

WIAA/GESA CREDIT UNION

2021 Bound for State Regulations



SEMIFINALS
November 27

GRIDIRON CLASSIC: STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS
December 4, 2021

Changes from the 2020 Football Regulations are indicated in bold type and shaded.

Semifinals

November 27, 2021

Various Sites

Gridiron Classic (Finals)

December 4, 2021

Various Sites

Gridiron Classic Schedule - TBD

Squad Sizes

For all rounds of WIAA playoffs and the financial formula for reimbursement purposes, maximum squad sizes are as follows:

Maximum roster:

- 4A - 65
- 3A - 65
- 2A - 60
- 1A - 50
- 2B - 40
- 1B – 35

In addition, if a 1B or 2B school does not offer freshman, C squad or junior varsity competition, all players who participated during the regular season may participate in postseason contests. Larger schools (1A-4A) can purchase tournament passes for additional roster players who are suited and eligible to compete. However, the roster number cited above will serve as the reimbursement number for potential revenue sharing.

Sideline Passes

Sideline passes will be issued to coaches, managers, statisticians, student newspaper reporter, student photographer and student videographer. **Sideline passes must be worn at all times.**

- 4A - 20
- 3A - 20
- 2A - 18
- 1A - 16
- 2B - 14
- 1B – 12

Medical personnel are in addition to the above sideline passes.

Additional Squad and Sideline Passes

Each team can purchase additional squad and/or sideline passes for their team. Schools will be billed for the additional persons. It will be the responsibility of each team to keep all squad and team personnel inside the team box on the playing field.

Scouting Passes

Coaches wishing to scout their next opponent must contact the manager by Tuesday prior to the game and a maximum of four (4) coaches may be put on the gate list.

Supervisory Passes

Supervisory passes will be provided as follows:

- 4A - 6 Passes
- 3A - 6 Passes
- 2A - 4 Passes
- 1A - 4 Passes
- 2B - 4 Passes
- 1B - 4 Passes

Supervisors will be admitted through the pass gate. All supervisor personnel must meet with the tournament manager 1 hour prior to game time to establish job description and receive passes.

Superintendents and School Board Members

Participating schools will be allowed five (5) passes for school board members and one (1) pass for the superintendent. A team made up of combined schools will be allowed five (5) passes for school board members and one (1) pass for the superintendent. Multiple high school districts will be allowed five (5) passes for school board members and one (1) pass for the superintendent, regardless of the number of teams to qualify within the school district.

Crowd Control

Additional police may be hired as necessary to assist with crowd control and may be on duty prior to the game. Police shall remove from the game site any trouble-makers or violators of the no drinking regulation. Participating school personnel, with proper identification, will be utilized as an auxiliary group to assist the game manager and police.

Team Rosters - Information Sheets

Team rosters and team information sheets will be exchanged between the two participating coaches on the **Monday** preceding the contest. To guarantee that each student will be recognized, two copies of each must also be sent to the game manager by **Wednesday noon** preceding the contest. Team rosters may be changed from the quarterfinal to semifinal and from semifinal to final games provided the substitute has been listed on the school's eligibility list as of the ninth playing date.

Team Benches

During the play-off games, team benches will be restricted to personnel consisting of the schools' regular certified coaches, substitutes, trainers, team physician and student managers or statisticians. A maximum of two (2) people will be allowed in the press box for field phone communication. **Sideline passes must be worn at all times.**

For games played at the home field of one of the participating teams, the home team normally will have the right to occupy its usual team bench. If the game is played at a neutral site, the game manager will make the assignments of team benches. Team benches should be assigned in front of the team's rooting section.

Practice Sessions at Sites

There will be no pregame practice at any site which has a grass field. A maximum of three pregame practices shall be allowed at a playoff game site with synthetic playing surfaces provided the individual schools do not have adequate access to such a playing surface and if the site is available. This practice shall be limited to no more than two (2) hours in length. Any expenses involved in this practice will be paid by the individual schools using the facility for practice.

Game Ball

Each team will provide their own Wilson game balls that must be used during all rounds of the playoffs (Round of 16, Quarterfinals, Semifinals and Championship games).

Game Procedures

The following time schedule will be followed for all **non-televised** playoff games:

First Game:

- 5 minutes on the clock: Captains to center of the field with officials.
- 4 minutes on the clock: Captains rejoin the team.
- 3 minutes on the clock: National Anthem will be played the first game only.
- 1 minute on the clock: Players to the bench.
- 0 minutes on the clock: Announcer introduces the teams. The team lines up on the sideline and runs out to the 40 yard line as names are called and face 50 yard line. When introductions are completed, shake hands on the 50 yard line and return to sideline. **NOTE: The time placed on the clock will be 5 minutes fast to allow for introductions after the clock reads "00."**

Second Game

There will be 20 minutes placed on the clock at the end of the first game. Following the same time schedule as in the first game, omitting the National Anthem.

Warm-Up & Halftime Intermission

Each team will be guaranteed a minimum of fifteen (15) minutes warm-up prior to the player introductions of each game at the Semi/Final level. Intermission (when the teams leave the field) shall be fifteen (15) minutes in length. Teams shall be allowed an additional three (3) minutes for warm-up activities. Teams are to warm-up from the 30 yard line of their respective end-zone until awards presentations are completed.

Game-Ending Procedures

National Federation Rule 3-1-2 (40 point differential) will be in effect during all 1B playoff games.

Tie-Breaking Method

A 25 yard line overtime procedure is to be used in breaking ties in all playoff games. Both teams will have the opportunity to score starting at the 25 yard line. If the score remains tied, a second series will start at the 25 yard line. If the score still remains tied, then both teams will start at the 10 yard line and continue from that mark until the game is decided. All other overtime rules in the National Federation Rule Book shall apply. This form of the Kansas Tie Breaker may be adopted by leagues for regular season game.

Student Rooting Section

Each participating school will be assigned a rooting section by the game manager. Supervision of this section shall be the responsibility of the school administration of each school. Each participating school will be issued supervisory passes for this purpose.

Band Performances

The game manager shall designate one band to play the National Anthem, with home team having first priority. The National Anthem shall be played 3 minutes prior to the first game each day's opening kickoff.

Awards Ceremony

There will be a formal awards ceremony at the conclusion of each championship game. However, if conditions warrant, this ceremony may be altered as follows:

- Presentation to teams in locker room after the game.
- Presentation to winner's school or school assembly at later date.

Ticket Prices for First Round and Quarterfinals

Ticket prices are set by the WIAA Executive Board and are included in the Tournament Ticket Price List: <http://www.wiaa.com/subcontent.aspx?SecID=332>.

Finances for the First Round

Profit and/or loss will be shared by the participating WIAA Districts.

Finances for the Quarterfinals

Profit and/or loss will be shared by the participating WIAA Districts. A check for a share of the profits or a notification of a loss should go to each WIAA District involved, not the participating schools.

Finances for the Semifinals

All revenue after expenses shall be returned to the WIAA office.

Site Selection and Administration

Procedure for Selection of First Round and Quarterfinals Sites

1. The **WIAA HOME DISTRICT** will pre-select, three to five sites to be named for each classification and submitted to the WIAA office each year.
2. **All regional and state sites, including first round and quarterfinals shall have an AED available and readily accessible with an emergency action plan in place.**
3. Potential game site managers and their home and business phone numbers should be indicated on the submitted list whenever possible.
4. In the event a District has not notified the WIAA office of the first and second round play-off sites and managers, the Executive Director of WIAA is authorized to name sites and managers.
5. Site conflict criteria for first and second round football sites: Sites for all 1st and 2nd round State Football and State Soccer contests will be determined by the District Directors of the districts involved. In the event the two District Directors cannot resolve site issues, the WIAA Executive Staff will resolve the dispute in consultation with District Directors.
6. Sites will be determined based on suitability of the facility and to maximize revenues, which means there is no guarantee that contests will be played on neutral sites. Suitability of potential sites will be determined based on the following criteria:
 1. Condition of playing field.
 2. Ability to control admission for ticket sales.
 3. Adequate seating for anticipated crowd – both home and visitor. For Western Washington sites covered seating is preferable.
 4. Availability of conveniently located locker rooms/meeting rooms, rest rooms for both teams.
 5. Availability of conveniently located rest rooms for both home and visitor spectators.
 6. Equal access to press box facilities (when available) for both teams.
 7. Adequate parking for anticipated crowd.
 8. Availability of emergency medical treatment.
7. 1st and 2nd Round Dates/Times - The District Directors of the Districts involved will determine the date and time of Round 1 & 2 football contests. If the District Directors fail to reach an agreement, the default date for Round 1 or 2 will be the Saturday prior to the next round. The default game time for a single contest at a site will be 1pm. In the case of multiple contests at a single site, game times will be 1pm and 4pm for

two games, 1pm 4pm and 7pm for three games. The visiting team with the furthest to travel will have choice of game time.

8. **WIAA District Football Games Committee**

Each WIAA District shall appoint and name a District Football Games Committee to include the Game Manager for potential playoff games. The Games Committee shall be composed of no fewer than three, nor more than five members, for each classification contest. Suggested membership: (1) Game Manager, (2) Coach, AD, or School Administrator, (3) District Board member, School District, Superintendent or host community leader. A representative of the WIAA District should act as advisor on the Committee or serve in an advisory capacity.

9. Postponement/Rescheduling/Emergency Site Changes: Postponement defined as the rescheduling at a different time or location.

Rounds 1 and 2

All on-site requests to postpone shall first be approved by the school's administration. Final decision for any postponement shall be that of the Home District Games Committee as well as rescheduling of sites. Each WIAA District is to develop and adopt a policy granting authority for the final decision regarding postponement to be that of the District Games Committee during the first and second round play-off contests. Postponed games shall be played only on listed sites unless otherwise mutually agreed upon by both involved WIAA Districts.

Procedure for Selection of Semifinals and Finals Sites

1. Sites for semifinals and finals will be set by the WIAA. The authorization and responsibility to change sites, if conditions are unsafe, may be required of a participating school. The WIAA Executive Director shall have final decision-making authority.
2. Postponement of games will be impacted by a school district's decision to not travel due to safety conditions. Forfeiture should not be a consequence if possible.

Notification to Participating Teams

All participating teams shall be notified prior to the playing of first round games of the site of the second round games should that team win. After the First Round, teams that are still in contention will be notified by Friday noon of the quarterfinal weekend as to the site, or potential sites, that their semifinal game will be held. Most semifinal games will be played on Saturday unless mutually agreed upon by the WIAA Districts to play on Friday.

Selection of Game Manager (First Round, Quarterfinals)

The game manager, at a neutral site, shall be appointed by the WIAA Districts, leagues and schools involved in the playoff game. When the game is being played on the home field of one of the participating schools, the game manager shall be the athletic director of the home school. If there is seating on only one side of the field, the manager is instructed to determine seating. The WIAA office will select all semifinal game managers.

Equal Facilities - Field Phones, etc.

Equal facilities for the teams must be provided. Participating schools must provide their own set of head phones if none are available at the site.

Officials

Five (5) officials will be assigned to work the semifinal, and final play-off games in all classifications

Selection of officials for First Round and Quarterfinals

To minimize travel expenses and to maintain fairness in the selection of officials for the first round and quarterfinals, the following procedures will be followed: Officials for first round and quarterfinal games will be chosen from each WIAA District involved, unless the participating WIAA Districts mutually agree to use officials from the nearest neutral association. The officials selected will be chosen from the WIAA District Director's list of top rated officials obtained by a survey of all WIAA District schools.

Selection of officials for Semifinals and Finals

The WIAA office will select and assign the officials for these games.

WIAA State Football Seeding Committee

The WIAA Football Seeding Committee will be tasked with seeding the 16-teams in each WIAA Classification (eight-team for the 1B classification) for the State Football Championships. Teams will still qualify for the playoffs through the WIAA District allocation system and the committee will have no bearing upon which teams qualify for the State tournament. Once the field is determined, the seeding committee will rank and place teams in the first round of the bracket based on their performance throughout the regular season and playoffs. This system will replace the draw system which has been used in previous seasons

Mandatory Film Exchange

A mandatory video exchange program will be implemented for the state football championships

- a. Round 1 contests - Coaches would be required to provide a copy of their three (3) most recent games to their next opponent with 30 minutes after the brackets are posted.
- b. Subsequent rounds – Coaches would be required to provide a copy of their three (3) most recent games to their next opponent no later than noon Sunday following the previous contest.
- c. WIAA staff will be notified if the timeline is not met.
- d. The athletic director at that school will be contacted by the WIAA staff.
- e. If the video is not received at the opponents school by 9 am on Monday, the head coach would be prohibited from coaching the game that week.