DIAA 2022 Unified Basketball Tournament Manual

DIAA Unified Sports Committee Members

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Committee Member Name</th>
<th>Affiliation</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jon Buzby, Chair</td>
<td>Special Olympics Delaware</td>
<td>Director</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bob Beron</td>
<td>Caesar Rodney High School</td>
<td>Athletic Director</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kevin Charles</td>
<td>Public Member</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gary Cimaglia</td>
<td>Special Olympics North America</td>
<td>Director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Layne Drexel</td>
<td>DIAA</td>
<td>NFHS Basketball Rules Interpreter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kylie Frazer</td>
<td>Special Olympics Delaware</td>
<td>Director of Sports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrew Layton</td>
<td>Woodbridge High School</td>
<td>Coach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brian Mattix</td>
<td>McKean High School</td>
<td>Principal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tom MacLeish</td>
<td>Public Member</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chris Muscara</td>
<td>Appoquinimink High School</td>
<td>Athletic Director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theresa Repole</td>
<td>Newark Charter High School</td>
<td>Athletic Trainer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nate Threatts</td>
<td>Special Olympics Delaware</td>
<td>Manager of Unified School Programs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Matt Voltz</td>
<td>Delaware Orthopaedic Specialists</td>
<td>Physician</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jerry Kobasa</td>
<td>Seafood High School</td>
<td>Athletic Director</td>
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Tournament Manual

Item 1. Governing Rules

A. DIAA regulations and NFHS Junior Varsity Sports Rules (with the exception of the full-court press rule) shall govern all Unified basketball competitions. **Exception:** Teams can play full court defense in the last 2 minutes of **each half** and/or the last minute of overtime under the following conditions:
   1. Team that is ahead in score: Only if ahead by less than 15 points
   2. Team that is behind in score: Anytime

Item 2. Tournament Dates

A. The 2022 DIAA Unified Basketball State Tournament will be held on the following dates:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Round</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quarterfinals</td>
<td>Monday, February 28, 2022</td>
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<tr>
<td>Semifinals</td>
<td>Friday, March 4, 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finals</td>
<td>Friday, March 11, 2022</td>
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A. DIAA & the Committee reserves the right to make any scheduling adjustments it deems appropriate.
B. DIAA & the Committee reserves the right to make changes due to weather or other circumstances that would prevent playing the games as originally scheduled.

Item 3. Tournament Sites & Starting Times

A. DIAA & the Committee reserves the right to select the site and determine the starting times for all tournament games.
B. The quarterfinal and semifinal round games will be played on the home court of the highest seeded teams in (lowest number seed). If the gym and/or facilities of the higher seeded team are deemed unsuitable for tournament competition, DIAA & the Committee will select an appropriate game site where the game will be played.
C. Teams may arrive at the playing site one hour before the scheduled start of their game. Please do not arrive earlier.
Item 4. Tournament Field
A. The 2022 Unified Basketball State Championship will consist of eight (8) teams: four (4) teams from the North section and four (4) teams from the South section. This may change if any team(s) do not meet requirements for eligibility.
B. Eligible Teams
1. All teams must meet the criteria established by DIAA Regulation 1006.2.4 to be eligible for tournament consideration.
2. Teams must play a minimum of four (4) games in order to be eligible for the championship.
3. Any school which does not wish to be considered for the tournament must notify the Unified Sports Committee Chair and DIAA by February 21, 2022, so as not to be considered for seeding by emailing jon.buzby@sode.org and diana@doe.k12.de.us. Once the Committee seeds the tournament, any team that withdraws may be subject to DIAA disciplinary action and that tournament berth will not be filled.
4. Teams are expected to meet the eligibility requirements as outlined in this basketball tournament manual for consideration of selection to the DIAA unified basketball tournament field. DIAA strongly encourages all interscholastic participants to diligently adhere to the risk mitigation strategies as advised to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.
   a. Any contest that was on a team’s schedule on the first date of competition and experienced a COVID-19 related schedule disruption that is not able to be rescheduled, will be counted as a no-contest. Member schools should exercise good faith to do their best to reschedule any contests impacted by COVID-19 in an effort to promote opportunities for participation in interscholastic athletics.

Item 5. Tournament Seeding
A. Team Report:
   1. The last competition date for unified basketball is February 23, 2022. It is the school’s responsibility to verify that all results listed on their team’s website4sports page are accurate and completed by 10pm.
B. Team Ranking
   1. Teams will be ranked within each conference from 1-4 based on the following:
      a. Overall Record
      b. Head to Head Competition
      c. Points against
      d. If a tie still exists, the Committee will select the order by vote
C. Seeding
   1. Qualifying teams will be seeded according to their team ranking and placed into a bracket accordingly.
   2. If a team withdraws from the tournament after the field has been selected, that team will not be replaced and its scheduled opponent will receive a forfeit win into the next round of play. Such a withdrawal/forfeit may subject the school to disciplinary action by the DIAA board of directors.

Item 6. Official Program
A. At the discretion of the DIAA Executive Director, if DIAA prepares an official tournament program which contains team pictures, team rosters, tournament pairings and other related information, it may be sold at all tournament playing sites.
B. Team Photograph, Roster and Program Information - Team information for the tournament program must be on the school’s website4sports site by January 31, 2022. The team photo must be a digital print of no less than 300 DPI in a jpeg or tif format. Electronic submission is required; hard copies will not be accepted.
C. Schools should assume that their team is going to make the tournament and submit a roster and team photo by aforementioned deadline. Program information as outlined in Item 6 must be submitted by the deadline for consideration of any complimentary coaches tickets.

Item 7. Admission Policies
A. Paid Admission
   1. Admission for the quarterfinal and semifinal games will be free for all spectators.
   2. Student (grades K-12) and adult admission for the championship game at the Bob Carpenter Center will be $10.00
   3. Tickets for events at the Bob Carpenter Center will be available through the University of Delaware’s ticket vendor and must follow all host site ticketing policies.
4. Fans MUST have a smart phone or mobile device to show and redeem purchased tickets for entry into DIAA Championship events.
5. Fans should purchase tickets in advance of the championship events.
6. These ticket prices do not include any additional fees.
7. Ticket prices are subject to change per approval by the DIAA Board of Directors.
8. Tickets purchased but unused will not be refunded.
9. All tickets will be coded so as to admit the holder only to the game specified.
10. No tournament passes will be sold.

B. Complimentary Admission
1. Participating schools will receive complimentary admission for all those members of the Official School Party listed on the official roster as submitted to the DIAA Executive Director prior to the tournament. The official school party is defined as players, coaches, managers, scorers/statisticians, and athletic trainer(s). All of these individuals should assemble together outside of the venue entrance and be admitted together as one group. The Official School Party cannot exceed twenty-two (22) people. All members of the school party must be in the sixth grade or older. It is recommended that they be of high school age.
2. A maximum of fifteen (15) players in uniform are permitted as part of the official school party.
3. All other school personnel must pay the regular admission fee at the championship game if they wish to enter the contest. Spouses of administrators and coaches are similarly obligated. No complimentary tickets will be issued to schools for championship games.
4. One (1) bus driver will be admitted free of charge for the championship game upon presentation of identification as the team’s driver.

C. Seating at the Bob Carpenter Center is reserved. To receive their designated seats, the following groups must assemble at the rear entrance of the Bob Carpenter Center (team entrance) with their coach or adult supervisor and be admitted together as one group. Only those persons listed on the official roster as submitted to the DIAA prior to the championship will be admitted.
1. A maximum of 23 cheerleaders in uniform and one adult sponsor will receive complimentary admission. Additional cheerleaders must purchase a ticket or make arrangements in advance to have their school billed for any admission in excess of 23 cheerleaders and one adult.
2. A maximum of 15 pep band members and one adult director.

D. Media representatives who are covering the tournament will be admitted upon presentation of current and official DIAA credentials.
1. Media/photographers may stand where permitted by game manager, site director, and the Committee.
2. Press table reservations at the Bob Carpenter Center will be arranged through the DIAA office.

Item 8. Game Manager
A. A member of the Unified Sports Committee will be appointed to serve as the Game Manager. He/She will serve as the liaison between the Committee, the host school and the participating schools. The Game Manager is responsible for ensuring compliance with the policies and procedures established by the Unified Sports Committee.
1. In the event of a serious accident or injury to a coach, athlete, official, spectator, or game worker, the Game Manager will notify the injured party’s athletic director and the DIAA Executive Director as soon as possible.
2. In the event of a serious sportsmanship related incident, the Game Manager will contact the DIAA Executive Director as soon as possible.
B. A Committee member will be assigned to each of the teams participating in the games at the Bob Carpenter Center. He/she will be responsible for meeting the team when they arrive, escorting them to their locker room, and answering any questions they may have. He/she will review the pre-game activities and the post-game awards ceremony with the head coach.

Item 9. Responsibilities of Host School
A. Member schools agree to host events for the Tournament.
B. Each host school designates and supervises the individuals who serve as the Site Director and support personnel. The number of support and police personnel MUST be approved by DIAA’s Executive Director prior to the start of the event.
C. The Site Director’s responsibilities include:
1. Set up the gym, court and bench areas according to current specifications.
2. Provide a secure locker room for the Game Officials that has a changing area and showering facilities.
3. If possible, provide dressing rooms and bathroom facilities for the participating schools.
4. Provide safe and secure passage for the officials to and from the playing area.
5. Provide parking facilities for buses and spectators.
6. If possible, provide seating arrangements for spectators.
7. Contact the Game Manager and DIAA Executive Director three hours prior to game time if the site is not in appropriate condition.
8. Be in attendance and work closely with the Game Manager.
9. Clear with the Game Manager matters of policy or procedure.
10. Provide an experienced official scorer and timer. No cell phone use is permitted at the scorer’s table.
11. When applicable per DIAA ticket policies, charge admission until the end of the third quarter of the final game at the site.
12. Establish a procedure for assisting disabled spectators and review the procedure with the appropriate personnel.
13. Review the emergency action plan with the appropriate personnel.
14. Any additional responsibilities as determined by the host school and DIAA office.

D. The host school must consult with the DIAA office concerning security and police personnel.
1. Any expenses concerning security and police personnel must be pre-approved by DIAA’s Executive Director.
2. Police will be paid the game fee or hourly rate customarily paid at the game locale. The bill should be sent to DIAA.

F. Public Address System
1. The host school will make every effort to provide a public address system and designate and supervise a responsible adult to serve as an announcer. Every effort should be made to have an announcer familiar with basketball.
2. The public address system, if used, will be operated by a responsible/ adult representative of the host school.
   a. Any announcements not directly related to the game/tournament or not of an emergency nature must be approved by the Game Manager or the DIAA Executive Director.
   b. The public address announcer must be a responsible individual who will remain impartial at all times. He/she must never question or criticize the coaches or officials during the game. Game announcing is for factual information purposes only, ‘play-by-play’ announcing of the game is not allowed.
   c. Introduce the players and coaches on each team beginning with the non-starters of the away team, then starters and coaches, and then the home team.

Item 10. Responsibility of Participating Schools
A. Supervision
1. An administrator or the athletic director from each of the participating schools must be present at all tournament games involving his/her team. This individual must make his/her presence known to the site director prior to the start of the game and indicate where he/she will be seated during the contest.
2. The school administrator/AD in attendance is responsible for assisting with enforcement of good sportsmanship conduct per DIAA Regulation 1007.
3. For games played at neutral sites, the school administrator/AD of the participating schools are jointly responsible for the protection and well-being of all spectators and officials in attendance.
B. Complete the submit all pre-championship information as requested by the DIAA and adhere to the provided deadlines. Championship tournament rosters for teams, cheerleaders, and bands should be completed and submitted to the DIAA as instructed. Member schools are solely responsible for contacting DIAA with any changes to the submitted tournament eligibility rosters.
C. Arrive on time at the game site. If a late arrival is anticipated, the host school and game manager should be contacted immediately.

Item 11. Officials
A. DIAA recognized basketball officials associations will provide the officials for all tournament games.
1. Officials are required each year to both attend the DIAA rules interpretation clinic and to pass the rules examination provided by the DIAA office for the sport(s) they officiate.
2. Number of Games Requirement: The tournament committee requires that an official must work a minimum of three (3) DIAA sanctioned high school Unified Basketball games in order to be eligible to officiate a state tournament game.

B. Assignments will be done based on the game location.
C. Two (2) officials will be assigned for the quarterfinal and semifinal games and three (3) officials will be assigned for the championship game of the tournament.
D. Officials assigned to the 2022 State Tournament will be paid the Basketball Junior Varsity rates according to DIAA Regulation 1009.4 Fees for Officiating Contests and Competitions.

Item 12. Uniforms and Bench Assignments
A. Players from each team will wear the legal uniform approved by the Unified Sports Committee (Review DIAA/SODE Unified Basketball rules book).
B. If a game is played at a neutral site, the higher seeded team will be designated as the home team on the scoreboard, and will occupy the bench area assigned to them by the Committee. The lower seeded team will be designated as the visiting team on the scoreboard and occupy the bench area designated to them by the Committee.
C. For the Championship Game, the team that is the highest seed (lowest seed number) will be designated as the home team and wear their “white uniforms”. Bench assignments for the Championship Game are at the discretion of the Committee.

Item 13. Dressing Rooms and Facilities
A. Facility operations will be based on the host site facility plan and will comply with all State Orders and any Delaware Division of Public Health guidelines during the ongoing COVID-19 health pandemic.
B. If available, the participating teams will be assigned dressing rooms upon their arrival at the playing site. The coaching staff is responsible for supervising the dressing room and adhering to any issued State Orders. Schools will be held accountable for any theft or damage.
C. If available, a dressing room for Officials’ will be provided at the host site’s discretion. Officials should be prepared to arrive to the court dressed.

Item 14. Contest Procedures, Equipment, Facilities, Special Events
A. The Committee has established the following procedures for all tournament games:
   1. Team warm-up time will begin 28 minutes before the scheduled starting time, no sooner.
   2. Team warm-up time is limited to 20 minutes immediately prior to pre-game activities.
   3. Team warm-ups end 8 minutes prior to the scheduled game starting time.
   4. The Officials Conference with Captains will take place at center court 8 minutes before the scheduled game starting time.
   5. Pre-game announcements, introductions and the national anthem will take place after the Officials Conference.
   6. Each team will be given a few minutes to warm up prior to the start of the second half. No non-team practice shooting will be allowed during half-time.
   7. Teams must provide their own basketballs for the pre-game warm-up at all sites including the Bob Carpenter Center.
B. Practice Sessions: With the exception of the host school, no team will be allowed to practice at a tournament playing site. Violation of this rule will result in disciplinary action that may include disqualification from the tournament. **Host schools wishing to permit a light practice or shooting time prior to a tournament game must clear all playing courts two (2) hours before the game starting time.**
C. Game Balls and Scorebooks
   1. SODE will provide a game ball and an official scorebook for each contest. Participating schools must provide scorebooks for their own scorers.
   2. The tournament basketball size is 28.5.
D. Special Events
   1. No school will be permitted to conduct its own program of special events.
   2. Special events will be confined to the official pre-game activities and the awards ceremony after the championship game.
   3. The pre-game activities may include:
      a. National Anthem: All players, coaches, game officials, and school personnel are expected to stand attentively during the presentation of the flag and the playing of the national anthem.
b. Introduction of the Chairperson of the DIAA Board of Directors or his/her representative.
c. Introduction of the Chairperson of the Unified Sports Committee or his/her representative.
d. Introduction of the players and coaches of the participating teams.
e. Introduction of the Principal or Headmaster of the participating schools.
f. Other VIPs in attendance will be recognized by asking them to stand momentarily at their seats.
g. Only the individuals listed in b., c., d., and e. will be on the gymnasium floor during the special events. The game officials will be introduced at the appropriate time.

4. DIAA & the Tournament Committee is authorized to modify the program of special events however it deems appropriate.

E. Musical Entertainment
   1. With the exception of the national anthem, the playing of recorded music is not permitted unless approved by the Executive Director or the Tournament Committee in advance.
   2. Pep bands will be permitted only at games played in the Bob Carpenter Center. They will be limited to 15 members and must be accompanied by an administratively approved director. Pep bands will be allowed to perform during the pre-game warm-up, between quarters, and at half-time but not during timeouts which are reserved for the cheerleaders.

Item 15. Awards
   A. The following awards will be presented:
      1. Team: A trophy and game ball will be awarded to the Champion and Runner-Up teams.
      2. Individual: Gold medals (15) will be presented to the champions. Silver medals (15) will be presented to the runners-up.
      3. No awards other than those authorized by the Committee will be presented at any time during the tournament.
   B. Crown Trophy of Glasgow DIAA Championships Student Athlete Academic Award
      1. For each round of the tournament that a team participates, an academic award will be given to one pre-determined student athlete as selected by their coach/administrator.
      2. Nominations for the student athlete academic awards are due to be submitted by January 31, 2022 by completing this form. Schools should assume that their team is going to make the tournament.
      3. Selection criteria for the award is as follows:
         b. Student-athlete must have been at the school for a least a year to receive the award
         c. Student-athlete is an active member on the roster and eligible for the championship
         d. Student-athlete only eligible to receive the academic award once during the sport championship

Item 16. Player Bench Occupants and Bench Assignments
   A. Only members of the official school party will be permitted in the team bench area. Teams will be allowed a maximum of fifteen (15) players in uniform on the bench at any given time.
   B. During a contest, the player bench area may include a maximum of 22 members of the official school party.
      1. The official school party is defined as players, coaches (approved by the local board or governing body), managers, scorers/statisticians, and team medical personnel.
      2. All occupants of the bench area must be in the sixth grade or older.
      3. If a team has more than the maximum 15 players in uniform, admission will be charged for the extra players and they must sit in the stands.
   C. All team personnel on the bench during the championship game must be wearing a credential. Committee members are authorized to spot-check any and all bench personnel for compliance. If a team is found in violation, the individuals will be removed from the bench and possibly the arena.
      1. Unauthorized duplication or counterfeiting of DIAA credential passes will be deemed a major infraction of the sportsmanship code and the school will be referred to the DIAA sportsmanship committee for disciplinary action.
   D. The “home team” will occupy the bench area of their choice for the first two rounds of the tournament. The “visiting team” will occupy the bench designated for them by the home team in the first two rounds of the tournament.
   E. For the championship, the home team will occupy the bench to the right of the official scorer as the team faces the playing floor. The visitors will occupy the bench to the left of the official scorer as the team faces the playing floor.

Item 17. Assignment of Baskets
A. The Tournament will follow the NFHS Rules for the assignment of baskets.

Item 18. Mercy Rule
A. The 35 point mercy rule will be used in all rounds of the tournament.

Item 19. Official Scorer’s Table
A. When space is available when complying with state orders and CDC social distancing guidelines due to the ongoing COVID-19 health pandemic, scorer’s table seating, and occupants will prioritize the official statisticians and is at the discretion of the DIAA Executive Director. The following priority list will determine seating at the official scorer's table:
   1. Official timer, official scorer and public address announcer.
   2. Alternate official when assigned (semifinal and final rounds).
   3. Assistant scorer from each participating team (if space permits both).
   4. DIAA Staff (if space permits)
   5. Committee members (Bob Carpenter Center only-space permitting)
   6. Media representatives (as assigned by DIAA)

Item 20. Cheerleaders
A. Cheerleaders will cheer from an area designated by the Site Director.
B. The University of Delaware has strict guidelines for cheering at the Bob Carpenter Center. These guidelines must be adhered to by all cheerleading squads. It is the responsibility of the cheerleading coach to review all guidelines and procedures with the site director.
C. Cheerleaders must remain seated except during timeouts. Stunts will be allowed if performed in accordance with the current NFHS Spirit Rules Book. No mini-trampolines or basket tosses will be permitted.

Item 21. Removing Nets
A. Only the winning team of the championship game will be permitted to cut down the nets under the supervision of Bob Carpenter Center personnel. Nets shall not be removed from the baskets after any other game of the tournament.
2022 Unified Basketball Championship Bracket

February 28, 2022

Quarterfinal #1
North #1 at North #1

Quarterfinal #2
South #2 at South #2

Quarterfinal #3
South #1 at South #1

Quarterfinal #4
North #2

March 4, 2022

Semifinal #1
Winner of Quarterfinal #1

Semifinal #2
Winner of Quarterfinal #3

Semifinal #2
Winner of Quarterfinal #4

March 11, 2022

State Championship
Winner of Semifinal #1

Winner of Semifinal #2

State Champion at University of Delaware

at Higher Seed

at Higher Seed

at Higher Seed