



Mt. Lebanon Girls' Basketball Team Selected to Compete in 2009 T-Mobile Invitational

The Mt. Lebanon girls' basketball Team has been selected to participate in the Third Annual NFHS / T-Mobile Invitational, scheduled for December 29 and 30, 2009 at the Pete Hanna Center on the campus of Samford University, Birmingham, AL.

The T-Mobile Invitational has annually hosted some of the premier programs throughout the country; and this year is no different. On the list of girls' invitees in addition to Mt. Lebanon is Hoover (AL) HS (2009 AAHSAA Runner-Up), Stockton (CA) St. Mary's HS (3-time defending CIA champion); and Nashville (TN) Hillsboro HS.

The T-Mobile invitational is the only basketball tournament sponsored by NFHS, and the field is composed only of member schools from NFHS-member state high school associations.

In addition to the two days of games, all coaches and players of the participating schools will join T-Mobile employees for a T-Mobile community service project on Dec. 28 designed to improve the afterschool facilities at a local community-based organization or public school (site to be determined). T-Mobile stresses community outreach programs connecting kids to positive people, places, and programs.

Mt. Lebanon HS girls' basketball Team is the first PIAA-member school Team to be selected for the event.



PIAA Board Accepts Sports Medicine Advisory Committee Recommendation on Clearing Students for Subsequent Participation

At its meeting of Thursday, October 8, 2009, the PIAA Board of Directors amended its Comprehensive Initial Pre-Participation Physical Evaluation (CIPPE) Form and related By-Law provisions, *effective immediately*.

The most substantive change to the CIPPE Form is the elimination of the old Section 6, which required a complete re-evaluation before a student could participate in interscholastic athletics in subsequent sports seasons in the same school year.

A re-certification is now necessary only for those students who sustained an illness and/or injury that required medical treatment from a licensed physician of medicine or osteopathic medicine, since the completion of the CIPPE. In addition, the student is not required to go back to the original Authorized Medical Examiner who performed the CIPPE, nor is the student required to have a complete re-evaluation.

If a re-certification is required, the reviewing physician may issue either a "general clearance," with no limitations on further participation, or a "limited clearance," with specified limitations on further participation, as deemed appropriate by the physician.

The updated Form may be accessed via the PIAA Web site at:

www.piaa.org/resources/forms/default.aspx

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2010-11 and 2011-12 Enrollment Reclassifications Explained

Each odd-numbered year, PIAA member senior high schools are requested to submit their total enrollment of both girls and boys, respectively, as of October 1 in grades 9-11. What happens following the submission of enrollment figures is deserving of some additional clarification.

In the past few weeks, the PIAA Office has received numerous requests about the process utilized in determining classification enrollment breaks. To begin, PIAA classifies member senior high schools by (1) gender and (2) enrollment at those schools. In each sport in which there is more than one classification provided,

each classification is to have as nearly as possible, the same number of member senior high schools sponsoring that sport.

By example, if 600 member senior high schools sponsor girls' basketball, and there are four (4) enrollment classifications in girls' basketball; the enrollment parameters will be drawn in an attempt to place 150 schools within each classification (*see Figure 1 below*).

PIAA achieves this by generating classification worksheets which contain all member schools sponsoring a sport, by gender, and enrollment. Classification breaks

are drawn on the worksheets after identifying enrollment figures which would achieve the goal of placing as nearly as possible, the same number of schools within each classification of that sport and gender.

This same process is utilized for all sports in which there is more than one classification. By providing for this process by sport and gender, it explains how a member senior high school may be in separate classifications (A, AA, AAA or AAAA) in different sports.

Figure 1. Sample Calculation for Determining Enrollment Breaks.

<i>Member Senior HS's Sponsoring Girls' Basketball</i>		<i>No. of Classifications in the Sport of Girls' Basketball</i>			<i>Approximate Total Number of Schools in Each Classification</i>
600	/	4	=		150

Winter Rules Interpretations Meetings Under Way

As a friendly reminder to school administrators and head coaches of member senior high school Teams, the Winter Sports Mandatory Rules Interpretations Meetings are under way in the sports of basketball, girls' gymnastics, swimming & diving, and wrestling.

Article XIV Coaches of the PIAA By-Laws requires the head Coach of the Coaching staff of each member senior high school Team to attend at least one mandatory rules interpretation meeting each year.

Only in the event a head Coach of the Coaching staff has not been designated by the school in that sport, may the Principal appoint a representative of the Coaching staff to attend the meeting.

There have been a few incidences reported to the PIAA Office of assistant Coaches signing in as head Coaches or head Coaches from neighboring schools attempting to sign in twice for two separate schools. Obviously, this is inappropriate and contrary to the provisions of the PIAA By-Laws. Please assist

PIAA in making certain the rules interpretation meetings are providing the service to the audiences they are intentioned.

For a complete listing of Winter Sports Rules Interpretations meetings, please log on to the PIAA Web site at www.piaa.org/resources/rules/default.aspx?

Girls' Spring Soccer Season Extended through Spring 2012.

At its meeting of Friday, October 9, 2009, the PIAA Board of Directors voted to extend the girls' spring soccer season through spring 2012. Previously, at its Thursday, July 23 and Friday, July 24, 2009 Board of Directors' meeting, the Board had voted to eliminate the girls' spring soccer season, effective the beginning in the 2010-2011 school year.

Schools that currently play girls' soccer during the PIAA-defined spring season expressed

concerns over the timeframe provided to transition from the 2010 spring soccer season to the 2010 fall soccer season. Specifically, those affected member schools requested more time to budget for the change and address facility usage, staffing, and scheduling issues. Conversely, those member schools that currently play girls' soccer in the fall were anticipating an increase in the number of enrollment classifications in girls' soccer from two to three.

After much discussion, the Board unanimously voted to permit the girls' spring soccer season to continue through and including the spring of 2012. However, the number of enrollment classifications for girls' spring soccer will be reduced from two to one, effective the spring of 2011. That same motion provided for the number of enrollment classifications for girls' fall soccer to increase from two to three, effective the beginning of the 2010-2011 school year.

PIAA Marketing Company and Member Schools Highlighted in Central Penn Business Journal

The following are excerpts from the Central Penn Business Journal article of September 10, 2009—

Most high school guidance offices don't have corporate sponsors.

Neither do most high school locker rooms, cafeterias or junior varsity softball fields.

But then again, most schools aren't Lancaster County's Hempfield High School.

Hempfield School District has forged a partnership with Lancaster-based Market Street Sports Group that brings together increasingly cash-strapped schools with advertisers looking to keep their brands in view.

* * *

Market Street was created about three years ago by two former teachers and front-office employees of the Lancaster Barnstormers minor league baseball team: Jeff Ber-

toni and Jason Jesberger, now respectively the presidents of sales and marketing for Market Street.

The two started handling event sponsorships for the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (PIAA), which organizes and operates championship games for many high school sports.

From there, they were approached by Hempfield, whose board was searching for alternate revenue streams and thought corporate sponsorships might be the answer.

The partnership made sense, Jesberger said, especially in light of the enormous enthusiasm Pennsylvanians have for high school sports. For example, high school football routinely outdrew Barnstormers' games on Friday nights.

* * *

What emerged was a process carefully supervised by school boards, which must sign off on all

sponsorship agreements. Hempfield spent \$15,000 on legal fees to develop the documents needed to cement the sponsorships between the districts, Market Street and advertisers and now owns the templates and been able to recoup the legal fees by selling it to other districts interested in sponsorships.

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The idea of bringing sponsors into high schools has sometimes faced resistance, but administrators say the idea is becoming more widely accepted in lean financial times and as school boards realize they can control the process.

For the complete story, visit the Central Penn Business Journal Web site at:

www.centralpennbusiness.com/

PIAA Meetings' and Events' Schedule for October and November 2009 (click on the calendar items for additional detail)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
October 2009						
4	5	6	7	8 PIAA BOD Meeting	9 PIAA BOD Meeting; Football Tournament Directors' Meeting	10
11	12 Columbus Day PIAA Office Closed	13	14	15	16	17 Last Regular Season Contest Date and District Deadline: Golf
18	19	20 East Golf Regional	21 West Golf Regional	22	23	24
25	26 Girls' and Boys' Golf Championships	27 Team Tennis 1st Rd	28	29	30 Girls' Team Tennis Championships	31 Last Regular Season Contest Date and District Deadline: Tennis & XC

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
November 2009						
1	2	3 Election Day	4	5 Nov. 7 Last Regular Season Contest Date and District Deadline: Girls' VB, Water Polo, Field Hockey & Soccer	6 Girls' Tennis Championships	7 XC Championships
8	9	10 Officials' Reps. Nominations due. Girls' VB, Field Hockey & Soccer First Rd.	11 Veterans Day	12	13 Girls' Volleyball Championships	14 Field Hockey & Soccer Second Rd.
15	16	17 Field Hockey & Soccer Second Rd.	18	19 PIAA Strategic Planning Committee Meeting (if needed)	20 PIAA Board of Appeal Winter Sports' First Practice Date	21 District Deadline: FB FH Championships SOC Championships
22	23	24	25	26 Thanksgiving PIAA Office Closed	27 PIAA Office Closed Football Championships First Round	28
29	30				Football Championships Quarterfinal Round	