

WIAA // GESA CREDIT UNION

## **POSTSEASON STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES**

# **CHEER**

**FEBRUARY 2-3, 2024**

All Classifications - Battle Ground High School

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# COACH INFORMATION

## EVENT SCHEDULE

- **Wednesday, January 24** - The list of qualified teams by category and performance date is distributed to all schools and posted on the WIAA website.
- **Tuesday, January 30** - Coaches Meeting, 7:00 pm via Zoom - **LINK**
- **Friday, February 2**
  - 1:00 pm: Teams allowed into facility
  - 2:00 pm: Doors open to public
  - 3:00 pm: Competition begins
  - 9:30 pm: Parade of teams followed by the presentation of awards
- **Saturday, February 3**
  - 9:00 am: Teams allowed into facility
  - 10:00 am: Doors open to public
  - 11:00 am: Competition begins
  - 7:45 pm: Parade of teams followed by the presentation of awards
- Depending upon the number of qualified teams, the Saturday schedule may be adjusted, with the same estimated ending time.

## SITE DETAILS & PARKING

- Spectator parking is on a first-come, first-served basis in the parking lots and street parking around the school
- Buses will unload at the main hallway and proceed to park behind the gym in the south lot.
  - Bus drivers may enter at the main pass gate entrance.
- Participants, coaches, supervisors and bus drivers will enter the BGHS gym on Main Street.
- Team bags will not be allowed onto the main floor. Classrooms will be available for storing team bags.
- Three large locker rooms and two smaller team rooms will be available.
- Lockers are available to use if participants bring a padlock.
- The west side of BGHS gym will be designated for participating teams.
- Chairs will be set out and designated for coaches to watch their team's performance.
- Spectators will enter through the main gates on the north side of the gym.
- Areas will be designated for spectators and for participating teams.
- There is no blocking or reserving of seats.
- The upper deck surrounding the gym will be open for either spectators or participants.

## EVENT PHOTOGRAPHY

- Team photos will be taken as scheduled in the student commons area
- NW Sports Photography will post all of the action and awards pictures online at [4nsp.com](http://4nsp.com).

## PROGRAMS

- One program will be provided to each participating team.
- Programs may be purchased at the event with a credit card only.

## SOUVENIR MERCHANDISE

- Participants are encouraged to [pre-order state event merchandise](#), beginning **Saturday, January 21**, at 12:00 pm.
- The deadline to pre-order will be on **Wednesday, February 1**, at 12:00 pm.

- Merchandise will be available for pick up at the Rush Team Apparel booth at Battle Ground High School.
- Post-event orders will also be available on the [Rush Team Apparel](#) website.
- A variety of souvenir items will be available for sale throughout the event.

## **STREAMING**

The event will be webcast live on the [NFHS Network](#) for a nominal membership fee.

## **CONCESSIONS**

The concession stand and food trucks will be open throughout the event.

# **SPORT-SPECIFIC REGULATIONS**

## **PASS GATE LIMITS**

- 1-5 cheerleaders = 1 coach pass
- 6-10 cheerleaders = 2 coach passes
- Teams may bring a maximum of 3 coaches
  - Coaches will be issued wrist bands according to the team registration form on MyWIAA.
  - The wrist bands must be worn for re-entry into the facility.
- Participating cheerleaders will be hand stamped.
  - Only cheerleaders with a hand stamp will be allowed into the warm-up room and competition floor.
- Team registration forms, photos, and rosters must be entered online through FinalForms by January 25, 2024.

## **STATE QUALIFICATIONS**

- Teams must perform in at least 10 school-sanctioned events to gain eligibility for the State competition.
- Teams must participate in at least one WIAA, WSCCA, or school-based competition that meets these criteria:
  - The competition is staffed entirely by school personnel and/or affiliates.
  - All registration/entry fees are deposited into the school ASB account.
  - Registration/entry fees do not exceed \$100 per routine, as approved by the WIAA and WSCCA
  - The competition utilizes WOA/WSCJA judges.
- Teams qualify for State by meeting the following minimum scores in those competitions:
  - 59 points in Non-Tumbling divisions after all deductions have been made
  - 65 in Tumbling, Stomp and Game Day divisions after all deductions have been made
- All qualified teams will be scheduled to compete in the Championships unless the WIAA is notified otherwise.
- Qualifying competitions may be held during the months of November, December, and January.

## **RULES & REGULATIONS**

- NFHS Spirit rules will be strictly enforced in the following categories:
  - Tumbling (any skill with feet-over-head rotation is considered Tumbling)
  - Non-Tumbling (aside from inversion into load-in position or dismount of stunt/pyramid, tumbling is not allowed)
  - Stomp
  - Game Day
- Categories may be divided by size at the State Tournament if four or more teams qualify in the divisions below:
  - Varsity Small: 12 participants or fewer
  - Varsity Medium: 13-19 participants

- Varsity Large: 20-32 participants
- Coed Tumbling and Game Day divisions: 3 or more boy participants
- A team can increase the number of participants provided the team remains within the same category
- “Live” musicians must be included with team numbers in determining appropriate divisions
- Any and all classifications may be combined for each category.
- A school may enter only one team per category, with a maximum of three categories per school.
- A school may participate in Tumbling or Non-Tumbling, but not in both.
- Routines consist of cheer, chants, stunts, dance, jumps, and/or tumbling. Spotters will not be provided.
- Cheers, chants, and signs are to be directed only toward the school’s team.
- Each squad is responsible for its own music, which must be approved by the local school district.
  - A representative must be at the announcer’s table to cue the music when their team is performing.
  - No responsibility is taken by the sound crew if a school representative is not there.
- All routines will be timed, with the following time limits:
  - Tumbling and Non-Tumbling routines: 2 minutes, 33 seconds
  - Stomp and Game Day routines: 3 minutes, 3 seconds
  - Tumbling and Non-Tumbling Music: 1 minute, 33 seconds
  - Stomp or Game Day music: no music time limit
- There will be a five-point deduction for every 10 seconds over the maximum time limit.
  - 1 - 10 seconds over = 5-point deduction
  - 11 - 20 second over = 10-point deduction
- Nine cheer mats will be used for the competition floor for Tumbling, Non-Tumbling, and Game Day categories.
- For the Stomp category, three mats are centered horizontally along the sideline, and basketball court boundary lines represent the boundary lines.
- Members of a cheer squad involved in stunting shall wear their hair away from the face and off the shoulders.
- If a routine is stopped due to mechanical failure or serious injury, the squad will have the choice to perform again.
  - The head coach must inform the tech table within 10 minutes if the squad chooses to perform again.
  - The squad will perform the entire routine again, with judging commencing from the point of stoppage.

## **SCORING**

- Four WOA judges and two safety/technical judges will judge each routine.
- Judges will be positioned on one side of the facility.
- Points deducted for any safety violations will be subtracted from the final score.
- Deductions for all categories:
  - Discarded sign hits person (0.5 point per person hit)
  - Tumbling fault: tumbler tumbles into or hits someone (1 point per person)
  - Tumbling fault: tumbler lands on knees, head, back, or bottom (1 point per person)
  - Minor stunt fault: hand, elbow, or knee hits the performing surface (1 point per person)
  - Major stunt fault: hip, bottom, shoulder, head, side, or back hits the performing surface (2 points per person)
- Each Game Day performance will follow the same sequence: band chant, situational sideline, cheer, fight song
- Each section of the Game Day sequence is worth 5 points
- Deductions for the Game Day category only:
  - No stunting or tumbling, aside from jumps and kicks, is permitted in the band chant,- 5 points each

- Incorporation is limited to three (3) consecutive 8-counts of stunts and/or tumbling in the fight song (if the fight song repeats, the incorporation will only be allowed both times if it is repeated exactly the same both times) - 5 points each.
- Counting will begin with the first initiation of a skill (stunt or tumbling) until one of the following:
  - The routine ends within the three (3) consecutive 8-counts
  - Stunts are stationary before the end of the third 8-count and remain stationary until the end of the routine
- Stunts are not allowed as a transition before/between sections (this would include the team's entry to the floor and any time before starting the performance) - 5 points each. In between elements, teams must always return to the performance surface. Teams may kick, jump or tumble but may not stunt.
- Tosses (basket, sponge or elevator) are NOT allowed - 2 points each
- Inversions are NOT allowed - 2 points each
- Twisting Released Dismounts are NOT allowed - 2 points each
- Single-leg stunts are limited to liberties and liberty hitches (body positions are not allowed) - 2 points each
- Running Tumbling (tumbling that involves a forward step or a hurdle used to gain momentum as an entry to a tumbling skill) is NOT allowed” - 2 points each
- Connected tumbling skills are NOT allowed and a back tuck is the most elite tumbling skill allowed (a single skill jump-tumble would be allowed)” - 2 points each
- No points will be deducted if hands cross outside the performance area to drop or pick up pom poms, signs and/or megaphones.
- Entrances and exits from the performance area will not be judged by the performance judges.
- Safety/Technical judging, including timing, starts when the music begins or with the first choreographed word or motion and ends when the music stops or with the last choreographed word or motion, whichever comes last.
- Final dismounts performed after the conclusion of the timed routine will not be judged.

## **TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE**

- All teams must be ready to take the floor one team ahead of their scheduled performance.
- Teams must stay out of view until the official announcement is made to enter the floor.
- When possible, teams will be scheduled based on qualifying scores, with highest-scoring teams competing last.
- Every effort will be made to schedule teams that qualify in two categories to compete on the same day.
- Available practice time will be divided equally among the teams. The practices are closed to other teams.
  - 18 cheer mats will be available for warm-up prior to the scheduled competition.
  - Teams will be scheduled for a minimum of two- to five-minute warm-ups.
- College and/or other external teams may provide exhibition performances before or after team performances.

## **AWARDS**

- Final placements will be posted on the WIAA website following the event.
- A minimum of four schools must compete in a category for a first-place trophy to be awarded.
- If a division or category has fewer than four teams, a first-place trophy is awarded based on the following criteria:
  - Non-Tumbling or Stomp categories: the average of the first-place scores in all other Non-Tumbling or Stomp categories determines the minimum scores that must be earned for a first-place trophy.
  - Tumbling or Game Day categories: the average of the first-place scores in all other Tumbling and Game Day categories will determine the minimum scores that must be earned for a first-place trophy.
- A second-place certificate will be awarded if five to eight schools compete in a category.

- A third-place certificate will be awarded if nine to twelve schools compete in a category.
- A fourth-place certificate will be awarded if 13 to 16 schools compete in a category.
- Closing Ceremony & Parade of Teams:
  - Depending upon the number of teams, the participants representing each school may be restricted for the parade of teams.
  - If restricted, the rest of the team will remain in the team seating section.
  - Teams and spectators are encouraged to wear or carry glow-in-the-dark fluorescent paraphernalia.
  - Following the parade of teams, awards will be presented to the teams that competed on that day.
  - Award-winning teams from Friday night will also be announced on Saturday night.

## **FIRST AID**

- A certified athletic trainer will be on site at all times.
- The athletic training room is located off the warm-up gym.
- Any school athletic trainer(s) must register with the event athletic trainer.
- Please bring supplies for taping.
- Water coolers will be available in both the warm-up and competition gyms.

# **GENERAL REGULATIONS**

## **ALLOCATIONS**

Postseason berths are allocated to WIAA Districts based on the total number of schools offering the sport in that classification/gender.

## **STATE TOURNAMENT TICKETS**

The WIAA has transitioned to paperless ticketing with State Tournament tickets available for purchase digitally through GoFan, the WIAA's ticketing partner. Fans are encouraged to purchase tickets online in advance of the events but will have the ability to purchase digital tickets onsite by accessing the GoFan digital ticketing site using their mobile devices. Limited paper tickets will be available at most sites on the day of the event. **SERVICE FEES APPLY TO ALL TICKETS SOLD. The Tacoma Dome, Yakima Valley SunDome, and Spokane Arena manage their own tickets. Venue-imposed fees apply.**

- **SENIOR:** Age 62 and over
- **MILITARY:** Active Duty, Veterans, Guard, and Reserves with proper Military I.D.
- **STUDENT:** Children aged 5-11 and students aged 12 and over with a valid high school or middle school ASB card (the actual ASB card must be presented; pictures of ASB cards on cell phones will not be accepted)
- **Children under the age of 5 are admitted free**
- 1st and 2nd Round ticketing for Soccer and Football is managed by the respective WIAA host Districts
- Tickets are valid only at the site/event for which they are purchased EXCEPT for Regional Basketball and Semifinal Football where tickets are valid at all sites on the day for which they are purchased

## **QUALIFYING TOURNAMENTS/EVENTS**

Qualifying events must be completed by the Saturday prior to the start of the WIAA State Tournament.

## **PASSES**

Passes are to participating schools according to the respective sport-specific guidelines.

- **Supervisory Passes**

Supervisory passes are to be used only by the designated school staff who are in attendance to supervise the student body fan section.

- **School Media**

School Photographers will be granted entry and may be granted floor privileges for the contest(s) in which their school participates. Each must be added to the school's pass list based on the allocated spaces in FinalForms. These positions are intended for student media, however, adults will be allowed to fill these spaces if necessary.

- **College Coaches**

Passes shall not be issued to college coaches for scouting purposes.

## **ALL-TOURNAMENT TEAMS**

- The WIAA does not select/announce an 'All-Star' or 'All-Tournament' team.
- If one is selected, it is announced and publicized by an outside group.

## **INSURANCE**

- Leagues, Districts, and the WIAA maintain General Liability insurance policies for their League, District, and State Championships.
- The WIAA also provides a Catastrophic insurance policy for post-season/Championship events.
- All other coverage, including accident insurance, is the responsibility of participating schools and or individuals.

## **GAMES COMMITTEES**

- Tournament Managers will appoint and name a Games Committee that will be onsite or readily accessible by phone for all postseason qualifying and/or State events.
- Participating coaches will be informed of the process and makeup of the Games Committee prior to the start of each event.
- Questions concerning infractions may be brought to the Games Committee by the Head Coach or a school administrator, NOT by a contestant, parent, or spectator.
- The Games Committee shall be composed of no fewer than three (3), nor more than five (5), members.
- Games Committee members may not have a conflict of interest with the teams/individuals involved with the game/contest under dispute.

### **Games Committee Duties:**

- Assist the Tournament Manager as needed and be immediately available at all times during the event.
- Act as an arbitration board of dispute on questions or protests that might arise - the final decision must be the consensus of the Games Committee.
- The Games Committee WILL include:
  - The Tournament Manager or designee;
  - The Head Official;

- A Coach, Athletic Director, or School Administrator;  
And MAY include:
- The Official Scorekeeper, OR
- Another member of the event staff

## **PROTESTS**

In all WIAA State Tournaments, the following process will be conducted for protests:

### **Protest Process:**

- If a Head Coach believes there has been a misinterpretation/misapplication of a specific rule, the coach shall notify the game officials following the incident and prior to the resumption of action that the contest is under protest.
- The official(s) will suspend the contest until a decision of the Games Committee has been determined. The Games Committee will meet immediately or as soon as is reasonably possible upon receiving notification of the protest.
  - During the Games Committee meeting, the coach shall be afforded the opportunity to present rationale and justification including the specific rule(s) in question, how the officials misapplied/misinterpreted the rule(s), and the desired outcome of the protest.
  - The official(s) shall be afforded the opportunity to present the rule and its implementation in the protested situation.
- The Games Committee will consult with the WIAA staff member who oversees that sport; will follow any additional protest procedures covered in the specific NFHS rule book; and will utilize the NFHS and/or WIAA playing rules, scorebook, and/or statistics to determine the appropriate ruling.
- The Games Committee will deliberate in a closed session.
- The decision of the Games Committee is final and cannot be further appealed.
- Protests of an official's judgment will not be heard.

## **TEAMS/INDIVIDUALS UNABLE TO ARRIVE FOR SCHEDULED COMPETITION AT A STATE EVENT**

Teams/individuals earning the right to participate in State events should have those rights protected as much as possible. Participating schools must also realize that these events are held to certain restrictions with facilities, game officials, and all other game administration and operations.

- A WIAA State event shall be defined as any tournament event managed by the State Office.
- Competing schools are responsible for notifying the WIAA Staff or the Tournament Manager in a timely manner if they are having difficulty traveling to the event site due to weather or an emergency and may not arrive in time for their scheduled competition.
- School personnel have the responsibility of making alternative travel plans based on weather forecasts and other foreseeable barriers to travel.
- As a common practice, input and recommendations are to be sought from the Highway Patrol and/or the Department of Transportation.
- Specific circumstances not covered by this policy are left to the discretion of the WIAA Staff.
  - If a team/individual is unable to arrive at a State event site for their scheduled competition due to circumstances beyond their control (e.g., an earthquake, all passes closed, roads closed due to flooding, etc.), that team/individual will be allowed to participate in their scheduled event provided they arrive at the event site and are able to compete on the day of their scheduled event.



- The WIAA Staff, in cooperation with the Tournament Manager, shall adjust the schedule of the event for the purpose of allowing maximum participation for all qualified teams/individuals.
- If the team/individual is unable to arrive to compete on the day of its event, a forfeit is recorded and that team/individual shall move into the consolation bracket or be dropped from competition, whichever is applicable to that particular stage of the event.

## **INCLEMENT WEATHER**

- In the interest of safety, weather/conditions beyond the control of the participating teams/individuals and/or Tournament Manager, there may be times that it becomes necessary to delay, postpone, or cancel a contest or tournament, though the intent of this policy is to accommodate teams/individuals by rescheduling.

### **The following practices shall be observed:**

- If severe weather conditions affect a participating team/individual, but not the tournament, the team must notify the Tournament Manager.
- If severe weather conditions affect the tournament, the WIAA Staff will make the final decision concerning tournament postponement or rescheduling.
- Play will resume on the next playable date.
- Changing of sites, postponement, or cancellation of events will be determined by the WIAA Staff.

### **Procedures to follow if contests are rescheduled:**

- The WIAA Staff has the final authority on contest rescheduling.
- If contests are rescheduled on the same day as originally scheduled but at a different site, the Semifinal and Championship contests will be scheduled at the same time or later than originally scheduled.
- The time between contests may be shortened. *Example: If contests were originally scheduled at two (2) hour intervals, they may be rescheduled at one and one half (1½) hour intervals.*
- Individuals/teams shall be granted a minimum of twenty (20) minutes for rest between contests.
- Whenever possible, contests played on the final day of the tournament shall be scheduled to allow individuals/teams to return to their home community that day.
- If during the last scheduled day of a tournament, contests are unable to be restarted requiring overnight postponement, only those teams/individuals still in contention for the Championship will continue play.
- Teams/Individuals not in contention for the Championship shall be awarded a tie for the highest placing that could have been earned if postponement had not been necessary.
- Ticket revenue will not be refunded in the event the schedule and/or day(s) of the event are changed due to inclement weather.

## **TEAM CEREMONIES**

Except for the postgame awards presentations, team ceremonies held before or after a contest must be conducted in the locker room or on the sideline so as not to delay the start of the contest or impact any other participating teams.

## **UTILIZING STUDENTS FOR SUPPORT POSITIONS AT ATHLETIC EVENTS**

Students younger than high school age will not be allowed for any support positions at a WIAA State Championship UNLESS the school signs a waiver ahead of time and the school assumes all risk.

- [Underage Worker Form](#)

## **SUPERVISORY PERSONNEL**

Participating schools must register a supervisory staff member in FinalForms to monitor their student fan section.

- **Supervisor Duties:**
  - Report to the Tournament Manager upon arrival.
  - Wear a WIAA-issued 'Supervisor' pass for easy identification.
  - Monitor fan behavior as outlined in the [WIAA's Fan Expectation Guidelines](#).
  - Assist the facility security staff or Tournament Management staff when necessary.

## **FAN/SPECTATOR EXPECTATIONS**

The WIAA supports social justice, racial equity, and sportsmanship. Derogatory cheers, slurs, and hateful comments relating to identity (race, ethnicity, gender expression, disability, religion) are not permitted. Tournament Managers and event personnel have the authority to remove individuals for inappropriate behavior or comments. If you witness any of the above behavior from those in attendance, you can report the incident to the WIAA via the [Discrimination & Harassment Reporting Form](#).

- Participating schools are encouraged to share the [WIAA's Fan Expectations](#) with their communities and student bodies prior to attending State events for policies regarding Cheers, Signs, Artificial Noisemakers, Mascots, Face Painting, Continuous Standing, Clean-Up Expectations, Drones, and more.

## **PEP BAND EXPECTATIONS**

- Restrict playing to timeouts, between periods, pre and postgame, or other dead ball situations.
- Maintain appropriate fan behavior as outlined in the [WIAA's Fan Expectation Guidelines](#).

## **CHEERLEADER EXPECTATIONS**

- Use only school district-approved cheers at appropriate times.
- Direct cheers and chants towards your school's team only.
- Maintain appropriate fan behavior as outlined in the [WIAA's Fan Expectation Guidelines](#).

## **TEAM ARRANGEMENTS**

- **Lodging:**
  - Participating teams are responsible for their own lodging.
  - Schools must provide supervision for all school representatives at their place of lodging.
- **Locker Rooms:**
  - Teams must be supervised by school personnel while in their assigned locker room.
  - Participants are responsible for leaving locker rooms in undamaged condition.
  - Tournament Management is not responsible for lost or stolen items.
- **Physicians/Trainers:**
  - Teams are encouraged to supply their own physician/trainer.
  - Athletes removed from participation and attended to by a physician cannot reenter competition until authorized by the physician who made the original decision.
- **Participant Admission & Roster Limitations:**
  - The roster limits for each of the State events are listed in the respective sport-specific regulations.
  - Only those participants included on the roster can be in uniform.
  - Students not included on a team's roster/squad must pay admission or included on the Pass Gate list.

- Participant admission/asses is non-transferable.

### **STATE TOURNAMENT IDENTIFICATION AND SPONSORSHIP**

The WIAA has registered the WIAA logo and identification term, "State High School Championships," with the Secretary of State, establishing the ownership of events through legal action and WIAA Executive Board policies. Phrases such as "On to State," "On the Road to State" or any other phraseology that implies State High School Championships are included.

- The WIAA has licensed only one company to print, sell, and/or distribute WIAA-registered merchandise and schools are encouraged to contact the [WIAA Staff](#) directly for information regarding that partnership.
- Only official, pre-approved merchandise will be sold on-site before, during, or after the event.
- WIAA member schools that wish to produce merchandise utilizing any of the phraseology outlined above must utilize any one of the following processes:
  - Contact the [WIAA Staff](#) to procure desired merchandise through the WIAA's merchandise partner, or
  - Remit a percentage of the gross revenue of merchandise sold to the WIAA; the percentage will be agreed upon by the school and WIAA.
- Permission to distribute items onsite at a State event must be approved by the WIAA Staff..
- Advertising or recognition of non-school organizations/products is limited to WIAA-approved sponsors.
- Political displays and/or solicitation are prohibited.

### **EXPECTATIONS DURING AWARDS PRESENTATIONS DURING STATE EVENTS**

- Spectators will not be allowed onto the competition floor or field.
- All individuals (coaches, participants, managers, statisticians, etc.) will remain on the competition floor or field until all awards have been presented.
- **Losing Team Expectations:**
  - Send the entire team to the center of the field/court/competition area to receive their award,
  - Cooperate with the school supervisors and spirit squads to dispel any rude comments directed to the opposing team or tournament officials,
  - Remain on the field/floor until after the award has been presented to the winning team,
  - Display appropriate congratulatory efforts towards the winning team.
- **Winning Team Expectations:**
  - Remain on their own side of the floor or field until after the award has been presented to the other team,
  - Cooperate with the school supervisors and spirit squads to subdue overly exuberant fans until after the award has been presented to the other team.
  - Demonstrate respect for the opposing team.