



PIAA WINTER SPORTS OFFICIALS' APPRECIATION WEEK

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Saturday, January 10, 2026

Mechanicsburg, PA – As we kickoff a new year, it's time to recognize the PIAA winter sports officials that do so much for student-athletes across the state. The Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (PIAA) continues to dedicate a week during every sports season to recognize and show appreciation to the over 15,000 PIAA registered officials. Member schools are asked to help show their support for Winter Sports Officials starting this Sunday, January 11th through the 17th, 2026.

"**Officials play a vital role, every day,**" said PIAA Board of Directors President and PIAA District II Chairman Frank Majikes. "**Games can't be played without sports officials.** Their unwavering efforts need to be recognized and given the well-deserved appreciation for all they do for Pennsylvania student-athletes. This is a time to celebrate and thank officials for their tireless efforts." President Majikes has been a registered PIAA official for over 50 years, so these weeks are especially meaningful to him.

Below are a few photos from the 2025 Winter Sports Officials' Appreciation Week of member schools honoring officials.





Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association

Beginning in Pittsburgh, on December 29, 1913, PIAA was given the privilege of serving its member schools and registered officials by establishing policies and adopting contest rules that emphasize the educational values of interscholastic athletics, promote safe and sportsmanlike competition, and provide uniform standards for all interscholastic levels of competition.



PIAA was the first state to dedicate a week in every sports season to sports officials. It has since turned into a nationally recognition week with the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) recognizing the same weeks. PIAA has taken pride in leading the way to celebrate all the hard work and dedication officials do for PIAA member schools and their student-athletes. There's a lot to celebrate from the field to the courts and the courses because without officials, games can't happen.

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The support for officials comes from all over as Senator Scott Martin is looking to introduce another [Resolution](#) designating the 2025-26 Officials' Appreciation Weeks in PA and Representative Antia Kulik has re-introduced legislation, that recently passed the House, on the [Harassment of Sports Officials](#).

Those considering becoming a PIAA official please go to <http://www.piaa.org/officials> for more information. The next Officials Appreciation Week will be April 5th through 11th, 2026 to honor the spring sport officials.

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