

## PIAA District VI Competitive Spirit

**Site:** Altoona High School Fieldhouse  
**Date:** December 14, 2019  
**Time:** 10:30 AM (Team check in begins at 9:00 AM)

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**Entry Fee:** \$100 check payable to **PIAA District VI** is due with entry form by November 15, 2019.

Mail entry forms and payment to:

Ken Kerchenske  
Cambria Heights High School  
426 Glendale Lake Road  
Patton, PA 16668

**Spotters:** All schools competing should supply their own spotters if needed.

**Medals/Trophies:** Will be awarded to the top team in each of the four divisions, provided there are at least two teams in the division. Teams receiving trophies will automatically qualify for the PIAA State Competition. The remaining qualifiers will be the teams with the highest scores regardless of which division from which they come. District VI will send **nine qualifiers** to the state competition.

**Score Sheet:** At the District VI level, judges will use the score sheet that will be used at the State Competition on January 10-11, 2020.

**Changing Divisions:** Teams may not change divisions once their entry forms have been submitted.

**Music:** Please bring two copies of your music either on CD, iPhone, or Android. The DJ has auxiliary cords and you can test your music during warm ups. Remember you **MUST** have a license for your music.

**Spectators:** Doors will open one hour before the competition begins. All ticket prices are \$6 for adults and \$3 for students. Noisemakers are prohibited.

**Tee Shirts:** Preorder on entry form for **\$10 each**. A limited number of shirts may be available at the competition.

**Pre-competition meeting:** Meeting will be held at 9:50 AM for the following people: the District VI chairperson, site manager, one judge, and the head coaches from the competing schools to review the PIAA Sportsmanship Message and conduct all necessary pre-competition business.

**Practice/warm-up:** Squads will be permitted warm-up times prior to competition. Teams will be provided a warmup schedule and competition schedule one week prior to the event. Teams will have six minutes to stretch and seven minutes on the mat.

Questions may be directed to Ken Kerchenske at 814-201-0251 or [kkerchenske@chsd1.org](mailto:kkerchenske@chsd1.org).

**Purpose of Competitive Spirit:** Competitive Spirit was adopted by the PIAA Board of Directors, effective July 1, 2012, as an opportunity to expand competitive opportunities for girls. All eligibility provisions of the PIAA By-Laws are applicable to student-athletes of competitive spirit squads, with the exception of a PIAA-defined competitive spirit season: The defined regular season will begin with the start of fall sports and conclude at the end of the winter sports championships. The PIAA Defined Season is the period in which schools may participate in competitions. Tryouts, practices after tryouts, attending/receiving summer instruction from an outside source (key to the safety of competitive spirit programs) and practices prior to the start of fall sports *are not* restricted by this Defined Regular Season.

**Governance:** PIAA Board of Directors has adopted the NFHS Spirit rules book. PIAA, in conjunction with Universal Cheerleaders Association (UCA) and American Association of Cheerleading Coaches and Administrators (AACCA), will develop the format for the PIAA Competitive Spirit Championships. UCA is the founding member of the American Association of Cheerleading Coaches and Administrators, a non-profit educational association for the over 70,000 cheerleading coaches across the United States. Founded in 1988, AACCA is the recognized standard of care for all cheerleading activities. UCA is dedicated to the safe and responsible practice of cheerleading, and all UCA Instructors are AACCA Safety Certified and use the AACCA Safety Manual as a teaching guide and resource. UCA also implements the AACCA safety guidelines at camps and competitions and encourages all coaches to become AACCA Safety-Certified. AACCA certification is available in all 50 states by taking the accredited four-hour course and, upon completion, remains in effect for 4 years. Over 20,000 coaches have been AACCA certified since 2000. At the high school level, AACCA certification is already a requirement to complete the Bronze Level NFHS Spirit Coaches Education Program.

**Contest Officials:** Competitive spirit judges do not register with PIAA. They are retained by the Tournament organizers under standards set by the Tournament organizers and will utilize NFHS spirit rules. PIAA Competitive Spirit judges will be contracted by UCA. Judges will have extensive training in coaching, choreography, and championship judging. *Judges decisions are final.*

**No Protest Rule:** Under PIAA guidelines, there can be no protests of contests as follows: “The Board of Directors and District Committees will not consider any protests in Contests, which are based on play situations or officials’ decisions involving interpretation or judgment of plays. In no case will the results of a Contest be reversed nor will a Contest be ordered or permitted to be replayed. Questions regarding interpretation of rules or judgment of officials should be submitted in writing to the Executive Director.”

**Uniforms/Jewelry:** A coach shall not permit a team to participate if, in the judgment of the coach, the participant’s hairstyle or fingernails do not conform to NFHS and PIAA rules. It is required that participating member schools dress and equip their Teams pursuant to National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) Spirit Rules 2-3.

*1. Uniforms shall be functional and meet the school’s approval. Apparel must also be safe and conducive to safe physical activity. All midribs and torsos must be covered.*

*2. For safety reasons, sequins/glitter are not allowed on uniforms. In addition to safety consideration, sequins/glitter are not functional or necessary.*

3. *Glitter that does not readily adhere to the body or face is prohibited. A sign that has glitter that is sealed by laminate or other means is permitted.*

4. *Jewelry is prohibited. This includes all jewelry worn on any part of the body. No body piercing jewelry is allowed. Jewelry must be removed, covering with Band-Aids is not sufficient. Leather, string, etc., placed in the holes created by body piercing are not allowed. If religious or medical medals are worn, they shall be taped to the body under the uniform.*

**Routine:** Overall time of routine is 2 minutes and 30 seconds (2:30) and must include a cheer. The cheer can be stand alone or can be done over music. Teams cheering over music will still be accountable for satisfying the components of the "CHEER" portion of the score sheet (i.e., a cheer consisting of only motions performed to music will score a ZERO in "use of skills"). Be sure to read over the score sheet specifics on the cheer portion.

**Floor Size:** 54 feet wide by 42 feet deep (54' x 42'). All participants must start with at least one foot (hand) on the performance surface. Signs and props can be placed off the performance floor, but participants cannot step off during the routine to get them.

**Injuries on the floor:** Routine can be stopped by competition officials, advisor/coach of the team or the individual. Competition officials (in conjunction with the coach and individual) will decide if team will be allowed to perform at a later time. The spot where the re-performance will take place is up to the discretion of the competition officials and coaches (considering all issues).

**PIAA Championships Date:** Friday, January 10 and Saturday, January 11, 2020. Venue: Giant Center, 550 Hershey Park Drive, Hershey, PA 17033

***POLICY STATEMENT FOR MEMBER SCHOOLS WITH CONDITIONS OF ENTRY INTO PIAA DISTRICT SIX CHAMPIONSHIP:*** PIAA District member schools are not required to enter a team into PIAA District VI Championship events. Entry and participation by member schools in the tournament sponsored by PIAA District VI are totally voluntary. Entry of a team or individual competitor by a member school into a PIAA District VI tournament signifies that the member school accepts the conditions and provisions that are inherent with the tournament rules, regulations and guidelines. Further, a member school accepts the fact that the PIAA District VI Chairman, Executive Committee, Tournament Director and District VI Committee reserve the right to make changes in the management schedule, sites, dates, times and operations of championships when in their judgment it becomes necessary to do so.

# Competitive Spirit Entry Form

## PIAA District VI

*Due November 15, 2019 with \$100 check payable to PIAA District VI*

**School Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Division:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Small Varsity: up to 15 females

\_\_\_\_\_ Medium Varsity: 16-20 females

\_\_\_\_\_ Large Varsity: 21 or more females

\_\_\_\_\_ Coed Varsity: A squad that has at least one male participant will have to compete in the coed division.

**Coach's Name:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Email Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Cell:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Home:** \_\_\_\_\_

*Include a roster on school letterhead with the names of all coaches and participants.*

**Tee-Shirt Order:**

Small \_\_\_\_\_ Medium \_\_\_\_\_ Large \_\_\_\_\_ Extra Large \_\_\_\_\_

Total number of shirts ordered \_\_\_\_\_ x **\$10**/each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Entry form, roster and check(s) (include \$100 for entry fee in one check and any tee shirt money on a separate check) payable to **PIAA District VI** are due by November 15, 2019 to:

Ken Kerchenske  
Cambria Heights High School  
426 Glendale Lake Road  
Patton, PA 16668