



DISTRICT II FOOTBALL PROCEDURES

2026

1. DAYS AND TIMES

It is preferred that games are played on Fridays at 7:00 p.m., or on Saturdays at 1:00 p.m. When a game is played on the home field of the higher ranked team, the home team will select the day and time of the game. If the visiting team requests a change in the scheduling of the game due to unusual circumstances, and the home team disagrees, the District II Football Committee (or the host District Committee in Subregional Championships) will select the day and time of the game.

When the game is played on a neutral field, the District II Football Committee (or the host District Committee in Subregional Championships) will select the day and time of the game. If the game is on television, the District II Football Committee (or the host District Committee in Subregional Championships) will select the time. Game days and times may be changed with the mutual agreement of both teams and the approval of the District II Football Committee (or the host District Committee in Subregional Championships). If the teams can't come to agreement, the final decision will rest with the District Football Committee.

2. GAME SITES

The game sites for quarter-final and semi-final games will be at the home field of the higher ranked team. A championship game played between two District II teams will be played at the site of the higher seed. The District II Football Committee reserves the right to determine the suitability of the site for a playoff game. Game Managers for games played at District II sites will be selected by the District II Football Committee.

If a game is played at the home field of the higher ranked team, the home team is expected to pay the cost for stadium preparation and clean-up. It is also expected that the home team will not charge a rental fee. If the game is played at a neutral field, District II will pay these expenses from the game receipts.

The District II Football Committee reserves the right to change the site of a game hosted in District II if the Committee decides the home field of the higher ranked team is not suitable. The following criteria will be used in assessing suitability:

- Quality of the contest site competition surface
- Location of the contest site
- Accessibility to the contest site
- Contest site Emergency Response Plan
- Contest site handicapped parking areas and handicapped accessibility to facility, spectator seating and restrooms
- Contest site parking areas
- Contest site security
- Contest site spectator seating
- Contest site restroom facilities
- Contest site locker room and athletic training facilities
- Number of telephone lines available to the broadcast and/or print media
- Ability to properly display the American Flag and ability to play the National Anthem, prior to the start of each contest

If a site proposing to host a contest, or being asked to host a contest, is aware of a deficiency in any of the above criteria, such deficiency shall be disclosed to the District II Football Committee prior to the selection of the site to host a contest.

Sport-specific and other relevant criteria may be considered as appropriate under the circumstances. A deficiency in one or more of the criteria shall not, in itself, disqualify a site but such deficiency shall be weighed against the other criteria and the availability of the other qualified sites.

3. PARTICIPATION IN THE TOURNAMENT

If you decide not to participate in the tournament, you must notify the District Chairperson by Registered Mail not later than **Tuesday, October 27, 2026**. If you do not notify the Chairperson, and you then decide not to participate, your team will be ineligible to participate in District II and

Regional tournaments in Football for a period of time to be determined by the District II Committee.

4. CANCELLATION AND/OR POSTPONEMENT

The postponement of a playoff game prior to the start of the game is the responsibility of the Game Manager, in consultation with the District Football Chairperson. The Game Manager must consider input from officials at the site, and must also consider travel time and distance for teams and fans when deciding on a deadline for postponement.

5. CONCESSIONS

The host school or organization shall be responsible for the operation of the concession stand and shall retain all profit.

6. PROGRAMS

The host school or organization shall assume the responsibilities for preparing a program and arranging for its sale. Any profits from the sale of programs will be retained by the host school or organization.

7. MEDIA

All media with proper identification will be admitted free. It will be the media's responsibility to contact the Site Manager for arrangements.

- FEES FOR BROADCAST AND TELECAST RIGHTS

Radio: \$100 for all classifications

Live T.V.: Quarter-finals

\$2,000 for all classifications

Semi-finals:

\$2,500 for all classifications

Finals

\$3,000 for all classifications

Delayed T.V. (all classifications): 50% of Live fee

Streaming: \$125 for all classifications

8. OFFICIALS

Game officials will be assigned by the District II Officials' Committee. There will be seven (7) officials for each game (based on availability). In addition, Local Chapters will be requested to furnish officials to work as a Chain Crew. Officials' fees will be as per the fee schedule of the host PIAA district. In subregional contests, there will be 3 Officials from the Host District and 4 Officials from the Visiting District.

9. INSURANCE

Each school is responsible for providing its student participants with insurance coverage for injuries.

10. EXCHANGE OF GAME FILM

The competing schools in each game will arrange to exchange a minimum of two (2) full games of film or videotape of the two (2) most recent games played by the school.

11. BANDS

All band members in uniform of both participants will be admitted free and will be designated an area by the Site Manager. The Band Director and a maximum of fifteen (15) "band-aides" will also be admitted free. Prior arrangements must be made with the Site Manager to reserve enough space.

Bands are prohibited from performing whenever the opposing school's team is in a scrimmage or scrimmage kick formation.

Please see the Pre-Game and Game Schedule for further details.

12. INTRODUCTION OF PLAYERS

Eleven (11) players from each school will be introduced. Schools have the option of either the starting offensive or defensive team. Team spotters should have this information and give it to the Announcer ten (10) minutes prior to game time. Each school will designate a spotter to work with the Announcer.

13. TICKETS

Players, coaches, trainers, equipment managers, etc. will be admitted without tickets. They must be identified by the coach and/or AD.

Varsity football cheerleaders in uniform, and their Advisor, will be admitted free.

Presale Ticket purchases for ALL District II Playoff contests (including the subregional contests) will be conducted through Hometown Ticketing, which is available on the District II website, www.piaad2.org. Just click on the “purchase championship tickets” button at the top of the front page and follow the prompts through the process. Tickets will also be available at the gate for cash purchase as well.

Ticket prices are:

- a. All A, AA and AAA, AAAA, and AAAAAA games: Presale tickets through Hometown Ticketing (including fees) and Cash Gate Sales are \$10 for Adults and Students. Children under 5 and Adults over 65 Free.**
- b. AAAAA games between two District II teams: Presale tickets through Hometown Ticketing (including fees) and Cash Gate Sales are \$10 for Adults and Students. Children under 5 and Adults over 65 Free**
- c. Subregional games in which a District II team plays a team from District VI, IX, or XI will be announced as those games are scheduled.
- d. Ticket takers will scan and verify your ticket purchase at the entry gate to the contest. **Must show proof of age if over 65.**
- e. All gate sale tickets in cash will be \$10 and must be exact payment. NO CHANGE WILL BE GIVEN AT THE GATE – PLEASE HAVE YOUR EXACT PAYMENT FOR TICKETS.**

The Athletic Director of each school will be given twenty (20) complimentary tickets for each game.

14. GAME BALLS

1. Qualifying schools are required to compete with the PIAA approved Wilson GST 1003 football in all District and State playoff games. The game balls must be approved by the Referee. Each team must provide a ball holder to remain with the Chain Crew. Teams that participate will be given a Wilson GST 1003 football.

15. HOME TEAM/VISITING TEAM/UNIFORMS

The higher ranked team is the Home Team and the lower ranked team is the Visiting Team. The Home Team will wear dark colored jerseys and the Visiting Team will wear light colored jerseys.

16. FILMING GAMES

Each team will be allowed to film its playoff game(s) by making prior arrangements with the Site Manager.

17. PROPERTY DAMAGE

If property is damaged at a playoff site by individual(s) from a competing school, the school shall be liable to pay the cost of repair or replacement. Other damages to facilities not attributed to people from a competing school could be a legitimate expense and deducted from game receipts.

18. LISTENING DEVICES AND SPECTATOR DECORUM

The presence and/or the use of balloons, whistles, and/or portable listening devices (without earphones) are PROHIBITED! Persons using such items may be removed from the contest. The Principal and Athletic Director of each school will be requested to confiscate these materials from their cheerleaders and/or the spectators from their school and community. The use of pom poms by the cheerleaders and small portable listening devices equipped with earphones are permitted. SPECTATORS ARE PROHIBITED FROM REMOVING THEIR SHIRT AND/OR USING BODY PAINT WHILE IN ATTENDANCE AT DISTRICT AND/OR INTER-DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIP CONTESTS and may be removed from the Contest for doing so. Principals and Athletic Directors at competing schools shall announce and publicize these regulations to students. The failure of a school to so inform or publicize will not, however, prevent removal from the Contest for violations of this policy.

The Principal, Athletic Director, Coaches, Team Physician, Team Trainers, players in uniform, managers, ball holders, and statisticians are the only persons permitted in the team box.

19. RESTRICTIVE COACHING RULE

A non-player shall not be outside his team box unless to become a player or to return as a replaced player. A maximum of three (3) coaches may be in the Coaches' Area. **Penalties:** 1st offense – warning; 2nd offense – 5 yards; each subsequent offense – 15 yards.

20. RESTRICTIONS ON CHEERLEADING ACTIVITIES

In an effort to eliminate or minimize injury to cheerleaders, the following shall be in effect for all PIAA football games:

- a. No cheerleader shall stand on another person unless that other person has at least one (1) foot on the ground.
- b. No flips are permitted from another person unless that person has both feet on the ground.
- c. Trampolines and/or mini-tramps shall not be used.

21. PRE-GAME AND GAME SCHEDULE

<u>7:00 p.m. Game</u>	<u>1:00 p.m. Game</u>	
5:00 p.m.	11:00 a.m.	Locker rooms available.
5:30 p.m.	11:30 a.m.	Teams permitted on field.
6:00 p.m.	12:00 p.m.	Admit spectators.
6:30 p.m.	12:30 p.m.	Teams leave field.
6:30 p.m.	12:30 p.m.	Official coin toss in scoreboard end zone. Each team identifies ball runners and presents two (2) game balls to the Referee.
6:30-6:45 p.m.	12:30-12:45 p.m.	Home Band pre-game show.
6:50 p.m.	12:50 p.m.	Introduce Starting Line-ups: Visiting Team followed by Home Team.
6:55 p.m.	12:55 p.m.	Ceremonial coin toss with Captains at mid-field.
6:57 p.m.	12:57 p.m.	Home Band plays National

Anthem from their seating section.

7:00 p.m.

1:00 p.m.

Kickoff

Half-time

Half-time

Visiting Band performs half-time show (not to exceed 15 minutes, including time to exit field).

22. GAME EXPENSES

The cost of field, facility preparation, clean-up, ambulance services, parking and security is the responsibility of the Home school, or is part of the rental fee when the game is played at a neutral site. Each team is responsible for its transportation costs. All other expenses will be paid by District II from the game receipts.

23. AWARDS

A Championship Plaque and fifty (50) medals will be presented to the winning team in each class, and fifty (50) medals will be presented to the runner-up team in each class. Schools desiring to present more than fifty (50) medals should contact the Game Manager for information on ordering additional medals. Schools will be responsible for payment of medals in excess of fifty (50). There will be no individual medal presentations on the field following the championship games. Only the District Championship Plaque will be presented on the field following the game. Individual medals will be provided to school personnel for distribution as they see fit.

24. PASSES

District II Gold Passes will be honored. Passes issued by other PIAA Districts will also be honored. League or school passes will not be honored.

Scouts or recruiters will be admitted free with a letter of identification from a school official on school stationery.

Members of the media will be admitted free with appropriate credentials.

25. DETERMINATION OF DISTRICT II CHAMPION IN SUBREGIONALS:

If a non-District II team wins a subregional tournament, the highest ranked District II team (utilizing the power rankings) going into that tournament will be the District II Champion unless.....

- In the course of that subregional tournament (with only one qualifier) the District II team that appears in the final has previously defeated the highest seeded District II team entering the tournament on the way to the subregional championship game.

26. PIAA WEAPONS AND INSPECTION POLICY

Weapons, including but not limited to firearms, box cutters, ice picks, knives, scissors, etc., may not be possessed at PIAA contests by persons not previously authorized by PIAA or by the owner or director of security of the host facility.

All persons, including but not limited to spectators, student-athletes, coaches, trainers and other team personnel, officials and media representatives attending PIAA contests are subject to inspection for weapons. The inspections may be conducted by persons designated to do so by PIAA or by the host facility, and may also include inspection of items including but not limited to bags, backpacks, belt bags, coats and purses.

Any unauthorized person in possession of an object determined by the inspecting personnel to be a weapon shall be prohibited from attending the PIAA contest or, if already in attendance, shall be required to leave the premises. The incident will be reported to the appropriate legal authorities.

Any person refusing inspection shall not be permitted entry to the PIAA contest or, if already having entered, shall be required to leave the premises.

27. RAFFLES

Due to gambling laws, raffles and other games of chance may not be operated at games unless the group has a license for small games of chance.

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