



Purpose of the study: To have all constituencies examine the PIAA policies governing enrollment, classification, and individual and Team qualifiers, to determine if they are meeting the needs of the member schools and fulfilling one of the stated purposes of PIAA ("To promote uniformity of standards in all interscholastic athletic competition."), given the significant changes in school structure within the membership. The constituencies, through their appropriate PIAA Representative, will report their findings to the Board of Directors for further review.

SUPPORT MATERIALS

PIAA CONSTITUTION

Section 1. Charitable Purposes.

The purposes of PIAA are:

A. Health.

To organize, develop, and direct an interscholastic athletic program which will promote, protect, and conserve the health and physical welfare of all participants.

B. Education.

To formulate and maintain policies that will safeguard the educational values of interscholastic athletics and cultivate the high ideals of good sportsmanship.

C. Competition.

To promote uniformity of standards in all interscholastic athletic competition.

DESIGNATION OF ENROLLMENT CLASSIFICATIONS

For competition purposes, PIAA classifies schools by (1) gender and (2) size of enrollment at schools. These classifications are created to promote equal opportunities for both boys and girls to participate in interscholastic athletics and to reduce the competitive imbalance created through competition between schools that vary significantly in enrollment.

Each school shall be placed in a class for each sport in which there is more than one class, based upon its enrollment as reported pursuant to ARTICLE IV, DUES AND ENROLLMENT REPORT, Section 1, Annual Dues and Enrollment Report, of the PIAA Constitution, for each odd-numbered year. Multi-class boys' sports shall be classified according to total male enrollment in grades 9, 10, and 11 and multi-class girls' sports shall be classified according to total female enrollment in grades 9, 10, and 11. Enrollment figures shall include all Cyber Charter School and home-schooled students eligible to participate on Teams at the school; all students attending an Alternative School, a Magnet School, or a Vocational-Technical school who are eligible at the schools which the students would otherwise attend by virtue of their residences; and all students attending a Charter School who are eligible at a school in the school district of their residences.

The classification shall go into effect for the next school year and shall remain in effect for two school years, except as hereinafter provided.

WORKING DEFINITIONS:

Enrollment: Total number of students in full-time attendance at a member public senior high school or a member Private senior high School that is reported annually to the PA Department of Education (PDE). A member public senior high school's or a member Private senior high School' enrollment, by gender, is determined based on male and female students embracing grades 9-11, as reported to PDE each odd-numbered year (see ARTICLE IV, DUES AND ENROLLMENT, of the PIAA Constitution).

Classification: A division of schools based on gender and enrollment created for the purpose of providing competitive balance. For PIAA purposes, member senior high schools sponsoring a sport, by gender, are divided equally into the number of classifications based on enrollment, pursuant to the relevant policies adopted by the Board of Directors.

Qualifiers: Number of Team and/or Individual entries a District or Region receives from the qualifying Tournament (event) to the PIAA Inter-District Championship. Each District or Region that sponsors a qualifying Tournament involving at least four member senior high schools is entitled to a minimum of one entry, per enrollment classification. Additional entries are determined on a modified proportional representation basis, with larger Districts limited to a maximum number of entries in those sports, to complete the predetermined number of entries.

Bracketing: The pairing of entries (qualifiers) in a Tournament. Pairings may be contested Regionally or in a Championship (Final) setting. Pairings are predetermined for a two-year reclassification cycle following the submission of enrollment and establishment of qualifiers from each District/Region. Pairings are determined in the following manner:

No District/Regional champions will meet in the first round, where able; if not possible, the Districts/Regions with the fewest number of schools in that classification will be paired geographically with another District/Region meeting the same standard. When possible, District/Region champion and runner-up will not meet until the semi-final or final Contest. Brackets are created to limit travel for first and subsequent rounds, where possible, by pairing qualifiers from contiguous Districts or Districts in close proximity to each other.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION:

ITEM 1. ENROLLMENT

Source: PIAA Constitution, ARTICLE IV, DUES AND ENROLLMENT REPORT

Note: Some aspects of this section are governed by PA School Code

How does the current language support Article II, Purposes?

Are there areas of concern that are not addressed in Articles II and IV with regard to enrollment?

What changes would you recommend?

ITEM 2. ENROLLMENT CLASSIFICATIONS

Source: PIAA Policies and Procedures, Enrollment Classifications, Designation of Enrollment Classifications

How does the current language support Article II, Purposes?

Are there areas of concern that are not addressed in the above stated policies with regard to Designation of Enrollment Classifications?

What changes would you recommend?

ITEM 3. QUALIFICATION FOR POSTSEASON (INTER-DISTRICT) BY INDIVIDUALS

Source: PIAA Policies and Procedures, Enrollment Classifications, Policy for Determining Number of Member Senior High Schools in Each Enrollment Classification; Policy for Determining Number of Enrollment Classifications in the Sports of Cross Country, Swimming & Diving, Tennis, Track and Field, and Wrestling; and Policy for Determining Number of Entries (Qualifiers) to PIAA Inter-District Championships in the Sports of Cross Baseball, Basketball, Cross Country, Field Hockey, Football, Golf, Lacrosse, Soccer, Softball, Swimming and Diving, Tennis, Track and Field, Volleyball, and Wrestling.

How does the current language support Article II, Purposes?

Are there areas of concern that are not addressed in the above stated policies in regard to Qualification For Postseason (Inter-District) By Individuals?

What changes would you recommend?

ITEM 4. QUALIFICATION FOR POSTSEASON (INTER-DISTRICT) BY TEAMS

Source: PIAA Policies and Procedures, Enrollment Classifications, Policy for Determining Number of Member Senior High Schools in Each Enrollment Classification; Policy for Determining Number of Enrollment Classifications in the Sports of Baseball, Basketball, Field Hockey, Football, Lacrosse, Soccer, Softball, and Volleyball; and Policy for Determining Number of Entries (Qualifiers) to PIAA Inter-District Championships in the Sports of Cross Baseball, Basketball, Cross Country, Field Hockey, Football, Golf, Lacrosse, Soccer, Softball, Swimming and Diving, Tennis, Track and Field, Volleyball, and Wrestling.

How does the current language support Article II, Purposes?

Are there areas of concern that are not addressed in the above stated policies in regard to Qualification For Postseason (Inter-District) By Teams?

What changes would you recommend?

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