

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

- A. The Maryland Public Secondary Schools Athletic Association is the official governing body for the Football tournament. Plans for the tournament were formulated by the State Football 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 on page 1 (Section I) of this publication as well as those appearing within this Football Bulletin. Unless specifically stated, all rules and regulations stipulated in the NFHS Football 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. By State adoption, Maryland has adopted the following rule regarding the use of running time. After the first half, any time the score differential reaches 35 points or more, the following changes, and only these changes, will be made regarding rules determining when the clock will and will not be stopped.
 - a. Once a 35-point differential exists in the second half, the clock will only be stopped when:
 - (1) An official’s timeout 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.
 - b. The use of this rule does not preclude the use of Rule 3-1-3 which reads, “A period or periods may be shortened in any emergency by agreement of the opposing coaches and the referee. By mutual agreement of the opposing coaches and the referee, any remaining period may be shortened at any time or the game terminated.”

FOOTBALL

2019 FOOTBALL TIME LINE		
	REGION ROUNDS	STATE TOURNAMENT
Aug. 14First practice date		
Sep. 6First play date		
Nov. 2Last play date for state tournament seeding	Nov. 8/9First Round	Nov. 22/23Quarterfinals
Nov. 3Organizational meeting for State Tournament	Nov. 15/16Second Round	Nov. 29/30Semifinals
Nov. 9Last Play Date		Dec. 5-7Finals
Nov. 18Application deadline for region winners		Dec. 15Reimbursement request due

II. REGION AND STATE TOURNAMENT QUALIFYING

A. Point System Criteria

1. In each of the four classifications, the top eight teams in each region according to the MPSSAA point system will compete in two regional rounds, with two region participants advancing to state play.

2. Point system for tournament selection

For defeating a Class 4A school = 8.0 points

For defeating a Class 2A school = 6.0 points

For defeating a Class 3A school = 7.0 points

For defeating a Class 1A school = 5.0 points

a. Nonmember schools will be placed in the proper classification according to member school enrollments based on the enrollments of grades 9, 10, and 11, comparable to MPSSAA classifications. An all-boys or all-girls school enrollment will be multiplied by two.

b. Policy concerning unplayed games

(1) Disbandment or failure to start the season on time will result in a non-game and shall automatically reduce the divisor of the disbanded team's opponent by one game.

(2) Disbandment after any part of the schedule has been played will be recorded as a win for the disbanded team's opponents.

c. Winning team bonus points will be determined as follows:

(1) A team playing a 9-game schedule shall receive 1.00 points for each game won by a defeated opponent who also plays a 9-game schedule.

(2) A team playing a 9-game schedule shall receive 1.125 points for each game won by a defeated opponent who plays an 8-game schedule.

(3) A team playing an 8-game schedule shall receive .889 of a point for each game won by a defeated opponent who plays a 9-game schedule.

(4) A team playing an 8-game schedule shall receive 1.00 points for each game won by a defeated opponent who also plays an 8-game schedule.

(5) For each game tied by a defeated opponent, a team shall receive 50 percent of awarded points.

(6) For each game tied by a tied opponent, a team shall receive 25 percent of awarded points.

(7) For each game won by a tied opponent, a team will receive 50 percent of awarded points.

d. When an MPSSAA member school plays a nonmember opponent who will not play the tiebreaker, the MPSSAA school shall receive points as follows:

4A—4.0 points, 3A—3.5 points; 2A—3.0 points; 1A—2.5 points.

e. MPSSAA member schools whose opponents play more than a 9-game schedule will:

(1) determine points from results of first 9 games if member school appears on the opponent's schedule from the first to and including the 9th game.

(2) determine points by counting back 9 games from and including the game in which member school appears on opponent's schedule.

- f. **The total accumulated points will be divided by 8 or 9, depending on the number of games played. Nine is the maximum divisor and eight is the minimum divisor to qualify for state participation. A team must count all regular season games when using the point system criteria to determine representation.**
- g. When a MPSSAA team plays the same opponent twice during the regular season, only the first game should count to determine team record and points. No points (bonus or win points) for any teams will be awarded based on the second game.
- h. If the point system results in a tie, the following procedures will be used in sequence to break the tie.
 - (1) If either team has defeated the other in regular season play, the winner shall be rated above the loser in the standings. If three or more teams are tied and not equally affected by this procedure, criteria two through six are to be utilized.
 - (2) The team with the most bonus points accumulated.
 - (3) The team with the smallest score difference in losses among common opponents.
 - (4) The team with the fewest average points allowed for its entire schedule.
 - (5) The team whose defeated opponents have the highest point average.
 - (6) If the above procedures do not break the tie, it shall be broken by the flip of a coin.
- i. Should a team discontinue play during the course of the season, all opponents shall receive points as would have been awarded for a victory over the team. A school shall not receive points for a team scheduled in place of the withdrawing team after the season has begun.

B. Seeding Information

1. **The tournament will be officially seeded on Sunday, November 3 by the State Football Committee. After the first two rounds of regional play, the tournament will be reseeded into State Quarterfinals based on the MPSSAA point system in regular-season play to seed the remaining teams.**
2. It is critical that all teams complete their schedules by November 2nd because the point system affects both playoff and non-playoff teams.
3. Regular-season forfeits by non-tournament team(s) that would affect the point standing of eligible team(s) must be officially confirmed in writing before the completion of the seeding meeting.
4. Prior to Noon Monday, November 4, a region contestant will be replaced by the team from said region with the next highest point average, and the region re-seeded, under the following conditions:
 - a. A team that elects to withdraw or is disqualified.
 - b. A correction of an error which causes a recalculation of points.
5. The deadline for changes in the order of seeding shall be Noon, Monday, November 4. Any withdrawal or disqualification after noon will result in a forfeit.

III. REGION AND STATE TOURNAMENT

A. Tournament Organization

1. **The MPSSAA State Football Championship Tournament will consist of five rounds following the conclusion of a 9-game regular season. The first two rounds will consist of regional contests, evolving into eight State Quarterfinalists.**

2. In subsequent rounds, if a team withdraws or is withdrawn from the tournament for any reason, the team last defeated shall replace the withdrawing team.
3. All games that end in a tie shall use the National Federation tiebreaker to determine the winner.
4. Criteria for game sites: All region and state contests, except the state finals, shall be played on the home field of the higher-seeded team provided it meets the criteria below. When a school cannot meet the criteria for a game site, the State Football Committee may designate another site in that region.
 - a. Adequate seating and rest room facilities.
 - b. A safe and playable turf.
 - c. A working scoreboard.
 - d. Host schools shall contact visitors and officials regarding accommodations for sufficient, accessible and shower-equipped dressing rooms.
5. The HOME TEAM (higher seed) will wear the DARK JERSEY. The AWAY TEAM will wear the WHITE JERSEY.
6. Upon arrival for a game, each team will be assigned a team dressing room. Assigned personnel will be on duty in the dressing room at all times.
7. Friday games will begin at 7 p.m. Saturday games will begin at either 1 p.m. or 7 p.m.
8. Should a game be postponed for extreme weather conditions, it will be rescheduled. Friday games will be moved to Saturday; Saturday games will be moved to Monday. **When a schedule/or site change is necessary, the region tournament director, in consultation with both schools, will establish the best schedule, site, and game combination to expedite the tournament in that particular region. When conflicts occur, the Supervisors of Athletics for the competing schools will make the final decision.**
9. The athletic director, facility manager, or other administratively-appointed member of the host school will serve as Game Director. The responsibilities for all the region games and the State Quarterfinal and Semifinal games are as follows:
 - a. Clear with the Game Manager on matters of policy and/or interpretation.
 - b. Hire and supervise all personnel necessary for game administration.
 - c. Establish a team gate separate from the spectator gate.
 - d. Introduce the official medical personnel to both coaching staffs (Refer to Page 4, Section V).
 - e. Issue press box passes by the space available. Occupants could be team spotters, announcers, photographers, and representatives of the press and radio stations.
10. The official ball of the MPSSAA State Tournament is the Wilson WTF 1003 GST. A game ball will go to each team participating in the State Quarterfinals, Semifinals and Finals. The State Football Committee is requiring the use of a Wilson Ball with the NFHS authenticating mark during all state tournament contests (QF, SF, Finals).

B. General Policies

1. Admission to contests
 - a. Admission will be by paid admission, MPSSAA complimentary tickets, and MPSSAA complimentary passes. There are no refunds on purchased tickets.
 - (1) Individuals 7 years of age and older will be charged admission.

- (2) Complimentary tickets will be issued by the game manger to representatives of the working media assigned to the contest.
 - (3) Complimentary passes will be issued to school coaches, administrators, Supervisors of athletics, and Superintendents of schools. The pass will admit the bearer only and is not transferable. A valid driver's license must be displayed with the pass for proper identification.
- b. Sideline passes will be issued to coaches, medical personnel, and managers. Only those persons with sideline passes will be permitted on the sideline.
 - c. 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 coach*.
2. The public address system will be staffed by and under the direction of the host school.
 3. Public address comments must be in good taste according to broadcast protocol. Comments not in good taste, nonprofessional, favor one team, or inflammatory, are not permitted.
 4. Raffles, 50/50 drawings, or any other games of chance may not be conducted in connection with any MPSSAA playoff contest.
 5. Bands
 - a. A participating school's band may provide musical entertainment. The game director must be notified 48 hours in advance of the scheduled game if a participating school band to provide a band for the game. The band must be in full uniform, accompanied by the band director, and prepared to perform.
 - b. The designated band will take the field five minutes prior to the start of the game to play the National Anthem only.
 - c. During a 20-minute halftime intermission, the visiting team's band shall take the field for seven minutes, followed by the home team's band, which shall also be limited to seven minutes. Both bands should clear the field five minutes prior to the second-half kickoff. Should only one band or no bands participate, the halftime shall be 15 minutes. *In any case, the field will be cleared five minutes prior to the second-half kickoff.*
 6. Only fixed signs and banners of a positive nature will be allowed at playoff games.
 7. Game concessions for region games and state semifinals shall be awarded to the host school. In return, the host school shall be responsible for postgame cleanup.

III. REGION TOURNAMENT

A. Tournament organization

1. The first round of the regions will be structured as follows:

No. 1 vs. No. 8 Seed	No. 2 vs. No. 7 Seed
No. 4 vs. No. 5 Seed	No. 3 vs. No. 6 Seed

2. The winners of the first round shall advance to the second round as follows:

- a. The winner in each classification and region of the No. 1 versus No. 8 seeded game will play the winner of the No. 4 versus No. 5 seeded game.
- b. The winner in each classification and region of the No. 2 versus No. 7 seeded game will play the winner of the No. 3 versus No. 6 seeded game.

- c. A re-seed for the State Quarterfinals will occur once the first two region rounds have been determined.
2. Responsibilities of the region football director (listing found on page 30 of this bulletin):
 - a. Contact the athletic directors of the eight schools participating in the region tournament to confirm date, site, and time of the contests and clarify arrangements for inclement weather.
- b. Call the commissioner of the local football officials' board to arrange for six field officials and one clock operator. Chain crews may come from the local board if available in region round 1. Three chain crew officials will be assigned in region round 2.
- c. Distribute and collect tickets, paperwork, and monies (in check form) for regional second round.
3. The MPSSAA will provide two leather game balls for the regional second round. A game ball will go to each of the participating teams.
 4. A TEAM ENTRY FORM utilized for State Semifinals and Finals must be filled out by teams winning their regional second round game. Instructions on filling out the TEAM ENTRY FORM is available on mpssaa.org.
 5. Individuals 7 years of age or older will be charged an admission of \$6.

IV. STATE TOURNAMENT

A. State Quarterfinals

1. The eight remaining teams (two from each region) from each classification shall advance to a State Quarterfinal round.
2. The eight regional teams will be seeded 1-8 based on their regular season point average used to seed each region. Ties among teams in the State Quarterfinals will be broken utilizing the criteria found in Section II. A. 2. h. found on page 25.
3. Unless a specific alternate plan has been approved, all State Quarterfinal games will be played at the site of the higher seed.
4. A six-man crew, a three-man chain crew, and a timekeeper from the association local to the higher seeded team will be assigned to the State Quarterfinal contest.
5. A plaque and certificates will be awarded to each of the winning State Quarterfinalist teams.
6. Each team winning the State Quarterfinals will complete the Media Form (found on the Football page of mpssaa.org), scan it, and email it to Jill Masterman (jill.masterman@maryland.gov) in the MPSSAA office by 3 PM, Monday, November 19th.

B. State Semifinals

1. The winners of the State Quarterfinal round shall advance to the State Semifinals.
 - a. The winner in each classification of the No. 1 versus No. 8 seeded game will play the winner of the No. 4 versus No. 5 seeded game.
 - b. The winner in each classification of the No. 2 versus No. 7 seeded game will play the winner of the No. 3 versus No. 6 seeded game.
2. The Head Coach of each State Semifinalist team is invited to participate in a luncheon and walk-through of Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium tentatively set for Tuesday, November 26th at 10:30 a.m.

3. Unless a specific alternate plan has been approved, all State Semifinal games will be played at the site of the higher seed.
4. A six-man crew, a three-man chain crew, and a timekeeper will be assigned by the MPSSAA office to the State Semifinal contests.

C. State Championships

1. The winners of the State Semifinal round shall advance to the State Championships.
2. The State Finals are scheduled for December 5-7, 2019 in Annapolis at the Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium. Directions and fan information are posted on the MPSSAA web site <mpssaa.org> in the State Tournament “Fan Focus”.
3. A six-man crew, a three-man chain crew, and a timekeeper will be assigned by the MPSSAA office to the State Final contests.

C. General Policies

1. The State Football Committee will determine the schedule for all contests.
2. Persons 7 years of age and older will be charged admission as follows:
 - a. **Quarterfinals - \$6.00**
 - b. Semifinals – \$8.00
 - c. Finals – \$10.00
3. The MPSSAA will provide two leather balls for each of the quarterfinal, semifinal and final games. A game ball will go to each of the participating teams.
4. MPSSAA will provide souvenir roster cards for the state semifinals and finals. *Home teams may provide programs for the state quarterfinal games.*
5. Officials will be assigned through the MPSSAA office.
6. A room will be provided for the officials assigned to each state game which will serve as a dressing room and waiting room.
7. A plaque will be presented to each team at the end of the championship game. Individual awards will be given to the coach following each final game and should be presented to team members at an appropriate school function.

Class 4A teams – 55 awards	Class 2A teams – 50 awards
Class 3A teams – 50 awards	Class 1A teams – 50 awards
8. The MPSSAA will receive all revenues and pay all expenses.

PROJECTED MPSSAA FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT DATES		
2020 - December 3-5	2021 - December 2-4	2022 - December 1-3

2019 REGION TOURNAMENT DIRECTORS

Region	Director	School	Office	Other
4A West	Jesse Smith	Winston Churchill	301-469-1240	301-908-5695
4A North	Daron Reid	Dulaney	443-809-7633	443-418-2565
4A South	Thomas Green	Eleanor Roosevelt	301-513-5400	301-802-2250
4A East	Nick Good-Malloy	Annapolis	410-266-5240	443-878-4800
3A West	Reggie Spears	Watkins Mill	301-840-3979	240-882-1511
3A North	Anthony Burgos	Franklin	410-887-1119	443-622-2624
3A South	Chip Snyder	Chesapeake-AA	410-255-9600	443-618-6879
3A East	Brian Van Deusen	River Hill	410-313-7114	410-530-8340
2A West	Chris Krivos	Oakdale	240-566-9455	301-712-6510
2A North	Dave Deutsch	Eastern Technical	443-809-0201	216-570-1449
2A South	Andy Shattuck	North Point	301-753-1759	865-599-4281
2A East	James McCormick	North Caroline	410-479-2332	410-714-1835
1A West	Clayton Anders	Boonsboro	301-766-8022	304-725-6294
1A North	Alan Holmes	Digital Harbor	410-525-6618	443-880-0625
1A South	Andy Shattuck	North Point	301-753-1759	865-599-4281
1A East	Todd Shives	Bohemia Manor	410-885-2075	302-540-3148

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

2019-20 FOOTBALL STATE TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE

	Office	Other
DIRECTOR Mike Calhoun	Allegany Co. (retired)	301-697-1278
DISTRICT 1 Ryan Hines	Urbana	301-606-3603
DISTRICT 2 Michael Neubeiser	Northwest	301-980-5605
DISTRICT 3 Julius Pinkney	Frederick Douglass-PG	301-952-2400 / 202-409-3266
DISTRICT 4 Andy Shattuck	North Point	301-753-1759 / 865-599-4281
DISTRICT 5 Nick Good-Malloy	Annapolis	410-266-5240 / 443-878-4800
	Brian Van Deusen	River Hill / 410-313-7120 / 410-530-8340
DISTRICT 6 Reggie White	Milford Mill Academy	443-809-0660 / 443-277-5983
DISTRICT 7 Todd Shives	Bohemia Manor	410-885-2075 / 302-540-3148
DISTRICT 8 James McCormick	North Caroline	410-479-2332 / 410-714-1835
DISTRICT 9 Alan Holmes	Digital Harbor	410-525-6618 / 443-880-0625

RULES INTERPRETER

Bill Witte.....240-567-1932.....301-989-1432

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

2019 ALIGNMENT FOR FOOTBALL

CLASS 4A-WEST		CLASS 4A-NORTH		CLASS 4A-SOUTH		CLASS 4A-EAST	
1. Urbana	Fre	1. Catonsville	B Co	1. Bladensburg	PG	1. Annapolis	AA
2. Bethesda-Chevy Chase	Mtg	2. Dulaney	B Co	2. Bowie	PG	2. Arundel	AA
3. Winston Churchill	Mtg	3. Parkville	B Co	3. DuVal	PG	3. Broadneck	AA
4. Clarksburg	Mtg	4. Perry Hall	B Co	4. Charles H. Flowers	PG	4. Glen Burnie	AA
5. Gaithersburg	Mtg	5. Montgomery Blair	Mtg	5. High Point	PG	5. Meade	AA
6. Walter Johnson	Mtg	6. Albert Einstein	Mtg	6. Laurel	PG	6. North County	AA
7. Richard Montgomery	Mtg	7. John F. Kennedy	Mtg	7. Northwestern	PG	7. Old Mill	AA
8. Northwest	Mtg	8. Northwood	Mtg	8. Parkdale	PG	8. Severna Park	AA
9. Quince Orchard	Mtg	9. Paint Branch	Mtg	9. Eleanor Roosevelt	PG	9. South River	AA
10. Walt Whitman	Mtg	10. Sherwood	Mtg	10. Suitland	PG	10. Howard	How
11. Thomas S. Wootton	Mtg	11. Springbrook	Mtg	11. Dr. Henry A. Wise, Jr.	PG	11. Leonardtown	StM
		12. Wheaton	Mtg				
CLASS 3A-WEST		CLASS 3A-NORTH		CLASS 3A-SOUTH		CLASS 3A-EAST	
1. Frederick	Fre	1. Dundalk	B Co	1. Chesapeake	AA	1. Manchester Valley	Car
2. Gov. Thomas Johnson	Fre	2. Franklin	B Co	2. Northeast	AA	2. Westminster	Car
3. Linganore	Fre	3. Kenwood	B Co	3. Huntingtown	Cal	3. Atholton	How
4. Tuscarora	Fre	4. Patapsco	B Co	4. Northern	Cal	4. Centennial	How
5. James Hubert Blake	Mtg	5. Towson	B Co	5. North Point	Cha	5. Hammond	How
6. Damascus	Mtg	6. Woodlawn	B Co	6. St. Charles	Cha	6. Long Reach	How
7. Col. Zadok Magruder	Mtg	7. Baltimore City College	Balt	7. Oxon Hill	PG	7. Marriotts Ridge	How
8. Rockville	Mtg	8. Baltimore Polytechnic	Balt	8. Chopticon	StM	8. Mt. Hebron	How
9. Watkins Mill	Mtg	9. Mergenthaler Vo-Tech	Balt	9. Great Mills	StM	9. Reservoir	How
10. North Hagerstown	Was	10. Aberdeen	Hfd	10. James M. Bennett	Wic	10. River Hill	How
11. South Hagerstown	Was	11. Bel Air	Hfd			11. Wilde Lake	How
		12. Edgewood	Hfd				
		13. C. Milton Wright	Hfd				
CLASS 2A-WEST		CLASS 2A-NORTH		CLASS 2A-SOUTH		CLASS 2A-EAST	
1. Century	Car	1. Chesapeake	B Co	1. Southern	AA	1. Elkton	Cec
2. Liberty	Car	2. Eastern Technical	B Co	2. Calvert	Cal	2. North East	Cec
3. South Carroll	Car	3. Hereford	B Co	3. Patuxent	Cal	3. Rising Sun	Cec
4. Winters Mill	Car	4. Lansdowne	B Co	4. La Plata	Cha	4. North Caroline	Cln
5. Glenelg	How	5. Milford Mill Academy	B Co	5. Henry E. Lackey	Cha	5. Harford Technical	Hfd
6. Oakland Mills	How	6. New Town	B Co	6. Thomas Stone	Cha	6. North Harford	Hfd
7. Middletown	Fre	7. Overlea	B Co	7. Westlake	Cha	7. Kent Island	QA
8. Oakdale	Fre	8. Owings Mills	B Co	8. Crossland	PG	8. Queen Anne's	QA
9. Walkersville	Fre	9. Sparrows Point	B Co	9. Frederick Douglass	PG	9. Easton	Tal
10. Poolesville	Mtg	10. Digital Harbor	Balt	10. Potomac	PG	10. Parkside	Wic
11. Seneca Valley	Mtg	11. Patterson	Balt			11. Wicomico	Wic
		12. Southwestern	Balt			12. Stephen Decatur	Wor
CLASS 1A-WEST		CLASS 1A-NORTH		CLASS 1A-SOUTH		CLASS 1A-EAST	
1. Allegany	All	1. Carver Vo-Tech	Balt	1. Loch Raven	B Co	1. Bohemia Manor	Cec
2. Fort Hill	All	2. Frederick Douglass	Balt	2. Pikesville	B Co	2. Perryville	Cec
3. Mountain Ridge	All	3. Paul Laurence Dunbar	Balt	3. Randallstown	B Co	3. Colonel Richardson	Cln
4. Brunswick	Fre	4. Edmondson/Westside	Balt	4. Western STES	B Co	4. Cambridge-SD	Dor
5. Catoctin	Fre	5. Forest Park	Balt	5. Maurice J. McDonough	Cha	5. Fallston	Hfd
6. Northern	G	6. Benjamin Franklin	Balt	6. Central	PG	6. Havre de Grace	Hfd
7. Southern	G	7. Lake Clifton	Balt	7. Fairmont Heights	PG	7. Joppatowne	Hfd
8. Boonsboro	Was	8. Reginald Lewis	Balt	8. Friendly	PG	8. Patterson Mill	Hfd
9. Clear Spring	Was	9. Natl. Academy Found.	Balt	9. Gwynn Park	PG	9. Kent County	K
10. Hancock	Was	10. New Era Academy	Balt	10. Largo	PG	10. Washington	Som
11. Smithsburg	Was	11. Francis Scott Key	Car	11. Surrattsville	PG	11. Snow Hill	Wor
12. Williamsport	Was						

FOOTBALL