

PIAA DISTRICT IX COMMITTEE MEETING

October 16, 2025

The District IX Committee met on October 16, 2025. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Aaron Straub at 10:29 a.m. at Fox's Restaurant in Ridgway, PA. The following members were present: Ed Baumcraz, Bill Howard, Bud Brennen, Mike Erickson, Misty Hartle, Anita Orton, John Sherry, Roger Walter, Phil Esposito, Nate Jones, Kevin Doverspike, Aaron Straub, and Bonnie Wolbert.

Excused from the meeting were Dr. Josh Williams, Dr. Bill Jordan, Dave Osborne, and Roddy Hartle.

MINUTES:

Bill Howard made a motion, seconded by John Sherry, to approve the minutes of the September 17, 2025, meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

* Chairman Straub called for an Executive Session of the District IX Committee at 11:00 a.m. After ending the Executive Session, Chairman Straub returned the meeting to Regular Session at 11:26 a.m.

FINANCE:

Misty Hartle made a motion, seconded by Scott Daum, to approve the updated treasurer's report and balance sheet from September 2025. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Peter Grecco to accept the Golf financial report. Motion was seconded by Phil Esposito. Motion passes 14-0.

Schools that host D-9 home playoff games are not permitted to charge a rental fee in exchange for the privilege of hosting an event. Fees associated to run an event will be paid.

A presentation was made by Chris Smith and Connor Thinnies via ZOOM regarding "Home Town Ticketing."

COMMUNICATION AND COMMITTEE ACTION:

A deadline of October 20, 2025, was set for ordering Committee apparel.

A postseason hearing request was received from Otto-Eldred. That hearing will take place at the November 19th Committee meeting.

Chairman Straub gave a review of topics discussed at the October IU9 Superintendents' meeting.

CHAIRMAN'S UPDATES:

Chairman Straub distributed the October PIAA State Board minutes. Items discussed/reviewed were:

- * Shot Clock Update – Passed on the 2nd Reading –3 years out and still must pass 3rd reading
- * Enrollment reporting by PIAA member schools – enrollment date Oct. 1 & submit by Oct 15
- * Enrollment time frame: 10/1 enrollment; 10/15 submission; 11/7 notified; 12/1 upgrade
- * Faith-based school participation with Public School District language approved for Fall Student-athletes are eligible to participate in the school district where they reside

ADMINISTRATIVE: Eligibility & Co-op Requests

TRANSFER REQUESTS: (For 2025-2026 School Year)

<u>Student #</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Motion/Second</u>	<u>Approve/Deny</u>
T-6	Moshannon Valley	Curwensville	S.Daum/M.Hartle	Approved - Reg
T-7	Bath High School,OH	Elk Co. Catholic	J.Sherry/R.Walter	Approved - Reg
FE-1	Ekraine	Keystone	B.Howard/M.Erickson	Approved - Reg
EC-2	Keystone Athlete (Art.III Sec.3 Attendance}		N.Jones/P.Esposito	Approved - Reg

Co-op Termination Request(s)

Beatty Warren Middle School (Host) and Sheffield Middle School – There was NO co-op in existence with Sheffield so no committee action was necessary.

Co-op Applications

Principal Roger Walter from Clarion Area requested a varsity baseball co-op be formed with Clarion-Limestone beginning in the school year of 2026-2027. Ed Baumcratz made the motion to approve, seconded by Scott Daum. Motion failed 3 (YES) - 10 (NO) – 1 (Abstain).

A clarification to the September 17th District 9 Committee meeting: A co-op arrangement was approved in the sport of Competitive Spirit between Clarion Limestone (host school) and Clarion Area (sending school) and North Clarion (sending school) beginning in 2025-2026.

SPORTS SPECIFIC COMMITTEES

Golf report was given by Chairperson Kevin Doverspike. John Sherry moved to accept the following changes to the boys' district golf program beginning in the 2026 golf season. The motion was seconded by Misty Hartle. The committee voted unanimously to accept the changes. Girls' teams shall remain the same for next season as 2025.

BOYS' Golf Changes for 2026:

1. The automatic qualifying average for individuals will be decreased from 47 to 45.
2. There will no longer be an automatic qualifier of 180 for a team to be guaranteed entry into the team championship. Regardless of team average, **only** the top five "AA" and top three "AAA" teams will be granted entry into the team championship.

Cross Country – District Championships: Date: Saturday, October 25, 2025
Site: Grandinetti Elementary, Ridgway

OLD BUSINESS:

District 6 information on Best Practice booklet was distributed.

NEW BUSINESS:

NONE

OTHER:

A motion was made by Bill Howard, seconded by Misty Hartle, to adjourn at 1:55 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Next Meeting – November 19, 2025, business/hearing

Location – Fox's Restaurant, Ridgway, PA

Time – 9:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie S. Wolbert

Bonnie S. Wolbert
District IX Secretary
Female Officials' Representative
Sportsmanship Chairman