<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rule</th>
<th>Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1-1-3</td>
<td>Option for unified girls and boys field markings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2-1-1</td>
<td>Clarifies ball certification markings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2-2, 2-3</td>
<td>Changes to on-field stick check</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2-5-2</td>
<td>Includes cradling motion in definition of head and crosse separation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2-7-2</td>
<td>Clarifies timeline for eyewear certification by manufacturers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-5-1</td>
<td>Clarifies that official’s certification is for the girls’ game.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-7-2d</td>
<td>Allows time-out requests any time team is in clear possession of the ball.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-1-1</td>
<td>Defines maximum playing time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-3-2h</td>
<td>Stick checks are not allowed during an injury time-out.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-2-3b</td>
<td>Sticks must be parallel to the ground during the draw.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-2-5</td>
<td>Players sticks may touch the ground over the center circle and restraining line on the draw.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-2 PENALTY</td>
<td>Failure to correctly execute the draw by either of the two centers is a draw violation and can result in a free position or a re-draw. Violations by other players during the draw and/or to possession will be major or minor fouls.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7-1-2</td>
<td>Clarifies deputy and goalkeeper privileges.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9-1-1</td>
<td>Draw fouls have been moved to Rule 5-2-4. New foul definition of Early Entry on the Draw defines other minor fouls pertaining to the draw.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9-1-1 PENALTY</td>
<td>Early entry violations shall be administered at the spot of the ball.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-1-1k</td>
<td>Clarifies goalkeeper’s movement as it applies to calling dangerous shot.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2018 NFHS GIRLS LACROSSE RULE CHANGES CONTINUED

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rule 13</th>
<th>Addition of Running Clock.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Appendix B  Changes to Manufacturer’s Specifications for stick stringing. Clarifications to the process for eyewear certifications.

2018 POINTS OF EMPHASIS

ILLEGAL DEFENSIVE POSITIONING: The NFHS Rules Committee’s emphasis on illegal defensive positioning is not intended to increase the frequency of fouls called on the defense. It is a clarification of the process and understanding of these fouls and to minimize injuries in the critical shooting area. When a defender is in three seconds or the free space to goal, she illegally occupies a space to which she is not entitled and is reducing opportunities for the offense to safely attack. Additionally, the defender is placing herself at risk of injury. For illegal defensive positioning associated with obstruction of free space to goal to occur, the attack must create opportunity. First, the ball must be above the goal line extended and within the Critical Scoring Area. Second, the attacker must physically have the potential to shoot, and the path to goal must be clear of legal defenders. If the opportunity to shoot does not exist, the call should not be made.

CONTACT IN THE MIDFIELD - INCIDENTAL VS. DANGEROUS: The safety of all players is a priority to the committee, and rough or dangerous play in the midfield not only disrupts the flow of play, but also puts players at significant risk for injury. Legal contact (incidental or deliberate) can occur between opponents during the normal course of play. However, contact that occurs that physically forces the opponent off of their position or path is illegal contact. Deliberate illegal contact (e.g., cross-checks or pushes) made to the body on any offensive player in a defenseless position must be carded. Officials should also consider carding players who repeatedly commit fouls in the midfield. All major fouls in the midfield should be enforced with the offender placed four meters directly behind the ball carrier. It should be noted that four meters is almost 4.5 yards when games are played on football fields with clear yard markings.

CROSSE IN THE SPHERE/CHECK TO THE HEAD: It is the responsibility of the defender to keep her stick out of the sphere and throat area of the ball carrier. Defenders who penetrate this space and throat area should be assessed a major foul. Repeated violations of this rule may be carded. This rule applies even when the ball carrier does not have her stick in a legal checking position. A check to the head or a check that causes the attacker’s stick to contact her head is a mandatory card.

PROFESSIONALISM: The NFHS Rules Committee continues to encourage all coaches, players, officials, and administrators to conduct themselves in a professional manner before, during, and immediately following all contests. The committee reminds coaches and players to avoid the use of excessive dissent or abusive language and reminds coaches to stay in his/her coaching area. The committee encourages calm, patient, and productive dialogue between coaches, players, and officials.
**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

**2018 PIAA ADOPTIONS and MODIFICATIONS**

- Adopt the 2018 NFHS Girls' Lacrosse Rules Book.
- Modify Rule 4-2-3, NOTE: PIAA defines an appropriate health-care professional as a licensed physician of medicine or osteopathic medicine (M.D. or D.O.).
- Modify Rule 4-6, overtime procedures, when the score is tied at the end of regular playing time during Regular Season Contests, the winner will be decided on a “sudden victory” stop-clock overtime of no more than six minutes in length with the Teams changing ends after 3 minutes, with no delay for coaching. If the six-minute “sudden victory” stop-clock overtime expires without a goal, the game remains a tie.

**OFFICIALS USE OF WIRELESS DEVICES (Headsets)**

PIAA officials are permitted to use electronic headsets when officiating. This includes pre season, regular season, and post season. Officials who are not familiar with their use should avoid using them for a first time in a PIAA contest.

**PIAA 2018 GIRLS LACROSSE SCHEDULE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Practice Date</td>
<td>Monday, March 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Inter-School/Scrimmage Date</td>
<td>Saturday, March 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Regular Season Play Date</td>
<td>Friday, March 23</td>
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<tr>
<td>Last Regular Season Contest Date and</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>District Championship Deadline</td>
<td>Saturday, May 26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PIAA Boys’ Lacrosse Championships:</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>First Round</td>
<td>Wednesday, May 29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quarterfinals</td>
<td>Saturday, June 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semi-Finals</td>
<td>Tuesday, June 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PIAA Girls’ Lacrosse Championship Finals</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Chester East HS</td>
<td>Saturday, June 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AA Championship Game</td>
<td>10 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AAA Championship Game</td>
<td>Noon</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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PIAA officials are permitted to use electronic headsets when officiating. This includes pre season, regular season, and post season. Officials who are not familiar with their use should avoid using them for a first time in a PIAA contest.
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:
   - **Shirt**: Alternating black and white 1-inch vertically striped, long or short sleeved shirt with a black collar or v-neck collar.
   - **Skirt**: Black (black culottes, slacks or shorts may be worn).
   - **Socks**: Black knee socks or black crew socks.
   - **Shoes**: Clean, solid black with black laces.
   - **Lanyard**: Black.
   - **Whistle**: Black.
   - **Turtleneck**: Black (if needed) to be worn under a long sleeve official’s shirt.
   - **Jewelry**: Umpires 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 umpires.

   - **Cold Weather Gear**: Any cold weather gear must be worn under the uniform shirt. Jackets or other gear, even though striped is not permitted to be worn over the striped, uniform shirt.

   The wearing of jewelry (except wedding bands and medical-alert bracelets) and wrist watches (except as a required timing device) 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.

Commemorative patches may not be affixed to the uniform but may be placed on warm up clothing.

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

ARRIVAL AT THE SITE

Cooperation with Contest management begins with timely arrival at the Contest site. Nothing makes administrators and coaches more nervous at the onset of a contest than not knowing whether the officials are going to show up.

Start the game off right by communicating your arrival time at the site with the athletic administrator. Show up, where possible, at least thirty minutes prior to the scheduled draw. It will go a long way in helping your credibility as a quality official.

Be sure that your cell phone number is shared with your partners in the event an emergency arises prior to your arrival at the contest site.

OFFICIATING PROCEDURES

On the set up for the draw the official will place the ball in such a way that it sits between the sticks in the upper third of each head at its widest point. Only 3 members of a team may be between the restraining lines on the draw.

To aid the efficiency of the penalty administration, free positions shall be at the spot of the ball unless specifically directed by the rules or the spot of the ball would disadvantage the non-offending team.

24th ANNUAL OFFICIALS’ CONVENTION
AUGUST 3-4, 2018
HILTON HARRISBURG
**Pre-Game:**
1. 30 minutes before game time - arrive at site/meet with partner/s.
2. 20 minutes before game time - inspect field.
3. 15 minutes before game time - talk with timer & scorer.
4. 10 minutes before game time - meet with captains & head coaches.
5. 5 minutes before game time - check sticks, uniforms & equipment.

**Overtime/Tie-Breaking Procedure:**
*(for High School Varsity Only)*

**Regular Season:** *(PIAA highlighted adoption varies from rule book, pg. 30)*
- When the score is tied at the end of regular play, both teams will have a five (5) minute rest period and visiting team will call the coin toss for choice of ends (alternating possession will continue from regulation.)
- The winner will then be decided in “sudden victory” stop-clock overtime period of no more than six (6) minutes in length, with the teams changing ends after three (3) minutes (with no delay for coaching or substitution). The game will be restarted by a center draw. The team scoring the first goal wins.
- If the six (6) minute overtime period expires without either team scoring a goal, the game remains a tie.

**Post-Season Play:**
- Play will continue with “sudden victory” stop-clock overtime periods of six (6) minutes in length (changing ends after three (3) minutes with no delay for coaching or substitution) until a winning goal is scored.
- There will be a three (3) minute rest period between each six (6) minute playing period.

**Carding Procedure:**
1. Time out must be called.
2. Cards are a warning to ALL players.
3. The player receiving the card will sit or kneel in the penalty area for the duration of the penalty.
4. The penalty time for a yellow card is 2 minutes; the penalty time for a red card is 4 minutes.

**Delay Of Game:** *(2018 rules update, pg. 50)*

- **1st Offense** – Minor, Green card to team, change of possession if applicable.
- **2nd Offense** – Major, Green/Yellow card to offender, carded player must leave game for 2 minutes—No substitute during suspension period.
- **3rd and Subsequent Offense** - Major, Penalized as Misconduct.
  - Full Yellow and included in card count.
    - 1st and 2nd delay cards not included in team card counts.
Misconduct & Suspension: (pg. 62)
1. When a player is carded out of the game, no one is placed 4m behind the opponent receiving the free position.
2. The team with the suspension will play short-handed in both its offensive & defensive ends for the entire suspension period.

Player Misconduct:
- **1st, 2nd & 3rd Offenses** - yellow or red card to offender – major foul – player must leave field for 2 minutes (yellow) or 4 minutes (red) of elapsed playing time. No substitute until 2 or 4 minutes of playing time has elapsed.
- **4th or Subsequent Offenses** - yellow or red card to offender- major foul - player must leave field for 2 minutes (yellow) or 4 minutes (red) - team must play short for rest of game & overtime. (Example - 4th card - team is down to 11 players, 5th card - team is down to 10 players, etc.).

**NOTE**: Any player receiving 2 yellow cards or one red card is not permitted back in the game.

Coach Misconduct:
The head coach is responsible for the actions of the bench personnel.
- **1st Offense** - yellow card - major foul - coach must designate a player to serve the 2 minute suspension.
- **2nd Offense** - yellow or red card - major foul – coach must leave the field, including the spectator area - interim coach must designate a player to serve the 2 minute (yellow) or 4 minute (red) suspension.

**Note:**
1. If there is no interim coach available, the team shall forfeit the game.
2. All cards to the coach shall count toward the team's cumulative total.

Red Carded Player or Coach:
Any player or coach red carded MUST be reported within 24 hours to the PIAA using the Disqualification Form found on line at [www.piaa.org](http://www.piaa.org). Umpires - make sure you get the name of the person ejected.

Suspended/Interrupted Games: (pg. 30)
Officials will make every effort to include game admin in pre-game discussions concerning any potential weather concerns and protocols including where players will go for safety, etc.
1. Once play begins officials have the authority to interrupt or delay the game due to dangerous weather or field conditions.
2. The officials decision is final.
3. Games are considered legal and complete if 80% of playing time has elapsed.
4. An interrupted game continued same day will restart from point of interruption.
5. If a suspended game is replayed on another day, it must be played from point of interruption.
6. A suspended game may be considered complete by mutual agreement of coaches. The game score will stand as the score at the time of termination.
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 Girls’ 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 Girls’ Lacrosse chairperson. This form is located on the PIAA website on the Girls’ 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 Chairmen, 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.

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 Friday. Before the varsity contest is a scheduled junior varsity contest, player/coach cannot participate in any of Friday contests.
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.
For the 2017-18 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

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 Girls’ 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.

PIAA OFFICIALS INSURANCE

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**BLOOD-BORNE INFECTION 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.

**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.

**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.

**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.

**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 RECOMMENDATIONS

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

The purpose of these guidelines is to provide a default policy to those responsible for making decisions concerning the suspension and restarting of contests based on the presence of lightning. 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 events.

2. Develop an evacuation plan, including identification of appropriate nearby shelters.

3. Develop criteria for suspension and resumption of play:
   - When thunder is heard, or a cloud-to-ground lightning bolt is seen, the thunderstorm is close enough to strike your location with lightning. Suspend play and take shelter immediately.
   - Thirty-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.
   - Any subsequent thunder or lightning after the beginning of the 30-minute count, reset the clock and another 30-minute count should begin.

4. Hold periodic reviews for appropriate personnel.


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

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.
GIRLS’ LACROSSE, COACH, OR TEAM PERSONNEL DISQUALIFICATION FORM

During the PIAA girls’ lacrosse regular season and Postseason, a disqualified (red-carded) girls’ lacrosse contestant, coach, and/or Team personnel shall not be permitted to participate 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 from which the contestant, coach, and/or Team personnel was previously disqualified. 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), in accordance with ARTICLE XIII, Section 8, of the PIAA By-Laws; and NFHS Girls’/Women's Lacrosse Rules 6-8 and 7-34 as adopted by PIAA. The official must complete this form on-line, as soon as possible, but no later than 24 hours following the completion of the Contest in which the disqualification took place. This form can be found at www.piaa.org under the Officials Section – Officials’ Forms category.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Disqualified Player, Coach and/or Team Personnel</th>
<th>School</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date of Game</td>
<td>Location of Game/Tournament</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visiting Team</td>
<td>PIAA District</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Team</td>
<td>PIAA District</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name of Referee Who Issued Disqualification</td>
<td>Level of Competition</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

REASON FOR DISQUALIFICATION

DATE OF REPORT OFFICIAL’S NAME (person issuing DQ) PIAA DISTRICT