

2009-2010 WPIAL FIELD HOCKEY SCHEDULE

January 30, 2009

First Practice Date ~ August 17, 2009
First Scrimmage Date ~ August 22, 2009
First Play Date ~ September 4, 2009

Maximum Contests ~ 18
Maximum Scrimmages ~ 2

A copy of this schedule must be given to your coach. WPIAL girls' field hockey section play will begin on **September 8, 2009 for AA teams and on September 15, 2009 for AAA teams** and must be completed according to the schedule. Please check your schedule carefully and notify the League Office of any errors at (412) 921-7181 or 1-800-297-9553.

Coaches are advised that the PIAA require that the head coach attend a PIAA mandatory rules interpretation prior to each season. Rules meeting dates and times are available on the PIAA website. www.piaa.org

1. Varsity games may be played prior to the JV game if a JV game is scheduled.
2. Substitutions must be made according to the National Federation Rule Book.
3. The spectator/fan area should be on the opposite side of the team bench area where possible.
4. Duration of the game shall be a maximum of sixty (60) minutes played in two equal halves. All games involving players below the ninth grade shall be a maximum of forty (40) minutes played in two equal halves.
5. All regular season games ending in a tie will be subject to the following Overtime Procedures:
 - a) Prior to the overtime period there shall be a 5-minute intermission.
 - b) The home team captain calls the coin toss and the winner chooses choice of goal or to take possession of the ball.
 - c) Teams will be limited to 6 field players and a goalkeeper.
 - d) If a player was disqualified (red card) during the regulation game, that team must play short throughout the overtime. If a player was suspended (yellow card) the team shall play short until the suspension time is completed.
 - e) Only four defenders will be allowed behind the end line on a penalty corner.
 - f) The overtime will be **15 minutes "SUDDEN VICTORY"**.
 - g) There will be no team time-outs, even if a team has unused time outs.
 - h) There will be unlimited substitutions.
 - i) A player who received a red card in regulation play may not play in overtime.
 - j) If a player receives a red card in overtime, the team will play short.
 - k) If a player receives a yellow card in overtime, the team will play short until the 5 minutes expire.
 - l) Regular season games tied after the 15 minutes overtime period **are recorded as a tie.**
6. Misconduct by coaches or team personnel will be addressed by game officials according to their severity or the number of occurrences in a game. The penalty may vary from a warning (given and recorded) to awarding a penalty stroke, removing the coach from the field, or forfeiting the game.

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7. Only PIAA Field Hockey officials may officiate. The WPIAL recommends the use of two officials for all league matches.
8. **The top two teams in each AAA section and the top four teams in the AA section will enter the WPIAL Tournament.** All playoff entries will be determined by section record only and will be determined by the following method: **Three points for a win and one point for a tie.** Ties for first place will not be broken and **ALL** tied teams will each receive a section winner's plaque. In the event of a multiple team tie for second, third, or fourth place, head-to-head competition will be used to break the tie.

EXAMPLE:

- a) Team A is clearly first. Teams B, C, and D are all tied with identical section records for second place. In the head-to-head competition among the three teams, Team B is 3-1, Team C is 2-2, and Team D is 1-3. Team B is the second place team and is entered into the tournament.
- b) In AA Team A is first, Team B is second, Teams C, D, and E are tied for third. In head-to-head competition among the three tied teams, Team C is 3-1, Team D is 2-2, and Team E is 1-3. Team C is third and teams D and E are now tied for fourth with the process beginning all over with head-to-head competition being the determining factor.

Failure to break the tie by applying the point system will result in applying a point differential system to a plus or minus five (5) to all section games played. If this procedure does not break the tie, a playoff game will be held.

9. The home team is obliged to phone all scores to the Don Rebel @ MSA Sports Network (412/539-0360), Pittsburgh Post Gazette (412-263-1621 ~ 1-877-672-6224), the Tribune Review - PGH (1-888-748-8742) OR GRSB (1-800-690-8047). Other appropriate local papers should be notified as well.
10. **All Athletic Directors are responsible for reporting team standings to the League Office before the pairings meeting.**