



Maryland Independent Athletic Conference
HANDBOOK
2023-2024



Maryland Independent Athletic Conference
Master Calendar
2023-2024

August 23 10 a.m.	Athletic Directors Meeting, @ Greater Grace	Feb. 20-24	Winter Varsity Basketball Tournament
October 13-21	Fall MS and V Tournaments	February 24	Winter Varsity Basketball Finals @ AACS
October 20	Fall MS and V Soccer Finals Western Regional Park	March 6 10 a.m.	Athletic Directors Meeting, @ Greater Grace
October 21	Fall MS, JV, V Volleyball Finals Greater Grace	May 6-14	Spring MS and V Tournaments
October 24	Fall MS, V XC Championships MSD	May 13	Spring MS/V Baseball Finals Location TBD
December 6 10 a.m.	Athletic Directors Meeting, @ MACA	May 14	Spring MS/V Girls Soccer Finals Location TBD
Feb. 13-17	Winter MS Tournament	May 14	Spring MS Track & Field Championship MSD
Feb. 17	Winter MS and JV Basketball Finals Covenant Life	May 22 10 a.m.	Athletic Director's Meeting, @ MACA

INDEX

Conference Objectives.....	3
Conference Identity.....	3
Conference Membership Eligibility.....	3
Conference Organization and Government.....	4
Officers, Committees, and Duties.....	4
Organizational Policies.....	7
Member Representatives.....	7
Conference Finances.....	7
Player Eligibility.....	8
Player Roster Submission.....	8
Age/Participation Limitations.....	8
Student Transfers.....	9
Recruiting/Athletic Scholarships.....	9
Amateur Status.....	9
Sportsmanship.....	10
Discipline.....	10
Referral Process.....	10
Member School Discipline.....	11
Coach and Player Discipline.....	11
Ejection Rule for Coaches.....	12
Ejection Rule for Players.....	12
Appeal Process.....	12
Report of Yellow/Red Cards, Technical Fouls, and Ejections.....	13
Member Team Participation Requirement.....	13
Game Officials.....	13
Season Start Dates/Game Limitations.....	13
Game Day Guidelines.....	13
Playing Your Schedule.....	14
Reporting Scores and Results.....	14
Postponing a Game.....	14
Tournament Seeding Policies.....	14
Special Circumstances Facility/Field Usage.....	15
Hosting a Tournament.....	15
Post Season Awards.....	17
Rules of Play.....	18
Conference Officers.....	22
Member School Listing and Contact Information.....	23

INDEX continued

Appendices:

Appendix A – MIAC Roster.....	27
Appendix B – Waiver Request for Student Transfer.....	28
Appendix C – Incident Referral Form.....	29
Appendix D – Appeal Form.....	30
Appendix E – Report of Yellow/Red Cards, Technical Fouls, Ejections.....	31
Appendix F – School Report of Efforts to Enhance Sportsmanship.....	32

Conference Objectives

- through athletic competition, emphasize and develop character and sportsmanship
- to encourage participation in athletics as an integral part of the educational program
- to govern interscholastic athletics for boys and girls in grades 6-12 in its member schools by developing, enforcing and revising (as needed) a MIAC Handbook, containing policies, rules, by-laws and procedures for Conference participants
- to achieve “whole athlete” development physically, socially, and academically
- to cultivate and promote friendly and cordial relationships among member schools by means of an organized program of athletics.
- to conduct post-season tournaments
- to produce a champion team for each sport sponsored by the Conference

Conference Identity

The name of the organization shall be the Maryland Independent Athletic Conference, herein referred to as MIAC or the Conference. MIAC was officially formed in November of 2013.

Conference Membership Eligibility

Any Maryland independent school is eligible to participate in MIAC. Any school desiring to be a member must seek membership through the Executive Committee. High School Conference membership is not open to home school organizations. Application and admission to full membership in the Conference is accomplished over a two year period. New schools must apply for membership by November 1st to be considered for the next school year. Upon being voted into the conference, schools that candidate for membership will participate in the next available school year under **new member probation** which begins in the fall following the application year. During this probationary period, a new member cannot vote on league matters and is not eligible for post-season tournaments or end of season awards (All-Conference, etc.) A second vote will be taken after the probationary year to determine if the new school will become a full member. An entrance fee, determined by the Executive Committee, is required at the time of admission to probationary membership. Annual membership fees are established by MIAC and should be paid by member schools on or before the fall meeting.

Current membership Fees

- \$250 Entry Fee (Payable upon acceptance of application to the conference)
- \$750 per year for schools entering Varsity and Middle School programs
- \$650 per year for schools entering Varsity programs only (regardless of number of teams/seasons entered)
- \$600 per year for schools entering Middle School programs only (regardless of number of teams/seasons entered)

Conference Organization and Government

Officers, Committees and Duties

MIAC shall elect a President, 1st Vice-president, 2nd Vice-president, Treasurer and Secretary from among its members to serve a term of two years. MIAC Discipline Committee members will serve a term of two years. Nominations for any open office will be received at the spring meeting and officers elected at the same meeting.

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee shall consist of the President, Vice-president.

President shall preside at all meetings of the conference and shall perform such other duties as the conference may designate or the handbook authorizes. He will perform the duties of directing the conference. The President shall be responsible for the administration of play-offs and tournaments.

The MIAC President or designate is responsible for the distribution of all season and post-season awards. The President shall receive all referrals from member schools and direct them to the appropriate decision-making body. He shall serve as the chairman of the MIAC Discipline Committee. The President shall serve for a term of 2 years.

Vice-president shall assume the duties of the President during his absence or if he is unable to fulfill the responsibilities of the office of President. The 1st Vice-President shall also serve as a member of the MIAC Discipline Committee. The 1st Vice-President shall serve for a term of 2 years after which he will assume the role of President.

Treasurer and Secretary

Treasurer shall oversee the monies of the conference, tracking income and expenses. A financial report shall be submitted to the membership at each conference meeting.

Secretary shall keep the minutes and records of the conference, revise the MIAC handbook annually, publish and distribute copies of the MIAC handbook to all conference member schools. The Secretary shall also be responsible for billing of conference fees.

Discipline Committee

MIAC Discipline Committee shall be comprised of 5 representatives from 5 different schools. The President shall serve as the chairman and the Vice-Presidents shall occupy one of the four remaining committee seats. The remaining two committee seats shall be filled by athletic directors from member schools not already represented in the three seats filled by the officers. The committee shall render judgment concerning any handbook violation accusation initiated by a member school. The referral process is outlined in the discipline section of this handbook. No committee member shall render judgment or vote on an issue that involves his own school. The Executive Committee will appoint 1-2 alternate members as needed in the event that a Discipline Committee member's school is involved in any discipline issue that must be voted on.

Standing Committees

Standing Committees shall be responsible to the Executive Committee and shall carry out the duties and responsibilities prescribed. Additional Standing Committees shall be formed as necessary. Standing Committee members shall be appointed by the Executive Committee.

Membership Committee

1. Investigate the applications of potential member schools and communicate with their representatives.
2. Assess a school's qualifications with due consideration for the stipulations of conference rules and by-laws.
3. Provide a recommendation regarding the school's admission to the Executive Committee.

Awards Committee

1. The Awards Committee shall be chaired by a member of the Executive Committee.
2. Shall be responsible for the ordering and delivery of all trophies, medals, certificates, and any other award that are given to team champions.
3. Shall oversee and conduct voting for all-conference teams for each conference sport.

Scheduling Committee

A Scheduling Committee chaired by the President will develop and distribute schedules for each conference sport.

Middle School Competition Committee

A Middle School Competition Committee has the responsibility to oversee all conference Middle School competition.

Responsibilities:

1. Develop recommendations for the alignment of middle schools in divisions.
2. Develop and submit recommendations to the conference on regulations and rules governing play, required equipment, any modifications to equipment and/or facilities due to the middle school level of play, method for playoffs and any other matters that pertain to the middle school program.
3. To report on developments regularly to the General Membership.

Sports Chairpersons

For each sport in which the conference organizes league competition shall be a Sport Chairperson that has the responsibility to ensure competitive balance and regulations so that each sport is conducted in a manner consistent with the purpose of this conference. Each Sport Chairperson will report to the Executive Committee.

Responsibilities:

1. Develop recommendations for the alignment of schools in divisions.
(Geographic divisions initially, Competitive divisions once the league has reached that point in its growth)
2. Develop and submit recommendations to the conference on regulations and rules governing play, required equipment, method for playoffs and any other matters that pertain to the sport.
3. To report on developments regularly to the Conference Membership.
4. Conduct post season coaches meetings to consider rule changes, All-Conference teams, etc. All schools must send a representative to post season meetings. Any school not sending a representative will be subject to a fine and will not have players represented on the All-Conference teams.

Vacancies of any office shall be filled from the membership by the vote of the majority of the membership. Only Athletic Directors of member schools are eligible to hold office. The Executive Committee shall have general management of the affairs of the conference in the interval between meetings and shall have the power to act on all matters not covered by this handbook. The Executive Committee shall have jurisdiction in all appeals, protests, and questions of eligibility when the conference is not in session or when the MIAC Discipline Committee judgment has been appealed.

Organizational Policies

All MIAC activities, policies, and procedures shall be administered by the Conference membership, consisting of one representative from each MIAC member school. Robert's Rules of Order shall be used to conduct all business meetings. General business motions are approved by a majority vote. Voting on a motion can be conducted by phone or email voting, provided the action voted upon is written, signed by Conference members, and filed with the secretary. A quorum is 75% of league members and is defined as President, 1st and 2nd Vice-President and members who are present at the Conference meeting (provided that two weeks' notice of date, time, and location were provided to each member school). There shall be a minimum of four MIAC meetings per year (quarterly). The President may call special meetings (two weeks' notice must be provided to member schools). All member schools must send a representative to every MIAC meeting. Any member school not represented will be fined \$100.

Any member schools not current on league fees or outstanding fines can't participate in playoffs until the league fees or fines are paid.

Handbook deletions, revisions, or additions must be approved by 75% of MIAC member schools at an official MIAC meeting. The MIAC membership will annually approve the handbook (with revisions noted). The effective date for any handbook revision must be announced to each of the member schools. The secretary will annually revise the MIAC handbook in accordance with MIAC meeting minutes or business passed by a voting quorum. The revision and production of the handbook should be completed over the summer and copies made available for distribution to member schools by the fall MIAC meeting. Policy and procedure changes occurring during the course of the school year will be written and distributed to member schools on paper or electronically until the revised handbooks are available.

Member Representatives

One representative from each member school shall attend each MIAC meeting (notification of meetings to the school administrator or athletic director shall be at least two weeks in advance of the meeting). While a member school may elect to send more than one representative to MIAC meetings, the member school is limited to one vote during conference business. Issues ending in tie votes shall be decided by the vote of the MIAC Executive Committee. The secretary shall produce and distribute meeting minutes to all member schools within one week after a Conference meeting.

Conference Finances

Income shall include membership fees (assessed by the Conference) and excess tournament revenue (after expenses deducted). The Conference officers shall determine post-season tournament ticket prices. Expenses of the Conference shall be determined by the Conference. Expenses include cost of officials, awards, officers' per diem, office expenses, etc.

Upon the dissolution of the Conference, after satisfying all outstanding liabilities, the remaining assets of the Conference shall be distributed on a pro rata basis among the member schools represented in the General Council which enacted the dissolution.

Player Eligibility

Commencing with date of enrollment at a MIAC school, a full-time student or a homeschooled student in the school's official homeschool umbrella is eligible to participate in MIAC competitions. Eligible participants must be in good standing in accordance with the behavioral and academic policies of the member school and are subject to other limitations prescribed in this handbook. For MIAC competition, a member school's boys must play on a team designated for boys and girls on a team designated for girls. MIAC recognizes a student's gender as that which is denoted on the student's birth certificate as presented at birth from a recognized authority of the State of Maryland or other such governing body authorized to issue birth certificates for its citizens. A student who has graduated from a secondary education program (domestic or foreign) is not eligible to participate in MIAC competitions. All participating MIAC athletes must have a physical examination every year. The deliberate or inadvertent violation of the conditions of student-athlete eligibility results in the forfeiture of all contests in which the ineligible student participated. The MIAC Discipline Committee will render judgment, upon any member school's referral, regarding the eligibility status of a student-athlete.

Definitions

Full-time Student Students are considered full time and part of the school community when they take a majority of their academic classes on campus within their school, during the traditional school year.

Home Schooled Student If a homeschool student-athlete wishes to play on a Conference member school sports team, the student must be under that school's official homeschool umbrella and follow all prescribed requirements. If a member school does not have an official homeschool umbrella with clearly defined requirements, that member school may not use home schooled student-athletes. Recruiting of home schooled student-athletes is not tolerated. Home schooled student-athletes are subject to all Conference rules and regulations governing full-time student-athletes. Member schools are required to submit a copy of their official Homeschool Umbrella policy governing student-athletes to the Executive Committee upon application to the Conference.

Player Roster Submission

Team Rosters must be submitted each sports season to the MIAC 1st vice-president by the following dates: Fall - Sept. 15; Winter – Dec. 15; Spring April 15. These will be considered Final Rosters for post season tournaments. MIAC Roster forms can be found in the Appendix of this handbook under Appendix A.

Age/Participation Limitations

A student who has attained his/her 19th birthday before September 1st of a given academic year is not eligible to participate in MIAC competitions. A student who has attained his/her 19th birthday on or after September 1st of a given academic year may participate only on the varsity level for the length of that academic year. A student who has attained his/her 15th birthday before September 1st of a given academic year is not eligible to participate in MIAC middle

school competitions. A student who has attained his/her 15th birthday on or after September 1st of a given academic year may participate in MIAC middle school athletics for the length of that academic year. Participation is limited to four years of varsity competition per sport upon entering the 9th grade for the first time. MIAC permits member schools to utilize 8th graders to fill a varsity team. Any 8th grader who is dual rostered on a middle school and JV or varsity team may not participate in more than three halves of soccer or six quarters of basketball or 6 sets for JV/V or MS/V volleyball or 4 sets for MS/JV volleyball on the same day. Any appearance in a half of soccer or quarter of basketball (regardless of the minutes played) counts as participation in that half or quarter. MIAC permits member schools to use 5th graders to fill a middle school team. High School- A student has four consecutive years of eligibility from the first date of enrollment into the 9th grade to be eligible for interscholastic competition. Middle School- A student has three consecutive years of eligibility from the first date of enrollment into the 6th grade to be eligible for interscholastic competition.

Student Transfers

Any player transferring from one member school to another member school (migration) must sit out the sports season that is in effect when he/she transferred. Any player transferring after the roster deadline is not eligible to play in that sports season. A transfer student who migrates from one member school to another during the school year and has participated in interscholastic athletics at any level at his former school is ineligible to participate in interscholastic activities for the remainder of that school year.

Waivers for special cases (geographical family move, student's present school eliminates the athletic program in which he/she is participating) may be filled out and directed to the President of MIAC for consideration. The Waiver Request for Student Transfer form can be found as Appendix C in the back of this handbook.

Recruiting/Athletic Scholarships

Recruiting between member schools is not tolerated. No MIAC member, through any of its officers, representative or by any other means, shall directly or indirectly offer inducement to a student of another member school, regardless of the student's age or academic grade, to terminate enrollment at said member school and migrate to another member school for athletic purposes.

Schools who provide financial assistance and/or scholarships to student athletes for the purpose of athletics participation are ineligible to participate in any Conference sport or tournament.

Amateur Status

Any MIAC student participant must be an amateur. As such, he/she may not receive, directly or indirectly, any salary, stipend, incentive, payment, award, gratuity, gift, educational expenses or expense allowance as a result of participation in any sport or sports team. To be eligible for

college athletics, MIAC athletes are required to adhere to the policies for avoiding “professionalism” as defined by the NCAA.

Sportsmanship

Maintaining an optimal level of sportsmanship in MIAC is a high priority. Starting with school administration, attitudes towards sportsmanship trickle down all the way to the spectators. Perhaps the most important individual in the hierarchy is the coach. The coach is directly responsible for his athletes’ conduct. His control over parents and spectators is limited but essential. The school administrator and athletic director appropriately share the responsibility of spectator conduct. If the coach does not have “his/her own house in order” the entire athletic environment can quickly spiral out of control, and often does. MIAC’s expectations of behavior for coaches are higher than for the athlete or spectator. It only follows then that consequences for coach misconduct are more severe than for athlete misconduct. In the discipline section to follow, that precedent will be evident.

MIAC member schools are expected to be proactive in the promotion of sportsmanship at their school. Following are a list of recommended activities for MIAC members:

- Develop, publish, and promote a philosophy of athletics
- Develop, publish, and distribute a school athletic handbook to all athletes and parents
- Have mandatory pre-season coaches meeting to give administration an opportunity to define school philosophy, policies, and procedures with regards to athletics
- Have athlete meetings at the beginning of the season clearly instructing the schools position on athletics
- Encourage each head coach to have a pre-season “Parents’ Night” to provide an avenue to communicate school and program philosophy along with parental/spectator expectations.
- Award recognition to athletes and teams who demonstrate good sportsmanship
- File a postseason report with MIAC containing concrete and observable attempts to enhance sportsmanship at your school (due at conclusion of spring sports; see Appendix G)

Discipline

Referral Process:

When a suspected handbook violation has occurred any member school administrator or athletic director may initiate a referral to the MIAC president. All referrals must utilize the MIAC Referral Form (Appendix D) and be sent via mail, in-person, or electronically to the President. Upon receiving the referral, the President will determine if the referral should be sent to the MIAC Discipline Committee, be handled at the Executive Committee level, or warrant a special meeting of MIAC member school representatives. The MIAC Referral Form contains the following minimal information:

Name of Person Reporting the Concern (AD or school administrator)
Name of School Reporting the Concern
Date of Referral
Description of the Concern (be exact and thorough with time, place, etc.)
Contact information for research and questioning
-AD/Administrator Full Name
-Office Phone, Cell Phone, Home Phone, e-mail address

When a judgment has been rendered, the MIAC President will return, in writing, that judgment to the referring school and involved schools' administrators or athletic directors. In turn, they should communicate the judgment to the appropriate school constituency. Referrals coming from any individual other than a member school AD or administrator will be directed back to the reporting school administrator or athletic director.

Member School Discipline:

Any school or team violating the policies/bylaws, rules, and regulations contained in the MIAC Handbook may be suspended for a period of one year from the conference by a 75% vote of the other member schools. One-year suspension or other pertinent disciplinary action may be initiated by the Conference. A school or team that is suspended from MIAC will automatically lose all membership privileges in the Conference effective on the date of the suspension. The suspended team does not have the privilege of participating in league play during this time. A suspended school or team can apply for reinstatement with full member privileges at the end of the one-year period.

MIAC may opt to enforce alternative disciplinary action in lieu of suspension such as disciplinary probation. Schools or teams under **disciplinary probation** are full members that continue to play a full regular season schedule within the league, but are not eligible to play in end of the season tournaments. Therefore, regular season games played by member schools with a league school that is under disciplinary probation will not count toward regular season standings or tournament seeding. Also, teams under disciplinary probation may not submit players to All-Conference teams. After the disciplinary probation period, a league vote may allow the offending school to be reinstated with full league privileges for the next sports season. The four main areas of concern for reinstatement are: sportsmanship (players, fans, coaches), handbook violations, communication within the league (reporting scores, returning calls/emails, etc.), and attendance of league meetings (in September, December, March, and occasional special meetings).

Coach and Player Discipline:

The MIAC Discipline Committee will hear, research, evaluate and render judgment regarding any concern initiated by a member school as related to handbook violations involving individual coaches or athletes from member schools. Handbook issues involving non-coach or non-athlete individuals (such as student body, parents, alumni, or other) must be referred to the MIAC President. He may elect to establish dialogue with the involved schools' administrators or athletic directors and handle it through consensus or he may seek judgment rendered at the MIAC membership level as per Member School Discipline paragraph previously stated.

Ejection Rule for Coaches:

A coach who is ejected from any contest is suspended from the next three competitions (regardless of the point in the season - - will carry over to next season if necessary). Game official's decisions are final and binding. A coach who is ejected a 2nd time in a season or is ejected for physical abuse of a game official (1st time) will not be permitted to coach in any MIAC competitions for the period of at least one complete calendar year. Verbal abuse is defined as profanity, vulgarity, or abusive speech that attacks the character or integrity of officials, players, or spectators. He/she may only return to coach in MIAC with MIAC review and approval. A coach returning to coach in MIAC after a 1-year suspension will remain on probation for the next entire season.

Ejection Rule for Players:

A player who is ejected from any contest is suspended from the next competition (regardless of the point in the season - - will carry over to next season if necessary). Game official's decisions are final and binding. A player who is ejected a 2nd time in a season will be suspended for the next three competitions (regardless of the point in the season - - will carry over to next season if necessary). A player who is ejected a 3rd time in a season will not be permitted to play in any MIAC competitions for the period of at least one complete calendar year. Verbal abuse is defined as profanity, vulgarity, or abusive speech that attacks the character or integrity of officials, players, or spectators. A player who is ejected for verbal abuse (1st time) will be suspended for the next three competitions. A player who is ejected a 2nd time for verbal abuse will not be permitted to play in any MIAC competitions for the period of at least one complete calendar year. A player ejected for physical abuse will not be permitted to play in any MIAC competitions for the period of at least one complete calendar year. He/she may only return to play in MIAC with MIAC review and approval. A player returning to participate in MIAC after a 1-year suspension will remain on probation for the entire season.

When a senior athlete is ejected in the final game of a fall or winter sport, the senior athlete must serve his suspension in the next interscholastic competition(s), regardless of season or sport.

*Special soccer note: Yellow cards by their very nature are subject to interpretation and evaluation by schools and the MIAC Discipline Committee.
The two yellow card rule (soft red) does not fall under this ejection policy.

Appeal Process:

An appeal is an expression of disagreement of a judgment rendered by MIAC Discipline Committee or other MIAC judgment. No appeals will be entertained regarding official's evaluations on rating cards or ejections. Their judgment as the authority is final and binding.

All appeals must utilize the MIAC Appeal Form (Appendix E) and be sent in-person or electronically to the President. Upon receiving the appeal, the President will determine the needed course of action to achieve a final answer. If the appeal comes from the Conference President, the appeal will be sent to the Conference 1st Vice-President for review. An appeal must contain the following minimal information:

Name of Person Offering an Appeal (AD or school administrator)
Name of School Appealing
What was the judgment of the MIAC?
Reason for the appeal (be exact and thorough)
MIAC response to the appeal (final)
Contact information for research and questioning
-AD/Administrator Full Name
-Office Phone, Cell Phone, Home Phone
-E-mail address

Appeals must be made to the discipline committee within 48 hours and must go through the appealing school's Athletic Director. Appeals coming from any individual other than a member school AD or administrator will be disregarded by the MIAC president. The Discipline Committee reserves the right to increase suspension for both players and coaches.

Report of Yellow Cards, Red Cards, Technical Fouls and Ejections

It is the responsibility of the coach/athletic director to report all yellow cards, red cards, technical fouls, and ejections to the MIAC president within 48 hours of the infraction. Appendix F (Reports of Yellow/Red Cards, Technical fouls, Ejections) should be filled out completely by the athletic director and forwarded within the 48 hour window (electronic submission is strongly recommended). The team receiving the card, technical, or ejection is responsible to file the report. Excessive yellow cards or technical fouls may result in disciplinary action.

Member Team Participation Requirement

It is assumed that MIAC member schools will enter teams into all varsity sports seasons and sports. Lack of student interest in a particular sport or financial constraints are legitimate reasons not to enter a team in a given sport during a given season. Weakness of team is not a legitimate reason to not enter a team into a MIAC varsity season. At their discretion, schools may or may not enter JV or middle school teams in MIAC sports offered at that level.

Game Officials

All schools must use game officials sanctioned by the MIAC for all home games. For all basketball officiating Interscholastic Athletic Association Board of Officials (IAABO) must be utilized for all MIAC contests.

Season Start Dates/Game Limitations

The MIAC respects the autonomy of each member school to decide the season starting date and number of games played in each sport in a season.

Game Day Guidelines

Member schools should plan for crowd control. Please ensure that your facilities are safe, clean and comfortable. When possible, offer concessions stands for guests. Begin each contest with

a statement regarding sportsmanship. Have entrances and restrooms clearly marked. It is recommended that host schools have first aid equipment and personnel on-site for all games. An administrator or athletic director should be present and available for all MIAC games.

Playing Your Schedule

When schedules have been put into place, you are obligated to play your MIAC schedule. In the event of game postponements, ADs should aggressively seek to reschedule the contest as soon as possible. Do not let non-conference games pre-empt the make-up of a MIAC game. MIAC schools should not schedule any league games after the Tuesday of the week before MIAC tournaments, for the purpose of seeding the tournaments before Wednesday and to allow room for make-up games before the tournament. Any MIAC school, without due cause, who refuses to make up a regular season league game or play a scheduled tournament game will forfeit the game and lose any home field/court advantage during postseason play as applied if they are the higher seed. The MIAC Executive Committee will render the final decision regarding fines for refusing to make-up a game or play the entire schedule.

Reporting Scores and Results

For all MIAC contests (Varsity or Middle School) both teams must record scores to their school Google Sheets document. These results will show up on the league website where MIAC athletic directors and coaches may access MIAC competition results: [**www.miacsports.org**](http://www.miacsports.org).

Postponing a Game

It is the responsibility of the home team to communicate with the visiting school that a game will be postponed. Impending weather, field conditions, referee cancellation are just some scenarios that may require postponement. The host school should make the decision by no later than 1:00 PM and immediately communicate the decision to the visiting school. On rare occasions, the visiting school may have to postpone due to transportation issues or weather conditions that are affecting their region. In the event of any postponement, both schools should seek to reschedule the competition on the next available play date (even if it means canceling a non-conference contest).

Tournament Seeding Policies

The following criteria will be used to determine seeding for the tournament:

1. Overall league record
2. Head-to-head regular season results
3. Head-to-head in division results
4. Opposing head-to-head division results
5. Out-of-Conference results against common opponents
6. Head-to-head point differential
7. Coin toss

Special Circumstances Facility/Field Usage

Some MIAC schools are restricted to using or renting facilities other than their own. It is the responsibility of any MIAC school that may have special circumstances regarding the use of facilities or fields to communicate that information to all MIAC members in writing or in the meeting preceding the coming sports season. Special circumstances are not limited to but may include:

- member school is renting a gymnasium or ball field and limited to a time window which they cannot exceed.
- member school has facilities or fields that do not meet National Federation of High School standards (in this circumstance the host school who is not able to provide NFHSA approved facilities must either provide such facilities, agree to play the varsity MIAC contest at the opponent's facility, or establish agreement with the visiting school that they will play the competition at the site that does not meet the NFHSA standard)
- New middle school member applicants' facilities must be approved by the Competition Committee if the facilities do not abide by NFHS standards.

If special unforeseen circumstances arise during the sports season, the member school must communicate the special circumstance to the opposing team at least one day in advance of the contest. Failure to do so may result in forfeiting the contest (even if played).

Hosting a MIAC Tournament

The MIAC membership in an official meeting will decide hosts/sites for MIAC tournaments. The host athletic director must be present at the tournament. The host school athletic director along with MIAC officers will take responsibility to insure that the following duties are performed:

- have a responsible person collecting gate fees.
- have a responsible person operating the score clock/scoreboard (when applicable). An adult must be present.
- for soccer games, have two ball runners per field per game (one for each sideline)
- have a table available for awards presentation
- produce a program with all participating tournament team rosters listed
- have visible brackets to publicize competition results
- secure and confirm all officials for the proper competition times
- upon deducting tournament expenses, forward excess revenue to the MIAC Treasurer (keep careful documentation and send with money)
- tournament personnel expenses (not including officials) should not exceed \$50.00 for a one-day tournament and \$100.00 for a 2-day tournament
- send a copy of the referee bill to the MIAC President for school reimbursement

Fees for all MIAC tournaments shall be as follows:

Adults = \$4.00

Students = \$2.00

Family Max. = \$12.00

These fees are a per day (not tournament) rate. A hand stamp should be utilized to allow paying spectators to come and go from tournament sites for that day. Free admission is granted to MIAC administrators and athletic directors. Non-players who are performing functions directly related to the team (coaches, managers, book-keepers, etc.) are granted free admission.

1st and 2nd place trophies will be awarded for all Varsity and Middle School tournaments.

All-Tournament Teams (medallions) will be awarded at the conclusion of any varsity championship tournament game. Coaches select their own players to the All-Tournament team based upon the following ratio:

Place Finish	Volleyball 6 All-Tournament 1 MVP	Soccer 10 All-Tournament 1 MVP	Basketball 6 All-Tournament 1 MVP	Baseball 9 All-Tournament 1 MVP
1 st place	3 selections	5 selections	3 selections	4 selections
2 nd place	2 selections	4 selections	2 selections	3 selections
3 rd place	1 selection	1 selections	1 selection	1 selections
4 th place	1 selection	1 selection	1 selection	1 selections

MIAC Tournament eligibility requires member schools to complete several responsibilities by published deadline dates:

- Rosters (remember Early Roster deadline and Final Roster deadline)
- inform the host school in writing what personnel are to receive free passes
- Include current team w-l-t records in the program
- Be current with your league fees

Referee expenses are only reimbursed to host schools for conference finals (consolation and championship games). The high seed host will cover costs of officials in the playoff games leading up to the finals. All excess revenues from MIAC gate receipts (after officials and support personnel paid) should be forwarded to the MIAC President.

Tournament finals game days/times will be determined based upon facility availability but should be scheduled in such a way to maximize fan attendance.

Post-Season Awards

All-Conference (Varsity Only):

MIAC All-Conference awards are given for performance of varsity athletes within the regular MIAC season schedule. The All-Conference teams will be selected directly by the coaches of those recognized athletes. The evaluation is based upon regular season (not tournament) performance. Based upon placement of regular season finish, each coach will be granted a given number of All-Conference slots to be awarded to the player(s) of his/her choosing.

All-Tournament:

The All-Tournament team will be selected directly by the coaches of those recognized athletes. The evaluation is based upon tournament (not regular season) performance. Based upon place of tournament finish, each coach will be granted a given number of All-Tournament slots to be awarded to the player(s) of his/her choosing. The Tournament MVP will be selected from the winning championship team by the coach of that team. All-Tournament and Tournament MVP awards will be presented at tournament finals.

Rules of Play

*Unless otherwise noted below, The National Federation of High School rules apply to all MIAC sports.

Boy's Varsity Soccer:

- | | |
|----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Regular Season | -40 minute halves
-when tied at the end of regulation
-2 sudden victory overtime periods of 10 minutes each
-if still tied, the score remains a tie |
| Post-season | -40 minute halves
-when tied at the end of regulation
-2 sudden victory overtime periods of 10 minutes each
-penalty kicks |

Boys' Middle School Soccer:

- | | |
|----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Regular Season | -30 minute halves
-when tied at the end of regulation
-2 sudden-victory overtime periods of 5 minutes each
-if still tied, the score remains a tie |
| Post-season | -30 minute halves
-when tied at the end of regulation
-2 sudden-victory overtime periods of 5 minutes each
-penalty kicks |

Girls' Varsity Volleyball:

- Matches consist of best three out of five
- 1 official may be used in regular season play
- Each school must provide 1 linesperson
- 2 officials should be used for tournament play
- Tie-breaker games played to 15
- Swing players can play a total of 6 sets/day

Girls' JV/Middle School Volleyball:

- Matches consist of best two out of three
- 1 official may be used in regular season play
- Each school must provide 1 linesperson
- 2 officials should be used for tournament play
- Tie-breaker games played to 15
- Swing players can play a total of 6 sets/day

Co-ed Middle School Cross Country

- Course Distance = 1.5 miles
- Top 5 Score
- Must have 5 to score as a team
- Can run as many runners as you want
- Team placement is based on lowest team score (1st place=1 pt, 2nd place=2 pts., etc)
- If a team has less than 5 runners, those runners may still compete for individual awards but will not be counted in team scoring

Boys' Varsity Basketball:

- No artificial noise makers by spectators
- No shot clock
- 8 minute quarters
- Swing players can play 6 quarters per day
- OT is 4 minutes
- No shot clock

Boys' JV Basketball:

- No artificial noise makers by spectators
- No shot clock
- 7 minute quarters
- Swing players can play 6 quarters per day
- OT is 4 minutes
- No shot clock

Boys' Middle School Basketball:

- No artificial noise makers by spectators
- No shot clock
- 6 minute quarters
- No press when leading by 20 or more points
- Swing players can play 6 quarters per day
- OT is 3 minutes
- No shot clock

Girls' Varsity Basketball:

- No artificial noise makers by spectators
- No 30-second shot clock
- 8 minute quarters
- Swing players can play 6 quarters per day
- OT is 4 minutes

Girls' JV Basketball:

- No artificial noise makers by spectators
- No 30-second shot clock
- 7 minute quarters

- Swing players can play 6 quarters per day
- OT is 4 minutes

Girls' Middle School Basketball:

- No artificial noise makers by spectators
- No 30-second shot clock
- 6 minute quarters
- No press when leading by 20 or more points
- Swing players can play 6 quarters per day
- OT is 3 minutes

Boys' Varsity Baseball:

- 7-inning games
- 10-run rule after 5 innings

Field

- Mound is 60 feet 6 inches from front of plate
- Bases are 90 feet apart
- Pitcher's Plate is 24 inches

Legal Bats

- Effective January 1, 2012 all high school aluminum, composite and 2-piece (aluminum/composite) -3 bats must meet BBCOR certification standards and display a BBCOR logo.
- The new note in Rule 1-3-2 is as follows: "The NFHS has been advised that certain manufacturers consider alteration, modification and 'doctoring' of their bats to be unlawful and subject to civil and, under certain circumstances, criminal action."
- A list of legal bats can be found at: <http://www.mme.wsu-ssl.org/certifiedbaseballbats.aspx>

Electronic Equipment

- It is illegal to use any video monitoring or replay equipment for coaching purposes during a game. That includes mobile devices that have video capabilities.
- A coach or team member may use electronic equipment in the dugout as long as it is not used for video recording or replay. A tablet computer used for scorekeeping purposes only is permissible
- A coach may not have any electronic equipment in the coaching box, even if intended to be used for scoring purposes only.

-The only equipment that a coach may have and use in the coaching box is a stopwatch, a rules book (hard copy) and a scorebook (hard copy).

Pitch Count

MIAC Pitch Count Guidelines will be distributed by the MIAC Baseball Chairperson prior to the start of the spring sports season.

Boys' Middle School Baseball:

- Varsity pitching distance
- Designated Hitter (DH) and/or Extra Hitter (EH) decided between teams before game, must be communicated to umpires
- Bat length/weight ratio -3
- 7-inning games, 10-run rule after 5 innings
- 2 hour time limit

Pitch Count

MIAC Pitch Count Guidelines will be distributed by the MIAC Baseball Chairperson prior to the start of the spring sports season.

Girls' Varsity Soccer:

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Regular Season | <ul style="list-style-type: none">-40 minute halves-when tied at the end of regulation-2 sudden victory overtime periods of 10 minutes each-if still tied, the score remains a tie |
| Post-season | <ul style="list-style-type: none">-40 minute halves-when tied at the end of regulation-2 sudden victory overtime periods of 10 minutes each-penalty kicks |

Girls' Middle School Soccer:

- | | |
|----------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Regular Season | <ul style="list-style-type: none">-30 minute halves-when tied at the end of regulation-score remains a tie |
| Post-season | <ul style="list-style-type: none">-30 minute halves-when tied at the end of regulation-2 sudden victory overtime periods of 5 minutes each-penalty kicks |

MIAC Conference Officers

President	Matt Brethauer
1 st Vice President	Pat Lynch

Treasurer	Steve Hohman
Secretary	Tim Stewart

Discipline Committee	Pat Lynch
	Steve Hohman
	Tim Stewart
	Matt Brethauer

Sport Chairpersons

Soccer	Tim Stewart
Volleyball	Vacant
Basketball	Pat Lynch
Baseball	Rich Parron

Member School Listing and Contact Information

Bethel Christian Academy:

8455 Savage-Guilford Road
Savage, Maryland 20763
Phone (301) 725-4673
<http://www.bethelchristianacademy.com/>
Administrator: Claire Dant
Athletic Director: Jacob Roth
Cell: 443-354-7475
Email: jacob.roth@teambethel.org

Covenant Life School:

7503 Muncaster Mill Rd
Gaithersburg, MD 20877
Phone (301)-869-4500
<https://www.covenantlifeschool.org/>
Administrator: Jamie Leach
Athletic Director: Jen Brewer
Cell: 301-661-6280
Email: jbrewer@clsemail.org

Forcey Christian School:

2130 E. Randolph Road
Silver Spring, MD 20904
301-622-2281
<https://fcsathletics.school/> and <https://fcs.school/>
Administrator: Cheri Vislay
Athletic Director: Michael Burgess
Cell: 443-515-7477
Email: michael-burgess@fcs.school

Grace Classical Academy:

2416 Creswell Road
Bel Air, MD 21015
Phone 410-734-6111
<https://www.graceclassicalmd.org/>
Administrator: Debbie Glasgow
Athletic Director: Ed Martinkus
Cell: 443-504-3399
Email: frylavin@gmail.com

Greater Grace Christian Academy:

6063 Moravia Park Dr.
Baltimore, Maryland 21206
Phone 410-485-0700

www.ggca.org

Administrator: Barry Quirk
Athletic Director: Pat Lynch
Cell: 443-653-1796
Email: plynch@ggca.org

Liberty Christian School:

11303 Liberty Rd.
Owings Mills , MD 21117
Phone 410-655-5527

www.libertychristianschoolmd.com/

Administrator: Mr. Eric Cole
Athletic Director: Darryl Holmes
Cell: 443-927-6043
Email: Holmesd@libertychristian.us

Maryland School For The Deaf:

101 Clarke Place
Frederick, MD 21705
Phone 240-575-2926

www.msd.edu

Administrator: Jennifer Yost Ortiz
Athletic Director: Jason Coleman
Cell: 951-801-8217
Email: jason.coleman@msd.edu

Assistant to the AD: Elena Ciccarelli
Cell: 315-941-8435
Email: Elena.Ciccarelli@msd.edu

Mount Airy Christian Academy:

16700 Old Frederick Road

Mt Airy, MD 21771

Phone 410-489-4321

www.macamd.org

Administrator: Vicky Webster

Athletic Director: Matt Brethauer

Cell: 410-241-6208

Email: matt.brethauer@macamd.org

Open Bible:

13 Open Bible Way

Kingsville, MD. 21087

Phone 410-593-9940

<http://www.openbiblechristianacademy.org/>

Administrator: Ms. Jill Greenlee

Athletic Director: Steve Hohman

Cell: 410-365-2362

Email: SHohman@Hayesconstruction.net

Perry Hall Christian School:

3919 Schroeder Ave

Perry Hall, MD 21128

Phone 410-256-4886

www.phcsweb.org

Administrator: Deena Ruff

Athletic Director: Rich Parron

Cell: 443-912-8181

Email: rparron@perryhallchristian.org

Rockbridge Academy:

911 Generals Hwy.

Millersville, MD 21108

Phone 410-923-1171

www.rockbridge.org

Administrator: Roy Griffith

Athletic Director: Tim Stewart

Cell: 301-980-0409

Email: tstewart@rockbridge.org

St. Paul's Lutheran School:

12022 Jerusalem Road
Kingsville, MD. 21087
410-592-8100

Administrator: Cheryl Ehatt
Athletic Director: Steve Mikros
Cell: (410) 491-6254
Email: smikros@stpaulskingsville.org

St. Stephen School:

8028 Bradshaw Road
Kingsville, MD 21087
Phone 410-592-7617
<http://www.ssschool.org/>

Administrator: Marianne Kozlowski
Athletic Director: Christina Polsinelli
Cell: 443-956-4055
Email: cpolsinelli@ssscool.org

MIAC Roster

Submit to MIAC 1st Vice President

School Name:

Date:

Athletic Director:

Team:

Coach:

Team Colors:

Team Mascot:

[illegible]

MIAC Waiver Request for Student Transfer

Submit to MIAC President

Athlete Full Name: _____

Date of Request: _____

School Departing From: _____

Reason for Leaving: _____

School Enrolling In: _____

Reason for Enrolling: _____

To the best of my knowledge the above written explanations of departure and enrollment are accurately described.

Receiving School Administrator's Signature: _____

Date: _____

Upon completion, this document should be forwarded to the MIAC president by the receiving school administrator or athletic director.

MIAC Incident Referral Form

Submit to MIAC President

Name, title, position of person reporting the concern: _____

Date of Referral: _____ Name of Referring School: _____

Description of Concern (be exact and thorough including location, date, time, etc.):

*You may use an attachment if necessary

Contact information for MIAC President:

Response made to (school administrator or AD name): _____

E-Mail Address: _____

School Phone/Extension: _____

Cell/Home Phone: _____

MIAC Appeal Form

Submit to MIAC President

Name, title, position of person appealing: _____

Date of Appeal: _____ Name of Appealing School: _____

MIAC decision being appealed: _____

Reason for Appeal (be exact and thorough):

*You may use an attachment if necessary

Final Decision of MIAC: _____

Contact information for MIAC President:

Response made to (school administrator or AD name): _____

E-Mail Address: _____

School Phone/Extension: _____

Cell/Home Phone: _____

MIAC Report of Yellow/Red Cards, Technical Fouls, and Ejections

Submit to MIAC President

School Name: _____

Reporting Coach/Athletic Director: _____

Opponent: _____

Location of MIAC Game: _____

Date of MIAC Game: _____

Player Name	Uniform #	Grade Level	Description of Infraction

Comments or School Action Already Taken: _____

Submitted by: _____

MIAC

School Report of Efforts to Enhance Sportsmanship

School Name: _____

Reporting Coach/Athletic Director: _____

Date of Report: _____

Description of Efforts Taken to Enhance Sportsmanship (See Page 7-8 in Handbook)
