



BULLETIN



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WIAAWI.ORG

Board of Control Approves Rule Changes In Two Spring Sports

The Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association Board of Control approved coaches advisory committee rule change recommendations in baseball and track & field at its October meeting.

Beginning in June 2024, the higher-seeded team at the State Baseball Tournament will be declared the home team for each game in all divisions. For regionals and for the sectional semifinal level, the higher-seeded team will be the home team in all divisions. For the sectional finals, the higher seed will be declared the home team in Division 1, and a coin flip will determine the home team in Divisions 2, 3 and 4.

The Board approved two recommendations advanced by the track & field coaches, effective in the spring of 2024, both pertain to the Tournament Series schedule. The first establishes the same order of field events for all divisions at the sectional meets and the State Meet to mirror the existing Division 1 order. The prescribed order will be girls high jump,

girls long jump, girls shot put, boys pole vault, boys triple jump followed by boys discus, and then, flip the gender in the same order of events.

The second change impacts the Division 2 and 3 regionals and sectionals in 2024. The 200-meter dash preliminary heats will be eliminated to again mirror the existing Division 1 schedule. In addition, the schedule will be adjusted to conduct the boys 110 hurdles preliminaries followed by the girls 100 hurdles preliminaries. After a 15-minute break, the girls will run the finals of the 100 hurdles with the boys 110 hurdles final to follow.

On another action item, the Board approved the 2024-25 and 2025-26 fall season co-ops, which includes two new co-ops. Marion/Tigerton as well as St. Ambrose/Abundant Life Christian will operate as co-op cross country programs for boys and girls.

Among the discussions with the Board were a review of the 2023 Area Meetings, including feed-

See Board of Control Approves, page 6 ►

High School Sports Participation Continues Rebound Toward Pre-Pandemic Levels

Participation in high school sports eclipsed 7.8 million in the 2022-23 school year, reflecting a sharp increase from the previous year as the NFHS completed its High School Athletics Participation Survey for a second time after the pandemic interrupted its collection of data.

A total of 7,857,969 participants competed in high school sports in 2022-23, an increase of nearly 240,000 and up more than three percent from 2021-22 totals. The total includes 4,529,789 boys and 3,328,180 girls, according to figures obtained from the 51 NFHS member state associations, which includes the District of Columbia.

This year's survey also captured Esports par-

See High School Sports Participation page 4 ►

Board Approves Operations Budget; Tables NFHS Rules Compliance Action

The Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association Board of Control authorized the 2023-24 operational budget and tabled a previously-initiated Board action item at its September 15 meeting.

The annual budget of \$10.65 million reflects a projected increase in Tournament Series ticket revenue after robust ticket sales in 2022-23, and a modest increase in revenue with the addition of the first Lacrosse Tournament Series. Among the additional expenses in the budget include an allowance for regional and sectional track & field timing costs and capital equipment for office renovation.

The Board tabled action that would return the format of boys and girls basketball games to four quarters from the current two 18-minute halves. The current format is out of compliance with NFHS basketball rules, which prevents the implementation of NFHS Basketball Rule 4-8-1 that "...establishes the bonus as two free throws awarded for a common foul beginning with the team's fifth foul in each quarter and resets." In addition, the Board tabled a consideration to

require all NFHS-sanctioned sports sponsored by the WIAA to be in compliance with NFHS playing rules. The Board will revisit NFHS rules compliance after additional membership discussions.

Other action items approved by the Board include new appointments to the Conference Realignment Task Force as well as updates to the Executive Staff, Employee and Board of Control Handbooks.

Among the reports presented by the Executive Staff to the Board were a review of the ongoing officials recruitment, the first three Area Meetings, preparations for the fall Tournament Series, 2023-24 membership renewals, updates on association technology as well as the progress in determining a site for the 2024 State Lacrosse Championship games.

The Board also received liaison reports from Paul Manriquez of the Department of Public Instruction, Dan Rossmiller of the Wisconsin Association of School Boards, Eric Plitzuweit of the Wisconsin Athletic Directors Association and Andy Engel of the Hamilton Consulting Group. ●

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WIAA Seeks Nominations for Spirit of Sport Nominees

The WIAA Executive Staff is encouraging all member schools to submit nominations of individuals or groups they consider worthy of consideration for the 2023-24 National Federation of State High School Associations Spirit of Sport Award.

The deadline for nominating an individual or group for the award sponsored by the Dairy Farmers of Wisconsin is Friday, December 1. Please submit the name and a brief summary of the nominee to Melissa Gehring at mgehring@wiaawi.org.

This award seeks to recognize those individuals who exemplify the ideals of the positive spirit of sport that represent the core mission of education-based athletics. It honors an individual or group that has overcome significant adversity or challenging circumstances, has exceeded normal expectations in assisting others within the school or community, or has demonstrated exemplary sportsmanship and/or citizenship in playing the game as it should be played.

The award may be given in recognition of a specific act or for an activity of longer duration. Nominees may include student-athletes, coaches, athletic

administrators, school administrators, contest officials, athletic trainers, community and booster club members, or anyone associated with a school's athletic program.

The Wisconsin nominee is submitted to the NFHS for national consideration. Each year, the NFHS presents eight section recipients, as well as a national recipient for the Spirit of Sport Award. The WIAA's nominee to the NFHS will receive a keepsake award in recognition of the honor and be introduced at the WIAA Annual Meeting on April 24, 2024.

The National High School Spirit of Sport Award began in 2008 with the WIAA's recognition of Wisconsin's nomination and finalists beginning in 2017-18.

Past recipients of Wisconsin's Spirit of Sport Award include Bryce Ladwig of Plymouth High School in 2017-18, who was also selected as the NFHS Section 4 recipient; Ashley Stich of Kenosha Tremper High School in 2018-19, Adam Szeplieniec of DeForest High School in 2019-20, Abby Tuma of Shawano in 2020-21, Jordan Glenn of Wisconsin Lutheran in 2021-22, and Kenzie Koppenhaver of Kiel in 2022-23. ●

WIAA Sport Medical Advisory Committee

The History

In mid-1930, the WIAA Board of Control established the WIAA Benefit Plan to be overseen by the WIAA Secretary Neverman. "The WIAA also procured the services of a medical advisor for the Benefit Plan. The first such person was Dr. M. D. Bird of Marinette. He received a \$100 honorarium for his first year's work of reviewing unusual injury claims." (Otte, *More Than A Game*, 1996, 120)

With the creation of the WIAA Benefit Plan, the WIAA established days-out limitations on athlete injuries and determined a required recovery period. In fact, the WIAA Benefit Plan limited the return to play from a major head injury (concussion) to one calendar year and the return to play from a minor head injury to 30 days.

The WIAA Sport Medical Advisory Committee (SMAC) was established in 1974 to replace the State Medical Society's Subcommittee on WIAA matters because the latter group "has only one practicing physician involved in athletics." (Otte, 377) In 1975, the Committee met for the first time. The WIAA was among the first high school state associations in the country to develop a Sport Medical Advisory Committee.

Significant Health Moves

The WIAA Medical Policies and Procedures Manual was distributed to the WIAA membership in 1975 and revamped for the 1990-91 school year. The publication provides guidelines on many medical matters for interscholastic athletic practices and contests. It currently is updated bi-annually and a hard copy is sent to all WIAA member schools after each update.

The Sport Medical Advisory Committee established the Wrestling 7% Committee in 1989 and in 1990; the 7% Committee recommended the skin-fold measurement system for all wrestlers to determine a minimum wrestling weight. The program became mandatory in 1991. (Otte, 432) Later in 1996, the 7% Committee recommended a hydration test to work along with the skin-fold measurement process.

In a 1989 opinion which resulted in a 1990 rule change, "The Medical

See WIAA Sport Medical Advisory Committee, page 14 ►

Classification Committee Deadlines

The 2023 Annual Meeting resulted in a supportive vote by the membership to implement the competitive balance plan, which will officially begin with the 2024-25 school year.

In preparation for this change, it means that the work of schools and of the Classification Committee begins immediately.

Here is the very important information that your school needs to be aware of for the 2023-24 calendar year.

2024-25 Fall Sports Planning Timeline

October 1, 2023 - Cooperative team application deadline

September 1, 2023 - October 1, 2023 - Application to request consideration for being moved down or up a division is open and available to schools. No applications will be accepted after October 1.

November 1, 2023 - December 1, 2023 - Application to appeal being promoted to a higher division due to performance points is open and available to schools. No applications will be accepted after December 1.

2024-25 Winter Sports Planning Timeline

February 1, 2024 - Cooperative team application deadline

January 1, 2024 - February 1, 2024 - Application to request consideration for being moved down or up a division is open and available to schools. No applications will be accepted after February 1.

March 1, 2024 - April 1, 2024 - Application to appeal being promoted to a higher division due to performance points is open and available to schools. No applications will be accepted after April 1.

2024-25 Spring Sports Planning Timeline

May 1, 2024 - Cooperative team application deadline

April 1, 2024 - May 1, 2024 - Application to request consideration for being moved down or up a division is open and available to schools. No applications will be accepted after May 1.

June 1, 2024 - July 1, 2024 - Application to appeal being promoted to a higher division due to performance points is open and available to schools. No applications will be accepted after July 1. ●

2023-24 Officials Recruitment and Retainment

Annual Registration Windows for Officials

The WIAA offers three registration windows for officials. We have recently completed a window for officials to register without incurring a \$30 processing fee. That window was available from September 15-30 and we saw approximately 700 officials register during this 15-day window.

The final registration window remaining for this school year is:

- January 1-15

Member Schools Lending a Hand

Member schools have contributed to the recruitment of new officials in many ways, including providing high school classes on officiating. We have seen the involvement of high schools grow exponentially over the past two years.

	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Number of HS teaching officiating course	12	24	42
Number of HS students licensed as officials	243	1419	554*

**number of HS student officials registered as of 9/28/23*

Current Licensing numbers for Officials

Last year the number of WIAA Licensed Officials reached 9,837, the highest total since 2010-11. This was a significant recovery after the tolls of COVID-19 dropped our officials pool, drastically. The dramatic increase in high school students who licensed contributed significantly to the bottom line. While our high school students are not currently ready to contribute at the varsity competition level, they could be the future of officiating in Wisconsin. We must make every effort to nurture them along this path and make a conscious effort to shield them from the negativity that has driven many officials away.

There are many individuals and groups, statewide, who are contributing to the recruitment of new officials. We wish to express our gratitude to those people and ask that we, collectively, continue to work on our sportsmanship and positive interaction with the officials who serve this state. ●

CALL SOMETHING REF

A book written by referees representing the human side of referees.

"Call Something Ref" is a book written by Mike Deiters, a former high school and college referee as well as a former conference commissioner. It serves as a reminder that behind the whistle and the striped shirt, there is a person with a deep love for the game and a desire to ensure fairness and sportsmanship. The book covers personal anecdotes and stories from referees in Wisconsin sharing insights into the challenges, triumphs and dedication of referees and includes recommendations for creating a more respectful inclusive sports environment. The book is a must read for anyone who loves sports, from players, referees, and coaches to fans and parents. The book is available October 5th online at Amazon.



For more information about the book the author, or to schedule an interview, please contact: Mike Deiters, Deitersmgd@yahoo.com, 608-213-1347 ●

2023-24 WIAA Wrestling Points of Emphasis and Reminders

We would like to remind all officials and coaches that there will be an officials' clinic held in conjunction with the coaches' clinic on Nov. 4th in Green Bay. Our major goal is to have uniform officiating state wide. Coaches are welcome to attend. It is important for all officials to go to the website and check your profile to make sure it is accurate and current. Failure to do so could result in your being ineligible for some post season assignments. Be certain to complete your exam(s) and preseason video this fall – this is a requirement for coaches and is important for officials to maintain/advance their classification level.

Our need for officials – We all realize that Wisconsin is in dire need of young officials. As in the past, I encourage all officials' associations state wide to adopt a mentoring program to help develop young officials. In addition, all high school coaches should encourage their athletes to consider obtaining a limited-restricted license. This will allow them to officiate all youth through

See 2023-24 WIAA Wrestling Points of Emphasis and Reminders, page 7 >

2023-24 NFHS Ice Hockey Points of Emphasis

Sportsmanship

Positive behavior and conduct is essential within all interscholastic programs, including high school hockey. NFHS playing rules have always emphasized and encouraged sportsmanship. High school hockey should promote respect, integrity and sportsmanship.

Good sports win with humility, lose with grace and do both with dignity. It takes the efforts of everyone every day to ensure that sportsmanship remains one of the top priorities in education-based activity programs.

Health and Safety - Player Safety/Dangerous Hits

The purpose of a body-check is to gain possession of the puck, not to injure, punish or intimidate another player.

- Boarding and checking from behind are viewed as two of the most dangerous plays in the sport. Coaches and players must understand that the responsibility in this rule remains with the player approaching an opponent along the boards.
- The following are illegal and need to be eliminated from high school hockey:
 - Hits to the head
 - Fighting
 - Hits on defenseless players (blindsides hits)
 - Late hits and unnecessary body contact

Officials - Game Management

- Faceoffs – Both teams must have an equal opportunity to play the puck. This requires proper positioning of all players and the official conducting the faceoff.
- Icing – If the puck is shot from behind the center red line, potential icing applies. It is improper to waive icing simply because the puck is close to the center red line.
- Offsides – Officials must always be in a proper position to accurately determine offsides. A goal scored on an obvious offsides play will adversely impact the officials' credibility throughout the game.
- Calling the game – A smooth flowing game is a great experience for all participants and spectators. However, this does not mean that officials should "let them play." Offenses must be penalized at all times during the game, regardless of the score or period. ●

ticipation data for the first time with 20,001 boys and 3,921 girls recorded. Eighteen states reported Esports participation, with Illinois and California leading the way, each with more than 3,000 participants.

For clarification, multi-sport participants are included in the total for each sport season they compete in throughout the year. For example, a three-sport participant in 2022-23 will count three times toward the participation total.

This year's total marks the first upward movement in participation data since the all-time record of 7,980,886 in 2017-18, which was followed by the first decline in 30 years in 2018-19 and the two-year halt in data collection related to the pandemic.

"We were optimistic that the trends we saw in 2021-22 would continue, and our dreams were realized this past year as more and more students continued to pursue opportunities in education-based sports in our nation's schools," said Dr. Karissa Niehoff, NFHS chief executive officer. "Perhaps the most encouraging news with this year's survey is that most every sport for boys and girls registered an increase from the previous year. Certainly, that is the goal of these programs – to meet the needs of as many students as possible. We salute coaches, administrators and everyone involved in school-based sports the past few years for their efforts in keeping these programs alive."

The top 10 sports remained the same for both boys and girls, with boys tennis leapfrogging boys golf as the eighth-most popular sport, and girls competitive spirit moving up a spot on the girls side. On the boys side, eight of the top 10 sports registered increases in participation, while nine of the top 10 sports on the girls side added participants.

TEN MOST POPULAR BOYS PROGRAMS

Schools

1. Basketball	18,369
2. Track & Field – Outdoor	17,038
3. Baseball	15,978
4. Cross Country	15,867
5. Football – 11-player	13,670
6. Golf	13,505
7. Soccer	12,484
8. Wrestling	10,722
9. Tennis	10,116
10. Swimming & Diving	7,673

Participants

1. Football – 11-player	1,028,761
2. Track & Field – Outdoor	604,983
3. Basketball	537,432
4. Baseball	478,451
5. Soccer	450,455
6. Wrestling	256,466
7. Cross Country	240,201
8. Tennis	158,306
9. Golf	150,175
10. Swimming & Diving	116,741

TEN MOST POPULAR GIRLS PROGRAMS

Schools

1. Basketball	17,881
2. Track & Field – Outdoor	16,997
3. Volleyball	16,610
4. Cross Country	15,551
5. Softball – Fast Pitch	15,406
6. Soccer	12,100
7. Golf	10,734
8. Tennis	10,564
9. Swimming & Diving	7,937
10. Competitive Spirit	7,216

Participants

1. Track & Field – Outdoor	486,355
2. Volleyball	470,488
3. Soccer	377,838
4. Basketball	373,366
5. Softball – Fast Pitch	344,952
6. Cross Country	197,630
7. Tennis	191,036
8. Competitive Spirit	149,694
9. Swimming & Diving	140,711
10. Lacrosse	98,014

One of the biggest increases in participation for boys and girls was in the sport of wrestling. Boys wrestling jumped 10 percent, adding nearly 25,000 participants, to more than 256,000 – the largest total since 258,208 in 2014-15.

Amazingly, the increase in girls wrestling was even larger with 17,473 additional participants – a massive 55-percent increase from 2021-22 – to reach a record total of 49,127. Just 10 years ago, there were fewer than 10,000 girls in high school wrestling. In addition, 36 states now offer separate state wrestling championships for girls.

Eleven-player football remained the most popular boys sport with the total climbing back over one million participants. The total of 1,028,761 participants marks an increase of 54,969 and 5.6 percent from the previous year. Not only did 11-player football top the one million mark, this year's increase was the first in the sport since 2013 and only the second increase since the all-time high of 1,112,303 in 2008-09. There also was a slight gain (34,935 to 35,301) in the number of boys in 6-, 8- and 9-player football.

The number of girls playing football – particularly flag football – continued to climb as well. A total of 20,875 girls participated in flag football in 2022-23 – an increase of 32 percent. Seven states now sponsor a state championship in girls flag and more are in the planning stages. The number of girls in 11-player football increased 18 percent with 3,654 participants.

Altogether, boys and girls participation in all versions of football increased from 1,028,976 to 1,089,880 – a jump of six percent.

On the girls side, outdoor track and field (+6.5%) and volleyball (+3.6%) remained in the top two spots, while soccer jumping 3.5 percent and adding 12,896 participants. In addition, girls competitive

spirit added 9,142 participants, an increase of 6.5 percent.

Texas remained atop the list of state participation with 827,446, but California closed the gap in second adding 25,000 participants to climb to 787,697. New York is third with 356,803, followed by Illinois (335,801), Ohio (323,117), Pennsylvania (316,587), Florida (297,389), New Jersey (272,159), Michigan (268,070) and Minnesota (219,094), which climbed into the top 10 past Massachusetts.

The NFHS High School Athletics Participation Survey was started in 1971 and was compiled in its current form through the 2018-19 school year, resuming annually last year with the 2021-22 survey. The complete 2022-23 NFHS High School Athletics Participation Survey will be available soon on the NFHS website at www.nfhs.org.



Thursday & Friday, Nov. 16 & 17
Camp Randall Stadium, Madison

Thursday, Nov. 16

Division 7:	10 a.m.
Division 6:	1 p.m.
Division 5:	4 p.m.
Division 4:	7 p.m.

Friday, Nov. 17

Division 3:	10 a.m.
Division 2:	1 p.m.
Division 1:	4 p.m.



Saturday, Nov. 11
South Wood County Stadium, Wisconsin Rapids

1 p.m.

Bracket A Winner vs. Bracket B Winner

NAERA Football Helmet Reconditioning and Recertification Recommendations

NAERA (National Athletic Equipment Reconditioners Association), NOCSAE (National Operating Committee on Standards for Athletic Equipment) and helmet manufacturers are informing you of reconditioning and recertification recommendations for football, lacrosse, baseball and softball helmets.

NAERA recommends that during every football, lacrosse, baseball and softball season or practice period, every helmet should be cleaned and inspected regularly by a school or organization staff member with knowledge of manufacturer recommendations. We further recommend every helmet should be reconditioned and recertified annually unless stated otherwise by the manufacturer. ONLY a company licensed by NOCSAE can perform the recertification of football, lacrosse, baseball and softball helmets. For a list of NAERA members that are licensed by NOCSAE please visit our web site www.naera.net. More information regarding NOCSAE and their standards can be found at www.nocsae.org.

Reconditioning/Recertification and Sanitization Post Covid-19: NAERA recommends every football, lacrosse, baseball and softball helmet be reconditioned and recertified prior to being issued to all athletes, unless stated otherwise by the manufacturer. NAERA further recommends that nonrecertifiable equipment, including but not limited to, football and lacrosse shoulder pads, chest protectors and shin guards be sanitized in accordance to manufacturer guidelines.

On January 1, 2017 NOCSAE put into effect standard ND 001 6.1.1 shown below.

ND 001 6.1.1. Helmets intended to be recertified shall have a recertification interval provided by the manufacturer. Certification life is limited to this time period. Helmets not recertified during the stated interval shall no longer be certified. Recertification interval required for warranty validation shall satisfy this requirement.

What does ND 001 6.1.1 mean for your school or organization? For Football helmets, as of this writing, the requirements from all football helmet

manufacturers for recertification is a **minimum** of every other year. If you acquired new helmets in 2020 these helmets will need recertification per this standard for 2024 play.

Helmets that have a lapsed certification per NOCSAE DOC. 001 may be recertified under most conditions. Always ask your NAERA representative if you have doubts. **Remember when your team Captain or Coach tells the official your team is legally equipped, you need to know that is correct and factual.**

Every state association playing under NFHS (National Federation of State High School Associations) and NCAA (National Collegiate Athletic Association) rules has adopted the NOCSAE standards for football, lacrosse, baseball and softball helmets. Other state associations may have similar rules; however, most support the helmet manufacturers recommendations.

Please make certain your school or organization is using a reconditioning company licensed by NOCSAE. ●

Wrestling Comments on the 2023-24 Rules Changes

NFHS Wrestling Rules Book 2023-24

Modified the number of matches in any one day of competition (1-4-3) –

Increased the number of matches from five to six per day. The rule was changed to allow six matches in the post-season events after successful experiments by member state associations last season and there were no reported increase of injuries. It is a natural progression to allow six matches during the regular season and it will be monitored throughout the season.

Modified the rest time between matches (1-4-4) – The sentiment is that reducing the recovery time from 45 minutes to 30 minutes between matches is appropriate.

Modified the number of matches in two-consecutive days of competition NEW (1-4-7) – This is a new rule change. The modified rule change (1-4-4) to allow six matches in a day was for meet management during one-day tournaments only. This rule change is not to encourage more matches in a season.

Modified the referee's uniform (3-1-1) – Allowing the referee's shoes to have white or grey trim gives them more options and opportunity to find more comfortable shoes and does not hinder the appearance of the official.

Modified what a wrestler can wear underneath the singlet uniform (4-1-1a) – The tights worn by wrestlers today are compressed and form-fitted reaching just above the ankles. These tights do not ride up the wrestler's leg causing a disadvantage to the opponent.

Modified what a wrestler can wear underneath the two-piece uniform (4-1-1b) – The tights worn by wrestlers today are compressed and form-fitted reaching just above the ankles. These tights do not ride up the wrestler's leg causing a disadvantage to the opponent.

Modified that facial hair is allowed (4-2-1) – Facial hair is permitted regardless of the thickness and length. Individuals should always be observant regarding skin disease and work to minimize risk for all involved. If there are any

See *Wrestling Comments on the 2023-24 Rules Changes*, page 13 >

2023-24 NFHS Basketball Rules Changes

3-4-5 – Clarifies that teammates must all wear like-colored uniform bottoms but may wear multiple styles.

3-5-6 – Allows undershirts worn under visiting team jerseys to be black or the single solid color similar to the torso of the jersey. All teammates wearing undershirts must wear the same solid color.

4-36, 6-4-3, 7-5-2 thru 4, 9-1 PENALTY 3, 9-4 PENALTY, 9-5 PENALTY, 9-6 PENALTY, 9-8 PENALTY, 9-9 PENALTY, 9-12 PENALTIES 3 & 4, 9-13 PENALTY – Establishes four throw-in spots (the nearest 28-foot mark along each sideline or the nearest spot 3-feet outside the lane line on the end line) when a team is retaining or gaining team control in its frontcourt due to a violation, a common foul prior to the bonus, or other stoppages in play other than an out of bounds.

7-6-6 – Allows the official administering a throw-in to the wrong team to correct the mistake before the first dead ball after the ball becomes live unless there is a change of possession.

9-3-3 – Establishes that a player may step out of bounds without penalty unless they are the first player to touch the ball after returning to the court or if they left the court to avoid a violation.

2023-24 Basketball Editorial Changes

REMINDER: The style of the number may be the team jersey color when bordered with not more than two ¼-inch solid border(s) contrasting with the team jersey color, which shall be eliminated by 2024-25.

2023-24 Points of Emphasis

- Uniforms
- Equipment and Apparel
- Bench Decorum
- Throw-Ins – Proper Locations
- End-of-Game Protocols ●

81st Annual WIAA Individual Wrestling Championship Tournament

Thursday, Feb. 22 - Saturday, Feb. 24, 2024
Kohl Center, Madison

Doors open for spectators one hour prior to the start of 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, Feb. 22 - Eight Mats

Div. 1 & Girls Preliminaries – **3 p.m.** (Doors open 2 p.m.) – Weigh in: 1:30 p.m.

(Div. 1 on mats 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 8; Girls on mats 4 & 6)

Div. 1 Quarterfinals – Approximately **5:15 p.m.**

Div. 2 & 3 Preliminaries, Girls Quarterfinals – **7 p.m.** – D2 & 3 Weigh in: 5 p.m.

(Div. 2 on mats 1, 2 & 3; Div. 3 on mats 5, 7 & 8; Girls on mats 4 & 6)

Note: All weight classes will be wrestled in consecutive order from lowest to highest on next available mat.

Session 2 – Friday, Feb. 23 – Eight Mats

Div. 1 & Girls Consolations – **10 a.m.** (Doors open 9 a.m.)

(Div. 1 on mats 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 8; Girls on mats 4 & 6)

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

Div. 2 & 3 Quarterfinals – Approximately **15 minutes following previous round**

(Div. 2 on mats 1, 2 & 3; Div. 3 on mats 5, 7 & 8; Girls on mats 4 & 6)

Div. 1 & Girls Consolation

Quarterfinals – Approximately **15 minutes following previous round**

(Div. 1 on mats 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 8; Girls on mats 4 & 6)

Div. 2 & 3 Consolation

Quarterfinals – Approximately **15 minutes following previous round**

(Div. 2 on mats 1, 2 & 3; Div. 3 on mats 5, 7 & 8; Girls on mats 4 & 6)

Note: All weight classes will be wrestled in consecutive order from lowest to highest on next available mat.

Session 3 – Friday, Feb. 23 – Eight Mats

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

(Div. 1 on mats 1 & 2; Div. 2 on mats 3 & 5; Div. 3 on mats 7 & 8;

Girls on mats 4 & 6)

Note: All weight classes will be wrestled in consecutive order from lowest to highest on next available mat.

Session 4 – Saturday, Feb. 24 – Eight Mats

All Weigh Ins: 8:30 a.m.

Div. 1, 2, 3 & Girls Consolation Semifinals – **10 a.m.** (Doors open 9 a.m.)

(Div. 1 on mats 1 & 2; Div. 2 on mats 3 & 5; Div. 3 on mats 7 & 8;

Girls on mats 4 & 6)

Div. 1, 2, 3 & Girls Fifth Place Matches*

Div. 1, 2, 3 & Girls Third Place Matches*

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

Session 5 – Saturday, Feb. 24 – Four Mats

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

Div. 1, 2, 3 & Girls **Championships** – (Div. 1 on mat 1; Girls on mat 2; Div. 2 on mat 3; Div. 3 on mat 4)

2024 State Team Wrestling Tournament Schedule

Friday-Saturday, March 1-2
UW Field House, Madison

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

Teams will be seeded on Sunday, Feb. 25
and pairings posted following review.

DIVISION 1

Quarterfinals – Friday, March 1 – 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

Semifinals – Friday, March 1 – 7:30 p.m.

Match 5 – Match 1 winner vs. Match 2 winner

Match 6 – Match 3 winner vs. Match 4 winner

Final – Saturday March 2 – 3 p.m. (Gates Open 2 p.m.)

DIVISION 2

Semifinals – Saturday, March 2 – 10 a.m.

Match 1 – #1 seed vs. #4 seed

Match 2 – #2 seed vs. #3 seed

Final – Saturday March 2 – 3 p.m.

DIVISION 3

Semifinals – Saturday, March 2 – 10 a.m.

Match 1 – #1 seed vs. #4 seed

Match 2 – #2 seed vs. #3 seed

Final – Saturday March 2 – 3 p.m.

Friday Weigh-ins at 4:30 p.m.

Friday Admission is \$16

Saturday Weigh-ins all divisions at 9 a.m.

Saturday Admission is \$11 for each session

Board of Control Approves from page 1

back on the Menti polls and the coaching contact and membership expectation breakout discussions and the ongoing efforts to recruit and retain licensed sport officials.

The Board was introduced to several possible Constitutional amendments that will be reviewed by the committee process to determine if they advance to the membership for a vote at the Annual Meeting. The amendments under consideration address competition and practice restrictions; requiring the WIAA to be in compliance with all NFHS rules and regulations; Name, Image and Likeness (NIL) opportunities; and use of video replay to review all player ejections.

Dr. Timothy McGuine from the UW-Madison Department of Orthopedics and Rehabilitations Department presented an update on research studies focused on concussions, protective equipment, and risk minimization, as well as the availability of athletic trainer personnel in member high schools.

The Board also received liaison reports from Paul Manriquez of the Department of Public Instruction, Dan Rossmiller of the Wisconsin Association of School Boards and Eric Plitzuweit of the Wisconsin Athletic Directors Association. ●

2023-24 WIAA Wrestling Points of Emphasis and Reminders from page 3

JV level wrestling events. There is no fee to be paid by them for this license.

Officials' clinic – Will again be held in Green Bay on Nov. 4 in conjunction with the annual WWCA coach's clinic. This is a great event – be there if possible. You will be contacted with more information. Association leaders, please encourage your membership to attend.

New Boys Weight Classes – The 14 boys weight classes this year have changed a bit from previous years. They are 106, 113, 120, 126, 132, 138, 144, 150, 157, 165, 175, 190, 215, 285. The 12 girls weight classes have not changed.

Bench Decorum – As always, sportsmanship is a large point of emphasis not only in our state but nationwide. As a reminder, during a dual meet, coaches and team personnel are to remain at or behind the team bench area. Benches are to be a minimum of 10 feet from the scorers' table and the mat where facilities permit. Coaches are NOT allowed to place chairs in the corners, mat side or create a separate area away from the team bench. No team personnel is allowed to stand in front of the team bench or approach the mat while the match is going on. This is true for dual meets and tournaments, coaches are to be in their chairs or behind their team bench if they wish to stand. Adhering to this will provide for the best possible atmosphere for all involved.

Baiting – this has always part of the rule book as an unsportsmanlike act. It has historically been seen by wrestlers who have been dropping to a knee to break locked hands. It is now being used by defensive wrestlers to give the appearance that the offensive is not working to advance their position by blocking legs with their hands or locking on a leg to prevent a lift and return to the mat. These are just a few examples, officials need to be cognizant of these types of baiting tactics and penalize the correct wrestler, which in this situation is the defensive wrestler. The penalty at a minimum should be stalling and if repeated, then unsportsmanlike conduct is the call.

Unnecessary Roughness – Over the past few seasons there has been an increase in unwarranted or excessive pushes at the boundary, taps on top of the head, slaps to the side of the ear guards and overly aggressive crossfaces. All of these are to be penalized as unnecessary roughness as they have no place in the sport of wrestling. Apathy in appropriately penalizing these types of actions can and usually will result in losing control of a match, retaliation by the opponent or worse. Coaches can be proactive in your wrestling room by discouraging these actions and officials by discussing it in your pre-meet talks with the teams.

Uniforms – Uniforms must be school issued and meet the requirements as outlined in the NFHS rule book under Rule 4 Section 1. All wrestlers must wear an appropriate undergarment that completely covers the buttocks and groin area. In addition, Female wrestlers must also wear a sports bra that com-

2023-24 State Girls Basketball Tournament Schedule

Thursday-Friday-Saturday, March 7-9
Resch Center, Green Bay

Thursday, March 7

Division 3 Semifinals – 1:35 p.m.

#1 Seed vs. #4 Seed

#3 Seed vs. #2 Seed

Division 4 Semifinals – 6:35 p.m.

#1 Seed vs. #4 Seed

#3 Seed vs. #2 Seed

Friday, March 8

Division 5 Semifinals – 9:05 a.m.

#1 Seed vs. #4 Seed

#3 Seed vs. #2 Seed

Division 2 Semifinals – 1:35 p.m.

#1 Seed vs. #4 Seed

#3 Seed vs. #2 Seed

Division 1 Semifinals – 6:35 p.m.

#1 Seed vs. #4 Seed

#3 Seed vs. #2 Seed

Saturday, March 9

3-Point Challenge – 9:30 a.m.

Division 5 Championship – 11:05 a.m.

Division 4 Championship

15 minutes following completion of
Division 5 championship game.

Division 3 Championship

15 minutes following completion of
Division 4 championship game.

Division 2 Championship – 6:35 p.m.

Division 1 Championship

15 minutes following completion of
Division 2 championship game.

pletely covers their breasts and minimizes the risk for exposure. If this combination of a legal singlet and a sports bra does not meet that criteria, the wrestler may be required to wear a form fitted compression shirt to satisfy this requirement. Coaches, please make sure that all of your wrestlers are legally equipped and that you are carrying extra uniforms and accessories to ensure that all of your wrestlers meet the criteria for a legal uniform.

Website – It is very important that all officials visit the website frequently throughout the season to keep up to date on interpretations, situations and answers to a variety of questions. This is the best way we can communicate and keep everyone on the same page. Also, check out the great variety of available resources and see if anything new has been

2023-24 State Boys Basketball Tournament Schedule

Thursday-Friday-Saturday, March 14-16
Kohl Center, Madison

Thursday, March 14

Division 3 Semifinals – 1:35 p.m.

#1 Seed vs. #4 Seed

#3 Seed vs. #2 Seed

Division 4 Semifinals – 6:35 p.m.

#1 Seed vs. #4 Seed

#3 Seed vs. #2 Seed

Friday, March 15

Division 5 Semifinals – 9:05 a.m.

#1 Seed vs. #4 Seed

#3 Seed vs. #2 Seed

Division 2 Semifinals – 1:35 p.m.

#1 Seed vs. #4 Seed

#3 Seed vs. #2 Seed

Division 1 Semifinals – 6:35 p.m.

#1 Seed vs. #4 Seed

#3 Seed vs. #2 Seed

Saturday, March 16

3-Point Challenge – 9:30 a.m.

Division 5 Championship – 11:05 a.m.

Division 4 Championship

15 minutes following completion of
Division 5 championship game.

Division 3 Championship

15 minutes following completion of
Division 4 championship game.

Division 2 Championship – 6:35 p.m.

Division 1 Championship

15 minutes following completion of
Division 2 championship game.

added. The website will be updated in the near future.

Consecutive days of competition or school cancellation – There is a maximum of a 2-pound allowance for consecutive days of competition and/or school cancellation. If you have a dual on Wednesday and Thursday, and a school cancellation on Friday, followed by a tournament on Saturday, you get only get two extra pounds on Saturday. For example, 112 would be 114. You may **never** exceed the 2-pound allowance and you must give your opponents(s) a 48-hour notice prior to the event. The 48 hours is required for consecutive days of competition, not for school cancellations. But they must be notified. The appropriate persons to notify would be the coach, AD or principal. ●

2024-25 Enrollments

Listed below you will find the enrollments that will be used for the 2024-25 school year for divisional placements. The numbers are the September 15, 2023 enrollment counts that your school provided. For those schools that have WIAA associate member schools, you will find those schools listed under your school with their enrollment added to your total (the total will be the number used). If you find a discrepancy in the enrollment total listed for your school, please let Kassie Mortimer know by December 1, 2023. No changes will be made to enrollment numbers after the December 1, 2023 deadline. Note: If there is no enrollment number listed for your school it means that you have not yet submitted the online enrollment form to the WIAA office.

Abbotsford	240	Barneveld	128	Cedarburg	1087
Abundant Life Christian	141	Barron	312	Central Wisconsin Christian	125
Adams-Friendship	437	Northstar Academy	13	Chequamegon	214
Albany	85	Barron Total	325	Class Act	2
Algoma	208	Bay Port	1952	Chequamegon Total	216
Alma	69	Bayfield	0	Chesterton Academy of Milwaukee	118
Alma Center Lincoln	167	Beaver Dam	1047	Chetek-Weyerhaeuser	251
Almond-Bancroft	108	Belleville	294	Northstar Academy	0
Altoona	574	Belmont	110	Chetek-Weyerhaeuser Total	251
Amery	436	Beloit Memorial	1576	Chilton	396
Amherst	357	Benton	60	Chippewa Falls	1424
Antigo	642	Berlin	479	Clayton	95
Appleton East	0	Big Foot	442	Clear Lake	201
Appleton eSchool	0	Birchwood	70	Clinton	317
Appleton Technical Academy	0	Birchwood Charter	0	Clintonville	404
Fox Cities Leadership Academy	0	Birchwood Total	70	Cochrane-Fountain City	180
Renaissance School for the Arts	0	Black Hawk	109	Colby	307
Tesla Engineering	0	Black River Falls	499	Coleman	225
Valley New School	0	Blair-Taylor	174	Colfax	234
Wisconsin Connections	0	Bloomer	408	Columbus	373
Appleton East Total	0	Bonduel	263	Columbus Catholic	147
Appleton North	0	Boscobel	191	Community Christian School of Baraboo HS	27
Appleton eSchool	0	Bowler	98	Cornell	108
Appleton Technical Academy	0	Boyceville	213	Coulee Christian	61
Fox Cities Leadership Academy	0	Brillion	319	Crandon	232
Renaissance School for the Arts	0	Brodhead	323	Cristo Rey Jesuit	467
Tesla Engineering	0	Brookfield Academy	333	Crivitz	202
Valley New School	0	Brookfield Central	1173	Cuba City	269
Wisconsin Connections	0	Brookfield East	1400	Cudahy	683
Appleton North Total	0	Brookwood	179	Cumberland	296
Appleton West	1353	Brown Deer	537	D.C. Everest	1830
Appleton eSchool	0	Bruce	120	Everest Virtual Academy	0
Appleton Technical Academy	0	Burlington	961	D.C. Everest Total	1830
Fox Cities Leadership Academy	0	Butternut	57	Darlington	258
Renaissance School for the Arts	0	Promethean	1	De Pere	1464
Tesla Engineering	0	Butternut Total	58	De Soto	125
Valley New School	0	Cadott	254	La Crosse Polytechnic School	1
Wisconsin Connections	0	Cambria-Friesland	113	De Soto Total	126
Appleton West Total	1353	Cambridge	261	Deerfield	205
Aquinas	318	Koshkonong Trails	19	DeForest	1141
Arcadia	430	Cambridge Total	280	Delavan-Darien	554
Argyle	77	Cameron	298	Delavan-Darien Technical School	66
Arrowhead	2037	Northstar Academy	12	Delavan-Darien Total	620
Ashland	625	Cameron Total	310	Denmark	461
Ashwaubenon	996	Campbellsport	492	Denmark Community School	0
Assumption	146	Carmen Northwest	403	Denmark Total	461
Athens	120	Carmen South	401	Destiny	228
Auburndale	230	Carmen Southeast	689	Divine Savior Holy Angels	1266
Audubon Technology and Communications	430	Cashton	194	Dodgeland	257
Augusta	165	Cassville	57	Dodgeville	374
Wildland Research	47	Catholic Central	129	Dominican	330
Augusta Total	212	Catholic Memorial	571	Dr. Howard Fuller Collegiate Academy	342
Badger	1256	Cedar Grove-Belgium	283	Drummond	103
New Visions Charter	37	Rocket Academy	8		
Badger Total	1293	Cedar Grove-Belgium Total	291		
Baldwin-Woodville	509				
Bangor	215				
Baraboo	942				

See 2024-25 Enrollments, page 9 ➤

2024-25 Enrollments from page 8

Durand-Arkansaw	313	Green Bay Southwest	1071	Kenosha St. Joseph Catholic Academy	219
East Troy	479	John Dewey Academy of Learning	14	Kenosha Tremper	1493
Eastbrook Academy	81	North East Wis. N.E.W. School of Innovation ..	48	Kenosha E-School	0
Eau Claire Immanuel Lutheran	107	Green Bay Southwest Total	1133	Kenosha Harborside	132
Eau Claire Memorial	1776	Green Bay West	1071	Kenosha Lakeview Tech	141
McKinley	61	John Dewey Academy of Learning	17	Kenosha Reuther	156
Eau Claire Virtual	41	North East Wis. N.E.W. School of Innovation ..	52	Kenosha Tremper Total	1922
Eau Claire Memorial Total	1878	Green Bay West Total	1140	Kettle Moraine	880
Eau Claire North	1578	Green Lake	93	Kettle Moraine Connect	12
McKinley	72	Greendale	915	High School of Health Sciences	192
Eau Claire Virtual	47	Greenfield	1136	Kettle Moraine Global School for	
Eau Claire North Total	1697	Greenwood	104	Global Learning	72
Edgar	201	Gresham Community	91	Kettle Moraine School for the	
Edgerton	551	Hamilton	1554	Performing Arts	118
Edgewood Sacred Heart	619	Hartford Union	1337	Kettle Moraine Total	1274
Elcho	74	Hayward	597	Kettle Moraine Lutheran	568
Eleva-Strum	194	HACIL	0	Kewaskum	594
Elk Mound	368	Hayward Total	597	Kewaunee	308
Elkhart Lake-Glenbeulah	161	Heritage Christian	202	Kickapoo	166
Elkhorn Area	917	Highland	99	Kiel	394
Career & College	0	Hilbert	143	Kiel eSchool	26
Elkhorn Area Total	917	Hillsboro	151	Kiel Total	420
Ellsworth	527	Hmong American Peace Academy	515	Kimberly	1574
Elmwood	90	Holmen	1254	Kingdom Prep Lutheran	446
Evansville	513	Homestead	1227	Kohler	232
Faith Christian (Williams Bay)	75	Horicon	260	ETUDE	0
Faith Christian Academy (Wausau)	43	Hortonville	1326	Kohler Total	232
Fall Creek	254	Howards Grove	266	La Crosse Central	1010
Fall River	166	Hudson	1732	La Crosse Polytechnic School	1
Fennimore	246	Hurley	203	La Crosse Central Total	1011
Flambeau	147	Hustisford	104	La Crosse Logan	713
Florence	111	Independence	144	La Crosse Polytechnic School	1
Fond du Lac	1913	Iola-Scandinavia	201	La Crosse Logan Total	714
STEM Institute	0	Iowa-Grant	212	La Farge	69
Fond du Lac Total	1913	Ithaca	116	Lac Courte Oreilles	123
Fort Atkinson	874	Janesville Craig	1450	Laconia	324
Fox Valley Lutheran	745	Arise Virtual Academy	27	Ladysmith	249
Franklin	1606	Rock River	115	Lake Country Classical Academy	86
Frederic	124	Rock University	40	Lake Country Lutheran	350
Freedom	481	Janesville Craig Total	1632	Lake Holcombe	85
Gale-Ettrick-Trempealeau	417	Janesville Parker	1264	Lake Mills	482
Germantown	1295	Arise Virtual Academy	22	Lakeland Union	704
Gibraltar	166	Rock River	123	Lakeside Lutheran	535
Gillett	163	Rock University	35	Lancaster	318
Gilman	98	Janesville Parker Total	1444	Laona	72
Gilmanton	41	Jefferson	612	Lena	116
Glenwood City	203	Johnson Creek	181	Little Chute	387
Golda Meir	609	Juda	90	Little Chute Career Pathways	90
Goodman	30	Kaukauna	1262	Little Chute Total	477
Grafton	718	Kenosha Bradford	1490	Living Word Lutheran	242
Granton	62	Kenosha E-School	0	Lodi	448
Grantsburg	270	Kenosha Harborside	159	Lomira	315
Green Bay East	1070	Kenosha Lakeview Tech	121	Lourdes Academy	172
John Dewey Academy of Learning	31	Kenosha Reuther	117	Loyal	167
North East Wis. N.E.W. School of Innovation ..	63	Kenosha Bradford Total	1887	Luck	125
Green Bay East Total	1164	Kenosha Christian Life	196	Luther	253
Green Bay N.E.W. Lutheran	128	Kenosha Indian Trail H.S. and Academy	2018	Luxemburg-Casco	648
Green Bay Preble	2157	Kenosha E-School	0	Madison Country Day	124
John Dewey Academy of Learning	39	Kenosha Harborside	69	Madison East	1644
North East Wis. N.E.W. School of Innovation ..	55	Kenosha Lakeview Tech	121	Madison La Follette	1635
Green Bay Preble Total	2251	Kenosha Reuther	81	Madison Memorial	2031
		Kenosha Indian Trail H.S. and Academy Total ..	2289		

See 2024-25 Enrollments, page 10 ►

2024-25 Enrollments from page 9

Madison West.....	2193	Milwaukee School of Languages.....	547	Obama SCTE.....	0
Manawa.....	216	Milwaukee South.....	864	Assata.....	389
		Grandview.....	221	Obama SCTE Total.....	389
Manitowoc Lincoln.....	1476	South Division Accelerated Academy.....	48		
McKinley Academy.....	69	Milwaukee South Total.....	1133	Oconomowoc.....	1628
Manitowoc Lincoln Total.....	1545			Oconto.....	252
		Milwaukee Vincent.....	0	Oconto Falls.....	533
Manitowoc Lutheran.....	248	Green Tree Preparatory Academy.....	766	Omro.....	331
Marathon.....	282	Vincent Accelerated Academy.....	0	Onalaska.....	920
Marinette.....	645	Milwaukee Vincent Total.....	766	Oneida Nation.....	128
Marion.....	134			Oostburg.....	324
Markesan.....	243	Milwaukee Washington.....	379	Oregon.....	1285
Marquette University H.S.....	1786	Groppi.....	104	Osceola.....	511
Marshall.....	287	Milwaukee Washington Total.....	483	Oshkosh North.....	1268
Marshfield.....	1252			Oshkosh West.....	1652
Martin Luther.....	676	Milwaukee Wis Conservatory of		Osseo-Fairchild.....	233
		Lifelong Learning.....	223	Owen-Withee.....	133
Mauston.....	364			Ozaukee.....	196
ILEAD Charter.....	78	Mineral Point.....	240	Pacelli.....	180
Mauston Total.....	442	Mishicot.....	268	Palmyra-Eagle.....	178
		Mondovi.....	270	Pardeeville.....	274
Mayville.....	363			Parkview.....	238
McDonell Central Catholic.....	199	Monona Grove.....	1135	Pecatonica.....	119
McFarland.....	742	Liberal Arts Charter School for the		Pembine.....	56
Medford.....	715	21st Century.....	49	Pepin.....	79
Mellen.....	81	Monona Grove Total.....	1184	Peshtigo.....	340
Melrose-Mindoro.....	217			Pewaukee.....	870
Menasha.....	1022	Monroe.....	715	Phelps.....	24
Menominee Indian.....	358			Phillips.....	206
Menomonee Falls.....	1288	Montello.....	189	Pittsville.....	176
Menomonie.....	966	High Marq Environment.....	0	Pius XI Catholic.....	737
Mercer.....	34	Montello Virtual.....	0	Platteville.....	489
Merrill.....	762	Montello Total.....	189	Plum City.....	79
Messmer.....	518			Plymouth.....	733
		Monticello.....	87	Port Edwards.....	144
Middleton.....	2285	Mosinee.....	625	Port Washington.....	804
Clark Street.....	103	Mount Horeb.....	782	Portage.....	648
Middleton Total.....	2388	Mukwonago.....	1588	Potosi.....	109
		Muskego.....	1648	Poynette.....	307
Milton.....	1054	Necedah.....	217	Prairie du Chien.....	323
Milwaukee Academy of Science.....	392	Neenah.....	1977		
Milwaukee Arts.....	987	Neillsville.....	242	Prairie Farm.....	139
Milwaukee Bay View.....	938	Nekoosa.....	288	Northstar Academy.....	0
Milwaukee Bradley Technical.....	999	New Auburn.....	97	Prairie Farm Total.....	139
Milwaukee Excellence Charter School.....	0	New Berlin Eisenhower.....	724		
Milwaukee Hamilton.....	1516	New Berlin West.....	661	Prentice.....	106
Milwaukee Juneau.....	227	New Glarus.....	320	Prescott.....	427
Milwaukee King.....	1349	New Holstein.....	327	Princeton.....	88
Milwaukee Lutheran.....	825	New Lisbon.....	153	Providence Academy (Green Bay).....	34
				Providence Academy (La Crosse).....	27
Milwaukee Madison Academic Campus.....	692	New London.....	684	Pulaski.....	1114
Banner Preparatory.....	0	Catalyst Academy.....	23	Racine Case.....	1849
Milwaukee Madison Academic Campus Total.....	692	New London Total.....	707	Racine Horlick.....	1289
				Racine Lutheran.....	343
Milwaukee Marshall.....	0	New Richmond.....	1088	Racine Park.....	1173
Milwaukee North.....	428	Newman Catholic.....	105	Racine Saint Catherine's.....	456
		Niagara.....	134	Randolph.....	171
Milwaukee Pulaski.....	1024	Nicolet.....	1049	Random Lake.....	221
Lad Lake Synergy.....	0	North Crawford.....	126	Reedsburg Area.....	857
Project Stay.....	0	North Fond du Lac.....	463	Reedsville.....	192
Milwaukee Pulaski Total.....	1024	Northland Lutheran.....	110	Regis.....	212
				Rhineland.....	748
Milwaukee Riverside University H.S.....	1168	Northland Pines.....	371	Rib Lake.....	148
Alliance School of Milwaukee.....	0	SOAR.....	72	Rice Lake.....	706
NOVA.....	0	Northland Pines Total.....	443		
Shalom.....	0			Richland Center.....	379
Transition.....	0	Northwestern.....	392	Richland Online Academy.....	12
Milwaukee Riverside University H.S. Total.....	1168	Northwood.....	79	Richland Center Partner.....	13
		Notre Dame de la Baie Academy.....	739	Richland Center Total.....	404
Milwaukee Ronald W Reagan College Prep.....	1365	Oak Creek.....	2177		
		Oakfield.....	170	Rio.....	113

See 2024-25 Enrollments, page 11 ►

2024-25 Enrollments from page 10

Ripon	451	Sparta	853	Waunakee	1352
Odyssey Academy of Virtual Learning	11	High Point	0	Waupaca	644
Ripon Total	462	S.A.I.L.S.	63	Waupun	569
River Falls	1123	Sparta Total	916	Wausau East	902
River Ridge	166	Spencer	197	Wausau Area Virtual Education	24
River Valley	379	Spooner	373	Wausau Enrich Excel Achieve Learning	0
Riverdale	208	Spring Valley	180	Wausau East Total	926
Roncalli	229	St. Augustine Preparatory Academy	729	Wausau West	1468
Rosholt	166	St. John's Northwestern Academies	281	Wausau Area Virtual Education	0
Royall	140	Stanley-Boyd	321	Wausau Enrich Excel Achieve Learning	0
Saint Ambrose Academy	119	Stevens Point	2083	Wausau West Total	1468
Saint Anthony	576	Stockbridge	53	Wausaukee	125
Saint Croix Central	483	Stoughton	861	Wautoma	397
Saint Croix Virtual	23	Stratford	271	Wauwatosa East	1035
Saint Croix Central Total	506	Sturgeon Bay	404	Wauwatosa West	1027
Saint Croix Falls	358	Sun Prairie East	1282	Wauzeka-Steuben	90
Saint Francis	553	Sun Prairie West	1394	Wayland Academy	188
Saint Joan Antida	420	Superior	1273	Webster	184
Saint Lawrence Seminary	270	Suring	122	West Allis Central	1070
Saint Mary Catholic	273	Tenor	571	West Allis Nathan Hale	1190
Saint Mary's Springs Academy	263	The Lincoln Academy	0	West Bend East	909
Saint Thomas Aquinas Academy	52	The Prairie School	237	West Bend West	1072
Saint Thomas More	566	Thorp	181	West De Pere	1060
Salam	209	Three Lakes	145	Phantom Knight Charter School	21
Sauk Prairie	864	Tigerton	69	West De Pere Total	1081
Seneca	96	Tomah	964	West Salem	603
Sevastopol	189	Tomahawk	353	Westby	297
Seymour	595	Tri-County	169	Westfield Area	295
Shawano Community	752	Trinity Academy	2	Weston	69
Sheboygan Area Lutheran	185	Turner	458	Westosha Central	1283
Sheboygan Christian	148	Turtle Lake	117	Weyauwega-Fremont	290
Sheboygan Falls	501	Northstar Academy	5	White Lake	49
ETUDE	0	Turtle Lake Total	122	Whitefish Bay	911
Sheboygan Falls Total	501	Two Rivers	487	Whitehall	221
Sheboygan North	1502	Lighthouse Learning Academy	0	Whitewater	586
Central High	64	Two Rivers Total	487	Whitnall	850
ETUDE	0	Union Grove	1010	Wild Rose	157
George D. Warriner	54	Unity	291	Williams Bay	178
Sheboygan North Total	1620	University Lake School	73	Career & College	0
Sheboygan South	1124	University School of Milwaukee	412	Williams Bay Total	178
Central High	117	Valders	297	Wilmot Union	914
ETUDE	0	Valley Christian School (Osceola)	23	Winnebago Lutheran Academy	340
George D. Warriner	56	Valley Christian School (Oshkosh)	189	Winneconne	510
Sheboygan South Total	1297	Veritas	255	Winter	81
Shell Lake	215	Verona Area	1794	Wisconsin Dells	572
Shiocton	214	Viroqua	302	Wisconsin Heights	221
Shoreland Lutheran	425	Laurel	45	Wisconsin Lutheran	924
Shorewood	619	Viroqua Total	347	Wisconsin Rapids Lincoln	1384
New Horizons	24	Wabeno	91	River Cities	75
Shorewood Total	643	Washburn	0	Wisconsin Rapids Lincoln Total	1459
Shullsburg	102	Washington Island	0	Wisconsin School for the Blind and	
Siren	125	Waterford	889	Visually Impaired	12
Slinger	1041	Waterloo	261	Wisconsin School for the Deaf	26
Solon Springs	90	Watertown	1082	Wittenberg-Birnamwood	338
Somerset	462	eCampus	83	Wolf River Lutheran	35
South Milwaukee	982	Endeavor	55	Wonewoc-Center	121
South Shore	68	Watertown Total	1220	Wrightstown	399
Southern Door	311	Watertown Luther Prep	409	Xavier	457
Southwestern	178	Waukesha North	962	Young Coggs	0
		Waukesha South	1204	Youth Initiative	71
		Waukesha West	1195		

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.

FOOTBALL

Greenwood @ Athens – Oct. 6, 2023

It's a pleasure to work with Athen's Athletic Director Guyler Luther. His communication prior to and during the contest is outstanding. Also, his and Athen's hospitality was fantastic. Next, we would like to acknowledge the outstanding sportsmanship displayed by both teams, sidelines, and fans. Head Coaches Todd Diethelm and Dean Lindner educate, model and expect positive sportsmanship of their coaching staff and players. Both team's sidelines were excited, encouraging, and great to communicate with. Also, both sidelines did an impeccable job in keeping their sidelines clean. Third, the players did an amazing job on the field. They worked and communicated well with officials, motivated their own teammates, provided the opposing team with words of praise, and helped each other off the turf. As a crew, we concluded that this was one of the easiest and most enjoyable games we have officiated at any level as the coaches and athletes were respectful, positive, competitive, and having fun. Congratulations to Coach Diethelm as his program has been acknowledged for his sportsmanship in the past and hats off to Coach Lindner for the positive behavior of his young team. Applause to the communities of Athens and Greenwood and the educational and coaching leadership of those schools. It takes time and effort to train our youth on the importance of education, sports, leadership, and exhibiting positive sportsmanship.

Reporting Official: Shawn Umland

Westby @ Black River Falls – Sept. 29, 2023

My officiating crew wanted to commend one of the most standout players we have witnessed this season. This player is #62 of Black River Falls. Although #62 wasn't a captain, he showed exemplary sportsmanship and leadership the whole game. He played very hard and hustled. Even though he was dinged up and battle bruised, he still helped everyone up play-after-play, spoke professionally and with great respect to his teammates, opposing players and officials. If there was something he didn't understand or if a scenario needed further explanation, he asked politely and responded well. #62 should be commended with the highest valor available at Black River Falls, the Coulee Conference and at the WIAA. He is a standout student-athlete with natural leadership skills and brings great value to his team, school, community, and future workforce/educational settings.

Reporting Official: Dan Pearson

Hurley @ Ashland – Aug. 25, 2023

This letter is to acknowledge the outstanding sportsmanship exhibited by coaches, players, and fans. First, we wish to acknowledge the Ashland staff for their outstanding communication and hospitality. We were provided escorts, refreshments, and accommodations that allowed to us prepare for and review after the game. Coach Larson and Coach Erickson did an exceptional job motivating their team to play hard and showcase positive sportsmanship. Coaches used words of encouragement and kept words positive during adversity. It was noticed that coaches received a great deal of respect from their players. Players exhibited positive sportsmanship their coaches modeled. They listened to the officials, kept words constructive, and motivated their own team to excel; plus, the captains did a great job keeping their team focused and motivated. We would like to acknowledge the grounds keeper, announcer, clock operator, and chain crew. The maintenance team did an exceptional job with the field. This rivalry is spirited and the fans did a great job cheering for their own team. No derogatory remarks were heard.

We thank Ashland High School for their outstanding hospitality and congratulate both schools for their efforts in teaching and demonstrating positive sportsmanship.

Reporting Official: Shawn Umland

Cedar Grove-Belgium @ Lake Mills – Aug. 24, 2023

Our crew all agreed that we wish every game could be like this one. Both the Lake Mills and Cedar Grove-Belgium teams displayed all around great sportsmanship. Not once was there anything near a skirmish on the field. Players were constantly helping opponents up off the turf after the play. The coaching staffs were great to work with, and they were coaching their players, never criticizing them. Even with the poor weather and late start, we would gladly work this game again.

Reporting Official: Randall Koyu

Holmen @ Chippewa Falls – Aug. 17, 2023

The Chippewa Falls athletic department greeted us at the door, took us to the field then made sure we had water at halftime. After the game we were led to the locker room and escorted out. That sounds simple, but trust that this treatment is not common enough. Now the game. These two teams .should make a video of what WIAA sports are supposed to be. GREAT sportsmanship from 6 p.m. until the final whistle. Both coaching staffs, players and fans were absolutely exemplary. Sportsmanship galore. What an experience. We can't say enough good things. I hope both communities realize how special their football teams are. Congratulations to everyone involved. This is how it's done!

Reporting Official: Rich Hohl

Oconto Falls @ Coleman – Sept. 22, 2023

This game was by far the best football game we have worked in years! Both teams play old school, smash mouth, run the ball football, something I really enjoy! Both teams are very physical and well coached. The kids obviously have connections and know each other and it was on display. Throughout the game, they were patting each other on the head for good play, helping each other up from the ground, etc. Too many examples to cite. Both coaches (Coleman's Jeff Bronson and Oconto Falls Nicholas Bohl) were awesome. Coaching their kids up, showing respect for each other, their programs, and the game of football, while preaching life lessons of hard work, supporting and trusting their teammates, while celebrating success, but also using "failure" as a teaching moment...the true value of high school athletics. The greatest show of sportsmanship and leadership occurred when Oconto Falls had a significant injury to one of its players (dislocated ankle) and the coaches and trainers from both programs rushed to the field to aid the player. Upon knowing the significance of the injury calling the First Responders out, Athletic Director/ Head Coach Bronson was asked about driving the ambulance on the field, and his response showed his integrity, "Of course!" Thanks to both schools and programs for an excellent night of Friday Night Lights!

Reporting Official: Steve Walsh

BOYS SOCCER

Hartford @ Kettle Moraine Lutheran – Oct. 13, 2023

Both schools deserve a shoutout. The weather was cold, windy, and rainy, and the boys showed tremendous sportsmanship towards each other. The match was well-played and the players kept each other safe, and they remained in good spirits and had smiles on their faces the whole time. They thanked the officiating crew numerous times for being out there in the bad weather with them. Well done to both programs!

Reporting Official: Matt Miles

Plymouth @ Waupun – Oct. 10, 2023

Despite the fact that Logan VanDrie of Plymouth was a rather intense (driven) player, he always had time to always say nice things to his teammates, a number of his opponents and TOO ME !

Reporting Official: Tom Konecny

Wisconsin Rapids Linc. @ Stevens Point – Oct. 5, 2023

Stevens Point staff greeted our crew with referee appreciation gift bags. The two rival schools from the Wisconsin Valley Conference competed in a very exciting match. The coaches, players, and fans engaged in respectful and constructive encouragement of the student athletes. Parents from both schools thanked our crew as we left the soccer complex. It was a wonderful example of interscholastic sports.

Reporting Official: Jon Payne

Mount Horeb @ Watertown Luther Prep – Sept. 23, 2023

Watertown Luther Prep was very gracious and polite during the entire game. They helped get the ball in play for both teams and substitutes went to the field very fast and helped keep the game going. All of the fans from both schools were very polite and only cheered for the players and never had a bad word for any referee call. This is a first for me in all the years of refereeing at WIAA varsity level sports.

Reporting Official: Steven Melendez

Shawano @ Xavier – Sept. 20

This is a shout out to both teams, all the fans, and both coaching staffs. The level of play throughout, coupled with the respect the players showed to me, my assistants and their opponents was tremendous. It felt great to walk off the field at its conclusion and have conversations with Shawano's captains #2 Warner Beyer & #9 Anderson Schmidt, Xavier's defender #5 Paul Mas-torides and head coaches Andrew Brooks (Shawano) & Modeste Rouamba (Xavier). I left the field feeling appreciated. Thanks fellas for your words of encouragement and the great contest that I was able to be part of. Good luck with the rest of your seasons and upcoming WIAA Tournament Series.

Reporting Official: Al Sprague

Green Bay Preble JV vs. Amherst JV & Wautoma JV – Sept. 9, 2023

I officiated Green Bay Preble JV1 games during Wautoma's soccer tournaments for the 50 minutes (two 25-minute halves) that I was in Preble's defensive half of the field, goalie Landin Gauthier came across as a great teammate. Yes, he talked quite a bit but (and) absolutely everything was positive and encouraging. As a result, I believe I was able to get a very good perspective (sampling) on a very good person.

Reporting Official: Tom Konecny

Campbellsport JV @ Fond du Lac JV – Aug. 28, 2023

Simply stated, all of the 80+ parents, all of the players and both coaches were great every minute of the afternoon, from pre-game through post-game – WOW !!

Reporting Official: Tom Konecny

Edgerton @ Mount Horeb – Aug. 26, 2023

The game was a competitive and the play was hard and fast. Often challenges ended up with both players on the ground. What was nice was the first to get up helped out the other to get to their feet. The yellow cards that were issued were playing yellow, and not for dissent of intimidation. At the end of the game all the players were shaking the hands of the

See Sports Report "PLUS"; page 14 ➤

2023-24 Wrestling Points of Emphasis

NFHS Wrestling Rules Book 2023-24

The NFHS Wrestling Rules Committee and the NFHS Board of Directors believes there are areas of interscholastic wrestling 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 2023-24 high school wrestling season, attention is being called to: Uniform Decorum, Excessive Celebration, Default vs. Forfeit and Concealment of a Communicable Skin Condition. 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 needed.

Uniform Decorum

The proper use of a uniform is paramount in high school wrestling. Cleanliness, color selection, fit and style all go into what constitutes the proper decorum of use by the wrestler. A dirty, poorly sized, unbecoming colored uniform is an impediment that interferes with wrestling. We cannot afford for the wrestler's attention to be distracted from the business at hand...to wrestle! Keeping the uniform washed and clean reduces risks of transmitting skin disease which protects the opponent, referee and provides comfort for the wearer. When looking to purchase new or replacement uniforms, consider your color selection and placement. Today's young people do not want to be placed in a situation where a white or light uniform (top or bottom) when wet reveals more of the body than they are comfortable in having exposed. They can become easily embarrassed and self-conscious. With cell phones ever present and everything and/or everybody possibly being the next social media post that goes viral, we want to do our best in avoiding any unfortunate situations. Similarly, it is imperative that a uniform (singlet or two-piece) should be issued to a student that best fits their size, weight and gender. It is disconcerting to have a wrestler wearing a stretched out uniform while wrestling and the back of their uniform is touching the mat during competition. The referee has no other option but to award a fall to their opponent. Whereas, a properly fitted uniform would not have placed the wrestler in jeopardy.

With an increase of more than 30,000 girls entering our sport this last school year and more expected to join our ranks this year, girls being issued a boy's uniform is no longer practical or reasonable. Obviously, boys and girls have different anatomies and require different types of uniforms. It is highly recommended that girls are issued girls' cut singlets/two-piece uniforms. The design of the girls' cut style uniforms reduces the risk of exposure during wrestling competition. We cannot expect a girl to perform her best if she has to be

concerned whether her uniform will support her while she is competing. A sports bra and suitable undergarment that completely covers the groin and buttocks are not just items of modern-day convenience. They are significant in high school wrestling because they are part of the uniform. Proper fit and sizing (to minimize the risk of exposure) should be considered when the female wrestler is on her feet or in various positions during competition. Coaches and parents/guardians have a collaborative role in helping the wrestler to maintain their modesty with proper fitting undergarments and allow them to compete at their optimum best!

While a wholesale overhaul of your uniform stock is not necessary, you should inspect what you have and if it is financially (or when your school's uniform rotation occurs) feasible replace your inventory with newer and properly fitting uniforms designed for all the wrestlers on your team. It will encourage the morale and confidence of your wrestlers.

Excessive Celebration

Wrestling consists of two similar-sized athletes using their skill, technique, strength and catalogue of moves to control and dominate their opponent. One wrestler always has to win and the other unfortunately will be the loser during that match. We are observing that some of the celebrations have become excessive and over the top. We appreciate the exuberance of a young person winning, and their success is a sense of accomplishment and pride, but not at the expense of their opponent. Embarrassing the opponent does not add to their win. It tarnishes the sport that they have dedicated themselves to and have found success in. High school sports and other activities exist to lift students up, not demean or tear them down. The goal is to treat everyone fairly and treat each other with respect. Any actions, taunts, speech or harassment that is insulting, demeaning or hurtful will and should not be tolerated.

Good sports win with humility, lose with grace and do both with dignity. It takes the efforts of everyone every day to ensure that sportsmanship remains one of the top priorities in education-based activity programs.

Default vs. Forfeit

In the purest and simplest form, a default is awarded when a wrestler is unable to continue wrestling for any reason. The match has started and the wrestler cannot continue to wrestle anywhere during the match. The opponent wins and the defaulting wrestler receives the loss.

A forfeit is when an opponent fails to appear for a match for any reason. With the new rule change, a medical forfeit is now an option. The caveat is that the forfeiting wrestler cannot wrestle due to an injury or illness that occurred during the tournament.

The wrestler remains in the tournament if possible (moving down to the consolation bracket) and does not take a loss on their record. This entire transaction is determined by the tournament director after consultation with the on-site appropriate health-care professional and the coach of the injured or ill contestant. Both actions cease wrestling for different reasons and have unique consequences.

Concealment of a Communicable Skin Condition

With the new facial hair rule allowing beards of varying thicknesses and lengths, paying particular attention to more visible skin issues is as important as ever. Covering a communicable skin disease with either make-up or other methods is in direct conflict with the rules of fairness and risk minimization. Concealing or hiding a communicable skin disease is unsporting behavior and in violation of the NFHS Communicable Disease Procedures and makes the wrestler ineligible to participate per rule. ●

Wrestling Comments on the 2023-24 Rules Changes from page 5

questionable areas on or around the face, an inquiry would be made with the wrestler about a physician's note or get a determination from the on-site approved health-care professional (AHCP) if one is present. If there is no on-site AHCP and no note, then the wrestler would be denied the opportunity to compete.

Modified the definition of forfeits (5-13, 10-2-4, 10-2-5) – By having a medical forfeit option available it will clearly define that the wrestler was not able to report to the match due to injury or illness that occurred during the tournament. The determination will be made by the tournament director after consultation with the injured or ill wrestler's coach and the on-site approved health-care professional (AHCP). Like regular forfeits the wrestler would not take a loss on their record.

Modified the usual points of support (5-15-2a) – Feet are regularly supporting the wrestler's weight during the match while on the mat. A wrestler's feet are allowed to be considered supporting points while in a near-fall situation. By adding it to the list of usual supporting points on the mat it will create more clarity and consistency for the wrestlers, coaches and officials.

Modified the end-of-match procedure (6-5-2) – Modified the various methods the referee can indicate who won the match. ●

Advisory Committee supports a strong position on the use of steroids, recommending that a student who has been found to use them be ineligible for a minimum of one year and not reinstated without testing to make sure the athlete has ceased using them." (Otte, 439) The rule change applied the code of conduct minimum to performance enhancing substances.

The WIAA, by Board of Control action as recommended by the Medical Advisory Committee, made a significant health move that was instituted at the beginning of the 1993-94 school year. Called the "day of rest" rule, it required teams in all sports to "rest from all physical activity for at least one calendar day after six consecutive days of practice or competition." (Otte, 440)

In 1995, the SMAC adopted the wrestling skin form to be utilized when a contagious skin condition may exist. The examination must be done no more than three days prior to wrestling and furnished at weigh-ins.

The Committee began the discussion of Female Osteoporosis concerns in 2008 and later developed the Female Triad guidelines in 2010. Female Triad was officially described as a syndrome of: disordered eating, lack of menstrual cycles, and osteoporosis in females. In addition, the SMAC identified concerns with Sickle Cell Trait.

In 2011, the SMAC worked with legislators to develop concussion legislation. As the concussion legislation was passed, the Committee worked with the Wisconsin Department of Instruction to provide educational materials for member schools and other youth athletic organizations.

The SMAC worked with the Wisconsin Football Coaches Association to develop an acclimatization plan in 2012 and a policy was implemented for the 2014 season. The SMAC also discussed player-on-player contact. Player-on-player contact was lim-

ited beginning in the fall of 2014 to no contact the first week, 75 minutes the second week, and 60 minutes for the rest of the season. The plan was later adopted by the NFHS as a recommendation.

The Committee discussed transgender participation and eligibility in 2013. After reviewing the NCAA policy and several state associations' models, the SMAC made a recommendation to the Board of Control for adoption in June of 2013.

After discussions in 2004, 2007, and 2010, the SMAC prepared guidelines for sudden cardiac arrest to member schools in 2013. The Committee adopted the Anyone Can Save A Life emergency action plan for member schools and the NFHS Foundation provided a copy to be distributed to all WIAA member schools in 2015.

The Present

The SMAC began discussions in May of 2015 regarding baseball pitcher arm care. A study conducted on Tommy John surgeries from 2007-2011 stated that 57% of 790 surgeries during that time period were on adolescents in the 15-19 year-old age group. A pitch count was adopted with input of the Wisconsin Baseball Coaches Association in May 2016 for implementation in the spring of 2017.

At the May 2016 meeting, the SMAC adopted a change from the wrestling half-pound per day weight loss to the 1.5 percent per week weight loss plan based on the recommendation of the 7% Committee. The 1.5% weight loss program will provide an individualized weight loss plan for every wrestler based on their skin-fold measurement.

In addition, the SMAC adopted guidelines for Relative Energy Deficit in Sport (RED-S) to emphasize the condition effects all athletes; not just females. Due to the energy deficiency in RED-S normal body functioning is impaired and can affect metabolic rate, immunity, cardiovascular health,

protein synthesis, as well as menstrual function, and bone health.

In May of 2017, the SMAC updated the concussion information, absorbed the Female Triad information into the RED-S information, and added mental health/wellness.

May of 2019, the SMAC discussed sport specific requests and began a process to update the WIAA Medical Policies and Procedures.

Throughout the spring and fall of 2020, the SMAC provided guidance and advice pertaining to the Coronavirus pandemic. Beginning with the season ending of winter sports through the cancellation of spring sports, Covid-19 (as it was designated), began a new chapter in WIAA member schools and their offerings of athletic programs. During June, 2020, the SMAC began working on guidelines to mitigate risk for summer contact and the WIAA staff began recommendations of sport specific guidelines.

By July 1, 2020, the SMAC had recommended summer contact guidance in an effort for schools to conduct coaching contact during the summer and to prepare for the possible resumption of sports in the fall. In addition, work began on the Return to Fall Sports considerations. Winter considerations were developed in October and work began on the Spring recommendations.

In addition to the Covid-19 work, the SMAC also provided a recommendation restricting CBD usage by athletes to prescription by a licensed health care provider.

During the summer of 2023, the SMAC conducted a thorough revision of the Medical Policies and Procedures manual, with the addition of Emergency Action Planning information as well as Air Quality guidelines. The updated guide is available in a digital format only, on the WIAA website under Health. ●

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other players and the Mount Horeb players thanked Edgerton players.

Reporting Official: Thomas Vergeront

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

Clintonville @ Shiocton – Oct. 3, 2023

Nicole Sasse committed a backrow attack in front of the attack line, and our crew missed it. At the end of the point that Clintonville won, Nicole came up to me and told me she had committed a backrow attack. We gave the point to the opponent and continued with a very close match that Clintonville lost. After the match I thanked Nicole for her honesty. Nicole's sportsmanship was well above and beyond what any player would have to do. Nicole thanked us for officiating their game. I have had Clintonville three times this year and Nicole is a great leader that really leads by example. Fantastic Sportsmanship!

Reporting Official: Adrian Van Acker

Chesterton Acad. @ Veritas/Tenor – Sept. 28, 2023

In the first set, Veritas/Tenor was down by a significant margin. Chesterton's server serves the ball at the base-

line where it falls untouched. The student line judge is a bit confused and eventually calls out. Immediately, both Veritas/Tenor Head Coach Carly Anderson and her assistant say that the ball is clearly in. As R1 is awarding the point to her team, Coach Anderson approaches me as R2 to state that the ball was clearly in. I get my R1's attention and she repeats the statement. The R1 accepts Coach Anderson's honor call and changes the call and awards the point to Chesterton. After this happens I overhear the Chesterton bench express their stunned admiration that the opponent would give up a "break". I believe that this act of sportsmanship and fair play should be admired and commended.

Reporting Official: Michael Baird

Delavan-Darien @ Martin Luther – Sept. 12, 2023

Before the match all starters from the visitors shook my hand. (Ladder official). Coach Elizabeth Kohn, (visiting head coach) disagreed with a no call. She thought a return hit the ceiling. She asked my floor partner what she saw. I called my partner over, but she said she did not see. I then called line judges over. The home line

judge, the freshman home coach, said the ball hit the ceiling. This call went against the home team. Good sportsmanship there. I called for a replay and the visiting coach was okay with this. The visiting coach had questioned an over-the-net attack (not called) on the home team. Between sets, I explained to her what I saw and why I made no call. She thanked me for the explanation. When the match was completed and we were leaving, the visiting captain came over and shook our hands and thanked us. The visitors lost in five sets. Thank you from defeated teams are gratifying. Martin Luther's Coach Kelsey was pleasant throughout a tight match. Just a few small gestures can, and do, make for a good atmosphere.

Reporting Official: Dale Laabs

BOYS VOLLEYBALL

Kenosha Bradford @ Hartford JV – Sept. 23, 2023

This team was a pleasure to officiate. They were complimentary of the other teams in their pool during play and displayed honesty throughout their matches.

Reporting Official: Erika Candler

NIL: Ready, or Not, Membership to Continue Discussions

The 2023 Area Meetings unveiled many topics of membership interest and helped determine the course of discussion and action over the next several months. The assembly's collective responses indicated Name, Image, Likeness (NIL) will be addressed, maybe as soon as the Annual Meeting in April.

The data collected at the seven Area Meetings this fall, depending on how it is interpreted, may or may not indicate support for consideration of NIL opportunities. Of those that attended the Area Meetings and participated in the poll, 47.3 percent favored consideration to add NIL opportunities. Those opposing new language was 18.6 percent. While overwhelmingly more yes than no votes were cast, 35 percent were noncommittal and wanted to continue the discussion before settling in on a position. How this subset leans will determine if it's closer to a 50-50 split or significantly in support of adding NIL opportunities. In addition, 148 of 515 member schools weren't represented by the poll. It may be fair to reason it's not a foregone conclusion the membership supports NIL opportunities, but a pathway appears to be unfolding to bring an amendment to the Advisory Council and Board of Control to determine if it will advance to the membership for a vote in April.

The current amateur status language has been relatively unchanged for many decades with the premise interscholastic athletic opportunities are strictly amateur in nature. There are currently six conditions within Article VI outlining violations of amateur status in the membership's Rules of Eligibility (p. 32 in the Senior High Handbook).

Undoubtedly, there is a trend among state athletic and activity associations nationwide—after the NCAA created its NIL opportunities a couple of years ago following a Supreme Court decision—to loosen their stance on pure amateurism and their restrictions on the exploitation of student-athletes. As the culture in society shifts, it dictates new and different priorities. The NFHS has adjusted its position on NIL in the past two years, asking states to further explore the topic. In addition, it appears the prevailing sentiment within state associations is to move toward adopting more allowances for NIL to help prevent outside intervention dictating NIL measures by the courts or legislatures.

The data we shared at the Area Meetings indicate 32 state associations have approved some aspect of NIL opportunities, up from 16 states a year ago. Seven other states are now considering adding language. That's just not a trend; it's a tidal wave.

It remains to be seen if cracking the door on NIL will lead to the opening of the flood gates. We have reviewed how other state associations have altered their amateur status regulations. A potential amendment to our Rules of Eligibility will most likely allow student-athletes NIL endorsement opportunities as long as there is no identification or association to the school team, school, conference or WIAA affiliation. Any NIL opportunities will also include restrictions collectives in relation to recruiting and booster clubs, subject matter not appropriate for school-aged individuals as well as continued commitment to the team and school.

The amendment will be a reasonable attempt to compromise and manage our own rules and regulations. Even so, those clinging to the concept of pure amateurism for education-based activities will suggest we need to "be careful what we wish for." Proponents of NIL language provide a compelling case to allow compensation for employment, regardless of whether it is working at the area grocery store, bailing hay for the farmer next door or if it's endorsing a local business or service, conducting camps and clinics, or being a social media influencer.

How many NIL opportunities will be significantly lucrative at the high school level? Most, if any, will be local opportunities void of substantial marketing budgets to have teenagers endorsing their businesses, services or causes.

For the few teenagers it may provide employment and earnings; however, there are many more that will be void of any opportunities. With teenaged teammates, what impact will it have in the locker room and on the team dynamic when elite star status goes beyond just popularity to actual earnings to be able to afford or be compensated with a shiny, new pick-up truck or advanced training and care?

And, how do we feel about the prospect of a high school athlete potentially making much more than the coach or even the school administrator? This could already be happening based on existing employment opportunities, but it could be more prevalent with NIL earnings based on celebrity derived by athletic accomplishments and abilities.

Consider the difficult parent in pursuit of collegiate athletic scholarships and the pressure that places on their sons and daughters. Is it fair to opine that we can ratchet up the pressure a bit if there are NIL dollars in play. That is a family matter, but hasn't this type of focus ultimately impacted high school programs in some manner?

It's conceivable that addressing NIL as an association now may help us avoid outside intervention, slow the rush of what may appear inevitable and reduce the number of amateur-status violations. Likewise, it's equally compelling to imagine the potential adverse scenarios that may begin to erode the foundation that makes high school sports special.

The ultimate impact on interscholastic athletics is relatively unknown without a peek into the future, but the adoption of NIL at the collegiate level provides a glimpse of what pitfalls may lie ahead. Fundamentally, NIL could have little significance if the number of opportunities as well as the level of compensation are reasonable.

The current state of amateurism as it relates to interscholastic sports is not a new phenomenon. It may be more of a progression and an evolution of the sport culture that has led us here. As we consider the direction society takes us, it may be more than just the most cynical that believes amateur athletics, in its purest form, is a thing of the past. That's what member schools will need to come to terms with to determine whether they're ready for NIL opportunities or not. ●

Keep These Dates in Mind

October 26 & 28	Boys Soccer Sectionals	November 14	Coaches Advisory Committee Meeting – Cross Country (Stevens Point)
October 26 & 28	Girls Volleyball Sectionals	November 15	Coaches Advisory Committee Meeting – Volleyball (Stevens Point)
October 27-28	Level 2 Football	November 15	Coaches Advisory Committee Meeting – Soccer (Stevens Point)
October 28	State Cross Country Meet (Wisconsin Rapids)	November 16-17	Football Playoff Championship Games (Madison)
November 2-3-4	State Boys Soccer Tournament (Milwaukee)	November 17	Earliest Day for First Hockey Game
November 2-3-4	State Volleyball Tournament (Green Bay)	November 21	Earliest Day for First Boys Basketball Game
November 3	Girls Diving Sectionals	November 21	Earliest Day for First Boys Swimming & Diving Meet
November 3-4	Level 3 Football	November 23	Thanksgiving Day
November 4	Girls Swimming Sectionals	November 24	Earliest Day for First Wrestling Meet
November 6	Earliest Day for Gymnastics Practice	November 28	Coaches Advisory Committee Meeting – Football (Stevens Point)
November 6	Earliest Day for Hockey Practice	November 29	Officials Advisory Committee Meeting (Stevens Point)
November 6	Earliest Day for Girls Basketball Practice	November 30	Earliest Day for First Gymnastics Meet
November 8	Classification Committee Meeting	December 1	Board of Control Meeting (Stevens Point)
November 10-11	State Girls Swimming & Diving Meet (Waukesha)	December 4	Coaches Advisory Meeting – Swimming & Diving (Stevens Point)
November 10-11	Level 4 Football	December 5	Conference Realignment Task Force Meeting
November 11	8-Player Football Finals	December 6	Classification Committee Meeting
November 13	Earliest Day for Boys Swimming & Diving Practice	December 7	Coaches Advisory Meeting – Tennis (Stevens Point)
November 13	Earliest Day for Wrestling Practice	December 13	Sportsmanship Summit
November 13	Earliest Day for Boys Basketball Practice	December 25	Christmas Day
November 14	Earliest Day for First Girls Basketball Game		

See *Keep These Dates in Mind*, page 16 ►

January 1	New Year's Day
January 4	Conference Realignment Task Force Meeting (virtual)
January 24	Sports Advisory Committee Meeting
January 29	Middle Level Council Meeting (Stevens Point)
January 30	Advisory Council Meeting (Stevens Point)
January 31	Board of Control Meeting (Stevens Point)
February 8	Conference Realignment Task Force Meeting (if needed)
February 9	Boys Diving Sectionals
February 10	Wrestling Regionals
February 10	Boys Swimming Sectionals
February 13	Wrestling Team Sectionals
February 13, 15 & 16	Hockey Regionals
February 16-17	Boys State Swimming & Diving Meet (Waukesha)
February 17	Wrestling Individual Sectionals
February 20, 23 & 24	Hockey Sectionals
February 20, 23 & 24	Girls Basketball Regionals
February 22-23-24	State Wrestling Individual Tournament (Madison)
February 22-23-24	Gymnastics Sectionals
February 27	Deadline to Announce Board/Council Candidacy
February 27, March 1 & 2	Boys Basketball Regionals
February 29, March 1-2	Boys State Hockey
February 29 & March 2	Girls Basketball Sectionals
February 29 & March 2	Girls State Hockey
March 1-2	State Gymnastics
March 1-2	State Team Wrestling
March 4	Earliest Day for Track & Field Practice
March 5	Board/Council Primary Ballot Emailed
March 5	Board of Control Meeting
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 Lacrosse Practice
March 11	Earliest Day for Softball Practice
March 12	Coaches Advisory Committee Meeting – Gymnastics (Stevens Point)
March 12	Earliest Day for First Track & Field Meet
March 13	Classification Committee Meeting
March 14-15-16	Boys State Basketball (Madison)
March 18	Earliest Day for Girls Soccer Practice
March 18	Earliest Day for Baseball Practice
March 19	Earliest Day for Lacrosse Game
March 19	Earliest Day for Softball Game
March 25	Earliest Day for Boys Tennis Practice
March 25	Earliest Day for Boys Golf Practice
March 26	Primary Ballot Complete Deadline
March 26	Earliest Day for First Baseball Game
March 26	Earliest Day for First Girls Soccer Meet
March 26	Coaches Advisory Committee Meeting – Hockey (Stevens Point)
March 28	Earliest Day for First Boys Golf Meet
March 29	Earliest Day for First Boys Tennis Meet
March 29	Good Friday
March 31	Easter
April 2	Board/Council General Election Ballot Emailed
April 3	Coaches Advisory Committee Meeting – Wrestling (Stevens Point)
April 5	Sportsmanship Committee Meeting
April 9	Conference Realignment Task Force Meeting (if needed)
April 10	Coaches Advisory Committee Meeting – Basketball (Stevens Point)

April 10	7% Committee Meeting
April 10	Classification Committee Meeting
April 16	Board/Council Election Ballot Complete Deadline
April 23	Board of Control Meeting (Stevens Point)
April 24	WIAA Annual Meeting (Stevens Point)
April 24	Board/Council Election Results Announced
May 3	Medical Advisory Meeting (Stevens Point)
May 5	Scholar/Athlete Awards Program (Wausau)
May 13	Sports Advisory Committee Meeting (Stevens Point)
May 16, 21 & 23	Softball Regionals
May 17	Board of Control Meeting (Stevens Point)
May 20	Track & Field Regionals
May 20-21	Boys Tennis Sectionals
May 21-22	Boys Golf Regionals
May 22-23	Boys Tennis Sectionals
May 23 & 28	Girls Lacrosse Regionals
May 23 & 28-29-30	Baseball Regionals
May 23	Track & Field Sectionals
May 24 & 28	Boys Lacrosse Regionals
May 27	Memorial Day
May 28-29	Boys Golf Sectionals
May 28 & 30	Softball Sectionals
May 28, 30 & June 1	Girls Soccer Regionals
May 30-31-June 1	State Boys Individual Tennis Tournament (Madison)
May 30 & June 1	Lacrosse Sectionals
May 31 & June 1	State Track & Field Meet (La Crosse)
June 3-4	State Boys Golf (Blackwolf Run - Kohler)
June 4	Baseball Sectionals
June 6 & 8	Girls Soccer Sectionals
June 6-7-8	State Softball (Madison)
June 7-8	State Boys Team Tennis (Madison)
June 8	Lacrosse (TBD)
June 10-11-12-13	Classification Committee Meeting
June 10-11-12-13	State Baseball (Appleton)
June 13	Coaches Advisory Committee Meeting – Softball (Stevens Point)
June 13-14-15	State Girls Soccer (Milwaukee)
June 17	Coaches Advisory Meeting – Track & Field (Stevens Point)

Test Dates

Students participating in interscholastic sports often find conflicts between these events and college test dates.

Listed below are the 2023-24 dates for ACT.

ACT – 2023-24

Test Date	Regular Deadline	Late Deadline
October 28, 2023	September 22	October 6
December 9, 2023	November 3	November 17
February 10, 2024	January 5	January 19
April 13, 2024	March 8	March 22
June 8, 2024	May 3	May 17
July 13, 2024	June 7	June 21

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