



Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association NEWS

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Upcoming Events:

August 3rd—4th

24th Annual Officials Convention
Hilton Hotel—Harrisburg

September 22nd

12th Annual Cross Country Race
Parkview Cross Country Course—Hershey

October 22nd—24th

Golf Championships
Heritage Hills Resort—York

October 26th—27th

Girls' Team Tennis Championship
Hershey Racquet Club—Hershey

November 2nd—3rd

Girls' Singles & Doubles Tennis Championships
Hershey Racquet Club—Hershey

November 16th—17th

Soccer Championships
HERSHEYPARK Stadium—Hershey

November 17th

Field Hockey Championships
Whitehall High School—Whitehall
Girls' Volleyball Championships
Cumberland Valley High School—Mechanicsburg

December 6th—8th

Football Championships
HERSHEYPARK Stadium—Hershey

Associate Director Melissa Mertz Selected as NFHS Citation Award Recipient

Mertz was honored by the NFHS for her contributions and service to High School athletics at the 2018 Summer Meeting in Chicago, Illinois on July 1, 2018.

Mertz has been a valuable member of the PIAA for 20 years. Some of her duties include serving as the tournament director for field hockey, competitive spirit, swimming and diving, lacrosse, and softball championships. In addition Mertz handles public relations, sanctioning, member schools and the interpretation of PIAA By-Laws.



Mertz has been involved with numerous NFHS committees and projects, including her most recent election of the NFHS Swimming and Diving Rules Committee and past chair of the NFHS Field Hockey Rules Committee. She also served two terms on the NFHS Strategic Planning Committee and one term on the NFHS Technology Committee.

Mertz was a multi-sport athlete (field hockey, basketball, track) at Cocalico High School. She then attended Shippensburg University through her talents in field hockey. Mertz played both field hockey and lacrosse at Shippensburg, and was a three-time All-American as well as a four-time All-Conference performer in field hockey. Mertz graduated in 1995 from Shippensburg University with a degree in Marketing and in 2008 she was inducted into the Shippensburg University Athletic Hall of Fame.

Mertz continues to excel in athletics. She still competes in Field Hockey as well as mountain bike racing. This summer she was selected to represent the USA in Field Hockey at the EXIN Master's World Cup in Terassa, Spain.

12th Annual PIAA Cross Country Invitational

Saturday, September 22nd, the PIAA will be hosting the 12th Annual Cross Country Invitational in Hershey, PA.



Team entries will be accepted on a first come, first entered basis. Individual entries from students representing PIAA member schools that DO NOT sponsor a cross country Team during the Regular Season that participates in at least 50% of the maximum permitted number of Regular Season Contests in that sport, will be accepted. Please visit the [LINK](#) to register.

PIAA's 24th Annual Officials Convention

We are only a week away from the 24th annual PIAA Officials' Convention. PIAA will provide a plethora of educational sessions for officials in all sports currently sponsored by PIAA member schools.

The convention will be held August 3rd—4th at the Hilton and Towers in Harrisburg, PA. Be sure to register at:

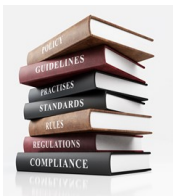
[CONVENTION](#)



PIAA By The Numbers

1972

Year ACT 219 was signed into law, incorporating private schools into the PIAA with full ability to compete for state titles. General Assembly determined segregation of schools in the sports arena was not in the best interest of the Commonwealth.



77%

Percentage of Public Schools winning PIAA championships since 1972

23%

Percentage of Schools of Choice winning championships since 1972

10



By-Law Modifications in 2017-2018 to address students moving from school to school

2012

Year PIAA votes down boundary and non-boundary definitions as the PAOC (Pennsylvania Athletic Oversight Committee) deemed it as a preamble to moving schools into separate championships.

6th



In the country based on high school athletic participation by state

76%

Percentage of Public HS members

24%

Percentage of Schools of Choice HS members

32



Elected Board members representing all member schools through 12 districts and 10 organizations



1



Newly formed PIAA Committee focused on competitive balance

1,435

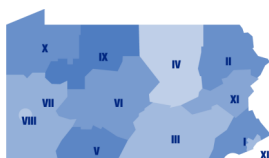
of PIAA Jr/Sr. member schools

583

of PIAA Public HS

186

of PIAA Schools of Choice HS



319,153

of Student-Athletes the PIAA provides athletic opportunities for

24

Inter-District Championships

