

2009-2010 WPIAL GIRLS VOLLEYBALL SCHEDULE

January 28, 2009

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

Maximum Competitions ~ 22
Maximum Scrimmages ~ 2

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

Coaches are advised that the PIAA By-Laws Article XIV, Section 3 requires that the head coach attend a minimum of one PIAA mandatory rules interpretation prior to each season. Mandatory rules meeting dates and times are available on the PIAA website. www.piaa.org

1. Three (3) teams from each section will qualify for participation in WPIAL Championship play at the completion of the regular season. All playoff entries will be determined by section record only and will be determined by the best section won/loss record. Teams that tie for first place will not have the tie broken and **ALL** of the tied teams will be declared section champions, will receive a section winner's plaque, and will be entered into the WPIAL tournament. If three or more teams tie for first place, only those teams will qualify for the playoffs.

In the event of a multiple tie (two or more teams) for a playoff position, head-to-head will be the first determinant. If head-to-head does not break the tie, the following tie-breaking system will be used. If three or more teams tie for second place and the tie-breaking system identifies one team as the second place team, the remaining teams will be then tied for third place and the process begins all over with head-to-head competition being the first determinant for establishing the third place team. If a tie cannot be broken, all tied teams will enter the playoffs.

TIE-BREAKING SYSTEM

- a) Section records of the tied teams will be compiled.
- b) The team(s) with the best numerical head-to-head section record among the tied teams will enter post-season play.
- c) If the tie cannot clearly be broken, all tied teams will enter post-season play.

EXAMPLES:

a) Team A is clearly first; Team B is second; and Teams C, D, and E have identical section records and are tied for third. In this situation, Team C is 3-1 against Team D and E. Team D is 2-2; and Team E is 1-3. Team C is entered as the third-place team.

b) Team A is first. Teams B, C, and D are tied for second with identical section records. Team B is 3-1 against Teams C and D; Team C is 2-2; and Team D is 1-3. Team B is now second, and Teams C and D are now tied for third. To break this tie, we go back to head-to-head. If these two teams split, they both go into the playoffs as the third-place team.

c) Keep in mind that **ONLY** the top three teams qualify for the playoffs, unless ties for a playoff spot cannot be broken. If Team A finishes first and Team B and C tie for second, Teams A, B, and C are the only qualifiers and a tie for third place does not need to be broken.

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2. All matches will be played with a best of five-game format. Be reminded that by PIAA directive all quadrangular and triangular matches and tournaments count as two (2) contests.
3. All WPIAL games will be played according to the National Federation Rules.
4. Please make sure that relatively new balls are available for all league games. The ball size is specified in the National Federation Rule Book.
5. Make sure that both teams and the officials know the correct starting time. This should be established by the home team and made known to the visitors in plenty of time. It is recommended that all afternoon contests do not start **before 3:30 PM** unless the competing school principals agree.
6. Only PIAA Volleyball officials may officiate. The WPIAL recommends the use of two officials for all league matches.
7. **All Athletic Directors are responsible for completing a contender's form with their teams' standings to the League Office before the Pairings Meeting. Also, all WPIAL Volleyball Tournament qualifiers may not play after October 24, 2009. Qualifying teams may scrimmage teams who have qualified for the WPIAL Tournament.**
8. Two (2) WPIAL Class AAA teams, four (4) Class AA teams, and three (3) Class A teams will qualify for the State Championships to be held on November 13-14, 2009.
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.