

TO: Principals, Athletic Directors and Field Hockey Coaches
FROM: Dave Bitting, District III Field Hockey Chairman
RE: District III M&T Bank 2015 Field Hockey Championships

Conditions Of Entry Into District III Championship

District III member schools are not required to enter a team into District III Championship events. Entry and participation in the 2015 Field Hockey Championships is voluntary. Entry of a team signifies that the member school accepts the conditions and provisions that are described below. Furthermore, a member school accepts the fact that the chairman reserves the right to make changes in the management and operation of the championships, in his judgment; it becomes necessary to do so.

General Instructions

There are two classes in field hockey for 2013. Each class (**AA, AAA**) will have a 20-team bracket. The power ranking system will seed the top 20 teams in each classification. **The tournament will be limited to 20 teams according to the power rated formula. The top 12 seeds will not play in a preliminary game.** A minimum of 9 games must be played against PIAA opponents. Games against non-PIAA opponents will not count toward your power rating. Those games (non PIAA opponents) will not be included in the calculation of the power rating. **The teams will be seeded using a power rating system and the last playing date for games to count is Wednesday, October 21, 2015.**

Playing Dates

All preliminary games, AA, AAA will be played on Saturday, October 24, 2015. First round AA and AAA games will begin on **Wednesday, October 28, 2015**. Second round games will be played on Saturday, October 31, 2015, Semi-Finals and Consolations on **Wednesday, November 4, 2015**, and the Finals and Consolations on Saturday, November 7, 2015. The state tournament playing dates are November 10, 14, 17, 21. District III will send (5) AA teams and **(4) AAA teams** to the state tournament. We will attempt to play all games on the scheduled dates. In case of inclement weather, the game manager and field hockey chairman will make the final decision to play or postpone the game. (Please note first round and semifinal date changes in **red**.)

The District III Committee will alter established game times to avoid conflicts with school graduation, baccalaureate and state or federal testing. For all other school conflicts such as dances, homecoming, banquets, et. al., the District III Committee will only alter times if facilities and game workers are available and all schools involved mutually agree to the time adjustment.



Game Supervision/Pre/Game Meeting

The principal or designee **MUST** identify him/herself to the game manager on the field thirty (30) minutes prior to the start of the game and is required to participate in the pre-game meeting conducted by the game manager 10 minutes prior to game time. He/she must remain within the team or spectator area during the game, and report to the playing area after the game, remaining until the teams have left the playing area.

Preliminary Games

If there are more than 16 teams in any class who enter the tournament, then #17 will play #16; #18 will play #15, #19 will play #14, and #20 will play #13. Since 20 teams are the limit in each classification.

All preliminary games will be played on synthetic turf fields at neutral sites. Games will be played at 1:00 PM and 3:00 PM.

Tie Breaker Criteria:

The following criteria will be used to break any power rating ties:

1. Head-to Head competition.
2. The school with the highest Team Weighted Winning Percentage will be ranked higher.
3. Unweighted Winning Percentage against common Regular season Opponents.
4. Unweighted Winning Percentage against Regular Season Opponents.
5. Unweighted Winning Percentage of Common Regular Season Opponents.
6. Unweighted Winning Percentage of regular Season Opponents.
7. Lowest Points/Goals Yielded Average Against Common Opponents.
8. Lowest Points/Goals Yielded Average Against All Opponents.
9. Coin Toss



Game Operation

The top-seeded teams will be home team and shall wear white or light socks. The lower-seeded teams will be the visiting team and wear dark socks. **(Example: #4 (Home) vs. #13 (Visitor))** The visitor will call the coin toss. All schools playing in the tournament must supply (5) new top quality **orange balls (day)** and (5) new top quality **white balls (night)** for each game. **Each school must bring a clock, horn and (2) ball persons to run the sidelines.**

Teams will be permitted a **minimum** of 20 minutes, or up until scheduled game time, for warm ups on the playing field.

The tie breaking method will be the same employed by the PIAA for District and Inter District post season play as outlined in the PIAA modification card "Pre-game, Overtime and Penalty Card procedures" **(1)** 15 minute reduced player – sudden victory, **(2)** 15 minute reduced player – sudden victory, **(3)** Penalty strokes-5 **(4)** Penalty strokes-5 **(5)** Penalty strokes - sudden victory. Officials will be assigned by the field hockey chair's designees. The fees will be set and paid by the District III committee.

State Tournament Play

The top four teams in class AAA and the top five teams in class AA will advance into the State Tournament and will begin tournament play on November 10, 2015. If for whatever reason District III would need to replace a team in PIAA bracket, AAA will take the highest power rated team from the four quarterfinal losers and AA will take the 6th place team

Banners & Noisemakers

Banners and noisemakers are not permitted at any District III events. Stationary banners and signs with sportsmanship messages are permitted with the approval of the game manager.

Crowd Control

The principal, along with the game manager and event security, is responsible for crowd control as it pertains to members of his/her school and other spectators from his/her school community.

Ticket Prices And Distribution Of Receipts

Preliminary Games	- \$4.00 for students and \$6.00 for adults
First Round Games	- \$4.00 for students and \$6.00 for adults
Quarter-Final Games	- \$4.00 for students and \$6.00 for adults.
Semi-Final Games	- \$4.00 for students and \$6.00 for adults.
Finals & Consolation Games	- \$4.00 for students and \$6.00 for adults.

Expenses will be paid from gate receipts.

