

2021 - 2022 WPIAL GIRLS LACROSSE SCHEDULE

April 26, 2021

First Practice Date ~ March 7, 2022
First Scrimmage Date ~ March 12, 2022
First Play Date ~ March 25, 2022

Maximum Scrimmages ~ 2
Maximum Contests ~ 18

A copy of this schedule must be given to your coach. The WPIAL girls' lacrosse section play will begin on **March 28 - 29, 2022** and must be completed according to the schedule. Scheduled Section Dates are split between AA/AAA to help accommodate officiating availability. 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. Schools are responsible for the scheduling of all junior varsity games.
2. All games are to be conducted under the rules of the US Lacrosse Rule Book. As such, UNIFIED LINES for Girls' and Boys' fields are permitted. Please make opposing schools aware in advance if you plan to use UNIFIED LINES.
3. Duration of the game shall be a maximum of fifty (50) minutes played in two equal halves.
4. Regarding playing teams not on this schedule, the following rules are in effect:
 - WPIAL teams may only play school affiliated teams.
 - WPIAL teams may only play teams that adhere to the PIAA eligibility requirements – age, attendance, academics, etc.
5. All games that end in a tie will have the tie broken by the tie breaking procedure outlined in the PIAA Girls Lacrosse Bulletin.
 - A) When the score is tied at the end of regular play, both teams will have a five (5) minute rest period and toss a coin for choice of ends.
 - B) The winner will then be decided on a **SUDDEN VICTORY** stop-clock overtime period of no more than six (6) minutes in length, with the teams changing ends after three (3) minutes (with no delay for coaching). The game will be restarted by a center draw. The team scoring the first goal wins.
 - C) If the six (6) minute overtime period expires without either team **SCORING A GOAL, THE GAME REMAINS A TIE.**
 - D) **If eighty percent (80%) of the playing time has elapsed and the game is tied and cannot be completed that day, the game remains a tie.**

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6. Please make sure that both teams and the officials know the correct starting time. This should be established by the home team and communicated to the visitors in a timely manner. It is recommended that afternoon contests do not start **before 3:30 pm**, unless the competing school principals agree.
7. Coaching and sideline decorum must be above reproach. Coaches must adhere to professional behavior standards as established by the PIAA. Officials have been instructed to enforce this code. Players and coaches who are disqualified from any game by the game official will not be permitted to participate in the next scheduled game played by their team at the same level of competition. 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.
8. Only PIAA Lacrosse officials may officiate. The WPIAL recommends the use of three officials for all league matches.
9. A WPIAL section plaque will be awarded to each of the section winners. **ALL SECTION GAMES MUST BE COMPLETED NO LATER THAN WEDNESDAY MAY 11, 2022.** Those winners will be the teams who have the best record against all schools in their section. Teams that tie for first place will not have the tie broken and each will be declared co-champions and will receive a section winner's plaque. All ties in section record will be broken by head-to-head competition.
10. **The top six (6) teams in each AAA & AA section will enter the WPIAL tournament. Teams that qualify for the WPIAL Tournament may not play games after Saturday, May 14, 2022 but may scrimmage any team that has qualified for and remains alive in the WPIAL Tournament.** All playoff entries will be determined by section record only and will be determined by the best section won/lost record. Teams that tie for first place will not have the tie broken and **ALL** the tied teams will be declared section champions, will receive section winner's plaques, and will be entered into the WPIAL Tournament. **All site assignments will be made by the WPIAL and Girls' Lacrosse Committee based on site suitability and availability. Home sites MAY be used but no team is guaranteed a home game.**

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In the event of a multiple team (two or more teams) tie for a playoff position head to head competition 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 are tied for third place and the tie breaking system identifies one team as the third-place team, the remaining teams will then be 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.

I. 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 be the qualifier.
- C) If the tie cannot clearly be broken, all tied teams will enter post-season play.

II. EXAMPLE:

A) Teams A is clearly first, Team B is clearly second, and Team C is third. 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 1-3. Team D is entered as the fourth-place team.

B) Team A is first; Team B is second. Team C, D, and E are tied for third place 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 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) Keep in mind that **ONLY** the top six teams qualify for the playoffs, unless ties for a playoff spot cannot be broken.

WPIAL WILL ASSIGN THE HOME PLAYOFF GAME BASED ON SITE SUITABILITY.

- 11. **Teams that qualify for the tournament should be aware that they may be placed in a first-round game and may be assigned to play beginning on Monday, May 16, 2022.**
- 12. **The WPIAL will qualify 3 AAA and 2 AA teams to the PIAA tournament, the third-place team will be determined by playing a consolation final.**
- 13. Schools are advised that protective eyewear is mandatory for all girl participants.
- 14. **REPORTING SCORES:**
The home team is obliged to phone all scores to:
Pittsburgh Post Gazette (412-263-1621) highschool@post-gazette.com
Tribune Review - PGH (1-888-748-8742) ptrsports@tribweb.com
Washington Observer Reporter (1-800-222-6397) orsports@observer-reporter.com
Beaver County Times – mbires@timesonline.com