CONDITIONS OF ENTRY
PIAA member schools are not required to enter PIAA championship events. Entry and participation in the 2019 PIAA Girls’ and Boys’ Lacrosse Championships are voluntary. Entry into the 2019 PIAA Girls’ and Boys’ Lacrosse Championships signifies that the member school accepts the fact that the Executive Director, or the Executive Director’s designee, reserves the right to make changes in the date of Contests, location of Contests, management, operation, and schedule of the 2019 PIAA Girls’ and Boys’ Lacrosse Championships if, in the judgment of the Executive Director, or the Executive Director’s designee, it becomes necessary to do so.

ENTRY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES
PIAA has partnered with MaxPreps, the “Official Statistician of PIAA District and Inter-District Championships” for the purpose of soliciting schedules, rosters, results, and statistics of member senior high schools in the sport of softball. That information will be utilized by both District and Inter-District Championship Tournament Directors to provide attending media with up-to-date results and statistical information on the competing schools and to produce souvenir programs.

Accordingly, a representative of each school that qualifies a Team for the 2019 PIAA Softball Championships is requested to enter its Team’s information into MaxPreps using Coach Login, which, if not already established, may be obtained by e-mailing coachsupport@maxpreps.com or calling 800-329-7324 EXT. 1. Next, go to www.MaxPreps.com and click the white Coach Login button at the top of the page - to login to your Team’s account. Under the Main Menu click the Schedule and Roster links to make sure your Team’s schedule, scores, and roster are up-to-date and complete – please be sure to denote your Team captain(s) on your Team’s roster. Next use the Edit My Account icon in the upper right portion of the page to make sure your Team’s contact and title information are complete for your Team’s Coaching staff.

In addition, member schools advancing a Team to a 2019 PIAA Softball Championship semi-final Contest are requested to continually update its Team’s schedule, roster, results, and statistics and forward an appropriate Team picture to PIAA, as follows:

Electronically forward an appropriate Team picture, with a resolution of 266 dpi, or greater, in either Bitmap or JPEG format, to Wendy Merlina at wmerlina@piaa.org.

If electronically forwarding an appropriate Team picture is not possible, then courier or USPS Express Mail an appropriate Team picture to the PIAA Office.

PLEASE DO NOT FAX TEAM PICTURES. THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF THE ELECTRONIC TEAM INFORMATION FORM AND FORWARDING AN APPROPRIATE TEAM PICTURE IS 4:30 P.M., FRIDAY, JUNE 7, 2019. NO EXCEPTIONS!

TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE
FIRST ROUND - Monday, June 3
SEMI–FINALS - Monday, June 10
CHAMPIONSHIPS (Final) – Thurs -Fri, June 13 - 14

QUARTERFINALS - Thursday, June 6
FIRST ROUND, QUARTERFINAL, AND SEMI-FINAL CONTESTS

Schools that qualify for the first round and schools that advance to the quarterfinals and semi-finals will be notified concerning their opponent, home/away Team, location of Contest, date of Contest, starting time of Contest, and name and telephone number of the PIAA-Appointed Contest Manager BY THEIR PIAA DISTRICT SOFTBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR.

Principals or Athletic Directors of competing schools, upon notification of relevant information from their PIAA District Softball Championships Tournament Director, should IMMEDIATELY contact the PIAA-Appointed Contest Manager of their respective Contests and (1) confirm the opponent, home/away Team, location of Contest, date and starting time of Contest; (2) arrange for a locker room, if needed; (3) obtain directions to the Contest site; (4) state the departure time of the Team and the approximate time of arrival at the Contest site; (5) state the anticipated number of spectators from the school and community that will attend the Contest; and (6) state a telephone number at which the Principal or Athletic Director will be available, up to the announced Team departure time.

HOME TEAM AND BENCH/DUGOUT

For all first round PIAA Softball Championship Contests, the Team listed at the TOP of the pairing in the bracket shall be the HOME Team and shall occupy the FIRST BASE BENCH/DUGOUT. For all quarterfinal and semi-final Contests, a coin flip will occur with the Coaches/captains of both Teams, at the Contest site, no later than forty-five (45) minutes prior to the scheduled starting time of the Contest. The winner of the coin flip will have their choice of home or visitor. The HOME Team shall occupy the FIRST BASE BENCH/DUGOUT and VISITORS shall occupy the THIRD BASE BENCH/DUGOUT. The Contest Manager may pre-determine dugouts in advance of the coin flip to assist with the organization of the event.

CONTEST BALLS AND SCOREKEEPERS

EACH PIAA-APPOINTED CONTEST MANAGER will be provided with six (6) Dudley-OPTIC YELLOW softballs, the “Official Softball” of the PIAA Championships, for use during the 2019 PIAA Softball Championships, first round through finals, inclusive. Advancing (winning) schools will be requested to forward (advance) any unused balls to the PIAA-Appointed Contest Manager of their subsequent round Contest.

EACH SCHOOL is responsible for providing a competent, responsible adult scorekeeper for each Contest. The scorekeeper of the HOME Team shall be the official scorekeeper. In the event an adult representative is not available from either Team, the Contest Manager may appoint an individual to serve in this capacity.

PRE-CONTEST SCHEDULE

Teams will not be permitted to take batting practice on the competition surface prior to the Contest. When possible, Teams will be permitted to take ten (10) minutes of infield and outfield practice on the competition surface prior to the Contest. When infield practice and outfield practice on the competition surface are possible, the home Team will conduct its pre-Contest practice on the competition surface first, thirty (30) minutes prior to the start of the Contest. The visiting Team will conduct its pre-Contest practice on the competition surface, twenty (20) minutes prior to the start of the Contest.

PRE-CONTEST MEETING

The Principal, Athletic Director, head softball Coach, and Team captains of each school participating in the 2019 PIAA Softball Championships are required to meet with the PIAA-Appointed Contest Manager and Contest umpires ten (10) minutes prior to the starting time of each Contest at home plate. The Principal and Athletic Director must remain in the Team area throughout the Contest and remain in the Team area until the Contest is concluded and their Team has entered the locker room.
SOFTBALL CONTEST TIMES
All single Contests, with the exception of the Championship (Final) Contests, will be attempted to be scheduled to begin at 4:00 p.m. or later. Doubleheaders will be attempted to be scheduled to begin at 2:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. or 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m., or later, where lights are available. An exception to this schedule will occur if a competing school has commencement scheduled on the day of the Contest. In this case, the Contest shall be scheduled at a time that will allow senior Team members to attend their commencement. In all other cases, the PIAA District Softball Chairman, in consultation with Mrs. Melissa N. Mertz, PIAA Associate Executive Director, shall have the final decision concerning the time of the Contest.

ENDING A REGULATION CONTEST
A PIAA District or Inter-District Softball Championship Contest ends when the Team behind in score has completed its turn at bat in the seventh inning, or any inning thereafter if extra innings are necessary. If the home Team scores a go-ahead run in the bottom of the seventh inning, or in any extra inning, the Contest is terminated at that point.

If weather or darkness interferes with play so that the Contest is called (ended) by the umpire, it is a regulation Contest:

  a) if five full innings have been played, or if the home Team has scored an equal or greater number of runs in four or four and a fraction turns at bat than the visiting Team has scored in five turns at bat; or
  b) if play has gone beyond five full innings.

If the Contest is called when the Teams have not had an equal number of completed turns at bat, the score shall be the same as it was at the end of the last completed inning; except that if the home Team in its half of the incomplete inning, scores a run (or runs) which equals or exceeds the opponent’s score, the final score shall be as recorded when the Contest is called.

A PIAA District or Inter-District Softball Championship Contest shall also end when the losing Team is behind fifteen (15) or more runs and has had at least three (3) turns at bat OR ten (10) or more runs and has had at least five (5) turns at bat.

TIE-BREAKER PROCEDURE
If the score remains tied upon completion of 9 innings, the player who last completed her turn at bat is placed on 2nd base.

SUSPENDED CONTEST
A PIAA DISTRICT OR INTER-DISTRICT SOFTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP CONTEST CALLED (ENDED) BY THE UMPIRE BEFORE IT IS A REGULATION CONTEST, OR A REGULATION CONTEST CALLED FOR ANY REASON, WHERE A WINNER CANNOT BE DETERMINED, SHALL BE TREATED AS A SUSPENDED CONTEST! The suspended Contest must be resumed later that same day or on the next playable day, and it must be continued from the point of suspension with the lineup and batting order of each Team exactly the same as the lineup and batting order at the moment of suspension, subject to the rules of softball.

POST-CONTEST INTERVIEWS OF COACHES AND TEAM PERSONNEL
Following completion of the Contest, Coaches, other school personnel, and persons affiliated with the Team shall not allow or participate in any interviews with the electronic and/or print media or other persons until both Teams have completed the congratulatory handshake ceremony, completed the awards presentation ceremony (applies to Championship [Final] Contests only), gathered their personal and/or Team belongings, departed the competition surface, and returned to the Team locker room.
TICKET PRICES/COMPLIMENTARY ADMISSION

Tickets, both adult and student, will be on sale at the gate at all PIAA Softball Championship Contest sites, as follows:

**First Round & Quarterfinal Round:**
- $6.00 Adult
- $3.00 Student

**Semi-finals and Finals:**
- $8.00 Adult
- $4.00 Student

The price of a student ticket includes any K-12 grade student. Pre-kindergarten children are admitted free-of-charge.

Teams participating in the 2019 PIAA Softball Championships are permitted a maximum of thirty (30) persons admitted free-of-charge. This allotment includes players, Coaches, managers, non-playing Team personnel, bus driver, and school personnel. If the Principal and/or Athletic Director travel to the Contest site separate from the Team party, they are required to notify the Contest Manager prior to their arrival in order to receive complimentary admission.

Tickets purchased for admission to PIAA Softball Championships Contests are only valid for attendance at PIAA Softball Championships Contests. Softball and baseball tickets are not interchangeable. Principals should inform spectators and Team followers concerning these policies.

CHAMPIONSHIP (FINAL) CONTESTS SITE, DATES AND TIMES

The site of the 2019 PIAA Softball Championship (Final) Contests is:

**NITTANY LION SOFTBALL PARK, PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY, UNIVERSITY PARK, PA.**

**THURSDAY – 06/13/2019**
- 2A Final – Game #141 at 11:00 a.m.
- 4A Final – Game #341 at 1:30 p.m.
- 6A Final – Game #541 at 4:00 p.m.

**FRIDAY – 06/14/2019**
- 1A Final – Game #241 at 11:00 a.m.
- 3A Final – Game #441 at 1:30 p.m.
- 5A Final – Game #641 at 4:00 p.m.

**INCLEMENT WEATHER DATES:** SATURDAY, JUNE 15, SUNDAY, JUNE 16, or MONDAY, JUNE 17, 2019

For the 2019 PIAA Softball Championship (Final) Contests, the Team at the Top-of-the-Bracket will be the HOME TEAM and, therefore, shall occupy the first base bench/dugout. The designation of home and visiting Team will be alternated each year.

MEDALS AND TROPHIES

A maximum of twenty-five (25) medals will be awarded to members of both the championship and runner-up Teams at the conclusion of each championship (final) Contest. A Team trophy will be awarded to both the championship and runner-up Teams at the conclusion of each championship (final) Contest.

NO PROTEST RULE

Under PIAA there can be no protest of Contests as follows:

"The Board of Directors and District Committees will not consider any protest in athletic Contests which are based on play situations or officials’ decisions involving interpretation or judgment of plays."

"In no case will the results of a Contest be reversed nor will a Contest be ordered or permitted to be replayed."

"Questions regarding interpretation of rules or judgment of officials should be submitted, in writing, to the Executive Director."
EMERGENCY MEDICAL/HEALTH CARE

A physician and an ambulance will be “on call” for emergency medical care. A PIAA-appointed certified athletic trainer will be available for emergency health care. The PIAA-appointed certified athletic trainer reserves the right to charge a school for any training supplies that are supplied by the trainer and/or that are requested or used by the school. Competing schools are encouraged to bring their own trainer and supplies.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Mrs. Melissa N. Mertz, PIAA Associate Executive Director, will serve as the Tournament Director and Mrs. Jennifer S. Grassel, PIAA Assistant Executive Director, will serve as the Assistant Tournament Director for the 2019 PIAA Softball Championships.

For further championships information, access the PIAA Web site at http://www.piaa.org/sports-softball or contact PIAA at 717 697-0374 or 800 382-1392.
2019 PIAA SOFTBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS BRACKETS