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LAST MINUTE BULLETIN

2021 CHAMPIONSHIP FOOTBALL GAMES

School Principals, Athletic Directors and Coaches:

Congratulations on making it to the 2021 MPSSAA Football State Championships at Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium. The MPSSAA Football Committee realizes this is an exciting time for your student-athletes, your school and, your community. As they prepare for this weekend, the committee would like to provide you with some information that will be helpful in answering the many questions you will receive as well as gather some information that will help make this a successful weekend for all.

State Football Finals

I. Schedule

Class 4A-3A
Thursday, December 2, 2021
7:00 p.m.

Class 2A-1A
Saturday, December 4, 2021
12:00 p.m.

Class 2A
Friday, December 3, 2021
4:00 p.m.

Class 1A
Saturday, December 4, 2021
3:30 p.m.

Class 4A
Friday, December 3, 2021
7:30 p.m.

Class 3A
Saturday, December 4, 2021
7:00 p.m.

II. Format

Class 4A/3A State Final - Thursday, December 2, 2021

5:30 p.m.Dressing room opens
6:10 p.m. Teams arrive on field (50 Minute Clock Starts)
7:00 p.m. Teams clear field (on sidelines)
7:01 p.m. Officials Gather Captains on Sidelines
7:02 p.m. Coin toss
7:05 p.m. Designated band takes the field for National Anthem
7:08 p.m. Kick off

Halftime

20 Minutes on the Game Clock Halftime begins
19 Minutes on the game Clock 7 min-Visitor band
12 Minutes on the game Clock 7 min - Home band
3 Minutes on the Game Clock Team Return to Sidelines (Warmups)
0 Minutes on the Game Clock (reset clock for 3rd Quarter) Second Half Kickoff

Class 2A State Final - Friday, December 3, 2021

2:30 p.m.Dressing room opens
3:10 p.m. Teams arrive on field (50 Minute Clock Starts)
4:00 p.m. Teams clear field (on sidelines)
4:01 p.m. Officials Gather Captains on Sidelines
4:02 p.m. Coin toss
4:05 p.m. Designated band takes the field for National Anthem
4:08 p.m. Kick off

Halftime

20 Minutes on the Game Clock Halftime begins
19 Minutes on the game Clock 7 min-Visitor band
12 Minutes on the game Clock 7 min - Home band
3 Minutes on the Game Clock Team Return to Sidelines (Warmups)
0 Minutes on the Game Clock (reset clock for 3rd Quarter) Second Half Kickoff

Class 4A State Final - Friday, December 3, 2021

Immediately After Halftime of 4 p.m. Game.....Dressing room opens

Game Clock will be set to 50 minutes after teams clear the field from Game 1.

Game will not start before 7:30 p.m., if Game 1 ends early, 50-minute clock will start at 6:40 p.m.

50:00 Teams arrive on field (50 Minute Clock Starts)
0:00 Teams clear field (on sidelines)
..... Officials Gather Captains on Sidelines
..... Coin toss
..... Designated band takes the field for National Anthem
..... Kick off

Halftime

20 Minutes on the Game Clock Halftime begins
19 Minutes on the game Clock 7 min-Visitor band
12 Minutes on the game Clock 7 min - Home band
3 Minutes on the Game Clock Team Return to Sidelines (Warmups)
0 Minutes on the Game Clock (reset clock for 3rd Quarter) Second Half Kickoff

Class 2A/1A State Final - Saturday, December 4, 2021

10:30 a.m. Dressing room opens
11:10 a.m. Teams arrive on field (50 Minute Clock Starts)
12:00 p.m. Teams clear field (on sidelines)
12:01 p.m. Officials Gather Captains on Sidelines
12:02 p.m. Coin toss
12:05 p.m. Designated band takes the field for National Anthem
12:08 p.m. Kick off

Halftime

20 Minutes on the Game Clock Halftime begins
19 Minutes on the game Clock 7 min-Visitor band
12 Minutes on the game Clock 7 min - Home band
3 Minutes on the Game Clock Team Return to Sidelines (Warmups)
0 Minutes on the Game Clock (reset clock for 3rd Quarter) Second Half Kickoff

Class 1A State Final - Friday, December 3, 2021

Immediately After Halftime of 12 p.m. Game..... Dressing room opens

**Game Clock will be set to 50 minutes after teams clear the field from Game 1.
Game will not start before 3:30 p.m., if Game 1 ends early, 50-minute clock will start at 2:40 p.m.**

50:00 Teams arrive on field (50 Minute Clock Starts)
0:00 Teams clear field (on sidelines)
..... Officials Gather Captains on Sidelines
..... Coin toss
..... Designated band takes the field for National Anthem
..... Kick off

Halftime

20 Minutes on the Game Clock Halftime begins
19 Minutes on the game Clock 7 min-Visitor band
12 Minutes on the game Clock 7 min - Home band
3 Minutes on the Game Clock Team Return to Sidelines (Warmups)
0 Minutes on the Game Clock (reset clock for 3rd Quarter) Second Half Kickoff

Class 3A State Final - Friday, December 3, 2021

Immediately After Halftime of 3:30 p.m. Game..... Dressing room opens

**Game Clock will be set to 50 minutes after teams clear the field from Game 2.
Game will not start before 7:00 p.m., if Game 2 ends early, 50-minute clock will start at 6:10 p.m.**

50:00 Teams arrive on field (50 Minute Clock Starts)
0:00 Teams clear field (on sidelines)
..... Officials Gather Captains on Sidelines
..... Coin toss
..... Designated band takes the field for National Anthem
..... Kick off

Halftime

20 Minutes on the Game Clock Halftime begins
19 Minutes on the game Clock 7 min-Visitor band
12 Minutes on the game Clock 7 min - Home band
3 Minutes on the Game Clock Team Return to Sidelines (Warmups)
0 Minutes on the Game Clock (reset clock for 3rd Quarter) Second Half Kickoff

III. Team Information

- A. Games will be played on a basis of sharing responsibilities. School staff personnel of the visiting schools must accept their joint responsibilities with the persons in charge for the supervision and maintenance of good behavior and the protection of property before, during, and following each game. It is recommended that faculty representatives of the competing teams anticipate and study problems that may arise from such controls and plan cooperatively to meet them satisfactorily.
- B. **Team Bus** - Bus drivers should be instructed to unload team buses on South Stadium Drive (in between Gates 5 and 6) off of Taylor Avenue. They will remain parked in this area. Equipment trucks will be allowed to drop off equipment and park on South Stadium Drive. All team personnel must arrive with the team and process through security at that time. (Please see attached diagram of the Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium grounds).
- C. **Team dressing rooms** – Team dressing areas will open 1-1/2 hours before kickoff or after half time of the 4:00 p.m. game on Friday and the 12:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. game on Saturday. No one will be admitted before then. Each team must furnish its own towels.
- D. Each team is responsible for providing its own balls for warm up, tees, rain gear, etc.
- E. The home team will warm up at the North end of the stadium. The visiting team will warm up at the South end. Each team will take ½ of the playing field.
- F. **Sideline Pass** - It is the head coaches' responsibility to distribute sideline passes. Please alert those personnel as to where they should pick up their passes.
 - 1. Each head coach will receive **20 sideline passes** for their coaching staff (**based on the number provided on the team entry form**) and managers of high school age only upon arrival at the stadium. Passes must be displayed by anyone not in uniform. Two (2) will be marked for the film crew and three (3) will be marked for the spotters in the press box. **THERE WILL BE NO EXCEPTIONS!**
 - 2. **Managers must be of High School Age. There will be no small children allowed on the sidelines with teams.**
 - 3. **Additional sideline passes reserved for school athletic trainers, team doctor, and school/central office administrators who have direct supervision responsibilities are to be picked up at the will call window located at the North Gate ticket window ('53 Pavilion). Please return these passes to Ryan Hines, Football Tournament Director, following the completion of the game.**
- G. **Coaches Box** - Only members of the participating schools football coaching staff will be permitted in the press box. Coaches will be restricted to their assigned areas within the press box.

- H. **Sideline Phones:** Schools are not permitted to install or dismantle any wires or equipment. Schools wishing to use their own wireless systems will be permitted to do so. No one will be permitted in the area other than the press box and the sidelines for the purpose of coaching and/or spotting.
- I. **Film:** One film crew (2 people) from each participating school will be admitted to a camera perch for the purpose of filming the game. Films may not be taken from any other area. Films will be taken at the expense of the participating schools.
- J. **Water and Ice** – The MPSSAA will supply five gallon jugs filled with water and ice. Schools only need to supply their own water bottles or cups.
- K. **Medical Personnel** - A game doctor or certified medical technician and an athletic trainer will be provided by MPSSAA for each game. The MPSSAA, through a partnership with ATI Physical Therapy, will staff the tournament with certified athletic trainers. All schools entered in the tournament agree to accept the recommendation of the medical professional assigned by the MPSSAA to cover the event. ALL coaches are reminded to bring their own medical kits with supplies for taping purposes.
- L. **Ambulance Service** - Provision will be made to have ambulance service available for all games.
- M. **Game Balls** - Per the Football Bulletin, the MPSSAA will provide game balls for the state semifinal and final games to be used by both schools during those games. The official semifinal and final game ball is the Wilson WTF 1003 GST.
- N. **Uniforms:**
1. The MPSSAA State Football Committee will designate the home team and the visiting team for all championship games.
 2. The home team will wear dark jerseys and the visiting team will wear white jerseys.
- O. **Transportation** - A participating team may use NO MORE THAN TWO BUSES FOR TEAM TRANSPORTATION ONLY. ONE BUS SHOULD BE USED WHENEVER POSSIBLE. The MPSSAA will reimburse schools for a maximum payment for buses as follows: (USE SCHOOL BUSES WHEN POSSIBLE.)
1. 0-150 miles @ \$2.00 per mile with a minimum of \$100.00 or actual cost, if less.
 2. 150-225 miles @ \$2.25 per mile, not to exceed the actual cost.
 3. Over 225 miles @ \$2.50 per mile, not to exceed actual cost.

SCHOOLS MAY USE CHARTERED BUSES AT THEIR EXPENSE - IF THE BILL IS OVER LISTED LIMITATIONS.

P. Meals:

1. Teams traveling over a distance of 75 miles one way to site of a playoff game will be allowed \$15.00 for each member for meal allowance for coaches, players, and managers, based on the roster.
2. Teams required to travel over 150 miles one way for a playoff game will be allowed \$40 per person for meals.

OVERNIGHT LODGING MUST BE APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.

3. The number of persons to be reimbursed for meals and lodging shall not exceed the following limitations:

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

Q. Awards:

1. A State Championship trophy and Finalist trophy will be presented to the respective teams at the end of each final game.
2. Medals will be presented to individual team members.
CLASS 4A, 4A-3A TEAMS WILL RECEIVE 55 MEDALS
CLASS 3A, 2A, 2A-1A, 1A TEAMS WILL RECEIVE 50 MEDALS
3. A game ball will go to each team participating in a championship final game.

IV. Supporting Programs

- A. **FREE ADMISSION** - to coaches, squad members, cheerleaders in uniform and marching band members in uniform, to games at Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium.
- B. Coaches, players, managers, cheerleaders, and bands must assume the responsibility of entering the stadium at their assigned gate. Everyone is expected to follow the instructions given to them by the tournament officials. Coaches and managers will be issued sideline passes upon entering the stadium. Only players in uniform, 20 cheerleaders, and their sponsor, and those with sideline passes, will be admitted to the playing field.
- C. Band and Cheerleading buses will be directed to enter Gate 5 off of Taylor Avenue. Buses will drop off students and remain parked in this lot. An area outside of Gate D will be roped off for buses transporting supporting programs.

D. **Band Guidelines:**

1. It is optional whether or not participating school bands will provide musical entertainment. The game director must be notified 48 hours in advance of the scheduled game if the participating schools plan to provide a band for the game. Bands must be in full uniform and be prepared to perform, and accompanied by a band director. Bands will enter the stadium through GATE D and proceed to the field for the National Anthem or designated seating area. The visiting band will sit in Section 32 and the home band will sit in Section 1
2. Five minutes before kick off the designated band will move onto the field and play the National Anthem. After the National Anthem, the band will immediately exit the field.
3. Halftime - 15 minutes. Visiting band will be allowed 7 minutes to perform on the field. The home band will follow the visiting band and perform for 7 minutes.

E. **School Photographer:** One photographer from each participating school will be allowed on the field in addition to official press photographers. **Please remember that High School media credentials are intended solely for students or sponsors in the school's journalism, yearbook, or website program. High School media credentials will not be considered for parents, booster clubs, spirit groups or other coaches to take pictures or footage of the contest. Please do not submit a parent or community members name for sideline photography.** Spectators who take photographs must do so from their seats. **Athletic Directors should register their school photographer for credentials through the information center/media page of mpssaa.org.**

F. **Cheerleaders** - Cheerleaders enter stadium through GATE C. A maximum of 20 cheerleaders will be permitted to lead cheers from the area behind each bench.

Note: Mascots will be counted as cheerleaders. No cheerleading squad will be admitted unless accompanied by an adult sponsor.

V. **Spectator Information**

A. **Parking and Directions** –

FROM POINTS NORTH: From I-95-South, exit onto I-695-East and then take the I-97-South exit. Follow I-97 south until it merges into Route 50 East toward Annapolis. Take Exit 24, Rowe Blvd, and bear right (south) at the bottom of the exit ramp and then follow directions "From Route 50" below.

FROM POINTS SOUTH: Take I-95-North, MD Route 2 North or U.S. Route 301 North to Route 50. Travel east to Annapolis. Take Exit 24, Rowe Blvd, and bear right (south) at the bottom of the exit ramp and then follow directions "From Route 50" below.

FROM POINTS WEST: Follow Route 50 East from Washington, D.C. towards Annapolis. Take Exit 24, Rowe Blvd, and bear right (south) at the bottom of the exit ramp and then follow directions "From Route 50" below.

FROM POINTS EAST: Follow Route 50 West toward Annapolis to Exit 24B, Rowe Blvd and then follow the directions "From Route 50" below.

“FROM ROUTE 50”: Follow Rowe Blvd to a right turn at the second stop light onto Taylor Avenue and follow the signs to a right turn into the Blue Parking Lot.

The parking fee is \$10.00 per passenger vehicle.

Recreational Vehicles (RV's) are to enter Gate 5 and park in the Blue Lot. RV's and spectator buses will be charged the spectator bus rate of \$20.00 each. Spectator buses must park in the Blue Lot as well.

B. **Complimentary Pass** - Coaches and administrators will be admitted to the football tournament by the Complimentary Purple Administrator/Coach Pass issued to all counties. A valid driver's license must be presented along with the pass to identify the bearer. These passes must be signed and are not transferable. Complimentary Passes must enter through the “53 Pavilion/Ticket Office.

C. **Tickets**

1. Tickets for the state finals will be \$10.00 and must be purchased online at tickets.mpssaa.org. **No tickets will be sold at the gate.**
2. Patrons are to have their ticket(s) pulled up and visible for redemption by event staff at the “53 Pavilion/Ticket Office.
3. Gates will open 1 hour prior to the first game of each day of the state finals.

D. **Stadium Entrance** - Spectators will enter Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium at the “53 Pavilion/Ticket Office at the North End of the stadium. The home team will sit on the West side (PRESS BOX SIDE/BLUE SIDE). The visitors will sit on the East side (GOLD SIDE). Handicapped seating is available on both sides.

E. **STADIUM SECURITY POLICY:**

Prohibited Items

- Firearms, bottles, cans, thermoses, coolers, alcoholic beverages, outside food/drink, large bags, folding chairs, umbrellas, professional camera tripods, noise makers, powder, hanging banners/signs/sticks, chains, illegal substances, laser points, clothing containing vulgar language, large strollers, fireworks, aerosol cans, pets, pepper spray, and any item deemed by management to be dangerous or inappropriate.

Permitted Items – Everyone and all items will be inspected.

- Purses that do not exceed 8x11, blankets, seat cushions, diaper bags, umbrella strollers, video cameras, binoculars, cameras, coats/jackets, tarps and fanny packs. An exception may be made for medically necessary items after proper inspections at a gate designated for this purpose.

F. Conduct and Behavior at State Final Games:

1. Officials will be asked not to tolerate any unsportsmanlike conduct by coaches or players. A public expression of dissent from the officials' judgment merely excites the spectators and often results in a penalty. The coach, more than any other person, sets the pattern for the attitude of the spectators.
2. Signs will be permitted to be displayed at Navy-Marine Corps Stadium. Signs must not be derogatory and should positively support a school. Derogatory, obscene signs, or signs in poor taste will be confiscated. Signs and flags may not be carried through the stands as a means of taunting other students.

Schools are not permitted to hang banners of signage over the Naval Battle sites located on the face of the wall at the bottom of the stands.

Principals and faculty members of participating schools shall be expected to enforce this regulation.

3. The principal and "control teachers" of each school should be alert to detect and correct or discipline any unsafe and unruly behavior of their students.
4. The school administration and athletic director are responsible for keeping fans and families off of the playing field following the contest.
5. Any illegal behavior in the stadium parking lot or grounds will be referred to the Annapolis Police Department.

VI. General Information

- A. **Press box** - The press box will be restricted to members of working press, invited guests, and participating coaches.
 1. Visiting Team Coaches – Room A.
 2. Home Team Coaches – Room C.
- B. **Radio** - Radio coverage of the championship games will be awarded to local radio stations that cover the participating area schools. Stations must contact the MPSSAA 48 hours in advance.
- C. **NFHS Network** – The NFHS Network will live-stream all final games. More information, including subscription prices can be found at <https://www.nfhsnetwork.com/associations/mpssaa>

- D. **Officials' Room** - A room will be provided which will serve as a dressing room and waiting room for those who will officiate the game.
- E. **Public Address System** - The public address system will be under the direction of the Football Committee.
- F. **Police Protection:** The game director at the site will employ adequate police protection to supervise parking lots and assist with crowd control.

Any further questions about the football tournament should be addressed to:

Mr. Ryan Hines
State Football Committee Chair
Urbana High School
Phone 240.236.7711
Email Richard.hines@fcps.org