

**Team Handbook of Policies and Rules adopted by the
WHSBLA Board of Directors**

MISSION STATEMENT

To organize, develop, and promote boys high school lacrosse in Washington, and to honor the game by instilling the values of scholastic achievement, sportsmanship, and individual development, and fair play.

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**Board of Directors:**

**Catie Larsen, Executive Secretary**

**ODD Year Elects  
At- Large 1 – Vern Smith (President)  
At- Large 3 – Henry Valentine  
Region 1 Rep – Greg Hill  
Region 3 Rep – Andrew Wright  
Region 5 Rep – Rod Amell**

**EVEN Year Elects  
At- Large 2 – Ian O’Hearn  
  
Region 2 Rep – Brandon Fortier  
Region 4 Rep – Rob Hawley  
Region 6 Rep – Dylan Hummel**

## Programs Represented by the WHSBLA for the 2017 Season:

| <b><u>Region 1</u></b> | <b><u>Region 2</u></b> | <b><u>Region 3</u></b> | <b><u>Region 4</u></b> |
|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Arch. Murphy (1A/2A)   | Liberty (1A/2A)        | Overlake (1A/2A)       | Klahowya (1A/2A)       |
| Bellingham (1A/2A)     |                        | Sea. Academy (1A/2A)   | North Kitsap (1A/2A)   |
| Bur-Edison (1A/2A)     | Bellevue (3A)          |                        | Sequim (1A/2A)         |
| Friday Harbor (1A/2A)  | Juanita (3A)           | Bainbridge (3A)        | Vashon (1A/2A)         |
| Lynden (1A/2A)         | Lake Washington (3A)   | Ballard (3A)           |                        |
| Sehome (1A/2A)         | Mercer Island (3A)     | Franklin (3A)          | Gig Harbor (3A)        |
|                        | Redmond (3A)           | Garfield (3A)          | Peninsula (3A)         |
| Meadowdale (3A)        | Sam-Interlake (3A)     | Nathan Hale (3A)       |                        |
| Shorecrest (3A)        |                        | Franklin (3A)          | South Kitsap (4A)      |
| Snohomish (3A)         | Bothell (4A)           | Roosevelt (3A)         |                        |
| Stanwood (3A)          | Eastlake (4A)          | West Seattle (3A)      | Columbia River (2A)    |
|                        | Issaquah (4A)          |                        |                        |
| Cascade (4A)           | Inglesmoor (4A)        | Blanchet (PV)          | Camas (4A)             |
| Glacier Peak (4A)      | Mt. Si (4A)            | Eastside Catholic (PV) | Skyview (4A)           |
| Jackson (4A)           | Newport (4A)           | Lakeside (PV)          | Union (4A)             |
| Kamiak (4A)            | Skyline (4A)           | O'Dea (PV)             |                        |
| Monroe (4A)            | Woodinville (4A)       | Seattle Prep (PV)      |                        |
|                        |                        |                        |                        |
| <b><u>Region 5</u></b> |                        | <b><u>Region 6</u></b> |                        |
| Auburn Riverside (4A)  | Montesano (1A/2A)      | West Valley (1A/2A)    | Selah (1A/2A)          |
| Curtis (4A)            | Orting (1A/2A)         |                        |                        |
| Emerald Ridge (4A)     | White River (1A/2A)    | Mt.Spokane (3A* IE)    | Southridge (3A)        |
| Olympia (4A)           |                        |                        |                        |
| Rogers (4A)            | Bethel (3A)            | Central Valley(4A)     | Chiawana (4A)          |
| Sumner (4A)            | Bonney Lake (3A)       | Ferris (4A)            | Richland (4A)          |
| Tahoma (4A)            | Stadium (3A)           | Lewis&Clark (4A)       | Wenatchee (4A)         |
|                        |                        |                        |                        |
| Bellarmino Prep (PV)   |                        | Gonzaga Prep (PV)      |                        |
| Kennedy Catholic (PV)  |                        |                        |                        |

**The WHSBLA uses the WIAA Rules and Regulations for guidance when possible.**

**Links provided on whsbla.org to WIAA policies on:**

**General Questions and Answers  
Student Rules and Regulations  
Interscholastic Eligibility  
Coaches  
Rules Violations and Penalties**

**The remainder of this WHSBLA Handbook provides policies specific to the WHSBLA.**

**1.0.0 WHSBLA HANDBOOK**

- 1.1.0** This is the official Handbook of the Washington High School Boys Lacrosse Association. It contains policies, directives, and guidelines for Members of our Association.

**2.0.0 RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE WHSBLA**

- 2.1.0** The responsibilities of the WHSBLA will be to organize, develop, and promote boys high school lacrosse in Washington. It will further be the responsibility of WHSBLA to supervise and administer boy's high school lacrosse in Washington.

**3.0.0 TEAM QUALIFICATIONS**

- 3.1.0** **OVERSIGHT** – Each program will operate under direction from a host school; i.e. AD and/or ASB oversight of the program – OR – If no support from a host school, then under a Board of Directors who oversee eligibility and coaches/player conduct.
- 3.1.1 Teams newly admitted to the WHSBLA and not working under direction of a host school must establish a Board of Directors by the October meeting following their first season of varsity play as a provisional member.
- 3.1.2 At minimum, the Board of Directors will include a President, Vice-President, Secretary/Treasurer. The board may also include other officers or representatives.
- 3.1.3 The varsity head coach may not hold one of the above named positions and may NOT be a voting member of this board.
- 3.2.0** **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT and CERTIFICATION (COACH'S PACKET) -**  
Ultimately it is the responsibility of each program's HEAD COACH and the person overseeing the program as outlined in Rule 3.1 above, to ensure that their program is abiding by all WHSBLA policies.
- 3.2.1 Each year it is the duty of the Head Coach to attend the mandatory coaches meeting and submit a properly completed Coach's Packet at this meeting.
- 3.2.2 In the Coach's Packet, each program director and their Head Coach must acknowledge that they have reviewed and will abide by all WHSBLA By-laws and policies adopted in the WHSBLA handbook and addendum.
- 3.2.3 Each program director or Head Coach will certify that their program will have in place all Team Qualifications as outlined in Rule 3 of this handbook and that their coaches will meet all qualifications as outlined in Rule 4 of this handbook PRIOR to stepping on the field for the 1<sup>st</sup> day of Spring practice.
- 3.2.4** **FAILURE TO SUBMIT COACH'S PACKET** – Failure of the Head Coach to attend the mandatory coaches meeting and properly submit a fully completed Coach's Packet will result in a \$200 fine to the program.

- 3.3.0 **INSURANCE** – Proof that each player has medical insurance AND the program has liability insurance from the First Day of Season through championship weekend.
- 3.4.0 **CONCUSSIONS and SCA** - Each program will certify and have proof showing all players and parents in the program have reviewed, signed and returned a concussion/head injury (Lystedt Law) and sudden cardiac arrest acknowledgment form.
- 3.5.0 **CODE of CONDUCT** - Every program will certify and have available a written player's Code of Conduct in place.
- 3.6.0 MEMBERSHIP AND GAME FEES**
  - 3.6.1 Every Provisional and Regular Membership team will pay a Membership Fee to be determined by the Board. This Membership Fee must be paid by the January membership meeting. These fees are in place to cover expenses needed to run the WHSBLA. They include, but are not limited to, costs for scheduling, maintaining the WHSBLA website, administration, public relations, WALOA, championship day, etc. **FAILURE TO PAY FEE by the January Meeting will result in \$200 fine.**
  - 3.6.2 Every Provisional and Regular Member will pay GAME FEES to cover referee expenses for all scheduled home games. These fees are determined by contract between the WHSBLA and the referee association (WALOA). These fees will be collected twice. An invoice for all initial WHSBLA scheduled games will be sent between January 1<sup>st</sup> and January 15<sup>th</sup> and must be paid in full by March 1<sup>st</sup>. An invoice for all late added non-WHSBLA and playoff games will be sent by July 1<sup>st</sup> and must be paid in full by August 1<sup>st</sup>. Any conflicts preventing WHSBLA payment by stated deadlines requires a plan be arranged with the WHSBLA secretary/treasurer PRIOR to stated deadlines. **FAILURE TO PAY INITIAL GAME FEE by March 1st will result in \$200 fine.**
  - 3.6.3 In the unfortunate event that a team must fold during the season, the Membership Fee will be kept by the WHSBLA but unused GAME FEES will be returned to that program.

#### **4.0.0 COACHES QUALIFICATION**

##### **4.1.0 Qualifications and Responsibilities for ALL Coaches in Program:**

- 4.1.1 All members of the coaching staff must be First Aid certified and CPR qualified.
- 4.1.2 All members of the coaching staff must undergo a national scope background check of NATIONAL SCOPE, PRIOR to any contact with participants.
- 4.1.3 All Coaches shall read and agree to abide by the WHSBLA Code of Conduct.
- 4.1.4 All coaches must complete the Concussion in Sports and Sudden Cardiac Arrest courses online through NFHS every three years.

##### **4.2.0 Program Head Coach Qualifications and Responsibilities:**

- 4.2.1 The Head Coach will be held responsible for knowing the rules and insuring that all those coaching and acting under the Head Coach comply with the rules of the WHSBLA.

- 4.2.2 The Head Coach of a program shall be at least 21 years old and a high school graduate unless the Board, prior to the First Day of the Season, has granted a waiver.
- 4.2.3 The Head Coach shall be a member of US Lacrosse. Coaches should attend the yearly clinics provided by US Lacrosse Washington Chapter.
- 4.2.4 If having coached in the WHSBLA for less than 10 years, The Head Coach of the program must provide the following documentation/proof:
  - A) Completion of the US Lacrosse Level I ONLINE Course: Fundamentals of Coaching Men's Lacrosse OR Completion of the NFHS course: Coaching Boy's Lacrosse  
AND
  - B) Completion of the PCA Double Goal Coach 1 ONLINE Course: Coaching for Winning and Life Lessons

## **5.0.0 WHSBLA COMPLIANCE**

**5.1.0 Compliance File** – Each program must submit an electronic COMPLIANCE FILE at least five days prior to the first day of spring practice. This file demonstrates proof that all requirements for players and coaches are in place.

- 5.1.1 Compliance file must include:
  - a. Cover Page – checklist
  - b. Proof of Program Liability and Individual Player Medical Insurances
  - c. Proof of Compliance with Concussions/SCA for players/parents and coaches
  - d. Proof of Program Code of Conduct
  - e. Proof of national scope Background Check for ALL Coaches
  - f. Proof that ALL COACHES are CPR AND First Aid Certified (BOTH)
  - g. Proof that HEAD COACH is member of US Lacrosse
  - h. Proof that HEAD COACH is certified or exempt per rule 4.2.4

5.1.2 **Failure to properly submit a fully completed electronic COMPLIANCE FILE by the deadline (FIVE days PRIOR to first day of Spring Practice) will cause:**

- a. \$200 fine (an additional \$200 fine for every subsequent resubmission);  
NOTE: Fines will not apply to a resubmission for purpose of submitting updated information in regards to players and/or coaches added to roster or staff AFTER the original submission deadline.
- b. Non-compliance by first day of practice will delay the program's first allowable practice day (day for a day).

## **5.2.0 Rosters**

- 5.2.1 Each program must submit an official PROGRAM ROSTER to the WHSBLA (via email) by the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each season. The roster will be completed using an official template to include NAME, ADDRESS, YR/GRADE in school and SCHOOL ATTENDING for every player in the program, Varsity and Sub-Varsity.
- 5.2.2 FAILURE to submit PROGRAM ROSTER by deadline will result in \$200 fine
- 5.2.3 If any player(s) are added after PROGRAM ROSTER is submitted, a new roster must be submitted with a note of new player(s). Player(s) are not eligible for competition until the WHSBLA confirms receipt of late addition(s) and status.

- 5.2.4 It is the responsibility of each program to ACCURATELY and fully post their VARSITY roster properly online via the WHSBLA mandated website (Sportability) at least one day PRIOR to first scheduled game of the season.
- 5.2.5 Further, no player may appear in a Varsity contest without first being properly listed as part of online roster.
- 5.2.6 Any discrepancy from posted Varsity roster must be disclosed to the opposing Head Coach PRIOR to contest in which discrepancy is to occur.
- 5.2.7 FAILURE to disclose all information accurately on either roster may result in use of an ineligible player and could cause forfeitures and/or suspensions.

### **6.0.0 ADMISSION OF NEW TEAMS**

- 6.1.0 New teams may apply for provisional membership providing they meet all the criteria in Article III.C.2.a-e of the WHSBLA By-laws.
- 6.2.0 When forming, a new program must establish and name itself around a single high school. Program may then submit request to the board to draw from other surrounding high schools. Once boundaries are determined, the WHSBLA boundary documents will be updated accordingly.

### **6.3.0 CONGLOMERATE PROGRAMS (CPs)**

- 6.3.1 Conglomerate programs will be classified as follows
  - i. CP0 - WHSBLA Approved partnership
  - ii. CP1 - 2 years, then must split or remove additional schools
  - iii. CP2 - already had 2 years, granted waiver for one year
  - iv. CP3 - ineligible (see #3)
- 6.3.2 When a conglomerate program splits and either one or both resulting new programs are by definition still a conglomerate program, then they by default are classified as a CP1 with a new 2 year window.
- 6.3.3 Any program that does not split when mandated (or receive waiver from the WHSBLA Board classified as CP2) becomes a CP3 and subject to :
  - i. Team is not eligible for post season play.
  - ii. Players are not eligible for All-Conference recognition.

### **6.4.0 PLAYER ELIGIBILITY for NEW TEAMS**

- 6.4.1 When a new team forms, all players attending schools deemed within that new team's designated boundaries must play for the new team except for returning seniors who may, but are not required to, play their final season for their original team.
- 6.4.2 When a team divides and a new varsity team is formed, only returning seniors will be grandfathered to the old team. Juniors, sophomores, freshmen and new players (including new seniors), must play with the new team.
- 6.4.3 Further, general eligibility rules per WIAA/WHSBLA Policy with Q/A will be followed.

## **7.0.0 ALIGNMENT**

- 7.1.1 The current structure of the WHSBLA is four classifications and four championships: 4A, 3A, Private A and 1A/2A. A structure of four classifications will remain in place unless the Board is given authority by the general membership per Article IV of the By-laws to change the number of classifications/championships.
- 7.1.2 The Board, per the By-laws, has authority to reclassify programs as deemed necessary due to the dynamic nature of growth in the WHSBLA. The status of CPs will re-evaluated yearly by the Board.
- 7.1.3 It is the duty of the Board to create and structure conferences as deemed best by the Board to manage regular season and post-season play.

## **8.0.0 SCHEDULING**

- 8.1.0 Games counting toward playoff standings are scheduled by an assigned scheduler.
- 8.2.0 Contests (any interaction with an opponent: game, practice, scrimmage, jamboree, etc.) scheduled individually by coaches outside of scheduled WHSBLA play are Non-WHSBLA games. Such games do not count towards WHSBLA standings, but will be conducted and played under WHSBLA rules when appropriate (and rules of respective leagues when played outside the WHSBLA's jurisdiction). These contests are scheduled at the discretion of the coaches . However, all contests must be reported to the WHSBLA Scheduler so they can be added to the master WHSBLA schedule to assign referees and/or complying with the number of contests limit as defined in rule 12.0,
- 8.3.0 During the WHSBLA season only contests scheduled against WHSBLA sanctioned teams or teams sanctioned by their state's lacrosse sanctioning body are permissible.
- 8.4.0 Changes to scheduled game must be agreed upon between both coaches.
- 8.5.0 Changes to a scheduled game must be reported to the WHSBLA scheduler at least 48 hours prior to the originally scheduled date and time. Notice of less than forty-eight (48) hours change of time or location played will results in one of these two scenarios:
  - i. Games played within the same forty-eight (48) hour time frame may cause a charge to the hosting team of \$100.00 payable to WHSBLA. The payment will be split between WALOA and WHSBLA.
  - ii. Games played outside of the same forty-eight (48) hour time frame will require full payment to the assigned officials unless officials can be re-assigned. WALOA will make a good faith effort to re-assign officials and will consider extenuating circumstances beyond the control of the teams involved.

- 8.6.0 No games will be scheduled past an 8:00pm start time Monday through Thursday.
- 8.7.0 Doubleheaders scheduled at the same location will be scheduled to start 2 hours apart. However, should the first game run long, teams will be given no less than 20 minutes to warm up, otherwise the 2<sup>nd</sup> game will start at scheduled time. With a Varsity/JV doubleheader, the play of the JV game will be adjusted (shorten duration, cancel or reschedule) so the varsity game is played per rule. When possible, adjustments should be agreed upon prior to the start of the first game of the doubleheader.
- 8.8.0 Games scheduled Monday through Thursday have a drop dead start time of 8:30pm. No game will start after 8:30pm if being played on a Monday through Friday. Any JV game must be adjusted per rule 8.7.0 to allow play of the varsity game per schedule.
- 8.9.0 Except for games scheduled as part of initial WHSBLA schedule, no games will be added to the schedule to be played after the beginning of the playoffs.
- 8.10.0 **FAILURE TO REPORT TOTAL CONTESTS** – A contest is any such activity involving an opponent (including jamborees, controlled scrimmages, practices, non-WHSBLA games and out-of-state play). ALL contests must be reported to the WHSBLA Scheduler for inclusion on the master WHSBLA schedule PRIOR to that contest being played and/or to track each programs allowable contest limit. Failure to report total contests may place the program on probation and/or result in sanctions placed against the program and/or coach.

## **9.0.0 STATISTICS**

- 9.1.0 It is the responsibility of the home team to keep the official scorebook.
- 9.2.0 These statistics will be kept by each team for each WHSBLA game and reported to the WHSBLA via Sportability.com within 24 hours of each contest's completion:
  - A. Goals
  - B. Assists
  - C. Groundballs
  - D. Shots on Goal
  - E. Goalie Saves
- 9.2.1 Failure to report statistics accurately and by the deadline will result in the following:
  - 1) First Offense - program put on notice and given warning;
  - 2) Second Offense - \$50 fine; and
  - 3) All subsequent offenses - \$50 fine
- 9.3.0 These definitions (per NCAA) will be used in recording WHSBLA statistics:
  - A. Goalkeeper saves - A save is recorded any time a ball is stopped or deflected by the goalkeeper's body or crosse in such a manner that had the ball not been stopped or deflected, it would have entered the goal.
  - B. Assists - Any one direct pass by a player to a teammate who then scores a goal without having to dodge or evade an opponent, other than the goalkeeper in the crease, is recorded as an assist. There can be only one assist on any goal scored.



- C. Ground balls - Any ball not in the possession of one team that comes into the possession of the other team in live-ball play can be a ground ball. This may occur on an intercepted pass (the ball need not hit the ground) or from a ball checked loose onto the ground. Further, the ball must be obtained under pressure (another opposing player must be within 5 yards of the loose ball). When such a ground ball is obtained, the player gaining the ground ball must be able to perform immediately the normal functions of possession (shoot, pass, cradle). Should any of these conditions not be met, a ground ball may not be awarded. A player cannot drop the ball of his own volition, pick it up again, and be credited with a ground ball. Ground balls should be awarded as part of the face-off play; however, a ground ball is not always awarded when an official signals possession on a face-off play, since his definition of possession does not rise to the standard of that of a ground ball.

## **10.0.0 AWARDS**

**10.1.0 ALL-CONFERENCE** – The Head Coaches in each region/conference will select All-Conference teams through a nomination and voting process.

- 10.1.1 Each All-Conference Team may contain a maximum of 13 players defined by : three (3) attack, three (3) midfield, one FOGO, one SSDM, one LSM, three (3) defense and one goalie – total 13.
- 10.1.2 A single All-Conference Team will be selected for any conference with 6 teams or less.
- 10.1.3 A FIRST Team and a SECOND Team will be selected for any conference with 7 teams or more.
- 10.1.4 Honorable Mention selections will be left to the discretion of the coaches within each region/conference.

**10.2.0 US LACROSSE/WASHINGTON CHAPTER** – under the US Lacrosse Guidelines, the Secondary Schools Area Representative for USL coordinates the selection (with input from the coaches) and presentation of these awards: **Coach of the Year; All Americans; and Academic All American.**

## **11.0.0 RULE VIOLATIONS AND PENALTIES**

The strength of the Washington High School Boys Lacrosse Association lies in the willingness and ability of the membership to support the rules and regulations adopted and to support the penalties placed upon members, if it is determined those same rules and regulations have been violated.

Violation of WHSBLA By-Laws, policies, rules and regulations can cause, but is not limited to, sanctions placed upon individual players, coaches and/or programs. Sanctions can include but are not limited to fines, game suspension, season suspension, forfeiture of games, forfeiture of post-season play (playoffs), probation, and expulsion from the Association. Each situation is unique and will be handled at the discretion of the Board. Multiple, repeated infractions and/or those deemed to intentionally defy WHSBLA policy will cause stiffer sanctions.

Members must cooperate in any investigation of a possible violation of WHSBLA By-laws, policies, or directives. See By-laws §III.A.3.a,

**11.1.0 USE OF INELIGIBLE PLAYER** – The use of an ineligible player will result in forfeiture of all games in which that player participated, except as noted in 11.1.2

11.1.1 An ineligible player “takes part” in a game when he steps onto the playing field during competition of a contest in which he is ineligible.

11.1.2 The Board may determine that the ineligible player’s participation did not affect the result of that contest. In such a case, the Board may rule to let the result of the game stand and impose sanctions on the coach and/or ineligible player.

11.1.3 Eligibility is measured from the start of the game through the conclusion of the game, even when that game is finished at a later date.

**11.2.0 EJECTIONS - MISCONDUCT BY PLAYERS and/or COACHES**

11.2.1 Upon ANY ejection, the Head Coach of the penalized team shall report to the Board by email ([whsbla@googlegroups.com](mailto:whsbla@googlegroups.com)) within 12 hours of the ejection.

10.2.2 Failure to report any ejection may cause further suspensions of coach and/or Player.

**11.3.0 CONTESTING SANCTIONS**

Any decision of the Board may be appealed to the General Membership under the provision of the WHSBLA By-law § IV.F.

**12.0 SPECIFIC WHSBLA LACROSSE RULES AND REGULATIONS**

**Minimum Practice Days Per Individual Prior to Contest: 10**  
**Regular Season Contest Limit End Season: 20 + Jamboree**

**12.1 CONTEST RULES** -- except as stated below, the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) lacrosse rules for high school boys lacrosse will apply.

**12.2 NFHS RULE EXEMPTIONS**

A. Goal Specifications: In-ground or flat-bar goals are recommended but not required.

B. Uniforms: Helmets and gloves should be uniform for all programs. This means that the color scheme must match. Helmets and gloves need not be the same model or brand. Regarding helmets, the shell of each must be the same base color and any accent colors must be team colors or neutral (black/white). Regarding gloves, all should be team colors or neutral.

NOTE: Any programs classified as Division 2 in 2016 and/or any program new to the WHSBLA in 2017 has a 1-year grace period in which to comply with helmet and glove requirements.

**12.3 ADDITIONAL RULE ADOPTIONS**

12.3.1 Size of Field

A. Prior to the start of each season, each school will designate what size field(s) (within rule when able) that their matches will be held on. This information will be posted on each programs page of the WHSBLA website.

B. if a school's field dimensions cannot meet the NFHS standards they will line their field such that the offensive/defensive box measurements remain legal. It will be noted, posted and known amongst the WHSBLA of these modifications.

**12.4 JAMBOREE** -- A jamboree is an abbreviated contest during which a squad may play only forty (40) minutes of **running** clock. Only 3 of these shortened games may occur in one day.

**12.4.1** Jamborees over the one allowable jamboree day under rule 12.0: each subsequent day of a participation in a jamboree counts as 1 game towards the 20 game contest limit.

**12.4.2** Participation in any jamboree must be reported to the WHSBLA scheduler (prior to participation) so the WHSBLA can ensure that each program is within the limits of rule 12.0. The reporting of participation in a jamboree must include the schedule of dates, times and opponents.

**12.4.3** Jamborees will NOT be posted as part of the master WHSBLA schedule and those hosting such jamborees must contact and negotiate with WALOA individually to obtain officials for these events.

**12.5 SQUAD AND CONTEST LIMITATIONS** -- Each squad (Varsity or SubVarsity) may schedule up to twenty (20) contests and a jamboree.

**12.6 ADDITIONAL CONTEST ALLOWED**

**12.6.1** Each squad may schedule and participate in only one (1) regulation contest per day.

One regulation contest is defined as:

4 quarter, WHABLA or non-WHSBLA scheduled game

OR 1 Jamboree day (up to 3 shortened running clock games)

OR a controlled scrimmage and/or practice with an opponent

**12.6.2** Each interscholastic contest played must be credited as a contest to a definite squad.

**12.7 PLAYER LIMITATION** – Each player may play in twenty (20) contests, but in doing so may not exceed eighty (80) quarters. Any appearance in a quarter, regardless of the time played, will be considered as one (1) quarter. This is interpreted as meaning when a player steps onto the field and the ball becomes alive, that the player has played in one (1) quarter.

**12.8 COUNTING QUARTERS AND CONTESTS:**

**12.8.1** Four (4) quarters played against the same squad is one (1) contest.

**12.8.2** Four (4) quarters played against the same school, same day, different squads (i.e., varsity and junior varsity squads) is one (1) contest.

**12.8.3** Four (4) quarters played against the same school, different days during the same week, different squads (i.e., varsity on Tuesday, junior varsity on Thursday) is one (1) contest. If a player exceeds four (4) quarters, that player

is considered to have participated in two (2) contests (one (1) contest on each day).

- 12.8.4 A total of four (4) quarters played against two (2) different schools, same day, different squads is one (1) contest.
- 12.8.5 One (1) or more quarters played against two (2) different schools, different days during the same week, different squads would be two (2) contests.
- 12.8.6 Postseason games do not count against the game or quarterly season limitation.

**12.9 OFFICIALS:**

- 12.9.1 If no officials are assigned to or fail to show for a WHSBLA Scheduled Varsity game, the game must be postponed and rescheduled.
- 12.9.2 If no officials are assigned to or fail to show for a Sub-Varsity game (JV or C) the game may be played at the discretion of the coaches and officiated by an agreed upon assistant coach(es) or other program administrator(s)

**12.10 TIE--BREAKERS for PLAYOFF STANDINGS:**

**12.10.1 Two Team Tie-Breaks:**

- 1. Head-to-head (best win-loss percentage in games between the teams involved).
- 2. Head-to-Head Goal Differential (best GD in games between the teams involved).
- 3. Overall Least Goals Allowed (in WHSBLA scheduled games only)  
\*No team will be eliminated from playoffs on tie-breakers beyond head-to-head (#1). These will be used only when determining seeding for teams already assured a playoff berth. If teams have split regular season series and are tied for last playoff berth then play-in game will occur at a neutral site to break the tie.

**12.10.2 Three Team Tie-Breaks:**

- 1. Head-to-head (best win-loss percentage in games among the teams involved).
- 2. Head-to-Head GD (best GD in games among the teams involved).
- 3. Overall Least Goals Allowed (in WHSBLA games only)

\*No team will be eliminated from playoffs on tie-breakers beyond head-to-head (#1). These will be used only when determining seeding for teams already assured a playoff berth. If any teams involved are not assured a playoff berth, a three-way tie occurs and tie is not broken by head-to-head (#1) then a three team mini-playoff will occur.

**12.10.3 THREE TEAM MINI-PLAYOFF:**

(Any three team mini-playoff will be played at location as determined by the WHSBLA)

- 1. Each team plays two halves; 1 half (2 twelve min. quarters) against each of other teams involved.
- 2. Coin Flip will determine which team sits first. Each team flips coin, odd man out sits first.
- 3. Winner of first game has option to sit or play back to back.

4. Teams will be allotted a 15 minute warm-up/rest period between each mini-game.
5. If tied after 24 minutes of play, teams will play sudden-victory (4 min periods) until tie is broken.
6. WINNER:
  - A) If tie-break is for ONE playoff berth
    - I. team winning both of its mini-games advances
    - II. if all 3 still tied (beat each other in a circle), then best GD is declared winner
  - B) If tie-break is for TWO playoff berths
    - I. team winning both of its mini-games is top seed, team finishing 1-1 is next
    - II. if all 3 still tied (beat each other in a circle), then worst GD is out
    - III. head-to-head result of mini game between teams advancing determines seeds

## **12.11 HOSTING PLAYOFF GAMES – HOME FIELD**

- 12.11.1** When both teams carry a seed # from their conference, the higher seed will host.
- 12.11.2** If seed #s are equal then team ranked highest per the most current LaxPower.com computer rankings will host
- 12.11.3** Where a team is unseeded because they are the only playoff team from their respective conference, the team ranked highest per the most current LaxPower.com computer rankings will host except for a #1 seed. A #1 seed from a conference containing multiple playoff berths will always host unless matched against another #1 seed in which case refer to 12.11.2.
- 12.11.4** Playoff teams will be responsible to split the costs for referees until the semifinals, at which point the WHSBLA will cover the cost of the officials.