PIAA MODIFICATIONS OF SELECT NFHS TRACK AND FIELD AND CROSS-COUNTRY RULES

I. Rule 1-2-1 (pg. 7) PIAA modification, which “provides for the:
   A. elimination of the 4x200 meter relay; and
   B. authorization of conferences or leagues to modify the order of running events with prior-to-the-start of the Regular Season notification to all involved schools.”

II. Rule 2-1-1 (pg. 9) PIAA modification, which “provides for a ‘Regular Season Dual Meet Team Scoring Tie-Breaker Procedure’ (either with or without wheelchair competitors) to be applied as follows:
   A. The team with the fewest number of coaches, contestants, and other team/school personnel disqualified from an event and from further competition or involvement in the meet for unsporting conduct, shall be declared the winner;
   B. If the tie still remains, the team with the fewest number of competitors disqualified from an event for unacceptable conduct, shall be declared the winner;
   C. If the tie still remains, the team with the greater number of first place finishes, shall be declared the winner;
   D. If the tie still remains, the team with the greater number of second place finishes, shall be declared the winner;
   E. If the tie still remains, the team with the greater number of third place finishes, shall be declared the winner;
   F. If the tie is broken after applying A, B, C, D, or E, the team declared the winner shall have one point and an asterisk (*) added to their score; or
   G. If the tie remains after applying A, B, C, D, and E, the meet shall be scored as a tie.”

III. Rule 3-2-1a (pg. 11) PIAA modification, which “authorizes conferences or leagues to serve as the administrative body (‘The Games Committee’); and, as such, assumes responsibility for the proper conduct of a track and field or cross country meet.”

IV. Rule 3-2-4n (pg 13) PIAA modification restricts the wearing of hats, do-rags etc. unless approved by the PIAA for medical reasons. See VII. Rule 4-4 NOTE. Stocking hats may be worn in cold weather with Games Committee approval.

V. Rule 3-2-6 (pg. 13) PIAA modification, which “provides for competition interrupted because of events beyond the control of the responsible administrative authority to be either continued from the point of interruption or terminated, by mutual agreement of the participating schools, with the existing team scores. All trials and marks, made up to either the point of interruption or the point of termination, shall stand.”

VI. Rule 4-2-4c (pg. 22) PIAA modification, which “authorizes PIAA District Committees to permit more than three contestants from the same school to be entered, but not compete, in individual events in their respective qualifying meets.”

VII. Rule 4-3-1b7 (pg. 24) PIAA modification, which “defines headbands, compression sleeves, and socks (without attachments) as ‘Foundation Garments’.”
VIII. Rule 4-4 NOTE (pg. 24) PIAA “Reasonable Accommodations” modification, which “requires evidence of written authorization from the PIAA Executive Director, or the Executive Director’s designee, before permitting a competitor to participate:

A. while wearing, for medical reasons, items such as, but not limited to, a head covering/hats and/or an insulin pump; or

B. while wearing attire, which does not comply with uniform requirements, as set forth in the NFHS Track and Field and Cross-Country Rules Book.”

NOTE: “Religious headwear is permitted, provided it is not abrasive, hard, or dangerous to the wearer and any other competitor and must be attached in such a way that it is unlikely to come off during competition. Religious headwear does not need to comply with uniform requirements, as set forth in the NFHS Track and Field and Cross-Country Rules Book.”

“Hijabs, turbans, and yarmulkes are acceptable religious headwear.”

IX. Rule 4-4-2 (pg. 24) PIAA modification, which provides for ‘an appropriate health-care professional’ to be either a licensed physician of medicine or osteopathic medicine (MD or DO).”

X. Rule 5-5-7 (pg. 34) PIAA modification, which “authorizes the faster competitors to be placed in the first section, in meets involving 4 or less schools.”

XI. Rule Adoption, Rule Non-Adoption, and PIAA Junior High/Middle School Track and Field Competition:

A. In accordance with Rule 6-5-3 NOTE 2 (pg. 47), adopted the PIAA Pole Vault Verification Form.

B. Although provided for under Rule 8-2-3 (pg. 65), PIAA authorize conferences or leagues to adopt a modified cross-country team scoring system with prior-to-the-start of the Regular Season notification to all involved schools.

C. Excerpts from ARTICLE XIX, JUNIOR HIGH/MIDDLE SCHOOLS, Section 6, Contests Rules Standards for Junior High/Middle Schools Interscholastic Athletic Competition, Track and Field, of the PIAA By-Laws (pg. 43):

i. Competitors may compete in a maximum of four events, including relays;

ii. Distance of race, number of hurdles, height of hurdles, and hurdle spacing in all such events are maximums and may be modified by conferences or leagues or by mutual agreement of the participating schools;

iii. The discus and javelin specifications for girls’ competition shall be used by both boys and girls; and conferences, leagues, and/or participating schools, by mutual agreement prior-to-the-start of a meet, may delete track and/or field events but may not add and/or modify track events (except for hurdle events) and/or field events.