

PIAA District V

Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association

Bedford American Legion, Bedford, PA. August 13, 2026

PIAA District V Committee Members Present

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| 1. Jeff Batzel, NBC – Chairman, Track | 12. Steve Slatcoff, Windber - Football |
| 2. Scott Shirley, Somerset – Vice Chair, Volleyball | 13. Matt Pritts, Rockwood – School Boards Rep |
| 3. Brown Cutchall, Retired – Sec. (Non-Voting) | 14. Eric Zeznanski, C.R. – Principal's Rep. |
| 4. Scott Close- Somerset – Treasurer (Non-Voting) | 15. Audrey Hall, Female Officials Rep. |
| 5. Tanner Prosser, Berlin – Boys' Basketball | 16. Jim Foster, CT – Boys Soccer |
| 6. Dave Burkett, Everett – Sup. Rep | 17. Ken Welsh, McConnellsburg – Tennis (Non-Voting) |
| 7. Thad Keisnowski – NS, Wrestling | 18. Ryan Cherry, NBC – Awards Chair (Non-Voting) |
| 8. Heidi O'Neal, Forbes Road – Cross Country | 19. Terry Diehl, Advisor |
| 9. Meredith Hendershot, SF – Girls' Soccer | 20. Ralph Scott, advisor |
| 10. Matt McCahan, TM – Girls Basketball | |
| 11. Celeste Sprankle, JCS – Private Schools Rep | |

Guests – Dave Sprankle, Brett Smith, Ross Shinew, Brian Dutchcot

At 10:03 AM Chairman Jeff Batzel welcomed the Principals and Athletic Directors to the District V Summer Meeting.

Mark Beyers, PIAA Executive Director, gave an update on current PIAA issues for the 2026-27 school year. He focused on an update on HB-41 and the Supreme Court Ruling on Transgender Athletes in the PIAA.

Alex Mykut, PIAA Director of Officiating Services and Sport, provided information on other current issues in the PIAA.

Recognition of District V State Champions:

Bailey Sleek, Conemaugh Township High School, (Student of North Star High School) Class AA Girls High Jump State Champion

Audrey Hall, Female Officials Representative, announced a Soccer Officiating Clinic will be held at McConnellsburg High School on September 15.

Eric Zeznanski, DV Technology Director, gave a demonstration of a soon to be launched District V Website.

Sportsmanship Chairman Todd Best announced the following 2025-26 District V Sportsmanship School Winners:

High School Winner – Forbes Road High School

Junior High/Middle School Winner – Myersdale High School

Meeting adjourned for lunch at 11:15.

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District V Committee Meeting

1. Chairman Jeff Batzel opened the District V Committee Meeting at 12:00.
2. Approval of the Secretary's report of June 10, 2026 minutes. Motion – Hendershot, Hall
3. Approval of Treasurer's report. (6-10 and 8-13) Motion – Kiesnowski, Zeznanski
 - a. Reconciliation of Accounts. Motion – Shirley, Burkett
4. Correspondence from:
 - a. PIAA – Anonymous Letter – The issue was addressed by the school to the satisfaction of the committee.
 - b. Christina Ramsey submitted a letter of resignation as Female Parents' Rep. and Tennis Chairperson.
 - c. Approved Heidi O'Neal to fill this vacancy for 1 year. Motion – Kiesnowski, Hendershot
5. New Cooperative sports termination effective 2026-27.
 - a.
6. New Cooperative Sports approvals effective 2026-27.
 - a. Windber High School (Host), Conemaugh Township High School and Forrest Hills High School for Girls' Varsity Tennis. Motion – Leonard, Foster
 - b. Approved McConnellsburg High School (Host) and Forbes Road High School in Girls' Varsity Soccer. Motion – Hall, Kiesnowski
7. New Sports approvals effective 2026-27.
 - a. Forbes Road High School will sponsor Boys' Varsity Cross Country – Approved by PIAA
8. Approval Items:

- a. Foreign Exchange Students

SCHOOL	NAME	COUNTRY
Windber	Elena Lafuente Pardo	Spain (Approved) Motion -Hall Burkett

- b. Transfers: Approved

Name	Grade	From:	To:
Findley Slatcoff	10	Westmont	Windber Motion – Leonard, Foster
Ashleigh Raney	11	CD Hylton, VA	Rockwood Motion – Kiesnowski, Hall
Dakota Haupt*	12	River Valley	Conemaugh Twp. Motion – Leonard, Hall
Christopher Ebersole*	11	Southern Fulton	McConnellsburg Motion – Slatcoff, Hall
Maxx Stevanus	10	Westmont	Rockwood Motion – Zeznanski, Sprinkle
Olivia McCumber	12	Calvary Christian	Bedford Motion – Zeznanski, Burkett

*Indicates approved for regular season only subject to post-season waiver request.

- c. Post Season Eligibility (on paper) Due 45 days prior to the post season regular season regular season for the sport in question

Name	Grade	From:	To:
Ashleigh Raney	11	CD Hylton, VA	Rockwood – Approved, Motion – Kiesnowski, Shirley
Olivia McCumber	12	Calvary Christian	Bedford – Approved, Motion – Foster, Burkett

- d. Review and Approval of the 2026-27 District 5 Handbook

- a. Approved Ryan Cherry as the newly created position (Non-voting) of Awards Chairman. Motion – Shirley, McCahan

9. Discussion Items:

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- a. Medals/Awards – Approved up to a maximum of 25 team champions and runner up medals, 10 individual sport medals (tennis/golf), and 50 champion and runner up medals for football. Additional medals needed will be the responsibility of the requesting schools to purchase. Motion – Kiesnowski, Foster. (13-1)
- b. Forfeiture Policy – Tabled
- c. Ratings Discussion – Approved the use of online ratings and brackets as created for the new District V Website. Motion – Hendershot, Leonard
- d. Possible penalty for unplayed games – No action taken
- e. Scheduling Post Season Eligibility appeals zoom hearing(s) for Tuesday, September 8, 2026, following an online District 5 Committee Meeting
- f. Arbiter Update - Tabled

10. Reports:

- a. Football
- b. Cross Country – New Chairperson Heidi O’Neal announced championship packets will go out today.
- c. Volleyball
- d. Boys and Girls Soccer – Announced that all District V Championship games will be played on turf unless the participants are two teams from the eastern part of the district.
- e. Golf
- f. Girls’ Tennis
- g. Baseball – Approved to follow the PIAA Bylaws Article 13 Section 3C and name Northern Bedford High School the 2026 District V Class A Baseball Champion. Motion – Zeznanski, Hall, Unanimous

11. New Business:

- a. Approved for the ICC to add Junior High Baseball/Softball Championship games to their list conference championships. Motion- Leonard, Shirley

12. Adjournment at 1:45 Motion – Shirley, Zeznanski

Respectfully Submitted,

Brown Cutchall, District V Secretary