

TOURNAMENT BULLETINS

Maryland Public Secondary Schools Athletic Association
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MPSSAA BULLETINS

Fall 2014

This publication contains information pertaining to state tournament competition for the fall season. It is divided into two sections. The first section contains information pertinent to all tournaments. The second section contains the particular rules for each sport.

Schools will be provided with enough copies of the booklet for the principal, athletic director, and each head coach for the fall season. **It is the school's responsibility to read and follow the guidelines provided in this publication.**

I. STATE TOURNAMENT POLICIES

- A. The Maryland Public Secondary Schools Athletic Association games or tournament committees, each representing all of the nine districts shall administer and supervise tournaments in the various sports at the district, region, and state level.
- B. All participating schools shall abide by the rules established by the tournament committee.
- C. Although certain aspects of a tournament may vary from year to year, the following basic policies shall be observed by all tournament committees:
 1. A tournament may not interfere with local school policy.
 2. A school or school system has the privilege and right to decide whether or not it will participate in a tournament.
 3. A school shall compete in its classification when a tournament is so structured.
 4. Certified and approved officials organizations shall be assigned games in a fair, equitable, and nondiscriminatory manner.
 5. All awards and recognition shall conform to MPSSAA Bylaw .08.
 6. A tournament committee shall make every effort to establish game sites that minimize extensive travel for participating teams.
 7. All policy and procedure changes for a state tournament shall be subject to the approval of the MPSSAA executive council with the Association's tournament committee serving in an advisory capacity. Emergency decisions on tournament policies and procedures may be made by the MPSSAA executive director.
 8. When a contestant is found ineligible during the progress of a tournament, the contest last played shall be forfeited, and the team that was defeated shall take its place.
 9. All-star teams or best individual athlete awards MAY NOT be selected from an approved tournament.
 10. Sports at the state tournament level shall be governed by approved game rules.

11. If a team or any student participating in state tournament play leaves the field of play before the completion of a contest, or fails to continue play when eligible to do so, or is guilty of misconduct detrimental to the tournament, then the team, coach, contestant or contestants may be suspended from further participation in the current tournament and from the same tournament in the succeeding year, upon the determination of the tournament committee and the executive director. *In addition, refer to section labeled "Misconduct Detrimental to a Tournament" (page 34 in the current MPSSAA Handbook).*
12. The rules of the Association do not provide authority to order games replayed. Protests arising from decisions and interpretations by officials during the game will not be considered. Officials decisions and interpretations are final.
13. All suspended games will be continued from the point at which they were interrupted.
14. Expansion of any sport to the state level shall be recommended by the MPSSAA's board of control and approved by the state superintendent of schools after consultation with local superintendents of schools.

II. RESPONSIBILITIES OF SCHOOLS PARTICIPATING IN A TOURNAMENT

- A. An MPSSAA team completing the minimum number of varsity games stated in the following table qualifies as a participant in that specific sport for state tournament play.

SPORT	MAXIMUM	MINIMUM	SPORT	MAXIMUM	MINIMUM
Baseball	18	.....14	Lacrosse	12	.....9
Basketball.....	20	.....15	Soccer	12	.....9
Field Hockey	12	.....9	Softball	18	.....14
Football	10	.....8	Volleyball.....	15	.....12

- B. It is the responsibilities of schools to work with regional directors to accurately report schedules, results and records for the purpose of tournament seeding. Failure to do so in a timely and accurate manner significantly hinders the smooth operation of the state tournament and may be considered misconduct detrimental to the tournament as outlined in the MPSSAA Handbook.
- C. Postponed contests shall be rescheduled on the next available (nonscheduled) playing date. Any disagreements shall be referred to the appropriate local supervisor(s) for resolution.
- D. All schools entering a tournament must agree to arrangements made by its tournament committee. This includes the time and place of each game and the selection of officials. All games will be played under the rules of the MPSSAA. In cases not covered by written regulations, the tournament committee in charge is empowered to make decisions.
 1. A school may not request a postponement of any tournament game because of illness, injury, or unavailability of some of its players.
 2. A school is responsible for seeing that all its players are protected by insurance in the event of injury.
- E. Games will be played on a basis of shared responsibilities. Personnel from the visiting schools must accept their joint responsibilities with the persons in charge for the supervision and maintenance of good behavior on the part of the students, spectators, and participants. Good sportsmanship, exemplary behavior, and the protection of property are of primary importance before, during, and following each game. It is recommended that faculty representatives of the competing teams anticipate and study problems that could arise from such contests and plan cooperatively to deal with these problems.
- F. Schools hosting region tournament games are responsible to provide a qualified game manager other than the participating coach.

- G. The possession or use of any alcoholic beverage or nonalcoholic substitute (i.e. nonalcoholic champagne) is considered to be conduct detrimental to a tournament. An individual or team using such products in any form of consumption or celebration will be subject to disciplinary action.

III. Point of Emphasis

The MPSSAA would like to make a point of emphasis for coaches. Coaches are reminded that you set the tone for your team and are the foremost influential figures representing your school. Your coaching attire and actions should reflect a professional approach that signifies a respect for the game, respect for your school and respect for yourself.

IV. COMPLIMENTARY PASSES

- A. Complimentary passes are provided for coaches and administrators only.
 - 1. Passes are distributed through local supervisors.
 - 2. Each pass should have the bearer's name printed on the pass prior to distribution.
 - 3. A valid driver's license is required to be displayed with each pass.
 - 4. Admission to Regular Season Events is subject to Local School System Rules.
- B. Additional special passes will be distributed for some tournaments. Those passes will admit the bearer only.
- C. All other individuals age 7 years or older will be charged admission to any MPSSAA event.

V. RADIO AND TELEVISION

Radio and television coverage of the playoffs and championship games will be allowed by any station that is awarded a contract by the MPSSAA. Radio and television contracts must be awarded through the executive director. Schools will be notified by the executive director of approved broadcasters.

VI. MEDICAL PERSONNEL

The MPSSAA has budgeted for qualified medical personnel to be employed at each semifinal and final game. Host schools should employ those medical personnel from local sources. Medical personnel will be paid at the local rate.

VII. THUNDER AND/OR LIGHTNING

If thunder and/or lightning can be heard or seen, participants, spectators, and staff are in danger. Contests must be stopped and protective shelter sought immediately. In the event that either situation should occur, 30 minutes will be allowed to pass after the last sound of thunder and/or lightning strike before resuming play.

VIII. POLICE PROTECTION

The game director at each site will employ adequate police protection to supervise parking lots and assist with crowd control.

REIMBURSEMENT SCHEDULE

STATE AND REGION FOOTBALL

Maximum Official Party

- 4A - 55
- 3A - 50
- 2A - 50
- 1A - 50

Number of players equivalent to varsity roster as of Oct. 15. Certified coaches and student managers will be issued sideline passes

Meals

- 1. Over 75 miles one way @ \$15/person
- 2. Over 150 miles one way @ \$40/person overnight (must be approved by executive director)

Travel (round trip distance)

- 1. Official party of 40 and under - 1 BUS
- 2. Official party of 41 and over - 2 BUSES
- 3. 0-150 miles @ \$2.00 per mile - minimum \$100 or actual cost
- 4. 151-225 miles @ \$2.25 per mile - not to exceed actual cost
- 5. Over 225 miles @ \$2.50 per mile - not to exceed actual cost

Lodging

Must be approved by the MPSSAA Executive Director

Distribution of Receipts - 100% to MPSSAA

Reimbursement Deadline - December 15

REGION CROSS COUNTRY

Maximum Official Party -

10 varsity runners on active roster by October 15 plus certified coaches and managers

Meals, Travel & Lodging

District Option

STATE CROSS COUNTRY

Maximum Official Party -

10 varsity runners on active roster by October 15 plus certified coaches and managers

Reimbursement Deadline

December 15

Travel Allotment - Round Trip Distance

- 1. 0-50 miles \$75
- 2. 51-150 miles \$100
- 3. 151-225 miles \$125
- 4. Over 225 miles \$150

REIMBURSEMENT SCHEDULE

REGION FIELD HOCKEY

Maximum Official Party - 25

Distribution of Receipts

To the host district

Meals, Travel, Lodging

District Option

STATE FIELD HOCKEY

Maximum Official Party - 25

Lodging

None

Meals

Over 75 miles one way @ 10/person

Distribution of Receipts

100% to MPSSAA

Travel (round trip distance)

1. 0-150 miles @ \$2.00 per mile - minimum \$100 or actual cost
2. 151-225 miles @ \$2.25 per mile - not to exceed actual cost
3. Over 225 miles @ \$2.50 per mile - not to exceed actual cost

Reimbursement Deadline

December 15

REGION GOLF

Maximum Official Party -

4 Girls, 4 Boys, and certified coach

Distribution of Receipts

To the host district

Meals, Travel & Lodging

District Option

STATE GOLF

Maximum Official Party -

4 Girls, 4 Boys, and certified coach

Reimbursement Deadline

December 15

Travel Allotment - Round Trip Distance

1. 0-50 miles \$75
2. 51-150 miles \$100
3. 151-225 miles \$125
4. Over 225 miles \$150

REIMBURSEMENT SCHEDULE

REGION SOCCER

Maximum Official Party - 25

Distribution of Receipts

To the host district

Meals, Travel, Lodging

District Option

STATE SOCCER

Maximum Official Party - 25

Lodging

None

Meals

Over 75 miles one way @ \$15/person

Distribution of Receipts

100% to MPSSAA

Travel (round trip distance)

1. 0-150 miles @ \$2.00 per mile - minimum \$100 or actual cost
2. 151-225 miles @ \$2.25 per mile - not to exceed actual cost
3. Over 225 miles @ \$2.50 per mile - not to exceed actual cost

Reimbursement Deadline

December 15

REGION VOLLEYBALL

Maximum Official Party -

20 (15 players, 3 coaches, and 2 managers)

Distribution of Receipts

To the host district

Meals, Travel & Lodging

District Option

STATE VOLLEYBALL

Maximum Official Party -

20 (15 players, 3 coaches, and 2 managers)

Lodging

None

Meals

Over 75 miles one way @ \$15/person

Distribution of Receipts

100% to MPSSAA

Travel (round trip distance)

1. 0-150 miles @ \$2.00 per mile - minimum \$100 or actual cost
2. 151-225 miles @ \$2.25 per mile - not to exceed actual cost
3. Over 225 miles @ \$2.50 per mile - not to exceed actual cost

Reimbursement Deadline

December 15

PRINCIPALS, ATHLETIC DIRECTORS AND COACHES

After more than 30 years of scheduling the November Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) on the first Saturday of the month, the College Board has changed the 2014 testing date to the second Saturday (11/8/14) of November.

This revision of historic test dates presents some potential conflicts with scheduled MPSSAA Playoffs; most notably the Cross Country and Field Hockey State Finals and the Boys and Girls Soccer State Semi Finals.

Coaches and administrators are strongly urged to alert potentially affected athletes and their parents of the conflict and suggest students consider the October 11 or December 6 fall test dates.

A complete list of SAT and ACT test dates for the 2014 academic year can be found in the inside back cover of this Bulletin.

