

PVIAC

Spring Sports

By-Laws

2009 and 2010

APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE BOARD ON SEPTEMBER 11, 2008

**BASEBALL – SOFTBALL – BOYS’ VOLLEYBALL - GOLF
BOYS’ & GIRLS’ LACROSSE – BOYS’ & GIRLS’ TRACK
BOYS’ AND GIRLS’ TENNIS**

BASEBALL

By-Laws

SPRING 2009 and 2010

Approved by the Executive Board on September 11, 2008

**PIONEER VALLEY INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC CONFERENCE
BASEBALL SPORT ASSOCIATION
SPRING BY-LAWS**

A. Schedule

1. To be drawn by conference appointed schedule-maker according to league alignment and play formats.
2. Game dates which conflict with school functions should be started earlier, if possible and mutually agreed upon. Starting times can be changed by mutual agreement.
3. Schedule Makers:
Valley/Valley Wheel – Westfield
Bi-County North/South – Ware
Hampshire North/South – Pioneer
Tri-County – Pathfinder

B. Procedure for Sub-Varsity Schedule

1. Whenever possible, Junior Varsity contests will be at the same site as the Varsity game.

C. Postponement Procedure

1. If a game is to be postponed, the home team must notify the visiting team and game officials two and a half hours before game time, if possible.
2. Postponed contests should be immediately re-scheduled on the first day the teams do not have a scheduled competition. (The window for rescheduling must not exceed ten (10) calendar days for the date of postponement and mutually agreed and there are no conflicts with fields, availability of officials or transportation policies.)
3. All games postponed due to weather or other conditions shall be continued from that point in the game on the next available date.
EXCEPTIONS: Games called after 4&1/2 or 5 innings and a winner is declared according to Sporting News Rules: if the visiting team scores enough runs to tie or take the lead in the top of the 5th inning and the game is stopped, it will be continued from that point. The chair school (Pathfinder) will rule on any problems.

D. Starting Time

1. Game time: 3:30pm unless otherwise agreed upon.

E. Playing Field Location

1. Refer to the PVIAC Directory.

F. Length of Contest

1. Seven (7) innings.
2. All Sub-Varsity games will be 7 innings in duration unless otherwise agreed upon by both coaches. The umpires have no authority, outside the rules, to shorten games without both coaches' approval.
3. Night game curfew-No new inning after 11:00pm.
4. **Lights may be used to complete a game if available. They should be turned on in the top of an inning.**

G. Game Rules and Modifications

1. Games rules source: Sporting News, MIAA.
2. Substitution Rule: You may substitute for a starting player. A starting player may re-enter at any point. The starter must go back into the game only for the player who substituted for him. A starter may only re-enter the game one time in the same position in the batting order.

Re-entry

Any of the starting players may be withdrawn and re-entered once, including a player who was the designated hitter, provided such player occupies the same batting position whenever he is in the lineup. A substitute who is withdrawn may not re-enter (3-1-3). A starting pitcher who is replaced in the top of the first inning while his team is at bat shall be governed by the rules covering pitching substitutions. (3-1-3 note)

In Simple Terms: All players, including the DH, listed on the starting line up can leave the game and return one time. Subs may never leave then re-enter.

3. Designated Hitter: You may DH for anyone.
4. Adult coaches on bases must be in uniform. In uniform is defined as:
 - A. Team Hat
 - B. Baseball pants that matches those of the team
 - C. Baseball shirt that matches those of the team. A jacket / warm up of team colors may be worn in lieu of a team shirt

H. Equipment

1. Any top grade ball-official by MIAA rules and manufacturers specifications.

I. Uniform

J. Order of Events

K. Selection of All-Star Teams – refer to PVIAC Policy

L. Protest Procedures

1. At time of protest, notify the umpire in charge of the game that a protest is being made. Protest must be made before the next pitch is thrown. Once protest has been acknowledged by the umpire. Umpires must complete protest forms before leaving game site. The home team will be responsible to send protest forms to the chair school (Pathfinder) within 24 hours. The principal of the chair school will form a committee after protest is filed consisting of (1) Principal and (1) Coach to rule on the protest.

M. Meeting – Refer to PVIAC and Calendar

N. Special Rules

1. **Force-Play Slide Rule:** The intent of the force play slide rule is to ensure the safety of both the defensive and offensive player. This is a safety rule as well and interference rule. Whether the defense could have completed the double play has no bearing on the applicability of this rule. The rule pertains to a force play situation at any base regardless of the number of outs.
 - A. On any force play the runner must slide on the ground and in a direct line between the bases.
 - B. A runner may slide or run in a direction away from the fielder to avoid contact or altering the play.
 - C. “On the ground” means either a head first slide or a slide with one leg and buttock on the ground.
 - D. “Directly into the base” means the runner’s entire body (feet, legs, trunk, and arms) must stay in a straight line between the bases.

Contact with a fielder is legal and interference shall not be called if the runner

- A. Makes a legal slide directly to the base, or
- B. Is on the ground at the time of contact and the fielder moves directly down the line between the two bases to attempt a play.
- C. Makes a legal slide and makes contact with a defensive player who is on or over, but not beyond, the base.

A.R.- When the base runner slides beyond the base, but does not make contact with interference shall not be called.

- A. Actions by a runner are illegal and interference shall be called if:
1. The runner slides or runs out of the base line in the direction of the fielder:
 2. The runner uses a rolling, cross-body or pop-up slide and either makes contact with or alters the play of a fielder:
 3. The runner's raised leg makes contact higher than the fielder's knee when in a standing position:
 4. The runner goes beyond the base and either makes contact with or alters the play of the fielder:

A.R.-"Beyond the base" means any part of the offensive player's body makes contact with or alters the play of the fielder beyond the base.

5. The runner slashes or kicks the fielder with either leg:
6. The runner illegally slides toward or contacts the fielder even if the fielder makes no attempt to throw to complete a play.

PENALTY for 1 – 6—(1) with less than two outs, the batter-runner, as well as interfering runner, shall be declared out and no other runner (s) shall advance. (2) With two outs, the interfering runner shall be declared out and no other runner(s) shall advance. (3) If the runner's slide or collision is flagrant, the runner shall be ejected from the contest.

A.R.- If the bases are loaded with no outs, a double-play attempt is made, and interference is called, all other runners must return to their original bases. Note: On a force play, with a two-man umpiring system, if the plate umpire does not have a potential play at the plate, he should move toward the base to observe the runner going into second or third base. In this situation, the base umpire must follow the throw and may not see the true effect of the lead runner's action.

O. Reporting Scores and Results

1. Home teams responsibility to report to the Springfield Republican and local media.

P. Maintaining League Records

Q. Mercy Rule

If a team is ahead by 15 or more runs after 5 innings (4 ½ if it is the home team) the game will end. The home team will be allowed to complete an at bat during any inning (5th, 6th, & 7th) that the 15 run deficit has occurred. Should the 15 run deficit be erased during that at bat, the game will continue. The 15 run rule will continue to be in effect for all further innings.

R. Eligible Players / Line Up Card

Any player in a school baseball program may play in a game at any level provided that appropriate MIAA guidelines are met.

Line Up Cards MUST be exchanged with the opposing team and copies given to the umpires. Such line up cards must include the starting 9/10 man line up.

BOYS' LACROSSE

By-Laws

SPRING 2009 and 2010

Approved by the Executive Board on September 11, 2008

**PIONEER VALLEY INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC CONFERENCE
BOYS' LACROSSE SPORT ASSOCIATION
SPRING BY-LAWS**

A. SCHEDULE

1. To be drawn by conference appointed schedule-makers according to league alignment and play formulas.

B. PROCEDURE FOR SUB VARSITY

1. Will follow Varsity schedule.
2. If a school knows in advance that it will be unable to field a JV team for the season or for any given games(s), it must notify opponent in writing as soon as possible.

C. POSTPONEMENT

1. Home school responsibility to notify visiting school at earliest possible time.
2. Game is to be rescheduled on the next playable school day provided a site is suitable for play.

D. STARTING TIME ADJUSTMENTS

1. Starting times for conference assigned contests is 3:30 unless mutually agreed upon.
2. Schools must notify opponents and officials if starting times cannot be met.

E. LOCATION OF PLAYING SITES

1. Refer to PVIAC Directory
2. Home school responsibility to notify opponents of any change.

F. LENGTH OF CONTEST

1. Varsity 12 minute quarters.
2. J.V. 12 minute quarters.

G. RULES OF THE GAME MODIFICATIONS

1. All teams play under National Federation Rules unless modified by MIAA Blue Book guidelines.
Mercy Rule: (Federation) Start running time in 3rd period.

H. EQUIPMENT

1. As specified by sport rules.

I. UNIFORMS

1. The home team shall wear white or light and the away team shall wear dark.

J. ORDER OF EVENTS

1. Not applicable

K. PROCEDURE FOR DETERMINATION OF DIVISIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

1. League champion will be determined by won-loss percentage within the league. In case of a tie, co-champs will be declared.

L. PROCEDURE FOR SELECTION OF ALL STAR TEAMS

1. Established all “ground rules” for the selection method before the meeting begins to eliminate controversy.
2. Refer to PVIAC policy with regard to the number of selections.
3. Results must be reported by Sport Association Chairperson.

M. PROTEST PROCEDURE

1. Refer to PVIAC policy.

N. PROVISION AND RESPONSIBILITY FOR MEETINGS

1. Refer to PVIAC policy and calendar.

O. SPECIAL RULES

1. As modified by the MIAA

P. PROCEDURE FOR REPORTING SCORES AND RESULTS

1. Home school responsibility to report scores and statistics to Springfield newspapers, local newspapers and television stations.

Q. RESPONSIBILITY FOR MAINTAINING LEAGUE RECORDS

1. Each school (coach) is responsible for maintaining individual and team records.
2. Team records should be forwarded to the PVIAC Executive Director through the Athletic Director.

GIRLS' LACROSSE

By-Laws

SPRING 2009 and 2010

Approved by the Executive Board on September 11, 2008

**PIONEER VALLEY INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC CONFERENCE
GIRLS' LACROSSE SPORT ASSOCIATION
SPRING BY-LAWS**

A) SCHEDULE

1. There are two leagues of 5 teams in Girls Lacrosse. (Valley Wheel and Valley League)
2. Both leagues will be scheduled to play twice within their league and once with teams in the other league totaling 13 games.
3. Scheduling is to be set and accepted at Spring Meetings.
4. League Chair School will be responsible to compile a League Schedule with 30 days after the spring A.D.'s meetings.
5. **Schedule is to be structured to place mandatory crossovers within the league games throughout the season schedule.**
6. **If coaches, facilities and officials are available, teams will play games simultaneously.**

B) PROCEDURE FOR SUB-VARSITY SCHEDULE

1. All teams that play each other with sub-varsity squads will play a junior varsity match after the varsity match. Games held at night will have sub-varsity squads compete prior to the varsity match.

C) POSTPONEMENT PROCEDURE

1. The Athletic Director of the home team will be the judge whether a game must be postponed. If the Athletic Director decides the game is to be played, the visiting team must be present for the game or forfeit it. The privilege of appealing to the member schools concerning the forfeiture is granted to the visiting team's principal. Illness will not be a factor in game postponement.
2. If a game is postponed, the contest must be played on the next regular school day. Games whenever possible may be scheduled on Saturdays, **Sundays** or a school holiday with mutual consent of both schools.
3. When the game is postponed, the date set then becomes the same as a regularly scheduled contest.
4. League games take priority over any independently scheduled contest.

D) STARTING TIME ADJUSTMENT

1. Starting times for conference assigned contests is 3:30 unless mutually agreed upon.
2. Schools must notify opponents and officials if starting times cannot be met.

E) LOCATION OF PLAYING SITES

1. Refer to PVIAC Directory
2. Home school responsibility to notify opponents of any change.

F) LENGTH OF CONTEST

1. Varsity contests will have two 25-minute halves. The clock will not be stopped once a 10 point lead has been accomplished except during the last 2 minutes.
2. JV contests will have **two 25-minute halves**. The clock will not be stopped once a 10 point lead has been established except during the last 2 minutes. (Requested that A.D.'s, commissioner and coaches enforce this by-law correctly with officials)

G) RULES OF THE GAME MODIFICATION

1. The rules of eligibility and rules governing the particular parts played in the league as defined by the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association will be incorporated into the by-laws, rules, and regulations of this league.
2. Final approval of the rules and regulations of the league will be decided by a majority of the principals of the participating schools. All recommended changes in the rules will be voted at the spring meeting by the member schools. These rules will be presented to the principals for approval. If an emergency arises effecting the health, welfare, and safety of the league become effective immediately, or on the date determined by the member schools.

H) EQUIPMENT

1. As specified by sport rules.

I) UNIFORMS

1. The home team shall wear white or light and the away team shall wear dark uniforms.

J) ORDER OF EVENTS

1. Not applicable.

K) PROCEDURE FOR DETERMINATION OF LEAGUE CHAMPIONS

1. League champion will be determined by won-loss percentage within the league. In case of a tie, head to head will be the next determining factor. If still tied at this point co-champs will be declared.

L) PROCEDURE FOR SELECTION OF ALL-STAR TEAMS

1. Established all "ground rules" for the selection method before the meeting to eliminate to eliminate controversy.
2. Refer to PVIAC policy with regard to the number of selections.
3. Results must be reported by Sports Association Chairperson.
4. All league selections will be determined at the post-season meeting.

M) PROTEST PROCEDURE

1. Coaches who have complaints or wish to register protests must forward them to the chair school for action. All protests must be signed by the school within forty-eight hours of the contest. (Saturday and Sunday will not count in the time limitation).
2. Protest will be decided by the member schools. Schools involved in the protest do not have a vote.

N) PROVISION AND RESPONSIBILITY FOR MEETINGS

1. The league Chair is responsible for holding one pre-season and post-season meeting. The chair school may call emergency meeting at any time if feels the situation commands.
2. Girls Lacrosse will attempt to have their pre-season meeting after winter sports events to avoid conflicts of coaches/schools.
3. Girls Lacrosse will hold their post-season meeting on the same date as the cut-off date as established by the M.I.A.A.
4. **Pre-season and Post-season meetings are mandatory for all coaches!**

O) SPECIAL RULES

1. As modified by the M.I.A.A.

P) PROCEDURE FOR REPORTING SCORES AND RESULTS

1. It is the home schools responsibility to report scores and statistics to Springfield newspapers and local newspapers.

Q) RESPONSIBILITY FOR MAINTAINING LEAGUE RECORDS

1. Each school is responsible for maintaining individual and team records.
2. Team records should be forwarded to the PVIAC Executive Director through the athletic director.

BOYS' VOLLEYBALL

By-Laws

SPRING 2009 and 2010

Approved by the Executive Board on September 11, 2008

**PIONEER VALLEY INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC CONFERENCE
BOYS' VOLLEYBALL SPORT ASSOCIATION
SPRING BY-LAWS**

A. SCHEDULE.

1. A maximum of three games per week will be played. AD's should try to schedule 3-2-3-2 if possible.
2. The rotation of schedule would be to move the last date in the schedule to the top, every two years.

B. PROCEDURE FOR SUB-VARSITY SCHEDULE.

The sub-varsity will play at the same site and date as the varsity schedule.

C. POSTPONEMENT PROCEDURE.

As stated in the constitution of the PVIAC.

D. STARTING TIME ADJUSTMENT.

4:00 p.m. adjustment for schools unable to leave early.

E. LOCATION OF PLAYING SITES. Refer to PVIAC Directory

Home school discretion.

F. LENGTH OF CONTEST.

3-5 - Varsity – game to 25
2-3 - JV 1st & 2nd games to 25 3rd game to 15

A) G. GAME RULES AND MODIFICATIONS.

NCAA rules and Blue Book modifications.
JV players are allowed to serve out of hand.
Both the home and away score keepers will be able to sit at the scores table during the contest, with the home scorebook being the official game book.

H. EQUIPMENT.

Tachikara Five Star Ball, Baden, or its equivalent.

I. UNIFORM.

All tops and bottoms (whole uniform) must be identical at the varsity level.

J. PRACTICE RESTRICTIONS.

MIAA Rules.

K. ORDER OF EVENTS.

The junior varsity game will be played first and the varsity game second. If, for some reason, a team wishes to reverse the order of the games, they must notify the school the day before the match, or as soon as possible. Both coaches must consent before the game can be switched.

K. PROCEDURE FOR DETERMINATION OF LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP.

Only league matches count for standings.

L. ASSIGNMENT OF OFFICIALS.

The volleyball commissioner will assign all officials through the regular season play and tournament play.

M. PROCEDURE FOR SELECTION OF ALL-STAR TEAMS.

Teams will be selected at the post-season meeting. All players in the league are eligible. A coach may send his/her recommendations for All-Star Teams.

N. COMMISSIONERS JOB SPECIFICATIONS.

Set by the PVIAC.

O. SCOREBOARD.

Visible to each team and used at all matches.

P. PROTEST PROCEDURE.

As outlined in the Rules of the Sport and MIAA Rules & Regulations.

Q. PROVISION AND RESPONSIBILITY FOR MEETINGS.

Refer to PVIAC Policy.

R. SPECIAL RULES.

Crowd control is the responsibility of the home school.

S. PROCEDURE FOR REPORTING SCORES AND RESULTS.

All scores should be reported to the Springfield Union, The Recorder, or local paper by the home team.

T. RESPONSIBILITY FOR MAINTAINING LEAGUE RECORDS.

Chair School will keep the following:

1. Won and Lost records.
2. All-Star Team.
3. Directory of leagues.

Track and Field

By-Laws

SPRING 2009 and 2010

Approved by the Executive Board on September 11, 2008

**PIONEER VALLEY INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC CONFERENCE
TRACK AND FIELD SPORT ASSOCIATION
SPRING BY-LAWS**

A) Schedule

1. Refer to P.V.I.A.C. Directory
2. Schedule makers determined by P.V.I.A.C.
3. Steele Relays sanctioned by P.V.I.A.C.

B) Procedure for Sub–Varsity Schedule

C) Postponement Procedure

1. Responsibility of the home team.
2. Every attempt should be made to notify visiting teams by 1:00 p.m.
3. **Make-up meets must be made up at next available date with failure to find a compatible date.**

D) Starting Time Adjustment

1. All meets should begin at 3:30 PM, unless otherwise agreed upon by the participating teams.

E) Location of Meets

1. Refer to P.V.I.A.C. directory.
2. Schools that do not have access to a track are required to make arrangements for opposing teams to host them, or to secure a neutral site.

F) Length of Meets

1. To include all events, meets will run approximately between two to three (3) hours.

G) Rules Modifications

1. League will follow National High School Federation Rules.
2. All M.I.A.A. and P.V.I.A.C. track rules will apply.
Two plus rule will be in effect for league meets.

H) Equipment

1. Must comply with National Federation guidelines.

I) Uniform

1. **All schools must follow NFHS uniform rules.**

J) Order of Events

1. To follow National Federation Rulebook format.
2. **Unless a change of format is agreed upon unanimously by all head coaches' participating in the meet, if one does not agree, must follow NFHS rules.**

K) Procedure for Determination of League Champions

1. P.V.I.A.C. dual meet league champions determined by win/loss record.

- L) Procedure for Selection of All - Star Teams**
1. At post-season meeting, following P.V.I.A.C. policy, coaches will determine all-stars.
- M) Protest Procedure**
1. As outlined in N. F. H. S. rulebook and M.I.A.A. Blue Book.
- N) Provision and Responsibility for Meetings**
1. Refer to P.V.I.A.C. Policy and Calendar.
- O) Special Rules**
1. The **two plus two rule** will be in effect for League meets.
2. Certified starter/referee required.
3. Three certified judges/officials recommended.
4. **Officials at meets will cover the highest finishing places at the finish line before coaches or volunteers if they are available.**
- P) Procedure for Reporting Scores and Results**
1. The home team is responsible for reporting results to local media, specifically, the Springfield Republican News.
- Q) Responsibility for Maintaining League Records**
1. The Chair School, in conjunction with the Springfield Republican News will be responsible for compiling and maintaining all league records.

Tennis

By-Laws

SPRING 2009 and 2010

Approved by the Executive Board on September 11, 2008

**PIONEER VALLEY INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC CONFERENCE
TENNIS SPORT ASSOCIATION
SPRING BY-LAWS**

A. Procedure for Season Schedule

1. To be drawn by conference appointed schedule-makers according to league alignment and play formulas.
2. Home and away meets will be as equitably scheduled as possible with no school having more than one (1) match imbalanced between home and away.
3. Every year home and away matches will be reversed in the Valley Wheel, Valley League, Pioneer League and Tri-Country League.
4. Each School will Schedule their own independent matches. In the event of a cancellation, league matches have first priority. ALL LEAGUE MATCHES ARE TO BE PLAYED.

B. Procedure for Sub -Varsity Schedule

C. Postponement Procedure

1. Team matches cancelled due to inclement weather are to be played on the next playable date when the home facility is available.
2. Matches that cannot be completed due to inclement weather will resume at the exact point at which they were suspended on the next available date with the same line-up. If a player is not available to play, the match will be forfeited.

D. Starting Time Adjustment

1. Starting times will be no later than 3:30.
2. Time adjustments may be made with the agreement of both schools.

E. Location of Playing Sites

Refer to PVIAC Directory

F. Length of Contest

As specified by MIAA Blue Book of Rules.

G. Rules of the Game Modification

As per USTA rules and MIAA Blue Book Rules modification.

H. Equipment

The home team shall be responsible for providing at least 15 new USTA-approved balls for every varsity team match. Low-pressure balls will not be accepted.

I. Uniform

All uniform tops shall be identical and worn during every match. Any athlete not wearing the team uniform will be considered ineligible and will forfeit their individual match.

J. Order of Events

As per MIAA Blue Book of Rules

K. Procedure for Determination of League Championships

1. Tri-County league champions will be determined by the best win/lose percentage after having competed against all schools within the league.
2. Valley Wheel, Valley League and Pioneer League champions will be determined by the best win/lose percentage after having completed all assigned league matches.
3. In the event that all schools have not completed all matches because of circumstances beyond their control the sport association will ballot to determine divisional championship.

L. Procedure for Selected All-Star Teams

Refer to PVIAC Policy.

M. Protest Procedure

1. Verbal protests are to be made to the opposing coach and/or Athletic Director prior to the match or prior to leaving the site.
2. All protests are then to be filed in writing to the schools involved and the Sport Association Chair within three (3) school days.

N. Provisions and Responsibility for Meetings

Refer to PVIAC Policy and Calendar.

O. Special Rules

1. The server is to call the score before each point.
2. All matches are to be decided on the basis of two (2) out of three (3) sets with the *12 point tie breaker when a set reaches 6-games.
3. Profanities and/or vulgarities will not be tolerated on the court.
4. Prior to all matches the host school will inform all participants of applicable MIAA rules.

P. Procedure for Reporting Scores and Results

The home team is responsible for notifying the Springfield Union Newspaper of match results (788-1210).

Q. Responsibility for Maintaining League Records

Athletic Director of the Sports Association Chair School will maintain league records.

GOLF

By-Laws

SPRING 2009 and 2010

Approved by the Executive Board on September 11, 2008

**PIONEER VALLEY INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC CONFERENCE
GOLF SPORT ASSOCIATION
SPRING BY-LAWS**

A. Schedule

1. Format - each league determines number of times to play each opponent prior to the start of the season.
2. No division or conference tournament.
3. No division or conference jamboree
4. Independent contest left to each league
5. Schedules made new each year.

B. Procedure for Sub-Varsity Schedules

1. Left to each school.

C. Postponement Procedures

1. Next school day dependent upon availability of golf course.

D. Starting Time

1. Starting time of all matches will be no later than 3:00 PM.
2. A team will forfeit match if half (1/2) hour late, unless the opponent is notified as to the circumstances causing the delay.

E. Location of Playing Field/Area

1. Schools will notify opponents prior to start of season as to golf course used for matches.

F. Length Of Contest

Southern and Northern League

Nine Holes – Each match shall consist of six (6) individual contests between players of equal rank (i.e. Team A player #1 vs. Team B player #1, etc.) Scoring will be by points, with each individual match played for four (4) team points. Players will total the number of strokes on the first three (3) holes for the first point, the total number of strokes on the middle three holes for the second point, the total number of strokes on the last three holes for the third point, and the overall nine (9) holes score for the fourth point. Half points will be awarded whenever ties occur. Each player will be tallied with his/her teammates to determine the team's score. All play will be governed by stroke play rules. If player breaches a medal play rule that would require disqualification, that player will be DQ'd for that portion of the match the rule is breached and the overall medal score.

G. Rules of the Game Modification.

1. All matches are subject to the U.S.G.A. Rules and rules of the local course.

H. Equipment

1. Must conform to the Rules of the Game
2. Each player must carry his/her own bag or use a pull cart.

I. Uniform

1. All players must be properly dressed. Pants, shorts of Bermuda Length, pocketed and belted, and collared golf style shirt tucked in. Hats/visors worn with brim forward. No dungarees, no jeans, no denim, and no tank tops.
2. Golf attire and equipment will not be allowed to promote or endorse any alcoholic beverage, tobacco product, or illegal substance.

J. Order of Events - Procedures

1. It is recommended that the #1 players tee off first in order to speed up play.

K. Procedure for Determination of League Championships

1. Scoring to determine league champion will be (2) points for a win and (1) point for a tie.

L. Procedure for Selection of League All-Stars Teams

1. Selection conducted at conclusion of post-season meeting.
2. Selection as per PVIAC guidelines for selection of all-star teams.

M. Protest Procedure

1. Any disagreements that cannot be settled between coaches should be submitted in writing by both coaches and players to an arbitration board of the Sport Association. This board should be made up of two (2) coaches, an Athletic Director, and a principal from the Sport Association who will decide the matter by majority vote. Sport Association Chairman will select members ensuring each is not a member of the school involved in the protest and all members are from different schools.

N. Provision and Responsibility for Meetings

1. Refer to PVIAC policy and Calendar

O. Special Rules

1. No match shall be played unless a coach or representative from each school is present for the entire match.
2. Flagrant breeches of sportsmanlike conduct (profanity, club throwing, property destruction, use of any tobacco products) will result in the disqualification, of the player

involved. Any infraction is to be reported to the coaches immediately after match and be resolved at that time.

3. No participant shall go back onto the course (this includes the final hole-green) to in any way inform participants as to the progress of the match. Any infraction of this rule will result in the forfeiture of the entire match.
4. Spectators should receive the permission of both coaches prior to the start of the match if they are to observe any of the foursomes at play. Any observers should remain at least fifty (50) yards from the competition and may not communicate with any of the participants at all.
5. In the event of inclement weather on the golf course, the USGA lightning policy will be in effect. The coaches, by mutual agreement, shall decide whether play shall continue or the match be postponed. Every effort will be made to play the match if the course is open for play.
6. Any irregularity in play should be reported to both coaches as soon as possible and not later than the completion of play. Preferably at the time of infraction.
7. No alcohol, controlled substance, or tobacco products will be consumed by any other player during the match or immediately thereafter in the clubhouse at the course. Immediate disqualification will result if this is detected. Prescribed medications are exempted. Any player involved shall be suspended from competition according to MIAA Rules.
8. Players are to be played in order of ability. The chair school will resolve any disputes brought to his attention.
9. Each player will be responsible for keeping an accurate score for himself and his opponent.
10. The health, welfare, and safety of the participants involved is of ultimate importance. Therefore, all decisions should be made with the athlete in mind.
11. Any player who leaves the course without permission and does not complete his/her match forfeits his/her match. If his/her coach excuses a player, he/she forfeits the remaining holes in a match.
12. Late player forfeits all holes that his opponent teed off on.
13. Coaches must discourage slow play.
14. It is not acceptable to have a gap of two holes or more between groups.
15. USGA rules for Slow Play Penalty are applied.
16. Misuse of Equipment will not be tolerated.
17. **Use of cell phones by players on the golf course is prohibited. Use of a cell phone will result in immediate disqualification.**
18. **Teammates are prohibited from advising one another during a match.**

P. Procedure for Reporting Scores

1. Media - The home team has responsibility of calling in the match's result and up to date records (league and overall) of all the teams involved to the Springfield Union News at 788-1210. FAX 788-1259

Q. Responsibility for Maintaining League Records

1. Chair school will maintain all records necessary to maintain continuity and historical items for the Conference.

SOFTBALL

By-Laws

SPRING 2009 and 2010

Approved by the Executive Board on September 11, 2008

**PIONEER VALLEY INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC CONFERENCE
SOFTBALL SPORT ASSOCIATION
SPRING BY-LAWS**

A. SCHEDULE

1. The Valley League, Valley Wheel and Suburban Leagues calls for the team with the worst winning percentage in the Valley League to be placed into the Valley Wheel and the team with the lowest winning percentage in the Valley Wheel to be placed in the Suburban League. Likewise, the team with the best winning percentage from the Suburban would move to the Valley Wheel and the team with the best winning percentage in the Valley Wheel would move to the Valley League. The records are based on the last two years and include the team's overall regular season record (not post season).
2. Franklin County North and South will remain the same. Two rounds within both divisions. All games count toward league championship.
3. The Tri-County will play two rounds within their league. The Bi-County will play twice within their league and crossovers do not count toward the league championship.

B. PROCEDURE FOR SUB VARSITY

1. Whenever possible, junior varsity contest will be at the same time as the varsity game.

C. POSTPONEMENT

1. If a game is to be postponed, the home team must notify the visiting school and game officials two and a half hours before the start if possible.
2. Postponed division and inter-division games will be made up on the next available date and division and inter-division games will take president over independent games. Independent games will be made up on the next available date to both teams. Failure to play will result in a forfeit. Available dates consist of Monday through Friday.
3. Regular season suspended games are to be picked up at the point of interruption at the next playable date should it be suspended before meeting the definition of a regulation game.
4. The chair school will rule on any problem.

D. STARTING TIME ADJUSTMENTS

1. Game time is 3:30 P.M. unless otherwise agreed upon.

E. PLAYING FIELD LOCATION

1. Home team responsibility to notify opponents if there is to be a change.

F. LENGTH OF CONTEST

1. Junior varsity and 9th grade teams will play an entire game. Common sense should be used during one-sided contests or if the length of the game becomes so extreme that the varsity team has been waiting around for a long period of time.
2. If a team is ahead by 15 runs after the fifth inning the game will end.

G. GAME RULES AND MODIFICATIONS

1. Game rules source: MIAA, ASA, and NFHS
2. No smoking in bench area by anyone.
3. There will be no tiebreaker.

H. EQUIPMENT

I. UNIFORM COLOR

J. ORDER OF EVENTS

K. DETERMINATION OF LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP

1. By best won, loss percentage within a division. Crossover games will not count towards divisional championships except for Franklin North and South.

L. ALL STAR SELECTIONS

1. Selection results should be reported by the host school chair to the media, divisional (league)schools and sports associated chairman.
2. A team and a half, add one and a half player for each league with more than five teams.
3. Establish all “ground” rules for selection method before the meeting begins in each division.
4. Selection date will coincide with post-season meeting set by PVIAC within one week of league competition.

M. PROTEST PROCEDURE

1. Follow the procedure as outline in the MIAA Bluebook.

2. Follow the NFHS rule on protest.
3. Rule interpretation vs. judgment. Know the difference.
4. Letter to league chairman within 48 hours.

N. MEETINGS

1. As outlined in the Constitution of the PCIAC.
2. All-Star selection meetings (above).

O. SPECIAL RULES

1. Two officials must be assigned to varsity games.
2. No high school students are to be assigned to any games.
3. Umpires must complete started games.

P. REPORTING SCORES

1. Home team is responsible to report the game scores to the Springfield newspaper and to the local newspaper and TV stations.

Q. RESPONSIBILITY FOR MAINTAINING LEAGUE RECORDS

1. Each school is responsible for maintaining individual and team records.
2. Team records should be forwarded to the PVIAC Executive Director through the athletic director