNING COMPETITION

All specifications of Numbers 8 and 15 under SEASON REGULATIONS (pages 1-3) 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.

EXCEPTIONS

- a. 15. b. and c. under National Federation Allowed Adaptations do not apply.

ADDITIONS

- a. A school may not compete in the tournament program if it has participated in more than 18 games.
- b. A school must participate in a minimum of four games in the regular season to be eligible for tournament competition.
- c. Host schools are not permitted to allow participating schools to practice on their facilities prior to the tournament.
- d. The maximum number of participants for each tournament game is 30. Each participating school will be allowed a maximum of 30 players in full uniform for each tournament game.

Note: Each team will be allowed a total of 7 personnel, in addition to their players in uniform, in their team box at the State Tournament.

Noncompliance with this regulation, once competition has begun, shall be regarded as flagrant, unsportsmanlike conduct on the part of the head coach resulting in his/her immediate ejection (leave premises) when brought to the attention of the game officials.

Note: If no other coach or faculty member of that school is present to supervise the team, the game shall be forfeited and the team disqualified from further participation in the tournament series.

- (1) A school may change its team make-up from one tournament game to the next.
- (2) Schools are expected to provide tournament managers a list of its participants for program purposes.

e. Jersey Colors

- (1) Higher seeded team will wear white uniforms and be designated as the home team throughout the WIAA tournament series.

Note 1: For the sectional final game, if equal seeds, the first school alpha will wear white uniforms and be designated as home team on the scoreboard.

Note 2: If sectional final host school is not the higher seed, the host school will wear white jerseys and be recognized as the home school on the scoreboard.

- f. Both teams shall be located on the same side of the field.
- g. If a tournament contest is suspended at any point it will be continued from the point of suspension on the next available date, unless both coaches agree to let the recorded score stand.
- h. 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.

- d. 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. Before the Seeding Meeting

- (1) Seeding meetings must be conducted prior to 10 p.m. Sunday, May 17.
- (2) All seeding meetings will be **virtual**.
- (3) Each coach shall provide their Season Summary to every other school in their regional grouping and to the individual conducting the Seeding Meeting by the date designated by the seeding meeting host. The WIAA Season Summary form must be used.

(4) Seeding Meeting host will be paid \$70 by the WIAA.

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 after form was submitted.
- (5) All groupings will meet together and seed as a complete group. The grouping will not be split into top eight in one room and remaining schools in a different room.
- (6) 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.
- (7) Coaches should consider these factors when determining their seeds (factors are not listed in any order of preference):
 - (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.).
- (8) Once everyone has had the opportunity to speak, coaches should complete their Ranking Sheet. Coaches are not allowed to rank their own team.
- (9) 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.).
- (10) 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) After all ballots are turned in, the individual conducting the Seeding Meeting will record the ballots of each school alphabetically in a visible manner.
- (5) The team with the most votes receives the higher seeded position.
- (6) 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.
- (7) If when voting on an appeal a tie vote occurs, the original placement shall stand.
- (8) 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.
- (9) A team cannot appeal a tie-breaking vote.
- (10) 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. During regional and sectional play, 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.

4. REGIONAL TOURNAMENT

a. Scheduling of Competition

- (1) Weekday contest times will be 4 p.m. or 7 p.m. Games may start earlier than 4 p.m. only with WIAA approval.
- (2) Weekend contest times will be 1 p.m., 4 p.m. or 7 p.m.

Note: The host school manager will determine the start time and are instructed to keep in mind travel for competing schools and daylight. Requests for alternative times will be handled by the WIAA on a case by case basis.

b. Officials

- (1) The WIAA will contract three officials for all regional games.
(a) Opt outs of forfeits after WIAA has contracted officials may require school to pay for official fees.
- (2) Officials should be paid according to the following schedule:
Referee - **\$90** Assistant Referees (2) - **\$90**
- (3) Officials will be paid 55¢ per mile (round trip) for travel.
- (4) 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) None.

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 - **\$255** per game, including manager fee - **\$90** 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
 - (a) There is no allowance of any kind for participating schools.
- (3) Ticket Prices - Child/Student/Adult - \$6
Host schools may sell, if their facilities permit, single admission tickets for \$1 for children under 6 years of age.
- (4) Admission Policies
 - (a) Free admissions will be provided for (34) total:
 - 30 members of the team.
 - Two support staff (managers, trainers, etc.).
 - Head coach and one assistant.
 - (b) 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 eight 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
 - (1) Weekday contest times will be 4 p.m. or 7 p.m. Games may start earlier than 4 p.m. only with WIAA approval.
 - (2) Weekend contest times will be 1 p.m., 4 p.m. or 7 p.m.

Note: The host school manager will determine the start time and are instructed to keep in mind travel for competing schools and daylight. Requests for alternative times will be handled by the WIAA on a case by case basis.
- b. Officials
 - (1) The WIAA will contract three officials for all sectional games.
 - (2) Officials should be paid according to the following schedule:
Referee - **\$100** Assistant Referees (2) - **\$100**
 - (3) Officials will be paid 55¢ per mile (round trip) for travel.
 - (4) 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 team and runner-up.
 - (2) Medals to members (30) 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 - **\$255** per game, including manager fee - **\$90** 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) previous page, the WIAA will subsidize the difference.
 - (2) Allowance to Participating Schools
 - (a) There is no allowance of any kind for participating schools.
 - (3) Ticket Prices - Child/Student/Adult - \$7
Host schools may sell, if their facilities permit, single admission tickets for \$1 for children under 6 years of age.
 - (4) Admission Policies
 - (a) Free admission will be provided for (34) total
 - 30 members of the team.
 - Two support staff (managers, trainers, etc.).
 - Head coach and one assistant.
 - (b) 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
 - (1) The State Tournament Championship games will be played Saturday, June 13 at Bank of Sun Prairie Stadium at Ashley Field, Sun Prairie. The girls championship game will be played at 1 p.m. Boys championship game to follow immediately after the awards ceremony.
- b. Officials
 - (1) The WIAA will contract officials to work the State Tournament.
 - (2) Officials should be paid according to the following schedule:
Referee - **\$110** Assistant Referees (**3**) - **\$110**
 - (3) Officials will be paid 55¢ per mile (round trip for travel).
 - (4) 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.
 - (5) Officials will receive reimbursement for necessary food and lodging expenses.
- c. Awards
 - (1) Trophy to championship and runner-up teams.
 - (2) Medals to members (30) of championship and runner-up teams.
- d. 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. No allowance will be paid to schools located in the 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** 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 the State Tournament site will not be reimbursed for lodging.

- (2) Ticket Prices Child/Student/Adult – Children two and under do not require a ticket **Child/Student/Adult**
 Single Session.....\$11*

*On-line ticket sales subject to processing and handling fees.

- (3) Admission Policies

- (a) Free admissions will be provided for (34 total):

- 30 members of the team.

- 4 additional individuals (coaches, managers, athletic trainers, etc.).

- (b) For WIAA team championships, where space is available, two complimentary ticket will be provided to the athletic director and principal of participating schools for their personal use. These tickets are not transferable and will be provided upon request.

- (c) There is no provision for free admissions for cheerleaders.