I. GENERAL INFORMATION

A. The Maryland Public Secondary Schools Athletic Association is the official governing body for the Basketball tournament. Plans for the tournament were formulated by the State Basketball Committee and approved by the Board of Control.

B. Schools choosing to enter the tournament have the responsibility for reading and adhering to the rules and regulations stated in the front section of this publication as well as those appearing within this Basketball Bulletin. Unless specifically stated, all rules and regulations stipulated in the NFHS Basketball Rule Book will be followed.

C. Eligibility rules for all participants are defined in MPSSAA Bylaw .02, found in the current MPSSAA Handbook.

D. General regulations for all state tournaments are contained in MPSSAA Bylaw .07, found in both the current Handbook and in the front section of this publication.

E. Games postponed during the regular season shall be made up on the first available date and in the order originally scheduled. Subsequent games shall not be moved. Local supervisor(s) of athletics shall be consulted and will make final decisions on postponed games.

F. The MPSSAA State Basketball Committees have approved the use of S.A.G.A. timing devices during the regular season and region tournaments, provided that both teams agree. These devices will be used at the state semifinals and finals.

G. The State Basketball Committees are requiring the use of the Spalding TF-1000 Classic basketball during the playoffs AND the state tournament. It is highly recommended that this same ball be used during the regular season as well.

H. By State adoption, the State Basketball Committees have adopted the following rule regarding the use of running time. Once a 35-point differential exists in the second half, the following changes, and only these changes, will be made regarding rules which determine when the clock will and will not be stopped.

1. An official’s time-out for an injured participant.

2. A charged (team) time-out occurs.

3. A score occurs that reduces the point spread to less than 35 points (in which case regular timing procedures will be used).

4. A period ends.

5. Free throws are taken.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2019-2020 BASKETBALL TIME LINE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>REGION TOURNAMENTS</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 5........................First play date</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 24 .......................Last play date for tournament seeding</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 25 ..............Tournament seeding</td>
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<td>Feb. 27 .......................Last play date</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar. 5 (G); Mar. 6 (B) ..........Application deadlines for tournament qualifiers</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>STATE TOURNAMENTS</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar. 6 (G) ....................Quarterfinals</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar. 12 ..................3A &amp; 4A Semifinals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 14 .......................Finals</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
II. TOURNAMENT ENTRY INFORMATION

A. Tournament Organization

1. Every school is automatically in the tournament unless the MPSSAA Office receives written notification to the contrary. Request for withdrawal shall be by letter, signed by the school principal.

2. A TEAM ENTRY FORM for the State Semifinals and Finals must be filled out online in the password protected Member’s section of MPSSAA.org by teams winning their Region Final.
   a. The girls entry must be submitted online no later than 4 p.m. on Thursday, March 5.
   b. The boys entry must be submitted online no later than 4 p.m. on Friday, March 6.

III. REGION AND STATE TOURNAMENTS

A. Tournament Organization

1. Each region will conduct a single elimination tournament with the champion advancing to state play.

2. Schools may not compete in any contest after February 27 that is not part of the state tournament.

3. All references to the Official Party in this Bulletin shall be defined as follows:
   a. The Official Party is limited to 21 persons and shall consist of authorized coaches, players, and managers of high school age or older.
   b. Only those in the Official Party are permitted on the bench or in the locker room area.

4. No team may dress more than 15 players.

5. The designated home team will wear the white uniform. The designated visiting team will wear the dark uniform. Bring both colors.

6. The coach is in charge of the bench. The coach’s conduct should be exemplary, as it sets a pattern for both spectators and players.

B. Playing rules, except as modified below, shall be in accordance with the current National Federation rules.

1. Boys and girls shall use a 30-second shot clock.

2. Girls will not have a 10-second count to move the ball from back court to front court.

C. General Policies

1. The Official Party will only be admitted in total and accompanied by its coach.

2. Per NFHS rules, noisemakers and other distractions, (i.e., whistles, sirens, horns, bells, clappers, ‘thunder sticks’, megaphones, balloons, etc.), are not permitted in the gymnasium at any time.

3. When local jurisdictions allow and can accommodate pep bands, 45 band members will be admitted free. They must be accompanied by a faculty sponsor and adhere to the following guidelines:
   a. Twenty minutes prior to each game, pep bands will be allowed to play for eight minutes each. The home team will play the first eight minutes and the visiting team will play the next eight minutes. The remaining four minutes will be used for player introductions.
   b. Once a game starts, the pep bands will alternate playing only when time is out. Bands will coordinate their playing with the cheerleaders from their school.
c. Pep bands must remain in their designated areas. Bands ARE NOT permitted on the court.

4. A maximum of 20 cheerleaders from each of the participating schools will be admitted free of charge only if they are in complete uniform and accompanied by a maximum of two authorized coaches. Local jurisdictions may set their own guidelines at region tournaments on the number of cheerleaders permitted on the floor at any one time.

5. Mascots are restricted to the designated half of the baseline area, except when performing on the court during pregame team introductions or full timeouts. During play, mascots should remain with their teams in the designated cheer area, away from the goal standard. At no time shall a mascot enter the general public seating area or interact with the opposing team’s mascot.

6. The State Basketball Committee urges all schools to conduct a school-wide assembly prior to participation in postseason play. School personnel, students, and parents should be aware of their responsibilities as spectators. Information concerning crowd control and spectator behavior will be sent in the Last Minute Bulletin to region champions.

7. Teams are reminded they are guests of the host site and the use of drinks other than for consumption (example: dumping water on coaches) is prohibited.

IV. REGION TOURNAMENT

A. Tournament Organization

1. The region director is responsible for the assignment of officials and the notification of schools as to the tournament bracket, site, and starting times.

2. The seeding of bracket positions will take place on Tuesday, February 25. Tournament pairings will appear on the MPSSAA web site <mpssaa.org> later that day.

   a. Region directors will verify and submit the official records of all region teams through February 24 to their respective State Committee directors.

   b. All teams in each region will be seeded as determined by regular season winning percentage, excluding the one additional tournament and any city, county, or conference championship.

   c. Teams with less than 15 varsity games played will be seeded based on a regular season winning percentage using a divisor of 15 games.

   d. Ties among teams in a region will be first broken by head-to-head competition to determine the higher seed. This applies if all tied teams meet the criteria. If head-to-head does not break the tie, a coin toss will be used to determine the order of seeding.

   e. The higher-placed team is defined as one who occupies the lower-numbered line position (the favored position), on the bracket in any given round.

3. Unless a specific alternative plan has been approved all region games will be played at the site of the higher seed throughout the tournament.

4. If schedule changes are necessary for a. through c. below, each region director, in consultation with the local Supervisor(s) of Athletics, State Tournament Director, and the MPSSAA Executive Director will establish the best schedule, site, and game combination that will expedite the tournament in that particular region.

   a. The starting time for weekday contests when there is a single contest shall be any time after 5 p.m. and the starting time for a Saturday contest will be any time after 12 p.m. Local Supervisors of Athletics shall be consulted and make the final decision when conflicts occur.

   b. Doubleheaders will be played in the first round where boys and girls match-ups exist for both
schools. Doubleheaders will also be used to make-up postponed contests. The early game shall begin anytime after 5 p.m., with the late game beginning 20 minutes after the conclusion of the early game. Local school systems shall decide the order of contests for doubleheaders.

c. Single games shall be scheduled as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SCHEDULE</th>
<th>GIRLS</th>
<th>BOYS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Region Quarterfinals*</td>
<td>Friday, Feb. 28</td>
<td>Saturday, Feb. 29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Region Semifinals</td>
<td>Monday, Mar. 2</td>
<td>Tuesday, Mar. 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Region Finals</td>
<td>Wednesday, Mar. 4</td>
<td>Thursday, Mar. 5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* NOTE: The Boys Region Quarterfinal games scheduled for Saturday, February 29 may be played on Friday, February 28. Every effort shall be made to avoid conflicts between the boys and girls games. Local Supervisors of Athletics shall be consulted and will make the final decision when conflicts occur. **All other contests must be played on the date listed above.**

d. Region tournament directors and local supervisors of athletics shall be consulted and will make final decisions on postponed games.

5. Updated results shall be emailed to the respective State Directors by region directors as the tournament progresses.

6. For the region quarterfinals and semifinals, the region director shall have assigned a two-person crew and a table official from the officials board local to the designated home team. The table official will supervise the scoring table. Local supervisors of athletics may decide to use three-person crews in the first two sectional rounds of the tournament. When a three-person crew is used, a table official may be assigned.

7. For the region finals, the region director shall have assigned a three-person crew from the officials board local to the designated home team. A table official MAY be assigned.

8. An experienced timer will be assigned as the clock operator. “Neutral” timers with experience may also be assigned in lieu of the usual clock operator as determined by local Supervisors of Athletics.

9. Pregame warm-up

   a. At central sites, the designated home team will sit at the bench to the left of the scorer’s table, when facing it, and warm up according to National Federation rules.

   b. At the school site (entire school campus) of any regional playoff games, neither participating team may take part in any individual or team practice utilizing basketballs from 90 minutes prior to the designated tip-off until the 20-minute warm-up period immediately preceding the game.

10. For the region quarterfinal games, local MPSSAA districts will collect all revenues and pay approved expenses.

11. For region final games, the MPSSAA will receive all revenues and pay approved expenses.

B. General Policies

1. Individuals 7 years and older will be charged an admission of $6 per session, regardless of the number of games played in each session.

2. The following recommendations are made for admittance of school personnel and issuance of passes for tournament games:

   a. The Official Party (identified in Section II.A.13) will be admitted free at a designated entrance, after being identified by the coach.
b. Twenty cheerleaders, a mascot, and their two authorized coaches will be admitted free at the door used by the public.

c. Only the person whose name appears on the state pass will be admitted (See Complimentary Passes on Page 5 of the Winter Bulletin for more information).

3. Only cheerleaders are permitted to use megaphones. Cheerleaders must follow NFHS Guidelines for cheering in a gymnasium.

4. No signs or banners may be carried in by spectators. Team signs may be posted by designated personnel 20 minutes prior to game time.

5. Local jurisdictions may set their own guidelines on the use of flash photography during game action.

V. STATE TOURNAMENT

A. State Quarterfinals

1. The region champions from each classification shall advance to a State Quarterfinal round.

2. The eight region champions will be seeded 1-8 based on their regular season winning percentage used to seed each region. Ties among teams in the State Quarterfinals will be first broken by head-to-head competition to determine the higher seed. This applies if all tied teams meet the criteria. If head-to-head does not break the tie, a coin toss will be used to determine the order of seeding.

3. Unless a specific alternate plan has been approved, all State Quarterfinal games will be played at the site of the higher seed under the following terms:

   a. The Girls State Quarterfinal games shall be played on Friday, March 6 and the Boys State Quarterfinal games shall be played on Saturday, March 7.

   b. The Girls State Quarterfinal games scheduled on Friday, March 6 may be moved to Saturday, March 7 for travel considerations.

   c. When setting game times hosting sites must be mindful of other school activities and provide appropriate travel time for any schools with students taking the ACT on Saturday, March 7.

   d. Local Supervisors of Athletics shall be contacted and make the final decision when conflicts occur.

4. A three-person officiating crew from the association local to the higher seeded team will be assigned to the State Quarterfinal contest. A table official may be assigned.

5. Admission to the State Quarterfinals will be $6.00 for ages 7 and over.

6. For State Quarterfinal games, the MPSSAA will receive all revenues and pay approved expenses through the District local to the hosting site.

7. The Head Coach of each State Quarterfinal winner must complete the Media Form (found on the Basketball page of MPSSAA.org) and email it to Jill Masterman (jill.masterman@maryland.gov) in the MPSSAA office by noon Monday, March 9th.

B. State Semifinals and Finals

1. The winners of the State Quarterfinal round shall advance to the State Semifinals. The girls will play at Towson University in the SECU Center. The boys will play at the University of Maryland in the Xfinity Center.

   a. The winners of the No. 1 versus No. 8 seeded game will play the winners of the No. 4 versus No. 5 seeded game in a State Semifinal contest.
b. The winners of the No. 2 versus No. 7 seeded game will play the winners of the No. 3 versus No. 6 seeded game in a State Semifinal contest.

c. The winners of the two State Semifinal contests will meet in the State Championship game.

2. Member schools shall not schedule practice or scrimmage sessions at the sites of final championship games.

3. Directions (Please also direct your school’s community to the “Fan Focus” on MPSSAA.org):

**GIRLS (Towson University)** — Please adhere to all campus parking regulations. From the Baltimore Beltway I-695 (toward Towson). Take exit 25 (Charles Street). Turn left on Towsontown Boulevard. Turn right on Osler Drive. Proceed through three stoplights, and turn right at the second sign for Auburn Drive. SECU Arena will be on your left.

**BOYS (UMD-College Park)** — Please adhere to all campus parking regulations. From I-95/I-495 (Capital Beltway): Exit Rte. 1 South to MD. Rte. 193 (University Blvd.) - West one mile to left on Paint Branch Parkway. Follow signs to Xfinity Center parking.

4. Individuals 7 years and older will be charged an admission of $10.00 for the State Semifinals and Finals.

5. A schedule of State Semifinal games will be set at the conclusion of State Quarterfinal games to ensure schools with boys and girls participating in the State Semifinals will have ample time to travel between venues.

| BOYS SCHEDULE  
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Thursday, March 12—State Semifinals</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Class 3A and Class 4A</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 p.m. — Class 3A: Game TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 p.m. — Class 3A: Game TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td>7 p.m. — Class 4A: Game TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td>9 p.m. — Class 4A: Game TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Saturday, March 14—State Finals</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>1 p.m. — Class 1A Final</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 p.m. — Class 3A Final</td>
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<tr>
<td>6 p.m. — Class 2A Final</td>
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<tr>
<td>8 p.m. — Class 4A Final</td>
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| GIRLS SCHEDULE  
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<th>TOWSON UNIVERSITY</th>
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<td>6 p.m. — Class 1A Final</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 p.m. — Class 3A Final</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

6. Officials will be instructed before the game not to tolerate any unsportsmanlike conduct by coaches or players. A public expression of dissent from an official’s judgment usually excites the spectators and often results in a technical foul. The coach’s conduct, more than any other person, should be exemplary so as to set the pattern for the attitude of spectators.

7. The Association will not be responsible for lost or stolen articles. It is recommended that players give their valuables to team managers for safekeeping.

8. The home team will sit on the bench to the left of the scorers’ table, when facing it, and will warm up according to National Federation rules.
9. If a team withdraws or is withdrawn from the tournament for any reason, the team last defeated by the withdrawing team shall be asked to replace it, and so on.

10. The Spalding TF-1000 Classic basketball will be the official ball for the State Semifinals and Finals.

C. General Policies

1. The Official Team Bench Party (limited to 21 persons and consisting of authorized coaches, players, and managers of high school age or older) will only be admitted in total and accompanied by their coach.
   a. Tournament personnel will issue a tournament pass to each member of the party.
   b. The cheerleader party shall consist of a maximum of 20 cheerleaders and mascot in uniform and a maximum of two authorized coaches.
   c. The basketball party shall consist of a maximum of 21 persons, including coaches.
   d. The entrance to Xfinity Center for the boys Official Party will be through the loading dock from Parking Lot 4B. The entrance to SECU Arena for the girls Official Party, cheerleaders, and bands will be through the lower level Team Entrance at Gate 3.
   e. One photographer from each participating school will be allowed on the floor in addition to official press photographers. Spectators who take photographs must do so from their seats.

2. Games will be on the basis of shared responsibilities. School staff personnel of the visiting schools must accept their joint responsibilities with the persons in charge.
   a. A MINIMUM of three school staff members must be on the floor to assist with their spectators. A list of names and positions should be emailed to the respective tournament director by the team’s Head Coach by Monday, March 9th.
   b. The State Basketball Committees strongly urge that an assembly be conducted prior to participation in region and state tournament games. All school personnel, students, and parents should be made aware of their responsibilities as to their conduct as spectators.

3. Cheerleaders of opposing teams should get together before the game to work out arrangements for each school to cheer, unopposed by the other. The main court may be used during a full time-out, between quarters, and at halftime. Cheerleaders should use their megaphones only for addressing their own student body and never allow spectators to take or use them.

4. SIGNS ARE NOT PERMITTED FOR DISPLAY AT THE XFINITY CENTER and SECU ARENA.

5. HAND-HELD SIGNS may be displayed at both the boys and the girls tournaments. Obscene or derogatory signs will be confiscated. Signs may not be carried through the stands as a means of taunting other spectators. Principals and faculty members of participating schools are expected to enforce this regulation.

6. No outside food or drink is permitted to be carried into the tournament site.

7. All schools are considered “Visitors” when playing in the State Semifinals and Finals. For purposes of crowd control, the principal and school personnel brought to playoff sites should be alert to detect and correct or discipline any unsafe or unruly behavior of their spectators.

8. The State Basketball Committee will recognize the school which displays the best overall sportsmanship while participating in its respective tournament with a Sportsmanship Award. Each school’s coaches, players, cheerleaders, mascots, bands and spectators will be graded on the level of sportsmanship they project. Immediately following the last game, the award will be presented to the principal of the school achieving the highest average score.

9. Each participating school that is eligible for lodging shall telephone the MPSSAA Executive Director at 410-767-0376 no later than Monday, March 9th. No school is to make reservations for lodging its own team.
a. Schools from the following jurisdictions are eligible for reimbursement for overnight lodging and all meals while participating in the tournament:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Allegany County</th>
<th>Garrett County</th>
<th>Talbot County</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Caroline County</td>
<td>Kent County</td>
<td>Washington County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cecil County</td>
<td>Queen Anne’s County</td>
<td>—(Clear Spring &amp; Hancock only)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>—(all schools except Perryville)</td>
<td>St. Mary’s County</td>
<td>Wicomico County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dorchester County</td>
<td>Somerset County</td>
<td>Worcester County</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

b. Those teams playing the 9 p.m. game Friday have the option of staying overnight; however, those schools must first check with the Executive Director.

D. Officials

A three-person crew will be assigned to State Semifinal and Final games.
## CONTACTS FOR BOYS REGION TOURNAMENTS

State Director: Earl Hawkins

### 4A DIRECTOR

**West**
- Chris Lun
- Walt Whitman

**North**
- Matt Lochte
- Dulaney

**South**
- Brendan O'Connell
- Eleanor Roosevelt

**East**
- Mike Rudd
- Glen Burnie

**Office**
- 301-571-3883
- 443-809-7641
- 301-513-5400
- 301-379-1089

**Other**
- 301-580-8284
- 410-616-9506
- 443-889-4212

### 3A DIRECTOR

**West**
- Steve Watson
- Clarksburg

**North**
- Steve Oppenheim
- Dundalk

**South**
- VaShawne Gross
- Huntingtown

**East**
- Jon Browne
- Oakland Mills

**Office**
- 301-444-3000
- 443-809-7023
- 443-550-8825
- 410-474-4603

**Other**
- 410-371-5238
- 410-428-0413
- 443-745-7849

### 2A DIRECTOR

**West**
- Brian Tombs
- Liberty

**North**
- Damon Bomar
- Patterson

**South**
- Dale Lamberth
- Thomas Stone

**East**
- Dan Harding
- Kent Island

**Office**
- 410-751-3560
- 410-396-9274
- 301-645-2601
- 410-460-0219

**Other**
- 410-790-2026
- 443-827-0571
- 410-310-2538

### 1A DIRECTOR

**West**
- Matt Redinger
- Southern-Garrett

**North**
- Jarrett Ingram
- New Era Academy

**South**
- Dave Rooney
- Maurice J. McDonough

**East**
- Derrick Fooks
- Pocomoke

**Office**
- 301-334-6994
- 410-525-6572
- 301-753-1755
- 410-422-3934

**Other**
- 240-215-5954
- 240-389-0880
- 301-751-2065
- 410-422-3934

Email addresses for committee members can be found on the Boys Basketball page of mpssaa.org.
CONTACTS FOR GIRLS REGION TOURNAMENTS
State Director: Lynette Mitzel

4A DIRECTOR
West
Maggie Dyer
Thomas S. Wootton
Office 240-740-1524
Other 301-706-5622
North
Kendall Peace
Baltimore Polytechnic
410-396-7026
443-865-4027
South
Linda Henson-Hubb
Gwynn Park
301-372-0140x261
301-440-7347
East
Lee Rogers
Arundel
410-674-6500
443-904-1409

3A DIRECTOR
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Keivette Hammond
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Other 443-416-5405
North
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Carver Center
443-809-2546
410-426-9670
South
Felicia Brown
Huntingtown
410-414-7038
410-610-9160
East
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River Hill
410-313-7120
410-579-1579

2A DIRECTOR
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Manchester Valley
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Other 301-693-6498
North
Dana Johnson
Paul Laurence Dunbar
301-808-8880
240-463-0745
South
Ayana Ball-Ward
Largo
410-658-9115
East
Kathy Stoudt
Rising Sun
410-652-9501

1A DIRECTOR
West
Amy Entwistle
Catoctin
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Other 301-676-6263
North
Tina Queen
Reginald Lewis
443-642-5898
443-831-1533
South
Devin May
Surrattsville
301-599-2453
301-908-3695
East
Greg Bozman
Crisfield
410-968-0150
302-569-5053

Email addresses for regional directors can be found on the Girls Basketball page of mpssaa.org.

2019–2020 GIRLS BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE

DIRECTOR
Lynette Mitzel ..............Baltimore County........................................443-809-2328..................................410-591-4143

DISTRICT 1
Liz Padgett....................Manchester Valley...............................410-386-1673 ..................................301-693-6498

DISTRICT 2
Maggie Dyer ................Thomas S. Wootton.........................240-740-1524 ..................................301-706-5622

DISTRICT 3
Ayana Ball-Ward .......Largo ........................................240-463-0745 ..................................610-304-7713

DISTRICT 4
Matt Wood .................Great Mills ..............................................301-863-4001 ..................................610-304-7713

DISTRICT 5
Lee Rogers .................Arundel.......................................................410-674-6500 ..................................443-904-1409

DISTRICT 6
Lori Brewer ..............Carver Center ........................................443-809-2546 ..................................410-426-9670

DISTRICT 7
Kathy Stoudt ..........Rising Sun ...............................................410-658-9115 ..................................410-652-9501

DISTRICT 8
Stosh Schtierman ......Wicomico ..........................................410-677-5146 ..................................410-430-2926

DISTRICT 9
Dana Johnson ...........Paul Laurence Dunbar.................410-677-5146 ..................................410-677-5146

TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR
Diane George ..............Baltimore Co. (retired)..........................410-382-1226

RULES INTERPRETER
Al Battista ..................................................301-919-9007

Email addresses for committee members can be found on the Girls Basketball page of mpssaa.org.

PROJECTED MPSSAA BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP DATES
2021 - March 11-13
2022 - March 10-12
2023 - March 9-11
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CLASS 4A-WEST</th>
<th>CLASS 4A-NORTH</th>
<th>CLASS 4A-SOUTH</th>
<th>CLASS 4A-EAST</th>
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<td>2. La Plata B Co</td>
<td>2. North East Cec</td>
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<td>2. Western STES B Co</td>
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<td>2. Perryville Cec</td>
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<tr>
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<td>6. Int School at Largo PG</td>
<td>6. Colonell Richardon Cln</td>
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<tr>
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