



2019-2020 PIAA DISTRICT III FIELD HOCKEY CHAMPIONSHIPS

TO: Principals, Athletic Directors and Field Hockey Coaches
FROM: Dave Bitting, District III Field Hockey Chairman
RE: 2019-2020 District III M&T Bank 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 2019-2020 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 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 three classes in field hockey for 2019-2020. The power ranking system will seed the top teams in each classification (1A, 2A, 3A).

CHAMPIONSHIP STRUCTURE

CLASS 1A	14 teams
CLASS 2A	16 teams
CLASS 3A	12 teams

Class 3A note: The District VI champion plus the top 11 power ranked teams from District III will qualify. The District VI champion will receive a power ranking and will be seeded according to its final position in the District III Class 3A power ranking.

All teams will qualify for and be seeded in their respective championships according to the District III power ranking system.

A minimum of 9 games must be played against PIAA opponents. Games against non-PIAA opponents will not count toward a team's power ranking. Those games (non PIAA opponents) will not be included in the calculation of the power ranking, but will be included in a team's overall won-loss record.

POWER RANKING DEADLINE: Wednesday, October 16, 2019



Playing Dates

First round games: Wednesday, October 23, 2019
Second round games: Saturday, October 26, 2019
Semifinals and Consolations: Wednesday, October 30, 2019
Finals and PIAA Qualifiers: Saturday, November 2, 2019

All games will be played at neutral sites on turf fields.

The PIAA Championship dates are November 5 (first round), 9 (quarterfinals), 12 (semifinals) and 16 (championships).

PIAA Qualifiers

CLASS 1A: 5 qualifiers
CLASS 2A: 6 qualifiers
CLASS 3A: 4 qualifiers

Game Times

Recommended game times are 5 pm and 7 pm for weeknights and 1 pm and 3 pm for Saturdays. 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.

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.



Power Ranking Tie Breaker Criteria:

The following criteria will be used to break any power ranking 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 higher-seeded team will be the 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 **yellow balls** for each game. **Each school must provide (2) ball persons to run the sidelines.**

Teams will be permitted a **minimum** of 20 minutes, or up until scheduled game time, for warmups 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) One-on-One Shootout, best of 5 players
- (4) One-on-One Shootout, 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.



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
Quarterfinal Games	\$4.00 for students and \$6.00 for adults.
Semifinal 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.

PIAA DISTRICT III INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

Ninety minutes (1 hour and 30 minutes) is the maximum length of delay of a contest due to weather conditions. When lightning is a factor and instrumentation is available on site, officials shall consult with the Game Manager of the District III contest.

Thirty (30) minutes from the most recent lightning strike must elapse before teams retake the field. If the last strike does not allow enough time to resume the game due to maximum delay (90 minutes) and a winner cannot be determined by NFHS or PIAA rule, the game shall be rescheduled or resumed at the point of stoppage to be played on the next available day.

The Game Manager is responsible for game procedures until the start of play. Once play begins and weather becomes a factor, the Game Manager will consult with the officials to make a decision. Ultimately, the Game Manager, upon consultation with officials, will make the determination if weather does not permit continuation of the event.