**CONDITIONS OF ENTRY INTO PIAA CHAMPIONSHIPS**

The 2020 PIAA Competitive Spirit Championships shall be conducted pursuant to all applicable By-Laws, Policies and Procedures, and Rules and Regulations of PIAA. Additionally, it is important that the Principal, Athletic Director, and head Coaches and all individuals that will participate in the 2020 PIAA Competitive Spirit Championships and all persons who will have responsibilities involving these activities be fully informed of the policies and procedures described herein. It is also necessary that everyone associated with these championships comply with all policies and procedures without exception. Failure to comply may result in removal from the 2020 PIAA Competitive Spirit Championships.

PIAA member schools are not required to enter PIAA championship events. Entry and participation in the 2020 PIAA Competitive Spirit Championships are voluntary. Entry into the 2020 PIAA Competitive Spirit Championships signifies that the member school accepts the fact that the PIAA Executive Director, or the Executive Director’s designee, reserves the right to make changes in the date and location of the sites, and management, operation, schedule, and site of the 2020 PIAA Competitive Spirit Championships if, in the judgment of the Executive Director, or the Executive Director’s designee, it becomes necessary to do so.

**MAXIMUM NUMBER OF ENTRIES FROM DISTRICTS TO THE PIAA COMPETITIVE SPIRIT CHAMPIONSHIP**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Max # of Entries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>III</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IV</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>V</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
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<td>X</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>XI</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XII</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
<td><strong>120</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
DIVISIONS

SMALL VARSITY - No more than 15 squad members
MEDIUM VARSITY - 16 – 20 squad members
LARGE VARSITY - 21 and over squad members
COED VARSITY - At least one male on squad

Competitive spirit squads may be entered in any of the four divisions. Should any District not fill its allotment, the Executive Director, or the Executive Directors designee, may assign the additional entries to other Districts in a manner deemed appropriate by the Executive Director, or the Executive Director’s designee. A team shall not be permitted to switch divisions between PIAA District and State Competition.

TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

The 2020 PIAA Competitive Spirit Championships are scheduled for Friday, January 10 and Saturday, January 11, 2020. The Championships will take place at the GIANT Center, 550 West Hersheypark Drive, Hershey, PA 17033. Competition will begin at 9:00 am on Friday, January 10 and 8:30 am on Saturday, January 11, 2020. Spectators will be admitted beginning at 8:00 am on Friday and 7:30 am on Saturday.

UNIFORMS

It is required that participating member schools dress and equip their Teams pursuant to National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) Spirit Rules 3.

ENTRY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

A representative of each school that qualifies a Team for the 2020 PIAA Competitive Spirit Championships must complete the electronic Team Information Form, which can be found on the Competitive Spirit Championship page (www.piaa.org).

COMPETITION FORMAT

Rounds: Preliminary Round – All teams compete. The top 25% of scores advance to the final round (ties will not be broken). The next 25% of scores will advance to the semifinal round (ties will not be broken).

Semi-finals – The top score from the semifinal round will advance to the final round (ties will not be broken)

Finals – PIAA will award the champion and runner-up from each division.

Routine: Overall time of routine is 2 minutes and 30 seconds and must include a cheer. The cheer can be stand alone or can be done over music. Teams cheering over music will still be accountable for satisfying the components of the "CHEER" portion of the score sheet. (ex: A cheer consisting of only motions performed to music will score a ZERO in "use of skills."'). Be sure to read over the score sheet specifics on the cheer portion.
Floor Size: 54 feet wide by 42 feet deep and all participants must start with at least one foot (hand) on the performance surface. Sign and props can be placed off the performance floor, but participants cannot step off during the routine to get them.

There will be trained spotters provided by Varsity for additional safety on the performance floor throughout each routine.

Interruption of routine:

1. If routine is interrupted by failure of the competitions equipment, facility or other factors attributable to the competition and not the team, the team shall stop the routine at that time. Team will have time to prepare again and perform the entire routine, but the judging will be only from the point of interruption to the end.
2. If the routine is interrupted by failure of the team’s own equipment, personnel, etc they must continue the routine or withdraw.

Injuries on the floor:

1. Routine can be stopped by competition officials, advisor/coach of the team or the individual.
2. Competition officials (in conjunction with the coach and individual) will decide if team will be allowed to perform at a later time. The spot where the re-performance will take place is up to the discretion of the competition officials and coaches (taking all issues into consideration).

Penalties for infractions:

Penalties for infractions during the routine will be applied according to the PIAA Deduction Sheet. The deduction sheet can be located on the championship page of the PIAA website.

Rules interpreters will be in the warm up area to help with identifying and changing rule infractions prior to them being performed on the floor.

**TIE-BREAK PROCEDURE**

In the case of a tie, ordinals will be reviewed. Tie goes to the team with the lowest ordinal score.

Example: Two judges have Team A 2nd, and one has Team A 3rd. Team A’s ordinal score is 7.

**GENERAL ADMISSION TICKET PRICES**

General admission tickets, both adult and student, will be on sale at the Competitive Spirit Championships beginning at 8:00 am, Friday, January 10 and 7:30 am on Saturday, January 11, 2020. General admission ticket prices are as follows:

Prelims, 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.

**PRACTICE/PRE-CONTEST WARM-UP**

Teams will be permitted warm-up times prior to all rounds of competition. The maximum amount of warm-up time will be 10 minutes. Spotters and certified trainers will be present during warm-up times. Teams will be provided a warm-up schedule upon registration.

**REGISTRATION**

Coaches are required to register their team one hour prior to their competition time. Registration will begin at 8:00 am Friday, January 10, 2020.

**MEDALS/TROPHIES**

PIAA will award a champion and runner-up trophies in each division. In addition, teams will receive individual medals. Champion and runner-up squads in the small squad division will receive 20 complimentary medals, medium squad division will receive 25 complimentary medals and large and coed squad division will receive 30 complimentary medals.

**DIRECTIONS TO GIANT CENTER**

**FROM THE EAST:** Points north should use I-81 South to Grantville exit 80 (old Exit 28). Follow PA 743 South to Hersheypark Drive. Points south should use I-76 (PA Turnpike) West to Lebanon/Lancaster exit 266 (old Exit 20). Follow PA 72 North to US 322 then PA 743 North to Hersheypark Drive.

**FROM THE WEST:** Points north should use I-79 South to I-80 East to Woodland exit 123 (old Exit 20). Follow US 322 East to Hersheypark Drive. Points south should use I-76 (PA Turnpike) East to Harrisburg East exit 247 (old Exit 19). Follow US 322 East to Hersheypark Drive.

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

Mrs. Melissa N. Mertz, PIAA Associate Executive Director, will serve as the 2020 PIAA Competitive Spirit Championships Tournament Director.

For further information, contact either:

Melissa N. Mertz  
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(717) 697-0374 or (800) 382-1392  
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Assistant Executive Director  
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E-Mail: jgrassel@piaa.org