

2018 Boys' Lacrosse Preseason Bulletin

Rules, Revisions, and Interpretations



PIAA Officials' Staff:

Patrick B. Gebhart, Assistant Executive Director
Debrah J. Rosenberger, Officials' Secretary
Ryan D. Hartman, Officials' Corresponding Secretary

JANUARY

*Statewide Rules Interpreter:
Scott Dede*

2018 NFHS BOYS' LACROSSE RULE CHANGES

- 1-2** Adopted the 120 yard unified girls and boys field as an allowed field option.
- 1-7-5** Pockets of nontraditional synthetic material manufactured for lacrosse are permitted.
NOTE The pocket must meet the specifications of Rule 1-7.
- 1-9-1g(8)** Beginning in 2022, the home team will be required to wear white jerseys, and the away
NOTE team will be require to wear non-white jerseys.
- 4-3-3d** The official shall make certain that the reverse surfaces of the crosses match evenly in that the top of one head lines up with the throat of the other and are perpendicular to the ground.
- 4-3-3n** A contrasting color between the head and the top glove must be visible on the shaft at faceoffs. The circumference of the shaft shall not exceed 3.5 inches. **NOTE:** This can be accomplished with the original shaft color, paint, a single wrap of tape or other material.
- 4-9-2o** A goal will be allowed if the shot is released prior to the end of the period.
- 4-18-4** Conduct foul on the defensive player. A second violation by the team will be enforced as
PENALTY releasable unsportsmanlike conduct, served by the offending player.
- 6-5-2x** Failure to wear a required mouthpiece properly (unless it comes out during play).
- 6-10-2**The stall warning remains in effect until a goal is scored, a shot that hits the goal pipes, shot that hits the goalie or hits his equipment, the defensive team gains possession of the ball or the period ends resulting in a faceoff. After that team has been warned, stalling shall be called if the ball leaves the goal area in any manner other than as a result of a shot on goal or a touch by the defensive team.
- 7-3** **RESUMING PLAY AFTER PENALTY**—When a penalty occurs and the ball is in the offended team's offensive half of the field, the ball shall be put in play by the team awarded the ball, at the spot here the ball was when play was suspended. If the ball was in the goal area when play was suspended, it shall be restarted nearest to the spot of the ball at the time of the whistle, 20 yards laterally outside the goal area.

2018 NFHS BOYS' LACROSSE RULE CHANGES CONTINUED

- 7-8** When there is a flag down during a slow whistle situation, the attacking team is no longer required to keep the ball in the goal area, otherwise known as the "attack box". A normal stalling situation can still be applied by the officials if needed.
- 7-8-2j** A second defensive foul is committed during the final two minutes of regulation play with the team that is ahead possessing the ball unless a scoring play is imminent.

HOW TO SUBMIT A RULE CHANGE PROPOSAL

Coaches and officials wishing to submit rule change proposals must reach out to their chapter interpreters for guidance on how to enter their proposal via the NFHS online portal. Considerable discussion should occur between the coach or official and the interpreter prior to entry to ensure accuracy of the proposal.

2018 COMMENTS ON RULES

- 1-2 (NEW)** Economic relief for schools by allowing schools the option of lining one set of shared field markings for boys and girls lacrosse.
- 1-7-5 (NEW)** This will allow for new products entering the market that are nontraditional, but not illegal.
- 1-9-1g(8)** Better defining home and away jerseys.
- 4-3-3d** Clarification of stick alignments during faceoffs.
- 4-3-3n** Added flexibility in color contrasting between shaft, glove, and head for faceoffs to adhere to the rule.
- 4-9-2o** Allows for an easier determination if a goal was scored.
- 4-18-4** Clarification in first violation as conduct foul and continued violations as unsportsmanlike penalties.
- 6-5-2x** Clarification of the mouthpiece violation.
- 6-10-2** Allows for the stall warning to be terminated when a shot is taken and a goal is scored, or ball hits goal pipe or the goalie.
- 7-3** Clarifies the ball placement after a foul.
- 7-8-2j** Removes the restriction to keep the ball in the box on a slow whistle.



2018 POINTS OF EMPHASIS

MOUTHGUARDS: In 2017, the foul for a mouthguard violation was changed from a personal foul to technical foul to encourage penalty enforcement for those who violate the rule. Coaches should encourage players to wear mouthguards properly (i.e. no fish hooking) and legally; officials are expected to call the foul.

FACEOFFS (4-3-3):

- A. Faceoff players are allowed to make contact first; however, only legal contact is allowed on players taking a faceoff. Legal body contact includes checking a player who has no other part of the body touching the ground except the feet. Body-checks must be made below the neck, above the waist and to the front or side of an opponent. Illegal body-checks, including spearing with the head, shall be strictly enforced.
- B. Faceoff players must have a visible contrasting color between the head and the top glove on the shaft. Contrasting color can be accomplished with the original shaft color, paint, a single wrap of tape, or other materials that do not make the shaft circumference exceed 3.5 inches.
- C. Officials should continue to enforce the faceoff procedure that players reverse surfaces of the crosse shall match evenly so that the top of one head aligns with the stop area of their opponent's stick (see diagram on p. 4).. Additionally, both heads shall be perpendicular to the ground.

SLOW WHISTLE (7-8): When there is a flag down during a slow whistle situation, the attacking team is no longer required to keep the ball in the goal area, otherwise known as "the attack box". A normal stalling situation can still be applied by officials if needed.

SHOTS AT THE ENDS OF PERIODS (4-9-2o): A goal will be allowed if the shot is released prior to the end of the period.

REMINDER OF CROSSE CHANGE IN 2018: The crosse shall be an overall fixed length of either 40-42 inches (short crosse) or 52-72 inches (long crosse), except for the goalkeeper's crosse, which may be 40-72 inches long. The circumference of the crosse handle shall be no more than 3.5 inches. The head of the crosse at its widest point shall measure between 6-10 inches, inside measurement, at the top and the bottom of the wall. There shall be one crosse 10-12 inches, inside measurement at its widest point, at the top and bottom of the wall. This crosse shall be used by the required designated goalkeeper. The walls of any crosse shall not be more than 2 inches high. **EXCEPTION:** The gut wall.

2018 PIAA ADOPTIONS AND MODIFICATIONS

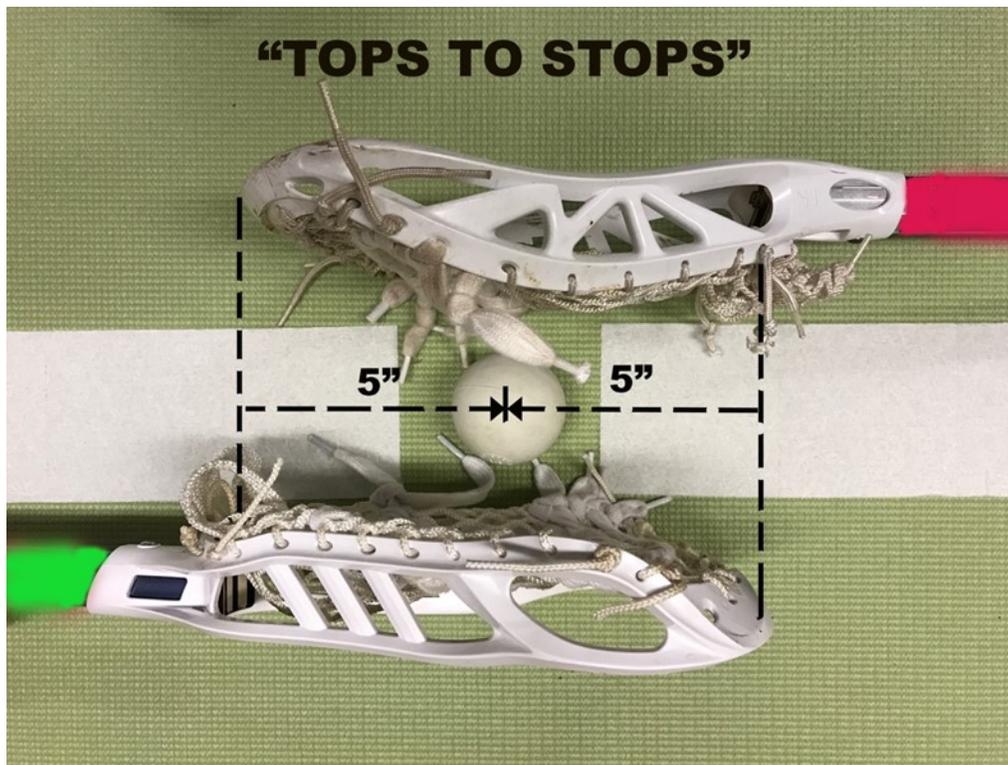
- Adopt the 2018 NFHS Boys' Lacrosse Rules Book.
- To clarify Concussion Guidelines that "an appropriate healthcare professional" is a licensed physician of medicine or osteopathic medicine (MD or DO)
- Modify Rule 4-1-5, a game 1) which is interrupted because of events beyond the control of responsible authorities that occurs prior to the end of the third period shall be picked up at the point of interruption, 2) which is interrupted because of events beyond the control of responsible authorities that occurs after the end of the third period and a winner can be determined shall be considered final, and 3) tied when interrupted because of events beyond the control of responsible authorities shall be continued at the point of interruption.

Have you been on the PIAA Officials Website?

www.piaa.org/officials

STICK-PLACEMENT MECHANIC FOR FACE-OFFS

When placing sticks for the face-off, officials shall align the top of each player's stick with the stop-area of the throat of his opponent's stick. The ball shall be placed equidistant from the stop-area of each stick. (See photo)

**CONTACT ON FACE-OFFS**

NOTE: Under NFHS rules, there is no requirement to play the ball first on a face-off. However, illegal body checks, including spearing with the head, should be strictly enforced.

OVER-AND-BACK

4-14-3 SITUATION A: On a face-off, the ball is propelled over a defensive-area line into Team A's goal area, releasing the players confined behind the lines without either team having gained possession. The ball is now propelled back over the center-line, still without either team having gained possession. Has either team violated the over-and-back rule?

RULING: No. There can be no over-and-back violation before the ball has been possessed by either team following a face-off. Only a team that has possessed the ball and successfully advanced the ball into its goal area or gained possession of the ball in its goal area can be called for over-and-back.

OFFICIAL'S UNIFORM

1) The PIAA Official's Emblem must be worn on the upper left sleeve of the official's standard shirt when officiating in all PIAA sponsored games.

2) All PIAA-registered officials must wear identical uniforms during a contest.

3) Required uniform for lacrosse officials:

Cap	Black with white piping.
Shirt	Alternating black and white 1-inch vertically striped, long or short sleeved shirt with a black collar or v-neck collar (any undergarments, if visible, should be black).
Shorts	White or black (minimum 6-inch inseam).
Slacks	Full length solid black nylon wind pants.
Belt	Black (1 1/4—2 inches in width).
Socks	Black stirrup socks with white over-the-calf crew socks on top or knee length one-piece white with 4-inch black top, or short black socks (preferably just above the ankle).
Shoes	Clean and shined solid black with black laces.
Gloves	Solid black (if worn)
Lanyard	Black.
Whistle	Black.
Turtleneck	Black (if needed).
Jacket	May be worn pre-game, halftime, not during the game per PIAA policy. Solid black or black-and-white 1-inch vertically striped jackets are acceptable.
Jewelry	Officials are NOT permitted to wear jewelry, with the exception of your wedding band and a Medical Alert Bracelet or Necklace while umpiring. The restrictions that pertain to a player for a Medical Alert Bracelet or Necklace also pertain to officials.

The wearing of jewelry (except wedding bands and medical-alert bracelets) is prohibited. Smoking and/or tobacco chewing is prohibited. (Minutes, Board of Control, PIAA Summer Workshop, July 17, 1989, p. 3).

PIAA sports' officials may display an American flag (maximum size 2 by 3 inches) on the right sleeve of the uniform shirt approximately three inches down from the shoulder seam. This will be the same position the PIAA official patch is displayed on the left sleeve.

NOTE: ALL UNIFORM ITEMS MUST BE IDENTICAL TO PARTNER(S) DRESS ALIKE!!!

(This reference is for socks, shorts and sleeves of each official to be the same).

PIAA 2018 BOYS' LACROSSE SCHEDULE

First Practice Date.....	Monday, March 5
First Inter-School/Scrimmage Date	Saturday, March 10
First Regular Season Play Date	Friday, March 23
Last Regular Season Contest Date and District Championship Deadline.....	Saturday, May 26
PIAA Boys' Lacrosse Championships:	
First Round	Wednesday, May 29
Quarterfinals	Saturday, June 2
Semi-Finals	Tuesday, June 5
PIAA Boys' Lacrosse Championship Finals	
West Chester East HS	Saturday, June 9
AA Championship Game	2 pm
AAA Championship Game	4 pm

PIAA SPORTSMANSHIP MESSAGE



“PIAA requires all registered sports' officials to enforce the sportsmanship rules for coaches and contestants. Actions meant to demean opposing contestants, teams, spectators and officials are not in the highest ideals of interscholastic education and will not be tolerated. Let today's contest reflect mutual respect. Coaches please certify to the contest official(s) that your contestants are legally equipped and uniformed according to NFHS rules and PIAA adoptions. Good luck in today's contest.”

This message shall be read to the head coach and captains prior to each contest officiated by a registered PIAA official. This message shall be enforced by contest officials and its enforcement shall include a strict and swift enforcement when unsportsmanlike actions involve demeaning remarks or actions that may be related to the racial or ethnic background of any party.

For distribution purposes, this message is printed on the back of all PIAA registered sports officials' 2017-18 identification cards. Chapter interpreters are requested to remind all officials to read this message at each contest they officiate.

There have been some concerns addressed by the schools that some of our officials are not reading the PIAA Sportsmanship message prior to the contest. This is an improper procedure and this message MUST be read. Officials are not to paraphrase, modify, or develop their own Sportsmanship Message to the captains and head coaches. The proper procedure is head coaches and captains MUST attend the pre-game reading of the sportsmanship message.

This message **MUST BE READ VERBATIM** by the contest officials. Coaches must certify to the contest officials their team is legally equipped and in compliance with NFHS Boys' Lacrosse Rules. The reading of this message will set the tone for the contest to be played in the spirit of good sportsmanship and have the coaches verbally confirm aloud their teams' adherence to compliance with equipment and safety rules. This confirmation is not only the adherence to contest rules, but also assists in alleviating the legal liability concerns for the officials if the teams subsequently violate the proper equipment provisions of the contest rules.

POLICY ON EYE SHADE

The use of eye shade must be worn as a single, solid stroke under the eye. There shall be no numbers, words, logos, symbols or other detail located in the eye shade. The eye shade shall not extend below the cheek bone and extend no further than the width of the eye socket.

Players having eye shade that does not meet the standard are to remove it or comply with the PIAA interpretation before participation in the game. If the players do not comply, the officials may impose unsportsmanlike conduct type penalties as determined by their respective rules code.

PIAA BY-LAWS: ARTICLE XIII, SECTION 8

Any coach and/or contestant who, while coaching or competing for a PIAA member school, is ejected from a Contest by a state high school association recognized and/or registered official in that sport for unsportsmanlike conduct or flagrant misconduct shall be disqualified from coaching and/or participating **for the remainder of the day and in all Contests on the next Contest day of the same level (varsity, junior varsity, or otherwise) of competition.** For a coach, participation in the next Contest includes any contact by the coach with members of the Team, including other coaches, between the time that the Team arrives at the Contest site and the conclusion of the last Contest of the day. The Principal shall direct the coach not to attend all of the Contest(s).

Any coach and/or contestant ejected from the last Contest in that sport in a sport season shall be disqualified from coaching and/or participating in the first Contest(s) in that sport in the subsequent sport season, at the same level (varsity, junior varsity, or otherwise) of competition, at any PIAA member school or, if the student changes levels of competition, such as from junior varsity to varsity, the first Contest(s) in that sport.

In Boys' Lacrosse, the athletic director and principal must meet with the ejected coach/contestant and detail in a report what corrective action has been taken. This report then must be signed by all parties and sent to the district Boys' Lacrosse chairperson. This form is located on the PIAA website on the Boys' Lacrosse page.

When a coach or contestant is disqualified/ejected from a Regular or Post-Regular Season Contest a report must be filed by the official who disqualified/ejected the coach or contestant. When the report is received in the PIAA Office it is viewed by the concerned school Principal and Athletic Director and mailed to the respective District Chairman, officials' representatives and sportsmanship chair. A copy is also given to the Assistant Executive Director and placed in the school's file.

The official shall file a report on-line with the PIAA Office on the form prescribed for the sport involved, within twenty-four (24) hours following the completion of the Contest in which the ejection occurred. Failure to file such report shall not affect the validity or consequences of the ejection.

OFFICIALS ARE TO FILE A REPORT WITH THE PIAA OFFICE ON-LINE WITHIN 24 HOURS OF THE EJECTION OR THEY MAY BE PLACED ON PROBATION. OFFICIALS SHOULD GO TO THE "FORMS SECTION" UNDER THE OFFICIALS TAB AT www.piaa.org.

OFFICIALS MANUAL

All officials could become aware of the contents of the Officials' Manual which can be found under the Officials heading at www.piaa.org.

This manual provides valuable information concerning many aspects of officiating as they relate to PIAA policies and procedures.

**EXAMPLES OF DISQUALIFICATION PROVISION
OF ARTICLE XIII, SECTION 8**

The following examples are for players or coaches and are only examples and not a complete list. What this means is a player or coach ejected from a contest at any level must sit out the remainder of the day and the next day of the next contest at that level.

Example #1: Player/coach gets ejected from a junior varsity contest before a varsity contest. This player/coach gets disqualified for the **remainder of the day and the next day** of the next junior varsity contest. If this contest is followed by a varsity contest **on the same day**, the player/coach gets disqualified for the varsity contest also (**the whole day**).

Example #2: Player/coach gets ejected from a varsity contest on Friday, the team's next varsity contest is Tuesday. Before the varsity contest is a scheduled junior varsity contest, player/coach cannot participate in any of Tuesday's contests.

Example #3: Player/coach gets ejected from a varsity boys' lacrosse game Saturday. The next varsity contest is a game on next Friday but the game gets postponed to Saturday. On Saturday, the junior varsity team is to compete in another boys' lacrosse game, a player and/or coach eligible to participate in the junior varsity game? Since the Friday contest was postponed the **next varsity game** is the same day as the junior varsity game and the player/coach are not eligible to participate the whole day.

****Note to officials: the enforcement of the rules as written and the use of the mechanics when ejecting personnel from a contest cannot be stressed enough. PIAA cannot defend the lack of enforcement of sportsmanship rules nor the failure to use approved mechanics with regard to these ejections.****

**PIAA BY-LAWS—ARTICLE XV; SECTION 3
REQUIREMENT OF WRITTEN CONTRACT**

All PIAA member schools shall enter into either paper or electronic contracts on the official contract form entitled "Contract for Officials Under PIAA Rules" with all registered sports officials retained by the schools or assigned by an assignor. Registered sports officials are independent contractors and therefore, are NOT employees of PIAA, the school, or the assignor. Disputes arising from oral agreements will not be considered by PIAA.

PIAA WEBSITE OFFICIALS' INFORMATION AREA

The officials' section of the PIAA website may be accessed by registered PIAA sports' official using their individual officials' code. This code is secured individually by utilizing the first four (4) letters of your last name in (CAPS) and the last four (4) digits of your ID number. Items listed in the secured area include: Officials' directory, on-line disqualification forms and on-line injury forms. Other information in the officials' area on our website include: Applications for Becoming an Official; Sportsmanship Message; Rules Interpretation Meetings; Bulletins (Sports Specific); Athletic Officials' Manual; Various Forms; Evaluation Information; Officials' Merchandise; Officials Recognition and Power Point Presentations; along other important officials' information. Please utilize this area for assistance and information in preparing for your games as well as hosting quality chapter meetings. Officials can also view the expiration dates of their clearances on their profile page at this site, www.piaa.org

CANCELLATION OF AN OFFICIAL’S CONTRACT BY A PIAA MEMBER SCHOOL

If a PIAA member school violates or cancels a contract with an official, the District Committee or the Board of Directors, in their respective jurisdictions, may require a school so violating or so canceling to pay to the offended official the fee or fees for the Contest or Contests which have been provided in the official contract. Failure of a PIAA member school to live up to the terms of the contract shall be considered a violation of the Constitution and By-Laws of PIAA.

Comment: It has been brought to our attention on numerous occasions that officials have lost assignments or games because a school or assignor has “double booked” the contest. Officials are reminded that unless there is a written contract executed between the parties, they have no claim to any type of reimbursement from the offending school(s). Many schools have made a “good faith “ effort to the officials to get them an additional assignment in the future or offer a scrimmage to pick up the lost fees. However, officially, without a written, signed, properly executed contract between the official(s) and the school(s), there is no recourse for the officials. In this day of technology it is not very hard for assignors, or schools, to execute these contracts. This is part of an assignor’s responsibility. Officials should request contracts from their assignors or schools for both parties protection.

PIAA OFFICIALS INSURANCE

For the 2017-2018 school year, American Specialty Insurance Services will provide the following benefits:

- One Million Dollars of Liability Coverage;
- \$25,000 Excess Accident Medical Coverage (with a \$250 deductible);
- \$5,000 Accidental Death and Dismemberment (including a cardiac benefit).

This program is administered by American Specialty Insurance Services and underwritten by USF&G and Mutual of Omaha. Again this year, all regularly scheduled chapter meetings and the mandatory rules meeting will be covered under PIAA’s basic liability coverage. Chapters are requested to please enter their list of regularly scheduled chapter meetings online at www.piaa.org to assist procedurally in the exchange of information to have all local association meetings covered.

Contact information is as follows:
Drew Smith, Vice-President for Client Services
Sara Douglass, Administrative Assistant
American Specialty Insurances Services, Inc.
142 N. Main Street, P.O. Box 309
Roanoke, Indiana 46783-0309
Phone: 260-672-8800
Fax: 260-673-www.amerspec.com

OUTDOOR EVENTS: SPECTATOR DECORUM

The presence and/or the use of balloons, whistles, and/or portable listening devices (without earphones) are PROHIBITED! The Principal and Athletic Director of each school will be requested to confiscate these items from their cheerleaders and/or the spectators from their school and community. The use of pom-poms by cheerleaders and small portable listening devices with earphones is permitted. Spectators are prohibited from removing their shirts and/or using body paint while in attendance at District and Inter-District Championship Contests. Principals and Athletic Directors of competing schools shall announce and publicize these regulations.

The principal, athletic director, coaches, team physician, team trainer, players in uniform, managers, ball holders, and statisticians will be the only persons permitted in the team box.

As copied from the PIAA Policies and Procedures Manual.

**24th ANNUAL OFFICIALS’
 CONVENTION
 AUGUST 3-4, 2018
 HILTON HARRISBURG**

INFECTIOUS SKIN DISEASES

Strategies for reducing the potential exposure to these infectious agents include:

- Athletes must be told to notify a parent or guardian, athletic trainer and coach of any skin lesion prior to any competition or practice. An appropriate health-care professional should evaluate any skin lesion before returning to competition.
- If an outbreak occurs on a team, especially in a contact sport, all team members should be evaluated to help prevent the potential spread of infection.
- Coaches, officials and appropriate health-care professionals must follow NFHS or state/local guidelines on “time until return to competition.” Participation with a covered lesion may be considered if in accordance with NFHS, state or local guidelines and the lesion is no longer contagious.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE AND SKIN INFECTION PROCEDURES

Proper precautions are needed to minimize the potential risk of the spread of communicable disease and skin infections during athletic competition. These conditions include skin infections that occur due to skin contact with competitors and equipment. The transmission of infections such as Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) and Herpes Gladiatorum, blood-borne pathogens such as HIV and Hepatitis B, and other infectious diseases such as Influenza can often be greatly reduced through proper hygiene. The NFHS SMAC has outlined and listed below some general guidelines for the prevention of the spread of these diseases.

BLOOD-BORNE INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Strategies for reducing the potential exposure to these agents include following Universal Precautions such as:

- An athlete who is bleeding, has an open wound, has any amount of blood on his/her uniform, or has blood on his/her person, shall be directed to leave the activity (game or practice) until the bleeding is stopped, the wound is covered, the uniform and/or body is appropriately cleaned, and/or the uniform is changed before returning to activity.
- Athletic trainers or other caregivers need to wear gloves and take other precautions to prevent blood or body fluid-splash from contaminating themselves or others.
- In the event of a blood or body fluid-splash, immediately wash contaminated skin or mucous membranes with soap and water.
- Clean all contaminated surfaces and equipment with disinfectant before returning to competition. Be sure to use gloves when cleaning.
- Any blood exposure or bites to the skin that break the surface must be reported and immediately evaluated by an appropriate health-care professional.



OFFICIALLY SPORTS is the only licensed supplier for the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association



If you are in need of updating your officiating supplies, please be reminded that Officially Sports is the official vendor of PIAA Sport Officials' Uniforms. Please give them your consideration for any purchases regarding officials' supplies. If interested, you may provide them with your email address to send you their catalog, seasonal specials and discounted items that may be of interest and service to your avocation of sports' officiating.

Officially Sports may be contacted via email at sales@officiallysports.com, by calling 800-934-4555 or at www.officiallysports.com.

OTHER COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

Means of reducing the potential exposure to these agents include:

- Appropriate vaccination of athletes, coaches and staff as recommended by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC).
- During time of outbreaks, follow the guidelines set forth by the CDC as well as State and local Health Departments.

For more detailed information, refer to the Infectious Disease and Blood-borne Pathogens” and “Skin Disorders” sections contained in the NFHS Sports Medicine Handbook.

**UNIVERSAL HYGIENE
PROTOCOL FOR ALL SPORTS**

- Shower immediately after every competition and practice.
- Wash all workout clothing after each practice.
- Wash personal gear (knee pads and braces) weekly.
- Do not share towels or personal hygiene products (razors) with others.
- Refrain from full body (chest, arms, abdomen) cosmetic shaving.

**SPORTS MEDICINE COMMITTEE
RECOMENDATIONS**

The PIAA Sports Medicine Committee recommends that each registered sports official have an annual physical examination and practice good health habits. Being physically fit and conveying an appropriate, positive image through proper health and nutrition habits will greatly assist all officials in keeping up with the game. After all, the game, the schools, players, coaches, spectators and fellow officials deserve no less. As importantly, officials owe good health habits to themselves and their families if for nothing more, than the health of it. If officials have any chronic health condition, officials are requested to share this information with on site medical personnel at their contest(s).

**GUIDELINES ON HANDLING
CONTESTS DURING
LIGHTNING DISTURBANCES**

These guidelines provide a default policy to those responsible or sharing duties for making decisions concerning the suspension and restarting of practices and contests based on the presence of lightning or thunder. The preferred sources from which to request such a policy for your facility would include your state high school association and the nearest office of the National Weather Service.

Proactive Planning

1. Assign staff to monitor local weather conditions before and during practices and contests.
2. Develop an evacuation plan, including identification of appropriate nearby safe areas.
3. Develop criteria for suspension and resumption of play.
 - A. When thunder is heard or a cloud-to-ground lightning bolt is seen, the leading edge of the thunderstorm is close enough to strike your location with lightning. Suspend play for 30 minutes and take shelter immediately.
 - B. 30 minute rule. Once play has been suspended, wait at least 30 minutes after the last thunder is heard or flash of lightning is witnessed prior to resuming play.
 - C. Any subsequent thunder or lightning after the beginning of the 30 minute-minute count will reset the clock and another 30-minute count should begin.
4. Review annually with all administrators, coaches and game personnel.
5. Inform student athletes of the lightning policy at start of season.

As copied from the NFHS 2018 Boys’ Lacrosse Rules Book.

Officials should obtain all available information and confer with partners and game administration prior to making any decision whether to continue a contest.

NOTES

