



MPSSAA FOOTBALL BULLETIN

State Finals - December 4-6, 2014
M & T Bank Stadium, Baltimore

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

- A. The Maryland Public Secondary Schools Athletic Association is the official governing body for the Football tournament. Plans for the tournament were formulated by the State Football Committee and approved by the Board of Control.
- B. Schools choosing to enter the tournament have the responsibility for reading and adhering to the rules and regulations stated on page 1 (Section I) of this publication as well as those appearing within this Football Bulletin.
- C. Eligibility rules for all participants are defined in MPSSAA Bylaw .02, found in the current MPSSAA Handbook.
- D. General regulations for all state tournaments are contained in MPSSAA Bylaw .07, found in both the current Handbook and in the front section of this publication.
- E. The Football Committee recognizes the need to acclimatize players to summer weather conditions. In that regard, each local school system is encouraged to establish local guidelines to assure the safety of each player.

II. REGION AND STATE TOURNAMENTS

A. Tournament Organization

- 1. In each of the four classifications, the top four teams in each region according to the MPSSAA point system will compete in a single elimination tournament, with the region winner advancing to state play.

2. Point system for tournament selection

For defeating a Class 4A school = 8.0 points For defeating a Class 2A school = 6.0 points

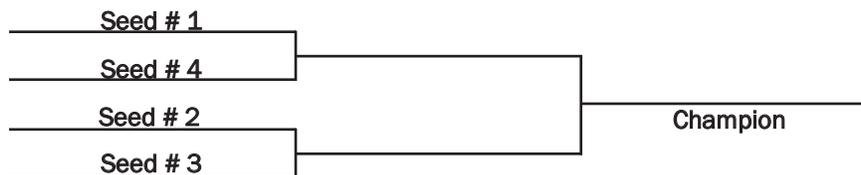
For defeating a Class 3A school = 7.0 points For defeating a Class 1A school = 5.0 points

- a. Nonmember schools will be placed in the proper classification according to member school enrollments based on the enrollments of grades 9, 10, and 11, comparable to MPSSAA classifications. An all-boys or all-girls school enrollment will be multiplied by two.

2014 FOOTBALL TIME LINE		
	REGION TOURNAMENT	STATE TOURNAMENT
Aug 13First practice date		
Sep 5First play date	Nov 14/15.....Semifinals	Nov 28/29Semifinals
Nov 8Last play date	Nov 21/22Finals	Dec 4-6Finals
Nov 9Organization meeting for state tournament		Dec 15Reimbursement request due
Nov 17Application deadline for region semifinal winners		

- b. Policy concerning unplayed games
- (1) Disbandment **or failure to start the season on time will result in a non-game and** shall automatically reduce the divisor of the disbanded team's opponent by one game.
 - (2) Disbandment after any part of the schedule has been played will be recorded as a win for the disbanded team's opponents.
- c. Winning team bonus points will be determined as follows:
- (1) A team playing a 10-game schedule shall receive 1.00 points for each game won by a defeated opponent who also plays a 10-game schedule.
 - (2) A team playing a 10-game schedule shall receive 1.11 points for each game won by a defeated opponent who plays a 9-game schedule.
 - (3) A team playing a 9-game schedule shall receive .90 of a point for each game won by a defeated opponent who plays a 10-game schedule.
 - (4) A team playing a 9-game schedule shall receive 1.00 points for each game won by a defeated opponent who also plays a 9-game schedule.
 - (5) For each game tied by a defeated opponent, a team shall receive **50 percent of awarded points**.
 - (6) For each game tied by a tied opponent, a team shall receive **25 percent of awarded points**.
 - (7) For each game won by a tied opponent, a team will receive **50 percent of awarded points**.
- d. When an MPSSAA member school plays a nonmember opponent who will not play the tiebreaker, the MPSSAA school shall receive points as follows:
4A—4.0 points, 3A—3.5 points; 2A—3.0 points; 1A—2.5 points.
- e. MPSSAA member schools whose opponents play more than a 10-game schedule will:
- (1) determine points from results of first 10 games if member school appears on the opponent's schedule from the first to and including the 10th game.
 - (2) determine points by counting back 10 games from and including the game in which member school appears on opponent's schedule.
- f. The total accumulated points will be divided by 9 or 10, depending on the number of games played. Ten is the maximum divisor and nine is the minimum divisor to qualify for state participation. A team must count all regular season games when using the point system criteria to determine representation.
- g. When a **MPSSAA** team plays the same opponent twice during the regular season, only the first game should count to determine team record and points. No points (bonus or win points) for any teams will be awarded based on the second game.
- h. If the point system results in a tie, the following procedures will be used in sequence to break the tie.
- (1) If either team has defeated the other in regular season play, the winner shall be rated above the loser in the standings. If three or more teams are tied and not equally affected by this procedure, criteria two through six are to be utilized.
 - (2) The team with the most bonus points accumulated.

- (3) The team with the smallest score difference in losses among common opponents.
 - (4) The team with the fewest average points allowed for its entire schedule.
 - (5) The team whose defeated opponents have the highest point average.
 - (6) If the above procedures do not break the tie, it shall be broken by the flip of a coin.
 - i. Should a team discontinue play during the course of the season, all opponents shall receive points as would have been awarded for a victory over the team. A school shall not receive points for a team scheduled in place of the withdrawing team after the season has begun.
3. The tournament will be officially seeded on Sunday, Nov. 9 by the State Football Committee.
 4. Teams will be seeded twice in the tournament, *both seedings based on the MPSSAA point system in regular-season play.*
 - a. The first seeding will take place for the region tournament.
 - b. A re-seed for the state semifinals will occur once region champions have been determined.
 5. The following bracket structure shall be used:



6. Regular-season forfeits by non-tournament team(s) that would affect the point standing of eligible team(s) must be officially confirmed in writing before the completion of the seeding meeting.
7. Prior to Noon Monday, Nov. 10, a region contestant will be replaced by the team from said region with the next highest point average, and the region re-seeded, under the following conditions
 - a. A team that elects to withdraw or is disqualified
 - b. A correction of an error which causes a recalculation of points
8. The deadline for changes in the order of seeding shall be noon, Monday, Nov. 10. Any withdrawal or disqualification after noon will result in a forfeit.
9. In subsequent rounds, if a team withdraws or is withdrawn from the tournament for any reason, the team last defeated shall replace the withdrawing team.
10. All games that end in a tie shall use the National Federation tiebreaker to determine the winner.
11. Criteria for game sites: All region games and the state semifinal game shall be played on the home field of the higher-seeded team provided it meets the criteria below. When a school cannot meet the criteria for a game site, the State Football Committee may designate another site in that region.
 - a. Adequate seating and rest room facilities.
 - b. A safe and playable turf.
 - c. A working scoreboard.
 - d. Host schools shall contact visitors and officials regarding accommodations for sufficient, accessible and shower-equipped dressing rooms.

12. The HOME TEAM (higher seed) will wear the DARK JERSEY. The AWAY TEAM will wear the WHITE JERSEY.
13. Upon arrival for a game, each team will be assigned a team dressing room. Assigned personnel will be on duty in the dressing room at all times.
14. Friday games will begin at 7 p.m. Saturday games will begin at either 1 p.m. or 7 p.m.
15. Should a game be postponed for extreme weather conditions, it will be rescheduled. Friday games will be moved to Saturday; Saturday games will be moved to Monday.
16. The athletic director, faculty manager, or other administratively-appointed member of the host school will serve as Game Director. The responsibilities for all the region games and the state semi-final game are as follows:
 - a. Clear with the Game Manager on matters of policy and/or interpretation.
 - b. Hire and supervise all personnel necessary for game administration.
 - c. Establish a team gate separate from the spectator gate.
 - d. Introduce the official medical personnel to both coaching staffs (Refer to Page 4, Section V).
 - e. Issue press box passes by the space available. Occupants could be team spotters, announcers, photographers, and representatives of the press and radio stations.
17. A game ball will go to each team participating in the region finals as well as the state semifinals and finals.

B. Playing Rules

By State adoption, Maryland has adopted the following rule regarding the use of running time. After the first half, any time the score differential reaches 35 points or more, the following changes, and only these changes, will be made regarding rules determining when the clock will and will not be stopped.

- a. Once a 35-point differential exists in the second half, the clock will only be stopped when:
 - (1) **An official's timeout for an injured participant.**
 - (2) A charged (team) time-out occurs.
 - (3) A score occurs that reduces the point spread to less than 35 points (in which case regular timing procedures will be used).
 - (4) A period ends.
- b. The use of this rule does not preclude the use of Rule 3-1-3 which reads, "A period or periods may be shortened in any emergency by agreement of the opposing coaches and the referee. By mutual agreement of the opposing coaches and the referee, any remaining period may be shortened at any time or the game terminated."

C. General Policies

1. Admission to contests
 - a. Admission will be by paid admission, MPSSAA complimentary tickets, and MPSSAA complimentary passes. There are no refunds on purchased tickets.

- (1) Individuals 7 years of age and older will be charged admission.
 - (2) Complementary tickets will be issued by the game manger to representatives of the working media assigned to the contest.
 - (3) Complimentary passes will be issued to school coaches, administrators, county supervisors of athletics, and county superintendents of schools. The pass will admit the bearer only and is not transferable. A valid driver's license must be displayed with the pass for proper identification.
- b. Sideline passes will be issued to coaches, medical personnel, and managers. Only those persons with sideline passes will be permitted on the sideline.
 - c. A maximum of 20 cheerleaders from each of the participating schools will be admitted free of charge only if they are in complete uniform and *accompanied by a coach*.
2. MPSSAA will provide tournament programs for the state semifinals and finals. *Home teams may provide programs for the region games.*
 3. The public address system will be staffed by and under the direction of the host school.
 4. Public address comments must be in good taste according to broadcast protocol. Comments not in good taste, nonprofessional, favor one team, or inflammatory, are not permitted.
 5. Raffles, 50/50 drawings, or any other games of chance may not be conducted in connection with any MPSSAA playoff contest.
 6. Bands
 - a. A participating school's band may provide musical entertainment. The game director must be notified 48 hours in advance of the scheduled game if a participating school band to provide a band for the game. The band must be in full uniform, accompanied by the band director, and prepared to perform.
 - b. The designated band will take the field five minutes prior to the start of the game to play the National Anthem only.
 - c. During a 20-minute halftime intermission, the visiting team's band shall take the field for seven minutes, followed by the home team's band, which shall also be limited to seven minutes. Both bands should clear the field five minutes prior to the second-half kickoff. *Should only one band or no bands participate, the halftime shall be 15 minutes. In any case, the field will be cleared five minutes prior to the second-half kickoff.*
 7. Only fixed signs and banners of a positive nature will be allowed at playoff games.
 8. Game concessions for region games and state semifinals shall be awarded to the host school. In return, the host school shall be responsible for postgame cleanup.
 9. The MPSSAA will receive all revenues and pay all expenses.
 10. Tickets for all the region and the state semifinal games will be provided to region directors by MPSSAA.

D. Officials

1. The officials association assigned to a game will provide a **six-man crew**, a three-man chain crew, and a timekeeper.
2. A room will be provided for the officials assigned to a game which will serve as a dressing room and waiting room.

III. REGION TOURNAMENT

A. Tournament organization

1. Each region will conduct a four-line single elimination tournament. It is critical that all teams complete their schedules by Nov. 8 because the point system affects both playoff and non-playoff teams.
2. Responsibilities of the region football director (listing found on page 31 of this bulletin):
 - a. Contact the athletic directors of the four schools participating in the tournament to confirm date, site, and time of the contests and clarify arrangements for inclement weather.
 - b. Call the commissioner of the local football officials' board to arrange for **six field officials**, three chain crew officials, and one clock operator.
 - c. Distribute and collect tickets, paperwork, and monies (in check form) for region semifinals and finals.
 - d. Make arrangements for awards to be distributed at the region final game and remind coach of region winner to complete and fax media form found on the football page of mpssaa.org.
 - e. Report all results and pairings for the region finals to the state football committee director.
3. **A TEAM ENTRY FORM utilized for State Semifinals and Finals must be filled out by teams winning their Regional Semifinal. Instructions on filling out the TEAM ENTRY FORM will be available on mpssaa.org.**
4. The MPSSAA will provide two leather game balls for the region finals. A game ball will go to each of the participating teams.

B. General Policies

1. Individuals 7 years of age or older will be charged an admission of \$6.
2. Each team winning a region championship will be awarded a team plaque. Individual certificates will be awarded to team members.
3. Each team winning a region championship will complete the media form (found on the football page of mpssaa.org) and fax it to the MPSSAA office by noon, Monday, Nov. 24, for the football press luncheon to be held on Tuesday, Nov. 25.

C. Officials

The region director will secure local officials which serve the designated home team.

IV. STATE TOURNAMENT

A. Tournament Organization

1. The head coach of each region winner is invited to participate in a walk-through of the M&T Bank Stadium facility Tuesday, Nov. 25 at 10:30 a.m. A luncheon and press conference will follow at 11:30 a.m.
2. After the region winners are determined and re-seeded by regular-season point average by the State Football Committee, the teams with the higher seeds will host the semifinal contests.
3. The State Football Committee will determine the schedule for all contests.

4. A member of the State Football Committee, or the member's designee, will serve as the Game Manager for the semifinal game. The responsibilities are as follows:
 - a. Serve as liaison between the State Football Committee, the host school, and the participating visiting school.
 - b. Enforce the policies and regulations of the State Football Committee.
 - c. Coordinate the halftime activities with the teams and officials.
5. The state finals will be held at M&T Bank Stadium on December 4-6, 2014. Directions to the site and fan information will be posted on the MPSSAA web site <mpssaa.org>.
6. Persons 7 years of age and older will be charged admission as follows:
 - a. Semifinals – \$8
 - b. Finals – \$10
7. Officials will be assigned through the MPSSAA office.

B. General Policies

1. The MPSSAA will provide two leather balls for each of the semifinal and final games. A game ball will go to each of the participating teams.
2. A plaque will be presented to each team at the end of the championship game. Individual plaques will be given to the coach following each final game and should be presented to team members at an appropriate school function.

Class 4A teams – 55 plaques

Class 2A teams – 50 plaques

Class 3A teams – 50 plaques

Class 1A teams – 50 plaques

PROJECTED MPSSAA FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT DATES
 2015 - December 4-5 2016 - December 2-3
 2017 - December 1-2

2014 REGION TOURNAMENT DIRECTORS

Region	Director	School	Office	Other
4A West	Jim Tapley	Bethesda-CC	240-497-6344	
4A North	Rich Hambor	Catonsville	410-887-0808.	
4A South	Thomas Green	Eleanor Roosevelt	301-513-5400	
4A East	Chuck Markiewicz	Arundel	410-672-4910.	
3A West	Joe Doody	Damascus	301-253-7050	
3A North	Tom Raybon	Patapsco	410-887-7064.	
3A South	Dominic Zaccarelli	Westlake	301-753-1758	
3A East	Brian Van Deusen	River Hill	410-313-7114	
2A West	Ryan Hines	Urbana	240-236-7600	
2A North	Todd Hawkins	Landsdowne	410-887-1424.	
2A South	Steve Crouse	Patuxent	410-424-7438	
2A East	James McCormick	North Caroline	410-479-2332.	
1A West	Clayton Anders	Boonsboro	301-766-8022	
1A North	Reggie Brooks	New Town	410-887-1668.	
1A South	Damon Bomar	New Era Academy	410-396-1625.	
1A East	Todd Shives	Bohemia Manor	410-885-2075.	

Email addresses for regional directors can be found on the football page of mpssaa.org.

2014-2015 FOOTBALL STATE TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE

	Director	School	Office
DIRECTOR	Mike Calhoun	Allegany	301-777-8110 .
DISTRICT 1	Ryan Hines	Urbana	240-236-7711 .
DISTRICT 2	Kreg Kephart	Gaithersburg	301-284-4500
DISTRICT 3	Julius Pinkney	Frederick Douglass	301-952-2400 .
DISTRICT 4	Dominic Zaccarelli	Westlake	301-753-1758 .
DISTRICT 5	Rich Holzer	Meade	410-674-7710
	Brian Van Deusen	River Hill	410-313-7120 .
DISTRICT 6	Keith Robinson	Perry Hall	410-887-5113
DISTRICT 7	Todd Shives	Bohemia Manor	410-885-2075 .
DISTRICT 8	James McCormick	North Caroline	410-479-2332 .
DISTRICT 9	George Petrides	City College	410-545-6739 .

RULES INTERPRETER

Bill Witte.....240-567-1932.

Email addresses for committee members can be found on the football page of mpssaa.org.

2014 ALIGNMENT FOR FOOTBALL

CLASS 4A-WEST		CLASS 4A-NORTH		CLASS 4A-SOUTH		CLASS 4A-EAST	
1. Bethesda-CC	Mtg	1. Catonsville	B Co	1. Bladensburg	PG	1. Annapolis	AA
2. Churchill	Mtg	2. Dulaney	B Co	2. Bowie	PG	2. Arundel	AA
3. Clarksburg	Mtg	3. Kenwood	B Co	3. C H Flowers	PG	3. Broadneck	AA
4. Gaithersburg	Mtg	4. Perry Hall	B Co	4. Dr. Henry A Wise Jr	PG	4. Chesapeake	AA
5. Kennedy	Mtg	5. Mergenthaler	Balt	5. Duval	PG	5. Glen Burnie	AA
6. Magruder	Mtg	6. Southwestern	Balt	6. Eleanor Roosevelt	PG	6. Meade	AA
7. Montgomery Blair	Mtg	7. Howard	How	7. High Point	PG	7. North County	AA
8. Northwest	Mtg	8. Blake	Mtg	8. Laurel	PG	8. Old Mill	AA
9. Quince Orchard	Mtg	9. Paint Branch	Mtg	9. Northwestern (PG)	PG	9. Severna Park	AA
10. Richard Montgomery	Mtg	10. Sherwood	Mtg	10. Oxon Hill	PG	10. South River	AA
11. Walt Whitman	Mtg	11. Springbrook	Mtg	11. Parkdale	PG	11. North Point	Cha
12. Walter Johnson	Mtg			12. Suitland	PG	12. Great Mills	StM
13. Wootton	Mtg					13. Leonardtown	StM
CLASS 3A-WEST		CLASS 3A-NORTH		CLASS 3A-SOUTH		CLASS 3A-EAST	
1. Frederick	Fre	1. Dundalk	B Co	1. Northeast (AA)	AA	1. City	Balt
2. Linganore	Fre	2. Franklin	B Co	2. Huntingtown	Cal	2. Digital Harbor	Balt
3. Thomas Johnson	Fre	3. Milford Mill Academy	B Co	3. Northern (Cal.)	Cal	3. Poly	Balt
4. Tuscarora	Fre	4. Parkville	B Co	4. La Plata	Cha	4. Atholton	How
5. Urbana	Fre	5. Patapsco	B Co	5. Lackey	Cha	5. Centennial	How
6. Damascus	Mtg	6. Towson	B Co	6. Thomas Stone	Cha	6. Glenelg	How
7. Einstein	Mtg	7. Woodlawn	B Co	7. Westlake	Cha	7. Long Reach	How
8. Northwood	Mtg	8. Westminster	Car	8. Chopticon	StM	8. Mt. Hebron	How
9. Rockville	Mtg	9. Aberdeen	Hfd	9. Crossland	PG	9. Reservoir	How
10. Seneca Valley	Mtg	10. Bel Air	Hfd	10. Potomac	PG	10. River Hill	How
11. Watkins Mill	Mtg	11. C. Milton Wright	Hfd	11. J. M. Bennett	Wic	11. Wilde Lake	How
12. Wheaton	Mtg	12. Edgewood	Hfd	12. Stephen Decatur	Wor		
13. North Hagerstown	Was	13. North Harford	Hfd				
14. South Hagerstown	Was						
CLASS 2A-WEST		CLASS 2A-NORTH		CLASS 2A-SOUTH		CLASS 2A-EAST	
1. Mountain Ridge	All	1. Chesapeake	B Co	1. Southern (AA)	AA	1. Fallston	Hfd
2. Century	Car	2. Eastern Technical	B Co	2. Calvert	Cal	2. Harford Tech	Hfd
3. Francis Scott Key	Car	3. Hereford	B Co	3. Patuxent	Cal	3. Patterson Mill	Hfd
4. Liberty	Car	4. Lansdowne	B Co	4. St. Charles	Cha	4. Elkton	Cec
5. South Carroll	Car	5. Loch Raven	B Co	5. Hammond	How	5. North East (Cecil)	Cec
6. Winters Mill	Car	6. Overlea	B Co	6. Marriotts Ridge	How	6. Rising Sun	Cec
7. Catoctin	Fre	7. Owings Mills	B Co	7. Oakland Mills	How	7. North Caroline	Cin
8. Middletown	Fre	8. Randallstown	B Co	7. Frederick Douglass	PG	8. Kent Island	Qa
9. Oakdale	Fre	9. Western STES	B Co	9. Friendly	PG	9. Queen Anne's	Qa
10. Walkersville	Fre	10. Carver Vo-Tech	Balt	10. Gwynn Park	PG	10. Easton	Tal
11. Poolesville	Mtg	11. Dunbar	Balt	11. Largo	PG	11. Parkside	Wic
12. Boonsboro	Was	12. Patterson	Balt			12. Wicomico	Wic
13. Williamsport	Was						
CLASS 1A-WEST		CLASS 1A-NORTH		CLASS 1A-SOUTH		CLASS 1A-EAST	
1. Allegany	All	1. Bluford Drew Jemison	Balt	1. Benjamin Franklin	Balt	1. Bohemia Manor	Cec
2. Fort Hill	All	2. FAET	Balt	2. Douglass	Balt	2. Perryville	Cec
3. Manchester Valley	Car	3. New Town	B Co	3. Edmondson/Westside	Balt	3. Colonel Richardson	Cin
4. North Carroll	Car	4. Pikesville	B Co	4. Forest Park	Balt	4. Cambridge-SD	Dor
5. Brunswick	Fre	5. Sparrows Point	B Co	5. Lake Clifton	Balt	5. Havre de Grace	Hfd
6. Northern (Gar.)	G	6. McDonough	Cha	6. Maritime Academy	Balt	6. Joppatowne	Hfd
7. Southern (Gar.)	G	7. Central	PG	7. National Academy (NAF)	Balt	7. Kent County	K
8. Clear Spring	Was	8. Fairmont Heights	PG	8. New Era	Balt	8. Washington	Som
9. Hancock	Was	9. Forestville	PG	9. Northwestern	Balt	9. Snow Hill	Wor
10. Smithsburg	Was	10. Surrattsville	PG	10. Reginald Lewis	Balt		
				11. W.E.B. DuBois	Balt		