

TO: ALL PRINCIPALS AND ATHLETIC DIRECTORS

FROM: BRIAN THOMPSON, SOFTBALL CHAIRPERSON, STATISTICIAN

SUBJECT: DISTRICT V SOFTBALL INFORMATION

DATE: 2016-2017 Season

- I. It is that time of year again for the submission of our softball schedules for ranking purposes. Rating sheets are to be submitted via email in an Excel file by the first regular season play date of March 24, 2017.
- II. District V Softball Rating system
 - A. Ranking is determined by total points accumulated divided by the total games played, excluding tournaments, scrimmages, and exhibitions.
 - B. The top 8 rated schools will compete in the Class A District V Tournament. Teams that have a .500 record or better the day of the district cutoff will be included in the District V Playoffs.
 - C. AA schools will compete in the District V-VIII Tournament. The top 2 teams in District 5 will play to crown a District 5 champion. If the 3rd ranked team has a record of .500 or better, there will be a semi-final game where #2 will host #3 with the winner playing #1. If all 4 teams are .500 or better, there will be a 4-team tournament. The District 5 champion will then play a sub-regional playoff contest against the District 8 representative.
 - D. AAA schools will compete in the District V-VIII-IX Tournament. The top 2 teams in District 5 will play to crown a District 5 champion. If the 3rd ranked team has a record of .500 or better, there will be a semi-final game where #2 will host #3 with the winner playing #1. The District 5 champion will then play a sub-regional playoff contest against the District 8/9 champion.
 - E. District 5 AAAA representative, Somerset, will compete in the District VI playoff tournament.
 - F. The PIAA has 6 Classifications for ranking purposes. (A, AA, AAA, 4A, 5A 6A)

III. Important Dates

March 6, 2017	PIAA Softball	1st Legal Practice Date
March 24, 2017	PIAA Softball	1 st Regular Season Contest Date
May 6, 2017	District 5 Softball	Deadline to Opt Out of Playoffs
May 20, 2017	District 5 Softball	District Cutoff
May 22, 2017	District 5 Class "A" Softball	Play In (if needed)
May 24, 2017	District 5 Class "A" Softball	1 st Round
May 30, 2017	District 5 Class "A" Softball	Semifinals
June 1, 2017	District 5 Class "A" Softball	Championship
May 23, 2017	District 5 Class "AA" Softball	Semifinal or Championship
May 25, 2017	District 5 Class "AA" Softball	Championship or Sub-Regional
May 31, 2017	District 5 Class "AA" Softball	Sub-Regional (If Necessary)
May 23, 2017	District 5-8-9 "AAA" Softball	Semifinals or Championship
May 26, 2017	District 5-8-9 "AAA" Softball	Championship or Sub-Regional
May 31, 2017	District 5-8-9 "AAA" Softball	Sub-Regional (If Necessary)
June 3, 2017	All Classes	District Deadline
June 5, 2017	All Classes	PIAA First Round
June 8, 2017	All Classes	PIAA Quarterfinals
June 12, 2017	All Classes	PIAA Semifinals
June 15 and 16, 2017	All Classes	PIAA Championships @ Penn State

All play-off dates are subject to change due to inclement weather or any unforeseen circumstances.

In such an event the next day will become the make up date.

IV. Point System

- A. A team receives 6 points for a win.
- B. Bonus points are awarded on the following basis:
 1. 1 point awarded for a win over a Class A school, total 7 points
 2. 2 points awarded for a win over a Class AA school, total 8 points
 3. 3 points awarded for a win over a Class AAA school, total 9 points
 4. 4 points awarded for a win over a Class AAAA school, total 10 points
 5. 5 points awarded for a win over a Class AAAAA school, total 11 points.
 6. 6 points awarded for a win over a Class AAAAAA school, total 12 points
- C. No points are awarded for a loss regardless of PIAA Classification
- D. Victories over out of state opponents or non-P.I.A.A. opponents will receive the lowest point total of 7 points. If the District V Softball Chairman is provided the out of state opponent's verification of school enrollment figures from the opposing school's principal in writing prior to the due date of the ratings sheets deadline, that opponents classification may be changed to fit the PIAA enrollment classification.
- E. Rankings are based on all school schedules that are turned into the District V Softball statistician by the first legal playing date for the season and no games added after the season begins may be counted.
- F. Ranking is in order of total points accumulated divided by the number of games played, excluding tournaments, scrimmages, and exhibition games.
- G. Forfeiture of contests will be governed by PIAA rules.

V. Tie Breaker System for Ranking Only

- A. Head to Head victor if the teams played each other
- B. Winning percentage versus all common opponents in all games played (regardless of the number of times two schools play each other)
- C. Bonus points as calculated by wins by defeated opponents divided by games played
- D. Winning percentage calculated by wins divided by games played. Ties count as half.
- E. Greatest number of wins, excluding tournaments
- F. Coin toss at site convenient to both schools

VI. The following play-in scenarios will exist if more than eight teams qualify for the playoffs:

- Teams will play on the play-in date to determine which team enters the playoff brackets.
- If nine teams qualify, team #9 would play team #8 at team #8's home field. The winner of that game would move to the #8 spot on the bracket.
- If ten teams qualify, team #7 would play team #10 at team #7's home field and team #8 would play team #9 at team #8's home field. The winners would enter the regular bracket.
- The Tie Breaker System does not apply for teams finishing with an identical ranking that are required to play a play in game. Teams with identical rankings in a play-in scenario will play at a neutral site.

VII. School Hosting Status

- Fannett-Metal has the same hosting status as any other District V school
- In AA, the sub-regional playoff contest will be played at a District 5 site in 2017 and a District 8 site in 2018.
- In AAA, the sub-regional playoff contest will be played at a District 5 site in 2017 and a District 8/9 site in 2018.

VIII. Softball Schedule Form

- A. Complete the Softball schedule form with information concerning your school. Note that 14 games is the minimum number to be played to qualify for the playoffs.
- B. Please e-mail, fax, or mail a copy of this form to the District V Statisticians **prior** to 1st legal playing date, March 24, 2017.

Please send the schedule on the original form located on District V website. This should be completed using Microsoft Excel.

The original rating from and all updates are to be sent via email to District 5 Softball Chairman, Statistician, and Tournament Director:

Brian Thompson, Principal
Berlin Brothersvalley High School
1025 Main Street, Berlin, PA 15530
Office Phone 814.267.4622
Cell Phone 814.701.5674
Fax 814.267.6060
Email: bthompson@bbsd.com

C. Submission of rating sheets by athletic directors no later than 9:00a.m. to the statistician are as follows:

1. Monday, April 17
2. Monday, April 24
3. Monday, May 1
4. Monday, May 8
5. Monday, May 15 daily until district cutoff

D. Results should be e-mailed on dates listed above. Schools not reporting will appear at the bottom of the rankings.

IX. To be eligible for the playoffs all teams must have their schedule complete by the district cutoff date. Any scheduling difficulties should be referred to the District 5 Softball Chairman. Games that are unable to be completed by the district cutoff date will require written notification from both participating schools to the District 5 Softball Chairman.

X. The four highest ranked teams in Class A will get home site advantage and will be the home team. Thereafter, the highest ranked teams will be the designated home team.

1st Round - # 1 Team vs. # 8 Team
Class A # 2 Team vs. # 7 Team
3 Team vs. # 6 Team
4 Team vs. # 5 Team

After the first round, all games will be played on a neutral site with the highest ranked team as the home team.

2nd Round - 1/8 winner plays 4/5 winner
2/7 winner plays 3/6 winner

The championship game will be played at a neutral site. The highest ranked team is the home team.

1. In the Class AA Tournament, the top 2 ranked teams at the district cut-off date will play for the District 5AA championship. Any team with a .500 or better record at the district cut-off date will also qualify for the playoffs. In a three-team bracket, #2 will host #3 in a semi-final contest with the winner playing #1. In a four-team bracket, each top-ranked team will host a semi-final game. The championship game will always be played at a neutral site.
2. District 5 AA is in a sub-region with District 8 AA representative, Westinghouse. The District 5 AA champion will play Westinghouse in a sub-regional playoff game with the winner

advancing to the PIAA Inter-District playoffs. The sub-regional game must be played by the district cut-off date.

Four team bracket:

- a. 4 plays at 1
- b. 3 plays at 2

Three team bracket:

- a. 1 plays the winner of 2/3

Two team bracket:

- a. 1 plays 2 at number 1 seed

In the Class AAA Tournament, the top 2 teams will play in a District 5 Championship. If all 3 teams are .500 or above, the #1 seed will play the winner of #2 vs. #3. The District 5 champion will then play a sub-regional game against either District 8 AAA representative Perry Traditional Academy or District 9 representative Karns City High School. The sub-regional game must be played by the district cut-off date.

- 1. The sub-regional game will be hosted by District 5 in 2017 and by District 8/9 in 2018.

Two team Bracket:

- a. 5-1 plays 5-2 at a neutral site in District 5

Three team bracket:

- a. 5-2 hosts 5-3
- b. 5-1 plays 5-2/5-3 winner at neutral site in District 5

The District 5 AAAA team (Somerset) will enter a four-team playoff with District 6.

XI. Pre-game Practice

- A. The home team or “designated” home team shall have the field first.
For a 4:30 start the home team shall have the field from 3:25 until 3:55
- B. The visiting team or “designated” visiting team shall have the field second.
For a 4:30 start the visitors shall have the field from 3:55 until 4:25

XII. Designation of Bench or Dugout - The site/game manager shall designate the location of each team’s bench/bullpen prior to pre-game practice.

XIII. Ticket Prices for Playoffs:

1st Round thru Semifinals	Student - \$3.00 Adult - \$5.00
Championship Game	Student - \$3.00 Adult - \$6.00

XIV. Number of Teams advancing to state playoffs

Softball Class “A” 5-1 and 5-2 will both advance to the PIAA Inter District Tournament in 2016-17 and 2017-18. Softball Class “AA”, one team will advance from the District V-VIII Sub-Regional Tournament in 2016-17 and 2017-18. Softball Class “AAA” one team will advance from the District V-VIII-IX Sub-Regional Tournament in 2016-17 and 2017-18.

For more information, please refer to Page 60 of the following link:

<http://www.piaa.org/assets/web/documents/Handbook%20-%20Section%20III%20-%20Rules%20and%20Regulations.pdf>

- XV. Game Balls –Softball (Rawlings-Worth PX22R4L-PIAA) Game balls will be provided by District V.
- XVI. Umpires - Assigned by the District V Committee
- XVII. Playoff Times - All games will begin at 4:30 unless a time change is approved by the District Chairperson.
- XVIII. District V rankings will be emailed to the media by the District V Softball Statistician.