

# MIAA STATEWIDE TOURNAMENTS

## FAQs: 2021-2022

### Scheduling:

- *What are the commitment dates and cutoff dates for the 2021-2022 seasons?*
  - Cutoff dates can be found on the MIAA homepage under [Season Start/End Dates and Schedule Limitations](#).
- *Do we need to enter schedules, scores or rosters in the MIAA "Members Only"?*
  - No. Schedules, scores and rosters only need to be entered in the Arbiter system.

### Alignments:

- *Where are the Divisional Alignments located?*
  - You can find all alignments on the [Alignment Page on the MIAA Webpage](#).

### Tournament Qualification:

- *How does a team qualify for the tournament?*
  - Being ranked in the top 32 in their division based on the power ranking.
  - Having a .500 or better win percentage.
  - Teams that are under .500 can still qualify if they are in the top 32 of the power ranking.
  - Football will qualify only the top 16 teams in each division based on power ranking.
- *What is the seeding tie-break policy?*
  - You may view the tie-breaking policy [HERE](#).
- *How will the brackets be set up?*
  - The top 32 power ranked teams will be seeded 1-32. Anyone that is .500 or better, but NOT in the top 32 will be seeded 32-?.
  - 32 will play 33, 31 will play 34, etc., in a play-in game.
  - After the play-in game(s), the official 32 team bracket will be set.

### Power Rating System:

- *What is the power rating system?*
  - [Power Rating System Information](#)
- *How often will power rankings be released/updated?*
  - The first release is scheduled for the week of September 27th.
  - After the first release, the power rankings will be released once per week for every sport.
- *Where will the rankings be published?*
  - The MIAA website.
- *Will exclusion games be counted in the power rating formula and in the .500 qualifying standard? Exclusion games are defined as only those games played against schools on the [MIAA Exclusion list](#).*
  - All games played on your schedule prior to the cutoff date will be included in the power rating and the overall win percentage for qualifying. (with exception of endowment games)
  - Schools that play exclusion opponents may exceed the MIAA maximum game limit by two games.

- *How will games not played due to COVID affect Power Rating?*
  - If a team's Covid protocol prevents a regular season scheduled game from being rescheduled and cannot be played, it will be a no-contest and no points for power rating will be awarded.
  - Every effort should be made to make up these games on the first available date.
  - If a team who fails to reach the 50% qualifying factor because of scheduled games not being played because of Covid, they may apply for a waiver to the seeding committee.
- *How do games with opponents added after the commitment date impact Power Rating?*
  - Games with opponents added after the commitment date do not count in power rating. Athletic Directors should be certain to designate these games as "No Count" in Arbiter.
- *How do ties affect the power rating formula?*
  - Ties do not impact the power rating formula.
- *How do endowment games affect the power rating formula?*
  - Endowment games do not impact the power rating formula.
- *How do out-of-state opponents affect the power rating formula?*
  - Out-of-state opponents will be factored the same as in-state opponents. (see examples in power rating document)
- *Does scheduling league or divisional games matter in the power rating formula?*
  - No. League and division do not factor into the rating formula.
- *Why do we need the Margin of Victory?*
  - Margin of Victory (MOV) is a consistent factor used to develop a fair comparison of the very different leagues across the state. The MOV gives a linear factor that is consistent across the state. By capping the point differential sport by sport, MOV removes the motivation of coaches to run up the score and still provides a quality rating formula. Sports are grouped by outcomes in final score results. Margins are set to take into consideration sportsmanship while still keeping the power rating formula fair and transparent.
- *How do local league/conference/regional tournaments work in conjunction with the MIAA Statewide Tournament?*
  - Leagues/conferences/regions may hold end of the regular season tournaments as part of their season schedules.
  - The post season league/district tournament *championship game* will be exempt from the maximum game limit number for each sport.
  - All games prior to the cutoff day WILL COUNT in the power rankings.
  - If a tournament is scheduled to run after the cutoff date, those games WILL NOT COUNT in the power rankings and these games must be completed prior to the start of the MIAA tournament.
  - An exemption form will be created and those responsible for the tournament must fill out the form each year requesting the exemption. Exempted games will be recorded by the MIAA staff.

### **Technology:**

- *How should the end of the regular season league/conference/regional tournaments be entered into Arbiter?*
  - Schools should enter those games as TBD and update them once dates and opponents are determined.

### **Tournament Administration:**

- *Who will be administering the tournaments?*
  - A State Tournament Director will be hired by the MIAA Sport Liaison using TMC guidelines.
  - MIAA Sport Liaison will hire a maximum of four (4) regional coordinators using TMC guidance.
  - State Tournament Director and Liaison will oversee regional coordinators.
- *The Tournament Administration team will be responsible for:*
  - Working with local schools to assure accuracy and timeliness of regular season schedules and scores.
  - Confirming dates, times, and locations of the bracket.
  - Acquiring game scores and confirming the next round.
  - Following all MIAA/TMC policies and procedures related to the conduct of tournaments.

### **School Responsibilities:**

- *What are my responsibilities as an athletic director?*
  - Report accurate scores throughout the season and tournament within 24 hours of contest completion.
  - Secure officials and staffing for all home tournament games.
  - Act as the site director or designate site director for any home tournament games.
- *Why is it important to regularly and accurately report ALL team scores within 24 hours?*
  - An accurate and current power ranking relies on the timely entry of ALL scores across the State by both the winning and losing teams.
  - A failure by an MIAA school to report scores potentially affects the power ranking accuracy of EVERY school in the State at any given time.
- *Do I need to report my scores if my team is not qualifying for the MIAA Tournament?*
  - Yes. Accurate power rankings rely on the recording of ALL scores.

### **Officials:**

- *How will officials be assigned during the MIAA State Tournament?*
  - Through the Round of 8, the higher seed will secure all staff and officials.
  - Officials for the MIAA State Semifinals and Finals will be secured by the MIAA Tournament Director or designated assignor.

### **Finances/Ticketing:**

- Preliminary and first round game management including staffing and ticket sales are under the jurisdiction of the host school. Schools are encouraged to use on-line ticketing. Schools selling tickets may not exceed \$5 for students and \$10 for adults.
- Beginning with the round of 16, ticket sales will be on-line only via GoFan. Host schools will receive a stipend for game personnel, and will be reimbursed for other event expenses such as police, custodial, etc., as agreed upon by tournament director/liaison. TMC policies must be followed.
- Ticket structure will be \$5 for students and \$10 for adults through the Round of 8. The Final 4 and State Final events will be \$10 general admission for high school and college sites. Contracted venues pricing will vary (i.e.: Gillette, Garden, Tsongas).