

2021- 2022 WPIAL FIELD HOCKEY SCHEDULE

January 28, 2021

First Practice Date ~ August 16, 2021
First Scrimmage Date ~ August 21, 2021
First Play Date ~ September 3, 2021

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 Tuesday, September 7, 2021** 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.

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. 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 and consist of four equal quarters. Varsity games will be 15-minute quarters with intervals of 2 minutes between quarter 1 and 2 and between quarter 3 and 4. Number of time-outs will be consistent with approved NFHS rules.
5. All games must be fully contested to their scheduled conclusion. This includes completing all corners at the end of the fourth quarter even if the outcome is determined. This is necessary due to tie-breaking procedures.
6. 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 (six) 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 players, three defenders and a goalie, will be allowed behind the end line on a penalty corner.
 - f) The overtime will be **15 minutes "SUDDEN VICTORY"**.
 - g) Regular season games tied after the 15-minute overtime period **are recorded as a tie.**
 - h) There will be no team time-outs, even if a team has unused time outs.
 - i) There will be unlimited substitutions.
 - j) A player who received a red card in regulation play may not play in overtime.
 - k) If a player receives a red card in overtime, the team will play short.
 - l) If a player receives a yellow card in overtime, the team will play short until the penalty time expires.

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7. Only PIAA Certified Field Hockey Officials may officiate. The WPIAL recommends the use of two officials for all league matches.
8. 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.
9. Beginning in the 2020 season, the PIAA instituted a **"Supplemental Disqualification"** as a part of the PIAA By-Laws, Article XIII, Section 8.B:

Any Coach, team personnel and/or contestant who, is ejected from a Contest by a state high school association recognized and/or registered official and a component of the ejection is confronting, contacting or addressing a Coach, contestant or official using foul or vulgar language, ethnic or racially insensitive comments or physical contact will be disqualified from competition for the remainder of the day and for the next two (2) Contests including all Contests on the next two (2) Contest days of the same level (varsity, junior varsity, or otherwise) of competition from which the Coach and/or contestant was previously disqualified. For the purposes of this provision, the jurisdiction of the official(s) to apply and enforce this rule begins upon the official's arrival at the Contest site and ends when the official (or the last of the team of officials) leaves the Contest site. The Contest site is defined as premises on which the competition surface is located and includes the entirety of the premises and parking areas.

When the Supplemental Disqualification implicates a contestant, and in addition to the two (2) Contests disqualification, the contestant may not return to competition representing the contestant's school until the contestant completes the NFHS Sportsmanship program at NFHSLearn (online) and provides a certification of completion of this program to the student's Principal and the Principal submits the certification to the PIAA District Sport Chairman. A Coach and/or Team personnel disqualified under this provision may not return to competition representing the Coach's/Team personnel's school until the Coach/Team personnel complete the NFHS Sportsmanship program and Teaching and Modeling Behavior program at NFHSLearn (online) and provides a certification of completion of these two programs to the Coach's/Team personnel's Principal and the Principal submits the certification to the PIAA District Sport Chairman.

A disqualification under B. above supersedes a disqualification under Article XIII, Section 8.A. A PIAA District Committee may, at its discretion, convene a hearing to address any and all disqualifications and may provide additional penalties as warranted by the circumstances.

10. The Top 4 Teams in each classification (AAA, AA, A) will qualify for the WPIAL Field Hockey Tournament. Only section games will count towards determining records for post-season bracketing purposes (see EXAMPLE below). The team with the "Best" record against ALL OTHER TEAMS in their classification/section will host the 2 semi-final games in their classification. If said school is unable to host, the League Office will determine the site.

EXAMPLE of TEAM Placement:

- a) 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 team's D and E are now tied for fourth with the process beginning all over with head-to-head competition being the determining factor.

Tie Breaking System:

- a) Head to head records of those teams tied with 3 points awarded for each win and 1 point awarded for each tie;
- b) Aggregate goal differential to a plus or minus (5) for games between the tied schools;
- c) Aggregate goal differential to a plus or minus (5) of remaining classification games only;
- d) If ties remain, all teams advance
- e) Each time a tie is broken, the process reverts to the original head to head record to break any remaining ties.
- f) **TO THIS END ALL GAMES MUST BE FULLY CONTESTED TO THEIR SCHEDULED END INCLUDING COMPLETING ALL CORNERS.**

10. **PIAA TOURNAMENT:** 1 Team (WPIAL Champion) in each classification will qualify for the PIAA Tournament.

11. **REPORTING SCORES:**

Pittsburgh Post Gazette (412-263-1621 ~ 1-877-672-6224) highschool@post-gazette.com
Tribune Review - (1-888-748-8742) ptrsports@tribweb.com
Washington Observer Reporter (1-800-222-6397) orsports@observer-reporter.com
Other appropriate local papers should be notified as well.