

PVIAC  
Fall Sports  
By-Laws  
2023 - 2024

**APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE BOARD ON December 15, 2022**

**CROSS COUNTRY – FIELD HOCKEY – GOLF - GYMNASTICS  
SOCCER - GIRLS' VOLLEYBALL – FOOTBALL**

**Revised Golf, December 15, 2022**

# **Cross Country**

## **By-Laws**

### **Fall 2023 and 2024**

**Approved by the Executive Board on December 15, 2022**

**PIONEER VALLEY INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC CONFERENCE  
CROSS COUNTRY SPORT ASSOCIATION  
FALL BY-LAWS**

- A) Schedule
  - 1. See Fall Alignment for scheduling format.
- B) Procedure for Sub-Varsity Schedule
  - 1. At meets where there are twelve (12) or more runners per team, a separate J.V. Race can be held.
- C) Postponement Procedure
  - 1. A postponement is always the responsibility of the home team.
  - 2. An attempt should be made to notify visiting teams by 1:00 p.m.
- D) Starting Time
  - 1. All course walks should begin by 3:30 p.m. to allow the meets to start as soon as possible. Starting times for boys and girls events will be determined by the schools participating. An example is boys 4:15, Girls 4:30. All course walks should begin early enough to allow the meets to start on time.
- E) Location of Playing Sites/Area
  - 1. All coaches will bring course maps to the PVIAC preseason meeting to distribute to opposing coaches.
- F) Length of Meets
  - 1. Determined by distance: 2.0 – 3.1 miles. It is encouraged that courses comply with the standard 3.1 miles.
- G) Rules of the Game Modifications
  - 1. Leagues will follow National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) Rules
  - 2. All MIAA cross country/track and field rules will apply.
  - 3. It is recommended that a certified track and field official be used at all regular season meets. It is also recommended that each school have at least one coach that is either a certified track and field official or a certified cross country official.
  - 4. All XC courses must conform to the NFHS regulations for course markings, recommended minimum width and path obstructions.
- H) Equipment
  - 1. Must comply with NFHS guidelines.
- I) Uniform
  - 1. All schools must follow NFHS uniform rules.
- J) Order of Events
  - 1. The order of races will be determined by the host school. It is encouraged that races be run to completion before the start of the next race.
- K) Procedure for Determination of League Champion
  - 1. Determined on basis of league dual meet win/loss record

- L) Procedure for Selection of All-Star Teams
  - 1. Following PVIAC policy, the coaches will determine PVIAC All-Stars at the post-season meeting.
  
- M) Protest Procedure
  - 1. As outlined in NFHS rulebook and MIAA Blue Book.
  
- N) Provision and Responsibility for Meetings
  - 1. Refer to PVIAC Policy and Calendar.
  
- O) Special Rules
  - 1. All members of teams will walk the course prior to the race, unless otherwise agreed upon by all teams.
  - 2. Varsity and junior varsity competition is encouraged.
    - a. The use of standardized result sheets is recommended.
  - 3. Procedure for reporting scores and results
    - a. Home team is responsible for reporting all scores.
    - b. All coaches are encouraged to enter their results on TrackCentral.
  
- 4. Responsibility for maintaining League Records
  - 1. The Chair School will be responsible for compiling and maintaining all league records.

# **Field Hockey**

## **By-Laws**

### **Fall 2023 and 2024**

**Approved by the Executive Board on December 15, 2022**

**PIONEER VALLEY INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC CONFERENCE**  
**FIELD HOCKEY SPORT ASSOCIATION**  
**FALL BY-LAWS**

A. SCHEDULE

1. See Fall Alignment for scheduling format.

B. PROCEDURE FOR SUB VARSITY

1. JV plays after varsity on same site or at the same time if two fields are available. At night games JV will play first and Varsity second.
2. If a school knows in advance that it will be unable to field a JV team for the season or for any given game(s), it must notify opponent by telephone as soon as possible.

C. POSTPONEMENT

1. Home school responsibility to notify visiting school at earliest possible time.
2. Game is to be rescheduled on the next playable school day provided a site is suitable for play.

D. STARTING TIME ADJUSTMENTS

1. Varsity- 3:30 PM; JV immediately after varsity. If two fields are available the JV game will be at the same time as the varsity.
2. After Daylight Savings Time Change 3:00 PM (If possible)
3. If a team is late they will be allowed a 10 minute warm up period.
4. Schools must notify opponents and officials if starting times cannot be met.

E. LOCATION OF PLAYING SITES – Refer to the MIAA site for location

1. Home school responsibility to notify opponents of any change.

F. LENGTH OF CONTEST

1. Varsity – two 30-minute halves.
1. JV – two 30-minute halves with a 2<sup>nd</sup> half season adjustment due to day-light savings time

G. RULES OF THE GAME MODIFICATIONS

1. Rules source: MIAA, the most current National Federation Field Hockey Rules modified.
2. Running time after 5 goal differential, if differential falls below 5 stop time will resume
3. Goggles as approved must be worn at all times.

#### H. EQUIPMENT

1. Use of mouth guards and goalie equipment as specified in rulebook.
2. All Turf balls only for game balls; Penn Monto, Poli, Chincford, solid color.
3. Goggles as approved by the MIAA.

#### I. UNIFORM

1. All schools will wear light jerseys and **socks** at home: dark jerseys and **socks away**.

#### J. ORDER OF EVENTS

#### K. PROCEDURE FOR DETERMINATION OF DIVISIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

1. Two points for a win, one point for a tie.
2. No play-off, if a tie results in final standing.
3. School with highest number of points will be division champion.
4. Only games within the division count

#### L. PROCEDURE FOR SELECTION OF ALL STAR TEAMS

1. Established all “ground rules” for the selection method before the meeting begins to eliminate controversy (one and one half the number of athletes on the playing field/court plus one and one half athletes for each team in the league over five (Round Up).
2. Results must be reported by Sport Association Chairperson.
3. Refer to PVIAC Policy Section J.

#### M. PROTEST PROCEDURE

1. Follow procedure as outlined by in MIAA Bluebook.
2. Player Suspension Forms, and Coaches’ Suspension Forms (if needed) must be provided by the home school.

#### N. PROVISION AND RESPONSIBILITY FOR MEETINGS

1. As outlined in the Constitution of the PVIAC with pre and post season meetings.
2. Pre season-first Monday after Labor Day. Post season-as called by Sports Association Chairperson

#### O. SPECIAL RULES

1. Adult timers are recommended
2. On days when the air temperature is 90 degrees or above and the humidity levels are high it is recommended that prior to the start of the game that coaches and game officials agree to a water break that will occur somewhere around the 15 minute mark of each half. The break should be for no more than 2 minutes and allow for athletes to hydrate.

3. In the event of inclement weather the NFHS lightning policies will be in effect. If a contest is terminated by game officials due to weather or other "Acts of God," before halftime, it is replayed in its entirety. If it is terminated after halftime, it is considered a complete game.

**4. If there is a visible scoreboard, the game administrator (coaches and officials) will determine if the scoreboard clock is official.**

P. PROCEDURE FOR REPORTING SCORES AND RESULTS

1. Home school responsibility to report scores to Masslive.com and to local newspapers.

2. Divisions may appoint a chairperson to maintain weekly standings.

Q. RESPONSIBILITY FOR MAINTAINING LEAGUE RECORDS

1. Each school (coach) is responsible for maintaining individual and team records for forwarding as requested by the division statistician.

**Golf**

**By-Laws**

**Fall 2023 and 2024**

**Approved by the Executive Board on December 15, 2022**

**PIONEER VALLEY INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC CONFERENCE  
GOLF SPORTS ASSOCIATION  
FALL BY-LAWS**

A. Schedule

1. See Fall Alignment for scheduling format.
2. Near the end of each season a PVIAC Invitational Tournament will be held. Each school by decision of the head coach may send 2 players to represent their school.
3. No division or conference jamboree
4. Independent contests are to be scheduled at the discretion of each school
5. League Schedules will be constructed by the designated schedule makers for each league.

B. Procedure for Sub-Varsity Schedules –

1. Left to each school.

C. Postponement Procedures –

1. Next school day dependent upon availability of golf course.

D. Starting Time –

1. Starting time of all matches will be no later than 3:00 PM. –
2. A team will forfeit match if half (1/2) hour late, unless the opponent is notified as to the circumstances causing the delay.

E. Location of Playing Field/Area –

1. Schools will notify opponent's prior to start of season as to golf course used for matches.

F. Length of Contest

Valley League

Nine Holes - Each Match will consist of eight players on each team. Players will play foursomes (two players from each team). The sum of the four best medal scores of Team A will be compared with the sum of the four best medal scores for Team B. The team with the lowest sum will be the winning team. In case of a tie the fifth best score will be used. If the score remains tied then the sixth best score will be used as a tiebreaker. If the score remains tied then the seventh best score will be used as a tiebreaker. If the score remains tied then the eighth best score will be used as a tiebreaker. If the scores are still tied then the match will be declared a tie. Team A player #1 will keep his score and the score of Team B player #1 and vice versa, etc.

Coaches by mutual agreement prior to a match may as a local rule cap the maximum number of strokes a player may take on any hole at ten (10).

Suburban and Bi-County Leagues

Nine Holes – Each match shall consist of eight players on each team. Players will play foursomes (two players from each team). The sum of the four best medal scores will be compared with the sum of the four best medal scores for team B. The team with the lowest sum will be the winning team. In the case of a tie, the fifth-best score will be used as a tiebreaker. If the score remains tied then the sixth best score will be used as a tiebreaker. If the scores are still tied then the match will be declared a tie. Team A player

will keep his score and the score of team B player #1 and vice versa, etc. Coaches by mutual agreement prior to a match may as a local rule cap the maximum number of strokes a player may take on any hole at Double Par.

Any match suspended because of severe weather or because the golf course has become unplayable shall be declared complete if in stroke play all competitors have completed at least 6 holes. The sum of the six best medal scores for six holes of Team A will be compared with the sum of the six best medal scores for six holes for Team B. The team with the lowest sum will be the winning team.

G. Rules of the Game Modification. –

1. All matches are subject to the U.S.G.A. Rules and rules of the local course.

H. Equipment –

1. Must conform to the Rules of the Game
2. Each player must carry his/her own bag or use a pull cart.

I. Uniform –

1. All players must be properly dressed. Pants, shorts of Bermuda Length, pocketed and belted, and collared golf style shirt tucked in. Hats/visors worn with brim forward. No dungarees, no jeans, no denim, and no tanktops.
2. Golf attire and equipment will not be allowed to promote or endorse any alcoholic beverage, tobacco product, or illegal substance. Any player found in violation shall be immediately removed from the match and their score will not count unless the violation can be rectified immediately.

J. Order of Events – Procedures –

1. It is recommended that the #1 players tee off first in order to speed upplay.

K. Procedure for Determination of League Championships –

1. Scoring to determine league champion will be (2) points for a win and (1) point for a tie.

L. Procedure for Selection of League All-Stars Teams –

1. Chair School is responsible to seek volunteers to gather nominations for their leagues. If no one volunteers then the league champion coach and or athletic director from previous year are responsible to seek nominations for League All-Stars.
2. A communication (email, etc.) seeking nominations from each school should be sent out (2) weeks before the end of the season. The coach and athletic director would sign the nominations.
3. Coaches will then vote for the All Stars one week prior to the end of the season. Coaches cannot vote for their own players. The results of the vote will be voted upon at the Coaches Meeting.
4. The chair school may also use the following process: All stars will be selected at the post-season coach's meeting by the coaches present.
5. The chair school should make it clear at the pre-season meeting which process will be used to select all-stars for their sport.

M. Protest Procedure-

1. All potential rules violations must be brought up to the coaches before the scores are calculated, and before the cards are signed and submitted for the match. If any potential violation comes up after this, it will not be considered. Any disagreements that cannot be settled between coaches should be submitted in writing within **24 hours** by both coaches and players to an arbitration board. This board should be made up of 2 coaches, an Athletic Director, a principal from the Sports Association, and a USGA rules official or PGA Pro. If there is any confusion to the written statements made, a 3-way conference call or meeting should take place among the coaches and the arbitration board. No member of the board will be associated with the schools or coaches involved in the dispute. The majority vote will rule.

N. Provision and Responsibility for Meetings –

1. Refer to PVIAC policy and Calendar

O. Special Rules

1. No match shall be played unless a coach or representative from each school is present for the entire match.
2. The health, welfare, and safety of the participants involved is of ultimate importance. Therefore, all decisions should be made with the athlete in mind.
3. Flagrant breeches of sportsmanlike conduct (profanity, club throwing, property destruction, use of any tobacco products), will result in the disqualification of the player involved. Any infraction is to be reported to the coaches' immediately, either during the match or immediately after match and be resolved at that time. Any issues that are not resolved by the coaches prior to leaving the course **MUST** be reported to the Chair School within 24 hours. Failure to report within 24 hours will result in forfeiture of a team's right to appeal any issues of conduct or scoring.

Any student athlete, who is disqualified from a match or a scrimmage for the reasons, stated above shall not participate in the next scheduled interscholastic competition that is part of their regular season schedule, or in tournament play. Any student found to have used or be in possession of tobacco products is subject to suspension under the Chemical Health Rule

It is the responsibility of the Coach to report any disqualification to their Athletic Director who in turn will complete the MIAA Student Contest Disqualification Form. The Athletic Director is responsible for sending copies to the principal of each school involved, the athletic director of each school involved, and the executive director of the MIAA.

Any student athlete who is disqualified (see Rule 49.3) from any interscholastic contest must complete the National Federation Sportsmanship on-line course – “Sportsmanship”, before reestablishing eligibility. This course is free.

4. No participant shall go back onto the course (this includes the final hole-green) to in any way inform participants as to the progress of the match. Any

- infraction of this rule will result in the forfeiture of the entire match.
5. Spectators should receive the permission of both coaches prior to the start of the match if they are to observe any of the foursomes at play. Any observers should remain at least fifty (50) yards from the competition and may not communicate with any of the participants at all. Spectators who breach this rule shall be asked to leave the golf course.
  6. In the event of inclement weather on the golf course, the USGA and NFHS lightning policies will be in effect. The coaches, by mutual agreement, shall decide whether play shall continue in accordance with the above policies or the match be postponed. Every effort will be made to play the match if the course is open for play.
  7. Any irregularity in play should be reported to both coaches as soon as possible and not later than the completion of play. Preferably at the time of infraction.
  8. No alcohol, controlled substance, or tobacco products will be consumed by any player during the match or immediately thereafter in the clubhouse at the course. Immediate disqualification will result if this is detected. Prescribed medications are exempted. Any player involved shall be suspended from competition according to MIAA Rules.
  9. Players are to be played in order of ability in leagues that use the 24 point scoring system as determined by scoring average in practice prior to the start of the season and then combined with match scoring average through match three (3) and by match scoring average only starting with match four (4) and beyond. The number 1 player should be the player with the lowest average; the number 2 player should be the player with the second best average and so on through player 6. If scoring averages are within 2 strokes than the coach has discretion as to where to place the players in their lineup. Coaches shall exchange written lineups at least 15 minutes prior to the start of a match so that any questions about a team's lineup can be discussed between the coaches prior to the start of the match. Coaches must be able to provide the basis/justification of their team lineups including but not limited to written records that include dates and score. The chair school will resolve any disputes brought to their attention.
  10. Each player will be responsible for keeping an accurate score for themselves and their opponent.
  11. Any player who leaves the course without permission and does not complete his/her match forfeits his/her match. If his/her coach excuses a player, he/she forfeits the remaining holes in a match.
  12. Late player forfeits all holes that his opponent teed off on.
  13. Coaches must encourage all players to keep up with the group in front of them and to warn them that slow play is unacceptable. It is not acceptable to have a gap of two holes or more between groups. USGA rules for Slow Play Penalty may be applied when warranted.
  14. No cell phone shall be seen in a player's hand from the time of the pre-match meeting and introduction of players until the player signs his/her card and turns it in to his/her coach. Any player found in violation shall be immediately removed from the match and their score will not count.
  15. Teammates are prohibited from giving advice to one another during a match.
  16. ELECTRONIC DEVICES  
During the play of all PVIAC golf matches, a player MAY obtain distance

information by using a device that measures distance only. A player MAY NOT use any device to measure other conditions such as gradient, wind speed, temperature, etc. A player MAY NOT use a Cell Phone at anytime for any purpose and cell phones are not allowed to be used as a measuring device. Any player found in breach of this rule will be immediately disqualified. Female golfers must play from the tee box that is placed closest (yet in front of) the tee box the boys' are playing from regardless of marker color. It is recommended that the boys play from what is considered the regular men's tees on the course being played.

17. During PVIAC matches coaches only will be allowed to coach players during the match.
18. Only 8 players from the visiting team should be in attendance at any match unless special arrangements have been made with the coach and/or Athletic Director of the home team.

P. Procedure for Reporting Scores –

- a. Media - The home team has responsibility of calling in the match's result and up to date records (league and overall) of all the teams involved to MassLive at 855-347-4052. They may also be emailed to [\*\*sports@masslive.com\*\*](mailto:sports@masslive.com). This information replaces the old contact information at the Republican. News, statistical corrections, schedule updates and any other correspondence should be made through the new contact information.

Q. Responsibility for Maintaining League Records – Chair school will maintain all records necessary to maintain continuity and historical items for the conference.

# **Gymnastics**

## **By-Laws**

**Fall 2023 and 2024**

**Approved by the Executive Board on December 15, 2022**

**PIONEER VALLEY INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC CONFERENCE  
GIRLS' GYMNAS TIC'S SPORT ASSOCIATION  
FALL BY-LAWS**

**A. Schedule**

1. See Fall Alignment for scheduling format.
2. Meets will be scheduled as Dual or Tri-meets.
3. A recommendation for schedule will be submitted to the Athletic Directors and the Executive Board, each alignment year by the Gymnastic Sport Association.
4. The maximum number of contests per season is 18. No more than 2 per week.
5. The schedule will be set for 2 years, reversing home and away sites for dual meets and rotating sites for tri-meets.
6. Once schedule is established, there is no changing of dates.
  - a. Exception: Conflict with school events or facility availability.
  - b. Schedules will be made available 30 days after approval by the Executive Board.
7. Schools will schedule their own independent meets.
8. League and Crossover meets take precedence over scheduling or re-scheduling independent meets.

**B. Varsity Meets**

1. Schools are responsible for scheduling own sub-varsity meets.

**C. Postponement Procedure**

1. The Athletic Director and Principal of the home schools are responsible for making decisions of postponements. The head official has the authority to postpone in the absence of an Athletic Director, with regard to safety issues. If the home school decides the meet is to be held, the visiting team must be present or the absent team forfeits. The privilege of appealing to the Sport Association concerning a forfeit is granted to the visiting team's principal.
2. Schools are obligated to participate in all scheduled meets if they have sufficient number to field a team. Minimum number to field a team is six (6) gymnasts.

3. If a meet is postponed, the contest must be rescheduled on the next available date on which schools, officials and facilities are available.
4. A rescheduled date becomes the same as a regularly scheduled contest.
5. The home school is responsible for notifying the visiting school of a postponement within a reasonable amount of time (prior to school dismissal) prior to meet.
6. The home team is responsible for notifying the Commissioner, newspapers and radio.

#### D. Starting Time Adjustment

1. All meets begin at 6:00 P.M.
2. Schools may set their own starting times by mutual consent and availability of officials. The commissioner must be notified of any starting time changes as soon as possible (within 48 hours).

#### E. Location of Playing Site

1. It is the responsibility of the Home School to provide all schools with directions to the playing site. These directions should be included in the PVIAC Directory.

#### F. Length of Contest

1. The number of events conducted will determine the length of the gymnastic meet. All meets will include Uneven Bars, Balance Beam, Vault, and Floor Exercise.

#### G. Rules of the Game Modifications

1. All meets will be conducted within the National Federation of High Schools (NFHS) Rules.

#### H. Equipment

1. Schools are responsible for procuring and maintaining equipment that meets the safety specification standards established by the United States Gymnastics Federation (See operating code USGA).
2. The home school is responsible for providing all necessary equipment to run the meet. If the minimum standards cannot be met or repairs cannot be made in a reasonable amount of time (30 minutes before the start of the meet) the home team forfeits the event. Points will be awarded to the visiting team or teams on the basis of their score at their last meet in the event (minimum standards will be distributed to all participating schools by the chair

school early in the season). This score will be used in scoring the meet but will not be used for tournament qualification.

3. In the event of equipment failure during warm-up or part way through the event, equipment must be repaired within 15 minutes from the time of its failure during the meet. Those competitors who have already gone will be allowed to record their official scores for post-season qualification.
4. An official may cancel an event whenever she/he feels the equipment is unsafe or does not meet the required standards. Sufficient time must be given to the home team (15 minutes) to make repairs.

#### I. Uniforms

1. Each team member must dress in a team leotard.
2. Boys on Girls teams- boys uniform must match team uniform, use bike pants of team color. Use of body suit under leotard- body suit same color as uniform or flesh.

#### J. Order of Events

1. Dual Meets
  - a. Uneven Bars
  - b. Balance Beam
  - c. Vaulting
  - d. Floor Exercise
  - e. There will be no warm-up between events.
2. Tri-Meets
  - a. Vault and Bars together
  - b. Beam and Floor together

#### K. Procedure for Determination of League Champion

1. The best win/loss record within the respective division will determine a champion for each division.
2. In the event that all schools within the division have not competed against each other by the designated cut-off date, the best win/loss record on the cut-off date will decide the division champion.

#### L. Procedure for Selection of All Star Teams

1. See PVIAC policy

#### M. Protest Procedure

1. Any school that wishes to register a protest must forward the protest in written form to the Sport Association Chairman for action. The coach, athletic director and principal must sign all protests. Protests must be in the hands of the Sport Association Chairman within 48 hours of the meet, excluding Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays.
2. Intent to protest must be submitted by the coach to the officials prior to the completion of the meet.
3. The chairperson will appoint a committee to handle each protest. The committee will be made up of one principal, one athletic director and one coach. The commissioner of officials will serve in an advisory role only if deemed necessary.
4. A decision from the protest committee will be rendered to the chair school within two weeks of receipt of the written protest. Schools shall have the right to appeal the decision of the committee via:
  - a. Conference Executive Committee
  - b. General Conference
  - c. MIAA appeals procedure
5. Every effort must be made to deal with all protest in a timely manner so that scores can be used for post-season qualification and division championships.

#### N. Provision and Responsibility for Meetings

1. Refer to PVIAC Policy and Calendar

#### O. Special Rules

1. Number of Competitors
  - a. Change will be made according to the United States Federation Rules.
2. Practice Restrictions
  - a. A gymnastics must attend all practices as outlined by the MIAA Blue Book
3. Meet Management
  - a. It is recommended that all schools use the MIAA recommended fees to pay officials.
  - b. Host schools shall provide a head table which shall consist of an announcer and at least two score keepers.
  - c. The home school shall provide a flasher and runner for each event.

- d. A duplicate of the official score sheets will be used at all PVIAC meets. The Chair School at the expense of the individual schools will provide these score sheets.

4. League Alignment

- a. See PVIAC Policy

5. Scoring—Changes to United States Federation Rules

- a. Results must be sent to the commissioner and tournament director within 24 hours after each meet.
- b. Scores will count toward the over all win/loss record and for the possible placement in post-season competition. (i.e. A team competing in a tri-meet can use the score to beat 2 teams on one night. Team and individual scores can be in the average to qualify for post-season play. This score can only be used for tournament qualification one time.

P. Procedure for Reporting Scores and Results

1. It is the responsibility of the home team to report the scores and results to the media immediately after each contest.

Q. Responsibility of Maintaining League Records

1. The Athletic Director of the Sport Association Chair School will be responsible for maintaining records for the purpose of determining league champions.

R. Exhibition routines

1. Each school will be limited to one exhibition routine per event per competition. Exhibition routines must be communicated to the judges at the start of the meet and will occur prior to their team's competition on each event.

**Soccer**

**By-Laws**

**Fall 2023 and 2024**

**Approved by the Executive Board on December 15, 2022**

**PIONEER VALLEY INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC CONFERENCE**  
**SOCCER SPORT ASSOCIATION**  
**FALL BY-LAWS**

- A. Scheduling Format- See Fall Alignment
- B. Sub-Varsity Schedules- JV will play the same schedule as varsity. Freshman/JVB scheduled independently by Athletic Directors.
- C. Postponement Procedure- 4:00 games are to be postponed by 1:00. Evening games are to be postponed by 3:00. Once teams are on site, it will be the decision of the officials as to whether or not to postpone.
- D. Starting Times: Starting times for conference assigned contests is 4:00 unless mutually agreed upon *by the school's Athletic Directors*. After Daylight Savings Time, contests will begin at 3:00. *When a JV game is played before a Varsity game on the same field, the JV game will start 2 hours before the Varsity game time.*
- E. Location of Playing Sites: Refer to the *MIAA Website*.
- F. Length of Contest: All levels will play two 40-minute halves unless mutually agreed upon by both school's Athletic Directors and officials informed ahead of time.
- G. Rules of the Game Modifications: All teams play under the National Federation of High School Rules unless modified by the MIAA Handbook guidelines.
- H. Equipment: *See National Federation of High School Rules*.
- I. Uniform: The HOME team must wear white or light jerseys, and the AWAY team must wear a dark jersey. Socks must match the shirt in color and must be solid in nature. Stripes at the top of the sock are acceptable.
- J. Order of Events: Not Applicable
- K. Procedure for League Champions: League champions are determined by the *games played in your league schedule* by using the point system: Win-2pts, Tie-1pt. In case of a tie at the end of the season, co-champions are declared. Independent and crossover games do not count toward league championship.
- L. Procedure for selection of All-League: The coach of the preceding league champion will be responsible for collecting all nominations from each team and compiling a list of nominations and emailing them to coaches within the league 2 weeks before the end of the season. The coaches will reply with their ranking of the players, but not voting for their own player. This coach will then bring the results to the post-season meeting for final approval. Any ties will be broken at the post-season meeting.
- M. Protest Procedure: National Federation of High Schools does not allow protests in the game of soccer. In all other cases, refer to the PVIAC Policy.
- N. Provision and Responsibility for Meetings: A pre-season coaches meeting will be held during first week of pre-season before Labor Day. Post-season meeting will be held either the night of or after the seeding meeting. The Chair school Athletic Director will organize the date, site, and time.
- O. Special Rules:
  - a. The HOME team shall provide THREE hand sewn game balls (Brine Phantom or equivalent). Visiting teams shall provide its own practice balls and medical supplies.
  - b. The commissioner shall assign officials for all contests.

- c. Tournament procedures are set by the MIAA.
- d. Field Markings are set by the National Federation of High Schools rules. It is recommended that a spectator restraint rope be used whenever possible.
- e. Game Termination: In the event of inclement weather the NFHS lightning policies will be in effect. If a contest is terminated due to weather or other “Acts of God”, before halftime, the game is replayed in its entirety. If it is terminated after halftime, it is considered an official game.
- f. Contest Reschedule: Contests are to be rescheduled on the first playable date for both teams.
- g. The *game administrator (coaches and officials)* will determine if the scoreboard clock is official.
- h. On days when the air temperature is 90 degrees or above and the humidity levels are high it is recommended that prior to the start of the game that coaches and game officials agree to a water break that will occur somewhere around the 20 minute mark of each half. The break should be for no more than 2 minutes and allow for athletes to hydrate. It is preferable that this break occur when a goal kick has been awarded but is up to the discretion of game officials

P. Procedure for Reporting Scores: The HOME team will report the scores and statistics to MassLive, [sports@masslive.com](mailto:sports@masslive.com) or 855-347-4052, at the end of the contest.

Q. Responsibility for Maintaining League Records: MassLive.com will be responsible for compiling and maintaining all League Records. The Chair School Athletic Director will keep file of past league records for use in the realignment process.

# **Girls' Volleyball**

## **By-Laws**

### **Fall 2023 and 2024**

**Approved by the Executive Board on December 15, 2022**

**PIONEER VALLEY INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC CONFERENCE**  
**GIRLS' VOLLEYBALL SPORT ASSOCIATION**  
**FALL BY-LAWS**

**A. SCHEDULE.**

1. See fall alignment for scheduling format.
2. Games will be scheduled in a 3-2-3-2 format.
3. The rotation of schedule would be to move the last date in the schedule to the top, every two years.

**B. PROCEDURE FOR SUB-VARSITY SCHEDULE.**

The JV will play at the same site and date as the varsity schedule. Freshmen games may be scheduled at the opposite site or at the same site as the varsity and JV by mutual agreement.

**C. POSTPONEMENT PROCEDURE.**

As stated in the constitution of the PVIAC.

**D. STARTING TIME ADJUSTMENT.**

4:00 p.m. adjustment for schools unable to leave early, with the varsity game to be scheduled to start 1 hour after the JV start time. Freshman games may be played before the JV or after the varsity when played at the same site.

**E. LOCATION OF PLAYING SITES. Refer to PVIAC Directory**

Home school discretion.

**F. LENGTH OF CONTEST.**

Sub-Varsity – Three full games – 3<sup>rd</sup> game, 15 pts.  
Varsity - Three (3) out of (5) games, 5<sup>th</sup> game (15pts)

**G. RULES.**

NCAA rules and Blue Book modifications. Sub-Varsity players are allowed to serve out of hand.

- H. All leagues will use student line judges for matches. The line judges stationed on each side will be provided by each team (1 for each) or by the host team if the visiting team cannot provide one. The line judges will be experienced in their duties and have knowledge of volleyball prior to taking on the duty. The line judges will be trained by their coaches in advance, or have prior experience line judging matches. The line judges will provide input on plays that can be used by the officials to make accurate**

and appropriate calls. The officials will make the final decision on all calls. The coaches and officials will support the line judges in their calls and any/all crowd issues. All Student line judges will be required to watch the Jr. Line Judge Training video from USA Volleyball.

**I. EQUIPMENT.**

The home team shall provide an official game ball of its choice, which is to be approved by the game officials thirty (30) minutes before the game.

**J. UNIFORM.**

All tops and bottoms (whole uniform) must be identical at the varsity level. With the exception of the libero, teammates must wear uniforms of the same color. Manufacture's logo and lettering on uniforms are not required to be identical. Shoes, socks and kneepads are not considered part of the uniform and are not required to be identical.

**K. ORDER OF EVENTS.**

The junior varsity game will be played first and the varsity game second. If, for some reason, a team wishes to reverse the order of the games, they must notify the school the day before the match, or as soon as possible. Both coaches must consent before the game can be switched.

**L. PROCEDURE FOR DETERMINATION OF LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP.**

Only league matches count for standings.

**M. PROCEDURE FOR SELECTION OF ALL-STAR TEAMS.**

The PVIAC recognizes the Libero as a player "on the court"; therefore volleyball will use seven players when calculating the proper number of all star votes per league.

**N. PROTEST PROCEDURE.**

As outlined in the Rules of the Sport and MIAA Rules & Regulations.

**O. PROVISION AND RESPONSIBILITY FOR MEETINGS.**

Refer to PVIAC Policy.

**P. SPECIAL RULES.**

Crowd control is the responsibility of the home school.  
Scoreboard: visible to each team and used at all matches.

**Q. PROCEDURE FOR REPORTING SCORES AND RESULTS.**

All scores should be reported to the Springfield Union, The Recorder, or local paper by the home team.

**R. RESPONSIBILITY FOR MAINTAINING LEAGUE RECORDS.**

Chair School will keep the following:

1. Won and Lost records.
2. All-Star Team.
3. Directory of Leagues

**Football**

**By-Laws**

**Fall 2023 and 2024**

**Approved by the Executive Board on December 15, 2022**

**PIONEER VALLEY INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC CONFERENCE  
FOOTBALL SPORT ASSOCIATION  
FALL BY-LAWS**

A. Schedule

1. See fall alignment for scheduling format.
2. During the second year of the schedule, the game site is reversed.
3. At least one (1) athletic director from each league is to be represented on the scheduling committee.

B. Procedure for Sub-Varsity Schedule

1. Freshman (Grade 9) team contests will be played on the Friday preceding the varsity game at the opposite site of the varsity contest. Junior Varsity contests may be played on Saturday or Monday following the varsity game as follows: AA, Suburban, Inter-County and Tri-County Leagues at the opposite site as varsity contest. Uniforms--JV teams will wear the same color uniforms as the varsity team wore against their opponent.
2. Contest Length: Per NFHS rules all games will play 12-minute quarters. Half time at a sub varsity game will be a minimum of ten (10) minutes.
3. Recommendation: That proper NFHS required field markings, clock, corner pylons, etc. be used for games on all levels.

C. Postponement Procedure

1. The postponed varsity game must be played on the following Saturday, Sunday or Monday if weather permits. A game being played on Sunday is subject to the approval of both schools. Sunday play is NOT obligatory for any postponed games. If the above-mentioned days are ruled out due to weather, then the game shall be played on Tuesday. If it cannot be played on Tuesday due to weather, the principals involved shall reschedule it by mutual agreement. If there is not mutual agreement as to a date after said Tuesday, the game shall be cancelled.
2. The administration of the home team will be the judge as to whether a game must be postponed, and on which day it will be played.
3. Postponements must be made by 8:00 a.m. for a morning, 11:00 a.m. for an afternoon game, and 4:30 p.m. for a night game. The administration must be notified, if unavailable, the coach will be notified.

D. Starting Time Adjustment

1. The schools involved must mutually agree to adjust the starting time.

E. Playing Sites

1. Refer to the MIAA website for location of scheduled games.

F. Rules of the Game Modification

1. All “Player Participation and Limitations” will follow the MIAA and NFHS rules.

G. Equipment

1. The home team shall provide an official game ball of its choice, which is to be approved by the officials’ thirty (30) minutes before the game.

I. Uniform

1. Jersey Color – The home team will wear DARK COLORED jerseys, the visiting team shall wear WHITE COLORED jerseys. Jersey color may be changed by mutual agreement of both schools.

J. Tournament/Playoffs

1. See MIAA WMASS Football Tournament Format

K. Procedure for Determination of League Champions

1. If league standings end in a tie, co-champions will be declared.

L. Procedure for Selection of All-Star Teams – Refer to PVIAC Policy

Football All-Star Selection Numbers

Football is allowed 17 extra players because of the defense.

1. 1.5 times the number on the field for offense ( $11 \times 1.5 = 16.5$ , rounded to 17)
2. Plus 1.5 times the number on the field for defense ( $11 \times 1.5 = 16.5$ , rounded to 17)
3. Plus 1.5 times the number over 5 teams in the league for offense
4. Plus 1.5 times the number over 5 teams in the league for defense
5. Total steps 1-4

#### M. Protest Procedure

1. As outlined in the NFHS Rules of the Sport and MIAA Rules and Regulations.

#### N. Provision and Responsibility for Meetings

1. The Executive Board via PVIAC Calendar sets dates for meetings.

#### O. Special Rules

1. Bands – Combined bands of both schools may play the National Anthem on the field prior to the start of all league contests. The home school band director will be responsible for working out all details.
2. Half-time performances will be limited to seven (7) minutes each. The visiting school will perform first.
3. Bands are to play only during quarter changes, time-outs, etc. Bands should NOT play when time is in.
4. Booster Day, Homecoming Day and Thanksgiving Day games-special games may dictate longer half-time periods. By mutual agreement half-time performances may be extended.
5. Game Management – The home team has the responsibility for game management and administration.
6. Ticket Prices – Ticket prices will be determined by the home school.
7. Complimentary Tickets – tickets and their issuance will be determined by mutual agreement of contending teams.
8. **Game Films – football game films or tapes involving two competing schools must be exchanged, borrowed, or loaned (two most recent previous games). Prior to the start of the season all schools must declare if they will film or not. The two films must be exchanged by 6:00 p.m. Sunday prior to the scheduled game.**
9. Scouting—Videotaping is permitted, no access to press box.
10. Tie-Breaker Rule – the MIAA tie-breaker rule will be used in all leagues. The MIAA rule modification that allows the game to be played until a winner is produced will be used.
11. Rosters and related matters – Member schools must furnish the following information to respective opponents by the Wednesday before the first game of the season: Typed roster to include both sets of jersey numbers in numeric order, players' positions, heights, weights, year in school. The roster should be typed on one sheet.

#### P. Procedure for reporting scores and results

1. The home team will supply information to the local media, including MassLive.com at [sports@masslive.com](mailto:sports@masslive.com) and local television stations.

#### Q. Responsibility for Maintaining League Records

1. The chairperson of the Football Sport Association will be responsible for maintaining all league records.