

2011-2012 WPIAL BOYS VOLLEYBALL SCHEDULE

May 25, 2011

First Practice Date ~ March 5, 2012
First Scrimmage Date ~ March 10, 2012
First Play Date ~ March 23, 2012

Maximum Scrimmages ~ 2
Maximum Competitions ~ 22

All information must be given to your volleyball coach. Section play will begin on **Tuesday, March 27, 2012** 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 or omissions.

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. **The top four teams and ties for fourth place will enter the team championships set to begin as early as Tuesday, May 15, 2012. All teams (qualifying playoff teams or non-qualifying teams) that complete their section schedule by the prescribed date may play exhibition games providing that they do exceed their limit of competitions. Teams who have definitely qualified for the WPIAL playoffs cannot play a game after MAY 12, 2012.** 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 four 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 third place and the tie-breaking system identifies one team as the third place team, the remaining teams will be then tied for fourth place and the process begins all over with head-to-head competition being the first determinant for establishing the fourth place team. If a tie cannot be broken all tied teams will enter the playoffs.

TIE-BREAKING SYSTEM

- a) Section won-lost records of all 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 be clearly broken, all tied teams will enter post-season play.

EXAMPLES:

- a) Team A is clearly first, Team B is second, Team C is third and Teams D, E, and F have identical section won-loss records and are tied for fourth. In this situation Team D is 3-1 against E and F. Team E is 2-2, and Team F is 1-3. Team D is entered as the fourth place team.
- b) Team A is first and Team B is second. Teams C, D, and E are tied for third with identical section records. Team C is 3-1, Team D is 2-2, and Team E is 1-3. Team C is now third and Teams D and E are now tied for fourth. To break this tie we go back to head-to-head. If these two teams split they both go into the playoffs as the fourth place team.
- c) Keeping in mind that **ONLY** the top four teams qualify for the playoffs, unless ties for a playoff spot cannot be broken. If Team A finishes first, Team B second, and then Teams C and D tie for third, Teams A, B, C, and D are the only qualifiers and the tie for third place does not have 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 triangular matches and tournaments count as two (2) competition points. All quadrangular matches count as three (3) competition points. All two day tournaments count as four (4) competition points, two (2) for each day of competition.
3. All WPIAL matches will be played according to the National Federation Rules Book.
4. Please make sure that relatively new balls are available for all league games. The ball size and permitted color are specified in the National Federation Rules Book. The official ball of the WPIAL Volleyball Tournament is the **Red, White, and Blue Spalding TF 5000**.
5. Please 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 competing a contender's form that can be found on the WPIAL web page with their team's standings to the League Office before the Pairings Meeting. Also, all WPIAL Volleyball Tournament qualifiers may not play after May 12, 2012. Qualifying teams may scrimmage teams who have qualified for the WPIAL Tournament.**
8. The top three (3) teams in each classification will qualify for the PIAA Championships to be held at a site and time to be determined. A third place consolation match will be held in each classification to determine the third place team.
9. **REPORTING SCORES:**
The home team is obliged to phone in all scores:

Don Rebel @ MSA Sports Network (412/539-0360) drebel@nauticom.net
Pittsburgh Post Gazette (412-263-1621 ~ 1-877-672-6224) highschool@post-gazette.com
Tribune Review - PGH (1-888-748-8742) pschofield@tribweb.com or GRSB (1-800-690-8047)
Washington Observer Reporter (1-800-222-6397) obsports@observer-reporter.com

Other appropriate local papers should be notified as well.