



PIAA SPRING SPORTS OFFICIALS' APPRECIATION WEEK

Free registration Friday!

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Thursday, April 2, 2026

Mechanicsburg, PA – Hard to believe we're already a month into the spring sports season. As the spring sports season gets underway across Pennsylvania, the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (PIAA) and our member schools are proud to recognize the dedicated officials who make interscholastic athletics possible.

From Sunday, April 5 through Saturday, April 11, 2026, the PIAA will celebrate Spring Sports Officials' Appreciation Week, honoring more than 15,000 registered officials who serve student-athletes throughout the state. Member schools are encouraged to take part in this initiative and show their support for the officials who play an essential role in every contest.

"Officials play a vital role every day," said PIAA Board of Directors President and District II Chairman Frank Majikes. "Games simply cannot be played without them. Their unwavering commitment deserves recognition and appreciation for all they do for Pennsylvania student-athletes. This week is an opportunity to celebrate and thank them for their tireless efforts."

Majikes, who has served as a registered PIAA official for more than 50 years, noted that the appreciation weeks hold special meaning as a way to highlight the contributions and dedication of officials statewide.

New next week, the PIAA will host **"Free Registration Friday"** on April 10. On this day, any new or returning official who registers for a sport will receive free registration. Schools are encouraged to share this opportunity with current officials and those interested in joining.

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



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SPRING SPORTS

OFFICIALS APPRECIATION WEEK

APRIL 6-12, 2025



YORK CATHOLIC MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL

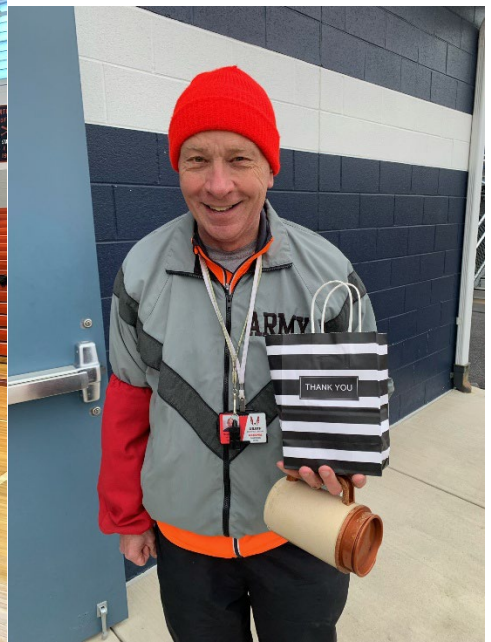
PIAA OFFICIAL APPRECIATION WEEK

THANK YOU FOR ALL THAT YOU DO TO SUPPORT HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

GO IRISH!

Thank you Officials!
— SV Varsity & JV Boys Lacrosse





The PIAA was the first state association to designate an appreciation week during each sports season to honor officials. This initiative has since grown into a nationwide recognition effort, with the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) observing the same weeks. The PIAA continues to take pride in leading efforts to celebrate the critical role officials play across all sports.

Support for officials continues to expand beyond the playing surface. Senator Scott Martin is introduced a [Resolution](#) recognizing the 2025–26 Officials’ Appreciation Weeks across Pennsylvania. Additionally, Representative Anita Kulik has reintroduced legislation addressing the [Harassment of Sports Officials](#), reinforcing the importance of respect and safety in high school athletics.

There is much to celebrate this spring—from fields to courts—as officials remain a vital part of every game experience. Together we can show our appreciation for the officials who make high school athletics possible. The next Officials’ Appreciation Week will take place October 4–10, 2026, recognizing fall sports officials. Those interested in becoming a PIAA official can learn more by visiting www.piaa.org/officials.

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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.