

Football

PLAYOFF ELIGIBILITY FOR 8-PLAYER AND 11-PLAYER FOOTBALL

1. **SCHOOLS MUST DECLARE FOR 8-PLAYER OR 11-PLAYER TOURNAMENT ELIGIBILITY BY OCTOBER 1 IN EVEN YEARS TO BE CONSIDERED FOR A TWO-YEAR PLACEMENT IN THE 8-PLAYER OR 11-PLAYER TOURNAMENT SERIES.** Programs are not eligible to transition from 11-player to 8-player competition, tournament or join a cooperative team during a required two-year assignment. Any 11-player school, changing to 8-player outside the designated realignment process will be ineligible for the playoffs for the following two-years.
Any 8-player teams desiring to transition from 8-player to 11-player should contact the WIAA office to review their options and understand any sanctions that could be associated with the transition.

PLAYOFF PROCEDURES FOR 8-PLAYER FOOTBALL

1. **SCHOOLS ARE ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN 8-PLAYER FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT SERIES WITH THE FOLLOWING PROVISIONS:**
 - a. A 3-year enrollment average of 200 (most recent three years to be averaged) to participate in the post-season tournament. No program is eligible for 8-player playoff consideration in any corresponding next season that its three-year average enrollment exceeds 200.
Note: Schools qualifying with an three-year average enrollment of 200 or less in the first year of the two-year commitment will be allowed to participate in the second year of their two-year commitment regardless if their average three-year enrollment exceeds 200.
 - b. Teams that voluntarily withdraw from a conference without conference and WIAA approval shall be ineligible for football playoff consideration the next two school years. The fact that the team which has withdrawn from a conference has thereafter rejoined the same conference, joined another conference, or changed the team status in any other manner during its two-year ineligibility period will not affect its ineligibility for playoff consideration during the two school years that follow its initial withdrawal.
 - c. The WIAA Board of Control has given final authority to the WIAA Executive Staff to make necessary determinations in football playoff qualifying procedures in unique situations in order to preserve conference affiliation and to resolve all issues of concern in a manner which serves the greater interest of the membership and the football playoff series.

2. WIAA POST SEASON

- a. A 32-team tournament series will be used.
- b. The Tournament Plan
 - (1) The tournament playoff field will be determined during Week 14 of the NFHS calendar with games scheduled Weeks 15-19:
 - (a) Level 1 - Week 15
 - (b) Level 2 - Week 16
 - (c) Sectionals - Week 17
 - (d) State Semifinals - Week 18
 - (e) State Championship Game - Week 19
 - (2) After the qualifying procedures are applied and playoff teams are determined, four geographical sections (A, B, C, D) of four teams each will be placed in the bracket with consideration given to geography and limiting excessive travel. Teams will advance through the tournament from the brackets established at Level 1.

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

3. THE WIAA 8-PLAYER FOOTBALL PLAYOFF FIELD SHALL CONSIST OF 32 TEAMS. TEAMS THAT MEET THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA RECEIVE PLAYOFF CONSIDERATION.

- a. Teams in 8-player form only one division.
- b. Criteria points are awarded for wins against an opponent. In 8-player the following are the **Tier 1 point** values for teams:
 - (1) 8-player school over 200 enrollment (3-year average): 3.3 points
 - (2) 8-player school eligible to participate in the tournament series: 3.0 points
- c. Teams are ranked within their own division based upon their total points.
- d. The top 32 teams from the 8-player division will be the qualifying field, set during Week 14 of the NFHS calendar.
- e. The steps to calculate a team's total points for ranking are as follows:
 - (1) **Tier 1 points** for each win are added together.
 - (2) Divide **Tier 1 points** by the number of games played (max of 8) to get the **Tier 1 score**.
 - (3) **Tier 2 points** are calculated by adding together defeated opponents **Tier 1 points**.
 - (4) Divide **Tier 2 points** by opponents' games played and multiply by 8 (this is a 100% bonus to the Strength of Victory) to get the **Tier 2 score**.
 - (5) Add **Tier 1 score** and **Tier 2 score** to get the **Playoff Qualifying Score**.
 - (6) **8-Player Formula** – The below formula is what is written in 3f1 through 3f5. **(Tier 1 points/games played) + (Defeated opponents' Tier 1 points/opponents games played , 8) = Playoff Qualifying Score**
- f. In the event of a tie in the rankings, the **Tier 3 score** will be compared.
Tier 3 score is calculated by the averaging the defeated opponents' **Tier 2 score**.
- g. **Schools shall submit their football schedule to the WIAA by May 1. Any non-conference game canceled after June 15th would be considered a forfeit for PQS points; games canceled without mutual agreement would result in a forfeit. Any non-conference game dropped or canceled prior to June 15 would be considered a no-contest when calculating the team's PQS score.**
- h. Conference games that are not played are considered forfeits.
 - (1) If a team replaces a forfeit win with a new game, the forfeit win will count if the team loses the replacement game points.
 - (2) If the team wins the replacement game, **the more favorable points outcome, whether that be the replacement game victory OR the originally scheduled game forfeit, will be applied if mathematically possible.**
- i. Out-of-state games each opponent is given an equivalent Wisconsin division based on enrollment for the purposes of **Tier 1 points**.
 - (1) If the enrollment falls between the Wisconsin cut lines, the lower-enrollment division will be used.
- j. All regular season games that end before 11:59 pm Friday of NFHS Week 14 are counted in the formula.

Note: A game that has been suspended but is tied in the last week of the regular season and is unable to be resumed and completed before the deadline noted will result in a tied game. Ties result in half the point values being earned.

PLAYOFF PROCEDURES FOR 11-PLAYER FOOTBALL

1. DIVISIONAL DETERMINATION

- a. Divisions are calculated before the season starts, based upon the enrollment numbers from the previous school year in the WIAA Directory of Member Schools. Cooperative teams will be listed on the basis of the enrollment of all schools involved.
 - (1) The largest schools are placed in Division 1, the smallest in Division 7.
 - (2) Divisions will be evenly divided based on the number of schools
 - (a) Any remaining schools not placed initially will be placed evenly in larger-enrollment divisions on down
 - (3) If two or more schools have the same enrollment, the previous year's enrollment will be used as the tiebreaker for the sake of determining divisions.
 - (4) Once the initial divisions are set, WIAA Competitive Balance will be applied following the Competitive Balance protocols referenced in Senior High Handbook (Appendix N).

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

2. WIAA POST SEASON

- a. A 32 - team tournament series will be used per division. 11-player has 7 divisions.
- b. The Tournament Plan
 - (1) The tournament playoff field will be determined during Week 15 of the NFHS calendar with games scheduled Weeks 16-20.
 - (2) Level 1 - Week 16
 - (3) Level 2 - Week 17
 - (4) Sectionals - Week 18
 - (5) State Semifinals - Week 19
 - (6) State Championship Game - Week 20

3. THE WIAA 11-PLAYER FOOTBALL PLAYOFF FIELD SHALL CONSIST OF 224 TEAMS. TEAMS WHO MEET THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA RECEIVE PLAYOFF CONSIDERATION:

- a. Teams that voluntarily withdraw from a conference without conference and WIAA approval shall be ineligible for football playoff consideration the next two school years. The fact that the team which has withdrawn from a conference has thereafter rejoined the same conference, joined another conference, or changed the team status in any other manner during its two-year ineligibility period will not affect its ineligibility for playoff consideration during the two school years that follow its initial withdrawal.
- b. The WIAA Board of Control has given final authority to the WIAA Executive Staff to make necessary determinations in football playoff qualifying procedures in unique situations in order to preserve conference affiliation and to resolve all issues of concern in a manner which serves the greater interest of the membership and the football playoff series.
- c. Criteria points are awarded for wins against an opponent. In 11-player the following are the **Tier 1 point** values for teams in
 - (1) Division 1: 6.5 points
 - (2) Division 2: 6.0 points
 - (3) Division 3: 5.5 points
 - (4) Division 4: 5.0 points
 - (5) Division 5: 4.5 points
 - (6) Division 6: 4.0 points
 - (7) Division 7: 3.5 points
- d. Teams are ranked within their division based upon their Playoff Qualifying Score.
- e. The top 32 teams from each division will be the qualifying field, set during Week 15 of the NFHS calendar.
- f. The steps to calculate a team's total points for ranking are as follows:
 - (1) **Tier 1 points** for each win are added together.
 - (2) Divide **Tier 1 points** by the number of games played (max of 9) to get the **Tier 1 score**.
 - (3) **Tier 2 points** are calculated by adding together defeated opponents **Tier 1 points**.
 - (4) Divide **Tier 2 points** by opponents' games played and multiply by 9 (this is a 100% bonus to the Strength of Victory) to get the **Tier 2 score**.
 - (5) Add **Tier 1 score** and **Tier 2 score** to get the Playoff Qualifying Score.
 - (6) **11-Player Formula** – The below formula is what is written in 3f1 through 3f5 (**Tier 1 point/games played**) + (Defeated opponents' **Tier 1 points/opponents games played** . 9) = Playoff Qualifying Score.
- g. In the event of a tie in the rankings, the **Tier 3 score** will be compared.
 - (1) **Tier 3 score** is calculated by the averaging the defeated opponents' **Tier 2 score**.
- h. **Schools shall submit their football schedule to the WIAA by May 1. Any non-conference game canceled after June 15th would be considered a forfeit for PQS points; games canceled without mutual agreement would result in a forfeit. Any non-conference game dropped or canceled prior to June 15 would be considered a no-contest when calculating the team's PQS score.**
- i. Conference games that are not played are considered forfeits.
 - (1) If a team replaces a forfeit win with a new game, the forfeit win will count if the team loses the replacement game points.
 - (2) **If the team wins the replacement game, the more favorable points outcome, whether that be the replacement game victory OR the originally scheduled game forfeit, will be applied if mathematically possible.**
- j. Out-of-state games are calculated for each opponent and is given an equivalent Wisconsin Division for the purposes of **Tier 1 points**.

(1) If the enrollment falls between the Wisconsin cut lines, the lower-enrollment division will be used.

k. All regular season games that end before 11:59 pm Friday of NFHS Week 15 are counted in the formula.

Note: A game that has been suspended but is tied in the last week of the regular season and is unable to be resumed and completed before the deadline noted will result in a tied game. Ties result in half the point values being earned.

SEEDING AND REGIONAL ALIGNMENT

a. After points have been calculated to determine the Playoff Qualifying Score (PQS), teams will be ranked in that division by the highest PQS down to the lowest PQS. Teams will be assigned a seed based on their rank within their respective division.

b. Rank and seeding

PQS	Seed	PQS	Seed
Rank 1-4	#1 Seed	Rank 17-20	#5 Seed
Rank 5-8	#2 Seed	Rank 21-24	#6 Seed
Rank 9-12	#3 Seed	Rank 25-28	#7 Seed
Rank 13-16	#4 Seed	Rank 29-32	#8 Seed
*Teams are ranked in their division based upon their PQS.			

c. Regional alignment for seeds #1 - #4

(1) For the #1 seeds, the teams will be assigned and distributed into one of four regions - **The #1 and #4 ranked 1-seed teams will be organized into one state semifinal half of the bracket, and the #2 and #3 ranked 1-seed teams will be organized into the opposite state semifinal half of the bracket.**

(2) For seeds #2 - #4, teams will be assigned to the region where the teams' cumulative total travel distance to each of the #1 seeds is minimized.

(a) #2 seeds will be placed with their closest #1 seed, their likely sectional opponent.

(b) #4 and #3 seeds will be placed directly with their likely Level 2 opponent, the #1 and #2 seeds respectively.

d. Regional alignment for seeds #5 - #8

(1) Matchups prioritize minimal travel distance directly between Level 1 opponents.

(2) For each Level 1 away team seed (e.g., #5 seeds) and their respective home teams (e.g., #4 seeds), all 24 travel distance permutations are calculated, and the matchups with the lowest total travel distances are chosen, with each away team assigned to the region of its paired home team.

Note: Minimizing total travel distance within each region will be prioritized while also considering the longest individual trip. During the calculations, the longest trip assigned to any team within a region will be identified. If an alternative arrangement shortens the longest trip and the reduction in the longest trip exceeds the additional total distance incurred (without increasing total travel by more than 10%), the option with the shorter longest trip will be selected. This ensures that travel burdens are more evenly distributed, preventing any single team from being disproportionately affected by the regional alignment.

e. Disqualifying violations

(1) Once the playoff field is finalized no additions or substitutions to the field will be made. If a disqualifying violation is confirmed the offending school will be removed from the field and the highest seeded team will be given a first round bye. If a disqualifying violation is confirmed after brackets have been announced, the opponent of the disqualified team shall advance regardless of their bracket position and no other adjustments shall be made within the bracket.

PLAYOFF DATES AND TIMES

a. Unless permission is received from the WIAA, all playoff games will start at:

8-Player Playoff Dates and Times		
Week 14	8-Player	Friday, last day for game. Saturday, seeding and pairings released.
Week 15	8-Player	Thursday or Friday, Level 1 Game: 7 p.m. start. Saturday, Level 1 Game: 1 p.m. start.
Week 16	8-Player	Friday, Level 2 Game: 7 p.m. start.
Week 17	8-Player	Friday, Sectionals: 7 p.m. start.
Week 18	8-Player	Friday, Semifinals: 7 p.m. start (neutral sites)
Week 19	8-Player	Saturday, Championship: 1 p.m. start
11-Player Playoff Dates and Times		
Week 15	11-Player	Friday, last day for game. Saturday, seeding and pairings released.
Week 16	11-Player	Friday, Level 1 Game: 7 p.m.
Week 17	11-Player	Friday, Level 2 Game: 7 p.m.
Week 18	11-Player	Friday: Sectional: 7 p.m.
Week 19	11-Player	Friday: Semifinals: 7 p.m. (neutral sites)
Week 20	11-Player	Thursday and Friday Championship games

The WIAA will have final authority to determine location, dates and start times.

Note: 1. At Levels 1, 2 and sectionals, if travel is more than 120 miles between opponents, the game will be played on Saturday unless both schools agree to play on Friday.

2. At Levels 1, 2 and sectionals, if both schools agree, the game may be played on Saturday, no earlier than 1 p.m. and no later than 7 p.m. If agreement on start time cannot be reached by participating teams, Saturday game start time will be 4 p.m.

3. At any level, where a neutral site is determined to be necessary, the WIAA reserves final authority to determine location, dates and start times when participants and/or host site are at an impasse.

4. If a neutral site is requested by a participating school, the game will be scheduled for Saturday at 1 p.m. If schools mutually agree, the game may be played at an alternate time on Saturday.
5. At any level, where a neutral site is determined to be necessary, the WIAA reserves final authority to determine location, dates and start times when participants and/or host site are at an impasse.
6. In the event of inclement weather or other circumstances causing a game to be postponed either prior to start of play or suspended after play has begun, the WIAA office and game manager will decide on all aspects of rescheduling.

(2) State Finals

- (a) The 11-Player State Finals Championship games will be played Thursday and Friday, NFHS Week 20 at Camp Randall Stadium in Madison. Four championship games will be played on Thursday, Divisions 7, 6, 5, and 4 at 10 a.m., 1 p.m., 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. in that order. Three Championship games will be played on Friday, Divisions 3, 2, and 1 at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. in that order.
- (b) The 8-Player State Final Championship game will be played Saturday, NFHS Week 19 at Wisconsin Rapids Lincoln H.S. The championship game will be played at 1 p.m.

3. DETERMINATION OF HOST SCHOOL FOR LEVELS 1, 2, SECTIONALS AND STATE SEMIFINALS GAMES

The WIAA will determine the approved site list for all levels of the football playoffs. **The football approved site list and availability will be maintained as previously established. Any changes/additions to the football playoff approved site list must be submitted by Friday of NFHS Week 14.** Minimum seating capacity, crowd control, press box facilities and field condition are among the standards used to determine what facilities are on the approved site list. Schools may host playoff games at other than their own facility provided appropriate arrangements for that other facility have been made and it is on the approved site list. The approved site list will be posted on the WIAA website and emailed to schools. The actual sites for Level 1 games will not be announced until the 224 schools participating in the playoffs have been determined.

The WIAA office has received the final authority from the Board of Control to decide location of all playoff sites on the basis of (a) interpretation of provisions of this section heretofore and hereafter mentioned and (b) determination of adequacy of facilities for a particular game. School administrators should understand that even though their school is on the approved site list, their facilities may not be regarded as adequate to host second, third and fourth round games. Usually, they will be adequate for a first round game, but participating schools expect more than adequate facilities for Levels 2, sectionals, and State Semifinals play and, where better facilities are available, such facilities may take precedence even though a participating school is on the approved list.

Note: 1. Schools which share a common facility must file their hosting priority plan with the WIAA, when both schools are willing, or may be eligible to host a playoff game. Two games will not be scheduled at the same site/same level on grass fields. More than one game may be scheduled at the same site/same level if the games are played on an artificial turf field.

2. Fields with high school width goal posts will be used for all levels of playoff games.
3. At any level, when a college field is used, the WIAA has the final authority to set dates and starting times when participants and/or host sites are at an impasse. College goal posts may be used in playoff games at top quality facilities where changing goals would be impossible or result in great expense.
4. At any level, when a field is used which does not have lights and/or cannot host due to darkness, the WIAA has the final authority to set date and starting time of game when participants and/or host site are at an impasse.
5. At any level, where a neutral site is determined to be necessary, the WIAA reserves final authority to determine location, dates and start times, when participants and/or host site are at an impasse.
6. Schools may host a playoff game at a facility other than their own provided proper arrangements have been made with administration and the WIAA has been notified of this arrangement in advance of the October deadline.
7. If the host school's field is not usable, a substitute field can be used provided it is on the approved site list and available.
8. When unexpected situations arise at anytime during the playoffs, the WIAA is authorized to use best discretion and judgement to meet and resolve issues of concern in accordance with Association provisions and the greater interests of the playoffs.
9. A school which is designated as a host school and voluntarily relinquishes its hosting opportunity after the field has been determined will have the opportunity counted as hosting for succeeding levels.
10. During the 8-Player Tournament, 100-yard fields and NFHS-approved dimensions are used at neutral and State Tournament sites.

The following procedures will be followed to determine host locations for WIAA Football Playoff games.

Level 1

1. The highest seeded team will host if on the approved site list unless a neutral site is deemed to be necessary. If that school is not on approved site list, the opponent will host if on approved site list.
2. **Schools not on the approved site list may be allowed to host at Level 1 provided their facility will adequately accommodate the games they have indicated their willingness to host, and neither school is on the approved site list.**
3. If neither school can host due to facility limitations, a neutral site will be considered by the WIAA.

Level 2

1. The highest seeded team will host if on the approved site list unless a neutral site is deemed to be necessary. If that school is not on approved site list, the opponent will host if on approved site list.
2. **Schools not on the approved site list may be allowed to host at Level 2 provided their facility will adequately accommodate the games they have indicated their willingness to host, and neither school is on the approved site list.**
3. If neither school can host due to facility limitations, a neutral site will be considered by the WIAA.

Sectionals

Neutral sites will be used if at the sole discretion of the WIAA travel time is deemed excessive, neither school is on the approved site list, and/or the WIAA office determines a host school site inadequate. If a neutral site is not necessary, the following will be applied to determine the host school:

1. The highest seeded team will host if on the approved site list unless a neutral site is deemed to be necessary. If that school is not on approved site list, the opponent will host if on approved site list.

Note: If schools are not on the approved site list, neutral sites will be used at sectionals.

At any level where a neutral site is determined to be necessary, the WIAA reserves final authority to determine location, dates and start times when participants and/or host site are at an impasse.

State Semifinals

The WIAA will determine the most desirable neutral site for all State Semifinal games. Geography, available sites, and other factors heretofore outlined for other levels will also be applied.

4. RULES GOVERNING PLAYOFF COMPETITION – ALL LEVELS

All specifications of Numbers 8 and 16 under SEASON REGULATIONS (pages 12 and 13) 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.

Note 1: Lotteries, raffles, fundraising, contests, campaigns and solicitation are prohibited at WIAA Playoffs.

- 2: At all WIAA tournament sites, the public address system is only to be used for announcements necessary for the administration of the contest.
- 3: Where rules are not specified in the 8-player section, 11-player rules shall apply (i.e. hosting, dates and times, rules governing playoff competition, neutral sites, Levels 1, 2, sectionals and State Semifinals).

a. Game Film Exchange:

Teams meeting in the playoffs will exchange copies of their 2 most recent games if possible. Note: Teams are required to exchange their two most recent game films at every level of the playoffs. All game film exchanges must be completed by 12:01 a.m. on Sunday following the last game. Those coaches without HUDL must bring DVDs to burn copies of game films.

b. Rosters

(1) A school may change its squad make-up from one playoff game to the next.

Note: See reimbursement limitations under Tournament Finances Section in HANDBOOK.

c. Jersey Colors

The host team shall wear their home jerseys in Levels 1-2-sectionals. **Jersey color and sideline assignments will be determined based on PQS standings (the higher seed will wear the HOME jersey color and be assigned the home sideline) through the state games.**

d. Game Balls

For playoff games at sectionals, State Semifinals and the State Finals, only Wilson footballs may be used. For Levels 1 and 2, any legal football may be used.

Note: Wilson will provide one new game ball to each team qualifying for sectionals and State Semifinals playoff games.

e. Coin Toss

The team wearing dark colored jerseys shall be heads. The team wearing white jerseys shall be tails.

f. Only the designated number of players, comparable to a normal traveling squad for a regular season game, will be permitted to enter the playing area and allowed to be on the sidelines during the contest.

g. Game management, with assistance from the WIAA, if necessary, will determine which school will use the home side of the field as its sideline in all Levels 1, 2, sectionals, and State Semifinal games.

h. Schedule Changes

(1) School Closure due to Infectious/Communicable Disease

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.

(2) Schedule Changes Because of Conflicts with other WIAA Tournaments.

Host and participating schools hopefully work cooperatively to adjust times of games if either or both are also in the State Volleyball Tournament, or if there are any other conflicts (i.e., swimming, soccer, etc.) during the playoffs.

(3) Rescheduling Because of Weather

In the event of inclement weather or other circumstances causing a game to be postponed either prior to start of play or suspended after play has begun, the WIAA and game manager will decide on all aspects of rescheduling.

i. Space for Teams' Representative in Press Box/Communication Center

Space should be adequate to provide for (in order of priority):

(1) Game management personnel, i.e., scoreboard operator(s), announcer, and spotter to assist the announcer.

(2) One position for each participating team.

(3) Space to accommodate media personnel that might be expected, i.e., radio, newspaper.

Have equal space available for both teams. It is not required that you provide field phones for both teams. If, for example, you have only one set, you may leave them in place for whichever team is assigned that bench or they may use their own. Ultimately the participating schools are responsible for furnishing their own field phones and filming equipment.

The host is responsible only for being certain both schools have equal "space" available from which to spot and/or film.

j. Length of Half Time

The half time will be 15 minutes plus the 3 minute warm-up.

k. Sideline Heaters

Sideline heaters are permissible if the participating schools wish to provide them themselves. They should not be allowed, however, if they cause the host school additional expense, pose any kind of safety problem, or block the view of spectators.

l. National Anthem

The host school decides which school will play the National Anthem. If both schools have a band present and wish to play, a coin toss will decide the school.

m. Lotteries, raffles, fundraising, contests and solicitation are prohibited at WIAA Playoffs.

n. State Tournament game ball will be: Wilson

Note: For other details see 2026 Football Playoff Manual

o. 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.

p. A designated, on-site event, appropriate health-care professional who determines an athlete should not participate, shall not be overruled.

5. LEVELS 1, 2, SECTIONALS, AND STATE SEMIFINAL GAMES

a. Officials

(1) The WIAA will contract 5-man crews, meeting specified criteria, to work all games.

(2) Officials will be paid:

- (a) Officiating Fee - \$95. Checks and contracts will be issued by the **WIAA**.
- (b) **Officials shall travel together when practical.**
- (c) Expenses - 55¢ per mile (round trip) for travel.
- (d) There is no separate meal and/or room allowance.

b. Awards

(1) Playoff Qualifying Plate: Each team (224 11-Player and 32 8-Player) will receive an engraved plate in recognition of its qualifying for participation in the playoffs. Schools qualifying for the Football Playoffs for the first time since 1999 will receive a playoff plaque and attached plate.

(2) 11-Player sectionals and 8-Player sectionals:

(a) Plaque to championship team only.

(3) 11-Player State Semifinals and 8-Player State Semifinals:

(a) Medals to members of both teams.

Medals teams receive:

Division 1 - 60	Division 3 - 52	Division 5 - 44	Division 7 - 38
Division 2 - 56	Division 4 - 48	Division 6 - 40	8-Player - 24

d. Finances

(1) Host School Allowance

(a) A financial report on forms provided by the WIAA must be filed by each school conducting a game.

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

- 1) The school will receive 35% of receipts or \$770, whichever is greater to cover such items as workers, lights, chain crew, etc., including game managers fee of \$110.
- 2) Fees and expenses of officials.

(c) The WIAA will receive the balance of receipts to cover tournament administrative costs, awards, etc.

Note: The WIAA may make special financial arrangements, if necessary, with host schools which conduct playoff games in nonschool facilities. However, these arrangements must be approved in advance by the WIAA.

(2) Ticket Prices

(a) Prestate championship playoff (each game)

Child/Student/Adult Level 1 - \$6 Level 2 - \$6 Sectionals - \$7 State Semifinals - \$7

(b) Host schools may sell, if their facilities permits, a \$1 ticket for children under 6 years of age, if accompanied by a parent.

(3) Ticket Allocations

(a) It is expected that determination of prestate championship sites will rest heavily on seating capacities of the host school; thus, there may be no need to allocate tickets. However, in the event a policy is necessary, the following will be applicable:

- 1) If host school is one of two teams playing a game, no less than 50% of the tickets must be made available to the visiting team.
- 2) If host school is not one of the two teams playing a game, each of the two participating schools must be given an opportunity to purchase a minimum of 45% of the tickets with the remainder to be allocated at the discretion of the host school.

(4) Admission Policies

(a) Each school participating in a playoff game shall be allowed free admissions in the form of field passes for a party comparable to a normal traveling squad, in uniform.

(b) Each school playing in a prestate championship playoff, BUT NOT championship game, shall be allowed free admissions for:

- 1) A maximum of eight cheerleaders.
- 2) 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.
- 3) Game officials, ticket takers and sellers, ushers and concessionaires along with the game manager and a person designated as assistant shall be admitted without charge but must be identified by means of a ribbon or tag. Workers are entitled to free admission only for themselves, and may not be provided with an additional ticket for a companion.
- 4) Provisions must be made for working members of press, radio and television services.

- 5) No other persons from any school or any community (including host school and community) shall be provided with complimentary admissions. If the host school wishes to permit its usual complimentary ticket contingent to see a game at no cost, the host school must purchase tickets for such persons.
 - 6) Free admissions permissible under the above paragraphs are not transferable.
 - 7) **If a band performs on or off the field prior to or during intermission of a game or if a host school band participates in pre-game activities, free admission shall be given to band members.**
- e. Footballs - Game managers at Levels 1, 2, sectionals, and State Semifinal games should instruct participating schools to provide their own footballs. Note: Only Wilson footballs may be used at sectionals and State Semifinals. Wilson will provide one new game ball to each team qualifying for sectionals and State Semifinal playoff games.

6. STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

- a. Scheduling of Competition
 - (1) The 11-Player games at Camp Randall Stadium will be scheduled as follows:
 - (a) Thursday, November 19, at 10 a.m., 1 p.m., 4 p.m., and 7 p.m. - Divisions 7, 6, 5, and 4 in that order.
 - (b) Friday, November 20, at 10 a.m., 1 p.m., and 4 p.m. - Divisions 3, 2, and 1 in that order.
 - (2) The 8-Player State Final Championship game will be played Saturday, November 14 at Wisconsin Rapids Lincoln H.S. The championship game will be played at 1 p.m.
- b. Officials
 - (1) The WIAA will contract 5-man crews to work all games.
 - (2) Officials will be paid:
 - (a) Officiating Fee - \$140 Chain Crew - \$55
 - (b) **Officials shall travel together when practical.**
 - (c) Expenses - 55¢ per mile (round trip) for travel.
 - (d) Officials shall receive reimbursement for necessary food and lodging expenses.
- c. Awards
 - (1) Trophy to championship and runner-up team.
 - (2) Medals to members of championship and runner-up team.

Medals teams receive:

Division 1 - 60	Division 3 - 52	Division 5 - 44	Division 7 - 38
Division 2 - 56	Division 4 - 48	Division 6 - 40	8-Player - 24
- d. Finances
 - (1) Allowance to Participating School
 - (a) Schools participating in the 11-Player State Football Playoffs in Madison shall receive expense allowances as follows:
 - 1) \$2 per round trip mile, plus
 - 2) \$1800 if less than 75 miles from Madison, or
 - 3) \$2180 if less than 150 but more than 75 miles, or
 - 4) \$2545 if over 150 miles.

Hotel accommodations, when deemed necessary and cleared in advance, may be authorized in addition to the above allowances. Schools less than 50 miles from Madison will not be reimbursed for lodging (\$2250).
 - (b) Schools participating in the 8-Player State Football Championship shall receive expense allowances as follows:
 - 1) \$2 per round trip mile, plus
 - 2) \$1300 if less than 75 miles from Championship venue, or
 - 3) \$1565 if less than 150 but more than 75 miles, or
 - 4) \$1960 if over 150 miles.
 - (2) Ticket Prices
 - (a) Championship playoffs – 11-Player (Child/Student/Adult) – Children two and under do not require a ticket

1) Thursday - Day 1	\$30 *
2) Friday - Day 2.....	\$25 *
3) Single Game.....	\$11 #

#Ticket holders leaving the stadium will need to purchase ticket to return.

*On-line ticket sales subject to processing and handling fees.
 - (b) Championship – 8-Player (Child/Student/Adult) – Children two and under do not require a ticket..... \$11 *

*On-line ticket sales subject to processing and handling fees.
 - (3) Ticket Allocation
 - (a) In view of the number of seats available at Camp Randall Stadium, there will be no special allocation of tickets for the championship games but seats (all unreserved) will be on a first-come, first-served basis.
 - (b) Complete information relating to tickets for the championship games will be provided to member schools via email.
 - (4) Admission Policies
 - (a) Each school participating in a playoff game shall be allowed free admissions in the form of field passes for a party not to exceed: The normal traveling squad in uniform plus eight additional people (coaches, assistant coaches, trainers and managers).

- (b) For WIAA team championships, where space is available, one 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) Free admissions are not transferable.
 - (d) There is NO provision for free admission for bands whether or not they perform.
- e. Footballs - The WIAA will provide game balls for State Final games. Participating teams must provide their own warm-up balls. The State Tournament Game Ball will be: Wilson. **Schools may provide their own game balls for State Finals, as long as they are WILSON.**
- f. Video Replay - Instant replay will be used during 11-Player Football Championship games.