

2026 WIAA HOCKEY TOURNAMENT PROCEDURES

OFFICIALS

A. Contracted WIAA Officials

1. Officials have been informed of the dates they will be contracted and who their officiating partners will be. Once the tournament brackets are completed after the Seeding Meetings, officials will be assigned to a site by the WIAA.
2. Officials assigned www.wiaawi.org > located under Tournaments > Boys or Girls Hockey, and click the Officials Assignments bar. Officials will be listed using their Officials Number. Names will not be used. Please use Officials Quick Lookup to obtain their name, phone numbers, etc.
3. **The WIAA will send contracts to the officials through Arbiter.**
4. If an official informs you that he/she cannot work your game(s), notify Jake Beschta at the WIAA immediately. The WIAA will find a replacement official(s) who is not working that date(s) from the same geographical area. The WIAA will then contact you as tournament manager with the name of the replacement.
5. Ensure officials have a copy of the WIAA Hockey Regular Season and Tournament Series [Line Change Procedure](#).

DATE CHANGES

If the date of the tournament game is changed and the contracted officials are not available due to the change, it is the responsibility of the host school to find new officials and notify the WIAA. Identifying new dates and times for ice time is truly difficult as rinks are not often school district property and numerous NCAA, youth hockey, and other ice rink events coincide with the WIAA tournament series. Hockey officials can also be very difficult to reschedule as prior commitments often supersede availability.

B. Fees and Expenses: Officials

1. Assignments of officials will be posted on the Hockey Tournament page under Officials Assignments. You will be able to access information regarding your assigned officials by Tuesday, February 10th at 10 a.m.
 - a. **The WIAA will send an officials' contract out through Arbiter - host schools do not need to send.**
 - b. **WIAA officials' number and exact mileage to be paid to each official will be recorded on the financial statement. Financial forms should be returned to the WIAA office ASAP.**
 - c. **Officials will be paid by the WIAA.**
2. Officials will be paid:
 - a. **Regionals** - Referee - \$90 per game; Linesman \$80 per game
Goal judges are not to be used
 - b. **Sectionals** - \$100 per game; Linesman \$85 per game
Goal Judges (**Sectional Final Only**) - \$50 per game.
3. Officials are to be paid 55¢ per mile (round trip) for travel.
4. Officials shall travel together when geographically feasible with mileage paid to one official. If officials choose to travel separately, the mileage for the longest trip may be split between the officials..
5. Host schools will be reimbursed by the WIAA for fees and expenses of assigned officials. If the date of the game is changed and the contracted officials are not available due to the change, it is the responsibility of the schools to find new officials. WIAA will reimburse for the three officials working the game.

C. Miscellaneous

1. Family members or other individuals accompanying officials to a tournament must pay the full admission price.
2. Please have a designated individual greet and attend to any of their other needs.

TOURNAMENT ADMINISTRATION

All tournament games are to be played on the dates specified and times provided, unless approval for change is granted by the WIAA. If you have additional questions, you are encouraged to call me at (920) 373-8957 or email me at <jbeschta@wiaawi.org>.

A. Regional

1. **Boys** – Schools are assigned to:
 - a. Div. 1 – Schools will be assigned to one of four groups with regional semi-final competition on Tue., Feb. 17.
 - b. Div. 2 – Schools will be assigned to one of four groups with regional finals competition on Thurs., Feb. 19 or Fri., Feb. 20.
2. **Girls** – Schools will be assigned to one of four groups with regional finals competition on Thursday, Feb. 19 or Friday, Feb. 20.
3. Each grouping (boys & girls) will be seeded by the coaches in that group.
 - a. The highest seeded team may select an alternate site or relinquish the right to host to the next highest seeded team.
 - b. The highest seeded team will be considered the home team and for last line change purposes.
 - c. The final decision for hosting all tournament games rests with the WIAA.
 - d. Game times will be set at the discretion of the host school manager who is instructed to keep in mind such factors as travel for competing schools, etc.

B. Sectional – Boys & Girls

1. Sectional semifinal games will be played on Tuesday, Feb. 24.
 - a. The highest seeded team will host provided their facility can accommodate spectator interest. The highest seeded team may select an alternate site or relinquish the right to host to the next highest seeded team.
 - b. The final decision for hosting all tournament games rests with the WIAA.
2. Sectional final games will be played on Friday, Feb. 27 or Saturday, Feb. 28 at sites predetermined by the WIAA.
 - a. Game times will be set at the discretion of the host school manager who is instructed to keep in mind such factors as travel for competing schools, etc.
 - b. The highest seeded team will be considered the home team and for last line change purposes.

C. Personnel

Please secure competent and impartial adult personnel to serve as goal judges, scorers, timers, etc.

1. Goal Judges
 - a. The host school must provide two goal judges for only the **sectional final** games.
 - b. The use of WIAA licensed officials as goal judges is required.
 - c. Goal judges are to be paid \$50 per game.
2. Scorekeeper
 - a. The host school must provide an adult official scorer.
3. Timekeeper/Scoreboard Operator
 - a. The host school must provide an adult timer/scoreboard operator.
4. Penalty Box Officials
 - a. The host school must provide two adult penalty box officials.

D. 17-Minute Periods/12-Minute Warm-ups/12-Minute Intermissions/6 or More Goals Lead

All contests will be 17-minute periods with 12-minute warm-ups and 12-minute intermissions between each period. This time should be displayed on the game clock. Starting in the second period if a team is leading by 6 or more goals, run time will be utilized.

E. Reserve Ice

Reserve 3 hours of ice (00:45) before game time and 2:15 for the game. Develop an understanding with the arena manager that if the WIAA game goes longer, the completion of the WIAA game has priority use of the arena.

F. Guidelines for Hosting a WIAA Hockey Playoff Game

Provide participating schools information such as game time, warm-up time, locker room assignments, officials, trainer and/or doctor availability, and directions to the arena.

90 minutes before game time:	Locker rooms are available to both teams
60-75 minutes before game time:	Official scoresheet given to each team to complete
60 minutes before game time:	Officials arrive
45 minutes before game time:	Ice resurfaced for pre-game warm-ups and the stands should be cleared from the previous activity at the arena
35 minutes before game time:	Officials ready to go on the ice
30 minutes before game time:	Officials and players take the ice for pre-game warm-ups (12 minutes)
15 minutes before game time:	Ice is resurfaced for the start of the game
At game time:	Introduction of starting line-ups National Anthem

G. Tournament Series Overtime Procedure

The following procedure shall be used in games tied after regulation play:

1. Teams remain in the bench areas.
2. A three-minute rest period.
3. Teams switch ends prior to the start of each overtime period.
4. An eight-minute five vs five sudden victory overtime period will be played (unless penalty from previous period carries over).
5. If still tied, the ice will be resurfaced, followed by a second 8-minute sudden victory overtime period (unless penalty from previous period carries over).
6. If still tied, a 3-minute rest period, followed by 5-minute 4 v 4 sudden victory period with goalies switching ends..
7. If still tied, a 3-minute rest period, followed by a 5 minute 3 v 3 sudden victory period with goalies switching ends.
8. If still tied, the ice will be resurfaced during a twelve-minute rest period followed by a seventeen-minute (17) three (3) on three (3) sudden victory period with goalies switching ends.
9. If still tied, the overtime procedure found in #8 above will be repeated until a team has scored a goal with goalies switching ends for each overtime period.
10. Note: During overtime play during the WIAA tournament series, the ice will be resurfaced after the first eight-minute overtime period, after the five-minute three (3) on three (3) overtime period, and after any seventeen-minute (17) three (3) on (3) periods.

H. Ice Resurfaced

The ice must be resurfaced after periods 1 and 2 and during WIAA Tournament Series overtime play after the eight-minute overtime period, after the five-minute three (3) on three (3) overtime period, and after any seventeen-minute (17) three (3) on (3) periods.

I. Suspended Tournament Contest

If a tournament contest is suspended at any point, it will be continued from the point of suspension on the next available date, unless both coaches agree to let the recorded score stand.

J. Class Interrupted/Terminated

Due to infectious/communicable diseases, refer to WIAA Bylaws, Article II, Section 6-A (pg. 25) of WIAA Senior High Handbook.

K. Medical Coverage

1. It is recommended that physician or properly trained personnel (ATC, EMS, etc.) be present or available and that you have an established emergency response plan in place.
2. If you do have medical coverage, that individual will determine whether an athlete may continue play. He/she may consult with another physician and/or the coach, but his/her decision will be final.
3. Coaches cannot keep medical personnel from examining players that are, or may be injured.
4. Provide areas for the media and trainer/doctor.
5. A designated, on-site event, appropriate health-care professional who determines an athlete should not participate, shall not be overruled.

L. Jersey Color/Home Team

For the entire tournament series (regional, sectional and State games) the highest seeded team will be the home team, will wear **white** uniforms and have the last line change.

M. Team Roster

1. The maximum number of participants for each tournament game is **22** in uniform. Each participating school will be allowed a maximum of 22 players in full uniform for each tournament game, with a maximum of two (2) high school student managers.
2. Noncompliance with this regulation, once competition has begun, shall be regarded as flagrant, unsportsmanlike conduct on the part of the head coach resulting in his/her immediate ejection (leave premises) when brought to the attention of the game officials.
Note: If no other coach or faculty member of that school is present to supervise the team, the game shall be forfeited and the team disqualified from further participation in the tournament series.
 - a. A school may change its squad make-up from one tournament game to the next.
 - b. A school is expected to provide the manager at each tournament level, by a date designated by the manager, with a list of its participants for purposes of publicity, programs, etc.
 - c. A school may have no more than four nonplayer personnel on the bench, plus one additional medical personnel for a total of five nonplayer personnel on the bench.
3. 15 a. under NATIONAL FEDERATION ALLOWED ADAPTATIONS **does not apply** (which states unlimited squad size)
4. If a student athlete is suspended from one or more WIAA tournament games for a Code of Conduct violation, he/she is immediately disqualified for the remainder of the total tournament series in that sport.
5. Athletes who are ineligible during the WIAA tournament (for any reason) may not appear in uniform, participate in warm-ups, and may not participate in the awards ceremony at the WIAA Tournament. Exception: An injured athlete will be allowed to participate in the awards ceremony provided he/she is included in the roster allotment for that game.

N. Pucks

1. The host school must provide at least 50 pucks for warm-ups and are to be kept on one of the benches during the game.
2. The host school must provide 7-10 frozen game pucks to be kept with the official scorer.

O. Practice Session

1. Host schools are not permitted to allow participating schools to practice at their facilities prior to their tournament.
2. Schools hosting a tournament at a facility other than their school (i.e., college/university, high school with a larger gymnasium, etc.) are not permitted to practice at that facility.

P. Neutral Atmosphere

1. Announcements made over the public address system should pertain only to the tournament being conducted. The sportsmanship statement provided below must be read over the PA prior to the start of the game.

WIAA Sportsmanship Statement

"_____, _____, and the WIAA require good sportsmanship at education-based sporting events. Attendance at interscholastic activities is a privilege with the expectation to exhibit positive and respectful behavior. For the enjoyment and respect of all in attendance, your cooperation in demonstrating the high ideals of sportsmanship is expected and greatly appreciated."

2. The WIAA expects schools hosting a tournament, even though their school might be involved, to provide a neutral atmosphere.
3. Tournament managers please make sure your tournament announcer, band director, etc., are aware of the tournament responsibilities and necessary/appropriate tournament behavior.
4. Sales or giveaways of spirit items (megaphones, towels, t-shirts, posters, etc.) should not be conducted within one hour of the scheduled starting time of the game.

Q. Banners and Signs

1. For indoor events, temporary banners are allowed, with some restrictions. Banners and signs must be hand held and stationary. These banners may NOT have offensive language, be used to disrupt players or officials, interfere with spectators' view, used in an inappropriate manner or be carried around the facility during an event. Banners of the host school are allowed, such as those hanging in a gymnasium depicting conference schools, sportsmanship themes, current team member recognition or with welcoming messages.
2. Shakers and pennants for spectators, cheerleaders and pom pon squads are allowed, even if attached to wooden/plastic sticks. "Rally," towels, "hands" with "No. 1 fingers" are permitted, but are subject to the following restrictions: (a) They may contain no printing except school name, team nickname and/or school mascot; (b) Tournament and meet managers have the authority to prohibit items if they are deemed to cause crowd control problems.

R. Prohibited Activities

Chuck A Puck, Lotteries, drawings, raffles, or contests are prohibited at WIAA tournament events. Campaigns (including but not limited to political campaigns, solicitations, petitions, etc.) and campaign materials.

S. Program

1. Schools assigned to your tournament are expected to provide you, by a date you designate, a list of its participants for purposes of publicity, programs, etc.
2. Include in your program the names of the band director, cheerleader coach, pom pon coach, and school song, etc.
3. The sportsmanship statement provided below must be printed in the program:

WIAA Sportsmanship Statement

"_____, _____, and the WIAA require good sportsmanship at education-based sporting events. Attendance at interscholastic activities is a privilege with the expectation to exhibit positive and respectful behavior. For the enjoyment and respect of all in attendance, your cooperation in demonstrating the high ideals of sportsmanship is expected and greatly appreciated."

T. Use of WIAA Logo on Apparel, Licensing Policy

The name, emblem and/or logos of the WIAA are registered service marks with the U.S. Patent Office and are protected from unlawful use for the benefit of the Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association and its member schools. Any use of the

WIAA brand and logos shall obligate a vendor doing business with the WIAA or with a WIAA member school to adhere to WIAA licensing policy. For all WIAA brand royalty and licensing fees information, contact the WIAA in connection with any commercial or noncommercial venture using WIAA marks on any merchandise and/or apparel, or with any promotion or service. Adherence to the WIAA licensing policy, including royalties and fees, for all agreements/contracts between member schools and outside vendors for products or merchandise received in the agreement are the responsibility of the member school arranging the agreement. For additional information on licensing, please review the Licensing and Royalty Policy in the Senior High Handbook on page 52.

U. Photo/Video/Audio

Any non-editorial, commercial or other unauthorized use of any transmission, internet stream, photo, image, film, videotape, audio tape, play-by-play depiction or description of any competition and/or game action; and/or any non-editorial or commercial use of any team school name or logo is strictly prohibited without written consent of the WIAA.

A license to commercialize on the sale of images captured or transmission originated at WIAA regional and sectional tournament events, or levels 1-4 for football, may be purchased and granted through the WIAA executive office. Commercialization and/or sale of images taken or transmissions originated at the WIAA State Tournaments is strictly prohibited without written consent of the WIAA.

Spectators are permitted to take photos for personal, non-commercial purposes and to record audio and/or video for personal, non-commercial and/or non-transmittable purposes.

Spectators attending WIAA State Tournament events may also be subject to restrictions on the electronic devices, sizes of cameras and/or camera lenses according to venue policies.

V. WIAA Tournament UAV Policy

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

W. Emergency Action Plan - Components of an Emergency Plan

1. Emergency Personnel
2. Emergency Communication
3. Emergency Equipment
4. Roles of First Responder
5. Venue Directions with a Map
6. Emergency Action Plan Checklist for Non-Medical Emergencies ([Anyone Can Save A Life](http://www.wiaawi.org/Portals/0/PDF/Health/ACSAL_Event_Portocol.doc) - http://www.wiaawi.org/Portals/0/PDF/Health/ACSAL_Event_Portocol.doc)

TOURNAMENT FINANCES

A. Admission Policies

1. Teams which are playing at a given site on a given day/night.
2. A party of 28 including players, (4) coaches, (2) high school student managers, etc. Maximum of 22 players in uniform.
3. Six cheerleaders. Additional cheerleaders are allowed, but must buy tickets.
4. A maximum of eight individuals designated by the participating schools. It is expected that staff members from that pool will be available for any assistance associated with contest management. Whether a program is a stand-alone or part of

a multi-school Hockey co-op, a maximum of 8 individuals will be provided free admission. The same allotment may be applied to host schools which are not playing in the tournament.

5. Game officials, scorers, timers, ticket takers and sellers, ushers and concessionaires, along with the tournament manager and person designated as their assistant shall be admitted without charge, but must be properly identified by means of a shirt, sweater, vest, badge, etc. Workers are entitled to free admission only at those sessions in which they work, and they shall not be provided an additional ticket for a companion. Provisions should be made for working members of press, radio, and television.
6. No other persons from any school or any community (including the host school and community) shall be provided complimentary admissions. If the host school wishes to permit its usual complimentary ticket contingent to see games at no costs, the host school must purchase tickets for these persons.
7. Free admissions permissible under (1), (2), (3), and (4) above are not transferable.
8. Free admissions shall not be given to members of a band, except the host school's band may be admitted free if it performs.

B. Finances

1. Please review the Hockey Tournament Finances Sections of the WIAA Winter Edition of Season Regulations, Regional/Sectional on page 23-25.
2. A Financial Form (Hockey Tournament Reimbursement Form) with instructions is available on the WIAA Forms Directory web page. ***A host school will not receive any allowances or reimbursements unless form is completed and returned to the WIAA office within two weeks of the conclusion of the tournament.***
3. Tournament managers having questions regarding tournament finances should contact [Kassie Mortimer](#) at the WIAA office.

C. Ticket Allocations

1. Host schools must furnish their own tickets.
2. Each competing school must receive the same number of allocated tickets.
3. The quantity and quality of seats allocated to the participating schools must be equal.
4. If the host school is not playing, it may retain only 50 tickets to sell to their patrons.
5. Tournament managers must allow, in fact should encourage, participating schools to have a presale in their community. Managers are authorized, however, to indicate to schools requesting a full allotment of tickets that they may be required to prepay for the tickets or return them by a designated time determined by the tournament manager.
6. Ticket Prices (One Game Session)
 - a. Regional - Child/Student/Adult - \$6
 - b. Sectional - Child/Student/Adult - \$7
 - c. Host schools may sell, if their facilities permit, single admission tickets for a \$1 ticket for children under 6 years of age, if accompanied by a parent.

SUPPORT GROUPS

A. Bands

1. Competing schools must be allowed to bring a band.
2. Bands may use amplifying devices with permission from meet managers.
3. Free admissions should not be given to members of a band except the host school's band if it performs.

B. Cheerleaders

1. A maximum of six cheerleaders are allowed free admission.
2. Additional cheerleaders are allowed, but must buy tickets.

3. For reasons of safety, the following provisions apply to all levels of WIAA tournament competition:
 - a. Minitramps, springboards, or any other rebounding devices or related pieces of equipment are prohibited.
 - b. All legal pyramids or mounts are limited to two persons high. The top person must be in direct contact with the base(s) who is in direct contact with the floor or ground.
 - c. Member schools are reminded to review their copies of the National Federation Spirit Rules Book.
4. Tournament managers must decide if they will allow cheerleaders to have break-through hoops.

C. Conduct of Spectators

Sportsmanship and self-control take on new dimensions during the hockey tournament series. Therefore, crowd control responsibilities need additional attention.

Please inform your fans of these rules/regulations:

1. Alcoholic beverages, tobacco products or illegal substances may not be available or present at high school events.
2. Laser Pointers are prohibited at all WIAA tournaments. Any individual using a laser pointer will be immediately ejected and will not be allowed to re-enter.
3. Noisemakers may NOT be used during playing action. Air horns (including vuvuzela horns), whistles, and devices that simulate gunfire are not allowed. Tournament managers may restrict the use of noisemakers if, in their judgment, they are disrupting coach/athlete communication or if the devices are excessively loud.
4. Antics involving throwing items on the ice, placing posters on the plexi-glass and pounding on the glass are prohibited.
5. Paper confetti - is prohibited.
6. Bluetooth speakers or other sound systems and related radio equipment are prohibited.
7. Bands may use amplifying devices with permission from meet managers.
8. Other items as balloons, bubble machines, etc., which can create crowd control concerns or clean up problems are prohibited.
9. Body paint, other than on the face, is not allowed where prohibited by venue policy. Check with the host school for their policy.

D. Spectator Conduct Statement

The Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association objects to the use of activities, materials, logos, apparel, mascots or gestures that are profane, vulgar, insulting or offensive to others. The membership disapproves of any form of taunting or expression that is intended or designed to embarrass, ridicule, disrespect or demean others under any circumstances including on the basis of race, religion, gender, or national origin.

POST TOURNAMENT

A. Awards

Will be sent directly from our supplier, Erffmeyer and Son to the highest seeded teams in the grouping:

1. Regionals – None
Sectionals:
 - a. Plaques to championship teams and runner up teams (boys and girls).
 - b. Medals to members (22) of championship and runner-up teams.

Open your awards package immediately upon receipt and check for damage.
2. If the plaque is damaged, please keep the original packing, carton, and contents intact and call the WIAA office.
3. Extra medals – To order additional medals online from our jeweler ESCO. Access their website <<http://wiaa.escoinc.com>> ESCO “WIAA Award & Gift Store” and choose “extra” medals. The medals are offered in “Plain” for quick turn around and also “Engraved” for those that want/need the copy on the back.

B. Reporting Scores

Arrangements for all games are the responsibility of schools involved. Primary responsibility rests with the host school.

1. Regional/Sectional Winners
 - a. Open the 'Report Scores' form in ONE of the following ways:
 - From a saved shortcut on your mobile (or other) device
 - Click 'Schools' | 'Report Scores' on the WIAA website: <https://www.wiaawi.org>
 - Open the School Directory website: <https://schools.wiaawi.org> and select 'Forms' | 'Report Scores' from the menu.
 - Or use this direct link: <https://schools.wiaawi.org/Scores/Entry/RecentGames>
 - WIAA Score Entry – Regular Season and Tournament Contests – (Click for [instructions](#) for troubleshooting or assistance).
 - b. Responsible for communicating with the school they compete against in the next round.

C. Meet Conduct

1. You, as the manager, are the WIAA's official directly in charge of your tournament. The behavior of contestants, coaches, students, officials, and fans comes under your responsibility and jurisdiction. We are confident of your ability to conduct this tournament for the WIAA. You should notify the WIAA immediately of any special problems which occurs before, during, or after your tournament game.
2. Coaches need to monitor the behavior of their student-athletes. Officials have been asked to inform coaches of student-athletes that are having difficulty maintaining their self-control. This is especially necessary once the outcome of a game has been decided. If an athlete is becoming emotional to the point of being uncontrollable, take him/her out of the contest. Also, be certain their replacement is a player who can maintain their self-control.
3. If an unruly spectator needs to be addressed, contest officials must bring this to the attention of the contest manager. The Contest Manager is the one who needs to address and determine action to be taken regarding spectators.
4. Ensure the safety of the players and coaches as they proceed to and from the ice and the locker room. It should be free from spectator interference.
5. Game disqualification penalties will be applied from the end of one season to the beginning of the next season of varsity sports the player is involved in.

THANK YOU

The WIAA again wishes to thank you and your school for your time and effort.

**If you have any additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact
the WIAA**