

LACROSSE



2023-2024 AACPS Sport Bulletin

As needed, in consultation with schools and sport commissioners, AACPS Athletics reserves the right to make adjustments to this bulletin.

Coach Responsibilities

1. Adhere to all policies, procedures, rules and regulations in the AACPS Athletic Handbook.
2. Adhere to all policies, procedures, rules and regulations in this AACPS Bulletin.
3. Adhere to all policies, procedures, rules and regulations MPSSAA Handbook.
4. Adhere to all policies, procedures, rules and regulations in the MPSSAA Bulletin.
<https://www.mpssaa.org/information-center/mpssaa-publications-and-content/>
5. Adhere to all policies, procedures, rules and regulations in the appropriate NFHS rule book.
Rule Changes for all applicable sports available at
Boys: <https://www.nfhs.org/articles/boys-lacrosse-rules-changes-2024/>
Girls: <https://www.nfhs.org/sports-resource-content/girls-lacrosse-rules-changes-2024/>
MPSSAA rule clinic courses for baseball, softball, lacrosse, track & field
<https://nfhslearn.com/courses/maryland-rules-clinic-2023-2024>
6. Participate in Coaches All- County Selection process. It is the responsibility of the head coaches of each sport to determine the process for their all county selections. It is recommended that a head coach or two from around the county volunteer to take the lead in organizing and facilitating the Coaches All-County. An agreed upon process should be communicated to all schools in writing before the season starts. End of season communications and/or a meeting (in-person or virtual) should be used to implement the agreed upon process.

Notes:

- a. *AACPS Athletics does not sponsor or provide oversight for the Coaches All-County selection process.*
- b. *Sport Commissioners may help to facilitate the date, time, and location of an end-of-season meeting for this purpose. They may attend for note taking, questions, and general support. However, they will not lead, control, or provide oversight on the process.*

Contact Information

1. Questions should initially be directed to local school athletic directors.
2. Then, questions should be directed to:
 - a. Sport Commissioners:
Boys - Kevin Necessary, Broadneck knecessary@aacps.org 443-848-7381
Girls - Caroline Cochran, Annapolis ccochran@aacps.org 410-713-0922
 - b. District V Representatives:
Boys - Brendan Brace, Southern bbrace@aacps.org 410-271-9863
Girls - Ginger Kincaid, Howard County (ret.) 410-206-9472
 - c. AACPS Office of Athletics 410-222-5463
3. Regional Tournament Directors:
<https://www.mpssaa.org/state-championships/lacrosse/lacrosse-state-committee-and-regional-directors/>

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Classifications

4A	3A	2A
<u>East Region 1</u> Glen Burnie Meade North County Old Mill	<u>East Region 1</u> Arundel Crofton Severna Park South River <i>Oxon Hill</i> <i>Suitland</i>	<u>South Region 1</u> Chesapeake Northeast <i>Crossland</i> <i>Fredrick Douglass</i> <i>Great Mills</i>
<u>East Region II</u> Annapolis Broadneck Bowie <i>CH Flowers</i> <i>Leonardtown</i>		1A <u>East Region 1</u> Southern <i>Bohemia Manor</i> <i>Cambridge</i> <i>Kent County</i>

Important Dates

February 2024

- February 15 - Spring Coach Kickoff (North County HS)

March 2024

- March 1 - Sports start; Academic Assistance Sessions begin
- March 2 - Testing Date - Nothing mandatory before 2pm
- March 7 - AACPS 1st scrimmage date
- March 9 - Testing Date - Nothing mandatory before 2pm
- March 19 - 2hr early dismissal - PD Unity Day. With approval from the AD and principal, teams with paid, non-AACPS employee coaches may practice during established teacher work hours.
- March 20 - Academic Assistance Sessions end and Grade Check
- March 21 - MPSSAA First play date and Eligibility Rosters due (ADs)
- Mar 25 - Apr 1 - Spring Break - All Schools & Central Offices closed

April 2024

- Mar 25 - Apr 1 - Spring Break - All Schools & Central Offices closed
- April 4-5 - 2hr early dismissals - end of 3MP. With approval from the AD and principal, teams with paid, non-AACPS employee coaches may practice during established teacher work hours.
- April 6 - Testing date; Nothing mandatory before 2pm
- April 8 - Beginning of 4th MP
- April 9 - Eid al-Fitr - No Athletics after sundown
- April 10 - Eid al-Fitr Schools closed - Ni Athletics at all
- April 13 - Testing date - Nothing mandatory before 2pm
- Week of April 15 - MPSSAA Officials Appreciation
- April 18 - 3rd MP report cards (tentative)

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May 2024

- May 2 - Unified Bocce County Championship (NC)
- May 4 - Testing Date- No mandatory practice or contests before 2pm
- May 6 - Lacrosse County Championship (GB)
- May 7 - Baseball County Championship (Joe Cannon) & Softball County Championship (Bachman)
- May 8-9 - Outdoor Track County Championship (CR)
- May 7-10 - Tennis County Championship (AN)
- May 14 - Primary Election Day (follow AACPS Election Day Guidelines)
- May 23 - Last day for Seniors
- May 27 - Memorial Day

Contests

- Scrimmages:
 - 3 preseason scrimmages allowed
 - Teams are allowed one postseason scrimmage (in between last game and first playoff game)
- MPSSAA Season Limitations:
 - 12 regular season games or 14 with designated optional tournament;
 - No more than two games per week;
 - Three games in one week may be scheduled twice during the season; and
 - A team may elect to play in one designated optional two-game tournament.
 - JV contests that end in a tie after regulation will play one traditional overtime period 10 minutes with sudden victory. If the game is still tied it will remain a tie.
- AACPS Scheduling Scheme:
 - The base county schedule provides all schools with 6 base county games, 2 Howard County games and 3 county championship play-in games.
 - County Championship play-in games:

Teams have been placed in a 3-game, 16-line consolation bracket (see below), based on combined boys and girls results from base county scheduled games over the past two seasons (2022 and 2023).

 - 1-BN, 2-SP, 3-SR, 4-SO, 5-NC, 6-AR, 7-CR, 8-CH, 9-OM, 10-AN, 11-NE, 12-GB, 13-ME
 - In the 1st round three teams will have a bye and will be able to fill that game on their own (an additional "pick-up" game for those schools).
 - In the 2nd round three different teams will have a bye. Two of those teams may play in a "special" game that will not impact the 3rd round matchups but will give them a game. One team will be left out. A fair procedure will be established for determining which schools play in that special game.
 - In the 3rd round two of the byes will create one of the matchups, resulting in one new team not having an opponent.
 - Therefore, throughout the 3-game tournament two different teams will have a game that won't be filled. This is because AACPS currently has an odd number of schools for lacrosse (13).
 - The "winners" side of the bracket will result in the varsity county championship matchup.
 - Junior Varsity

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- o Junior varsity teams will “follow” their varsity team, playing the same three matchups regardless of junior varsity results.
 - o The matchup for the junior varsity county championship game will be determined separately, based on the criteria in the AACPS Athletics Handbook. The county championship play-in games will be included in this calculation.
 - Games not played due to a scheduled BYE, or when the scheduled opponent does not field a team will be considered a “no game” for the existing team (no impact on wins or losses).
 - o Athletics, in consultation with sport commissioners and ADs, reserves the right to make adjustments to the JV schedule in order to address participation and meet the needs of the overall program (example: the loss of JV programs).
- AACPS Contest Procedures:
 - o JV-Varsity Girls and Boys double headers in early week games at 5:00 and 6:30 pm at all sites
 - o Varsity double header on Fridays with Girls at 5:00 and Boys at 7:00; and with JV at opposites sites at 4:45 pm the preceding Thursday
 - o Contest structure and timing for boys and girls lacrosse will follow current NFHS guidelines unless otherwise communicated by AACPS.
 - o Each school’s location in the county, transportation services, and facility situations are different. With that in mind, for away games schools may - at their discretion with admin approval - leave school early to ensure they arrive in time to get to the field and warmup. In those cases, efforts should be made to minimize the disruption and impact on academic time as much as possible.
 - o Music. Visiting teams are not permitted to play music with portable/rolling speakers or other devices while visiting away sites.

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2024 AACPS COUNTY IN-SEASON TOURNAMENT - LACROSSE				
CONSOLATION BRACKET			WINNER'S BRACKET	
3rd Round Thur, May 2 & Fri, May 3	2nd Round Tues, Apr 30 & Wed, May 1	1st Round (Preset Matchups) Friday, April 26, 2024	2nd Round Tues, Apr 30 & Wed, May 1	3rd Round Thur, May 2 & Fri, May 3
		1 BN (1) Game 1 BYE (16)		
3 (G13 winner) Game 19 (G10 loser)	5 BYE (G1 loser) Game 13 (G2 loser)	2 CH (8) Game 2 OM (9)	1 (G1 winner) Game 9 (G2 winner)	
		3 NC (5) Game 3 GB (12)		1 (G9 winner) Game 17 (G10 winner)
4 (G9 loser) Game 20 (G14 winner)	6 (G3 loser) Game 14 (G4 loser)	4 SO (4) Game 4 ME (13)	2 (G3 winner) Game 10 (G4 winner)	
5 (G14 loser) Game 21 (G15 loser)		5 SR (3) Game 5 BYE (14)		(G17 winner) County Championship Game (G18 winner) Monday, May 6, 2024
6 (G15 winner) Game 22 (G12 loser)	7 (G5 loser) Game 15 (G6 loser)	6 AR (6) Game 6 NE (11)	3 (G5 winner) Game 11 (G6 winner)	
		7 CR (7) Game 7 AN (10)		2 (G11 winner) Game 18 (G12 winner)
7 (G11 loser) Game 23 (G16 winner)	8 (G7 loser) Game 16 BYE (G8 loser)	8 SP (2) Game 8 BYE (15)	4 (G7 winner) Game 12 (G8 winner)	
8 (G13 loser) Game 24 (G16 loser)	special game See Notes			

Notes:

- All schools must participate in all 3 rounds.
- 1st round matchups will be based on previous years' AACPS base county records.
- Where feasible, first round matchups will be against schools not played during the regular season.
- In the event of byes, the consolation bracket matchups will be arranged such that the byes matchup in the end if at all possible.
- JV will follow varsity for the 3 rounds of this tournament. The county championship matchup for JV will be determined separately, based on our traditional procedures (handbook).
- A special game will be played in the 2nd round between the teams in games 13 and 16 to eliminate what would be a lost game because of the bye. This special game will have no impact on the next round.

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County Championship and Awards

- There will be no in-season county champion
- The top two teams from the regular season will play for the County Championship at Glen Burnie High School on May 6th (as described above). The play-in games for JV where they “follow” their varsity (also described above) will count towards their record for this purpose.
- If tied at the end of regulation, play OT periods until a winner is determined
- Awards: 35 medals per team, County Championship game plaque, and Head Coach Plaque
- JV County Championship criteria:
A JV player is eligible to participate so long as they have entered no more than two regular season varsity contests (excluding tournaments – they may also play in varsity tournaments)

MPSSAA Playoffs

Note - Every MPSSAA school is automatically entered into the region tournament unless the MPSSAA office receives written notification to the contrary. All schools must adhere to the MPSSAA bulletin.

- **Point of Emphasis: Egregious Ejections:** Any ejection during the state tournament that is classified as egregious now results in a two-game suspension. The MPSSAA has established criteria based on definitions of egregious behavior that will be used during the regional and state tournaments to elevate any ejections under this category to a minimum of two contest disqualification from the current state tournament, next sport season, or the succeeding year’s tournament based on the circumstances of the situation (Example of student whose team loses the first round of the next season. Egregious behavior is being defined as:
 - *Fighting*
 - *Physical or verbal personal attacks directed towards an official, coach, student-athlete, spectator, or school personnel*
 - *Use of racial, ethnic, homophobic or other derogatory or discriminatory language, slurs or practices.*
- **Dates:**
MPSSAA championship info <https://www.mpssaa.org/state-championships/lacrosse/>
 - May 4 Last play date for seeding
 - May 6 Tournament seeding
 - May 7 Last play date
 - May 8 Region Quarterfinal
 - May 10 Region Semifinals
 - May 13 Region Finals
 - May 15 State Quarter Final
 - May 17-18 State Semifinals
 - May 21-23 State Finals *Stevenson University*