

PIAA DISTRICT IX COMMITTEE MEETING

December 17, 2025

The District IX Committee met on December 17, 2025, via GOOGLE Meet. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Aaron Straub at 9:05 a.m. The following members were present: Ed Baumcraz, Bill Howard, Bud Brennen, Mike Erickson, Misty Hartle, Anita Orton, Roddy Hartle, Dave Osborne, John Sherry, Roger Walter, Phil Esposito, Nate Jones, Peter Grecco, Kevin Doverspike, Aaron Straub, and Bonnie Wolbert.

Excused from the meeting were Dr. Bill Jordan, Scott Daum, and Dr. Josh Williams (a non-voting member).

MINUTES:

John Sherry made a motion, seconded by Misty Hartle, to approve the minutes of the November 19, 2025, meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

FINANCE:

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

Pete Grecco made a motion to accept the Football Financial Report. Motion was seconded by Mike Erickson. Vote passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Misty Hartle and seconded by Mike Erickson to approve the updated Volleyball Financial Report. Motion passed unanimously.

COMMUNICATION AND COMMITTEE ACTION:

A thank you note was shared from Dr. Robert Lombardi to the Committee for the retirement gift given to him at the last PIAA Board of Directors' meeting.

D9 Classification Updates were reviewed.

- A-C Valley – Baseball – Baseball from 2A to 3A
 - Brockway – Baseball from 1A to 2A
 - Brockway – Volleyball from 2A to 3A
 - Brookville – Girls' Soccer from 1A to 2A
 - Punxsutawney Area – Girls' Track & Field from 2A to 3A
 - St. Marys Area – Girls' Track & Field from 2A to 3A
 - St. Marys Area – Boys' Track and Field from 2A to 3A
- ** Redbank Valley – Boys' Soccer should be classified as 2A – Correction made.*

John Sherry made a motion seconded by Phi Esposito to recognize the dissolution of the 16 Co-op sports between Punxsutawney and Punxsutawney Christian. Motion passed unanimously.

CHAIRMAN'S UPDATES:

Shot Clock Update: The PIAA State Board of Directors approved the Shot Clock beginning with the 2028-2029 sports season. **Schools must have shot clocks installed by the 2028-2029 season on any courts that will host JV or Varsity level games. Schools will be financially responsible for the installation of the shot clocks.**

Article III. Section 6 has been amended to include the following: Article Section 6. Charter School, Cyber Charter School, Private School and Private Faith Based School Students. Students enrolled in a Charter School, Cyber Charter School, Private School and Private Faith Based School are eligible only at said school in those interscholastic sports sponsored by that school. In accommodating participation by students enrolled in a Charter, Cyber Charter, Private School or Private Faith Based School for sports not sponsored by their school, the following provisions apply: C.) Schools are encouraged to enter into a Cooperative Sponsorship Agreement with another PIAA-Member school, as detailed under Article III, Section 10. A Cooperative Sponsorship Agreement will afford all students enrolled in the school the opportunity to participate as part of the Agreement; or D.) Absent a Cooperative Sponsorship Agreement, students enrolled in a Charter, Cyber Charter, Private School or Private Faith Based School that does not offer a particular interscholastic sport(s) are eligible to participate in that sport(s) at the school which they would otherwise attend, in the public school district of their residences, provided that the students meet all other eligibility requirements, including, but not limited to , school verified evidence of full-time attendance, enrollment and completion of the CIPPE.

The above provision includes both accepting students at the Junior High and Senior High level.

The PIAA State Board overturned District IX's decision to deny a baseball co-op be formed between Clarion Area High School (Host) and Clarion-Limestone High School (Sending) beginning in the school year 2026-2027. The co-op was approved unanimously, and Clarion will be eligible for post season play.

ADMINISTRATIVE: Eligibility & Co-op Requests

Postseason Eligibility Requests:

<u>Student #</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>Motion/Second</u>	<u>Approve/Deny</u>
PS (2)	RY (Kane)	R.Walter/E.Baumcraz	Denied - 14-0 Lack of evidence to support
PS (3)	KW (Kane)	M.Hartle/R.Walter	Approved – 14-0

Co-op Applications:

Roger Walter made a motion, seconded by Bill Howard, to modify the Girls' wrestling co-op between Redbank Valley (Host) and Union High School (Sending) to include West Shamokin (Sending) from District VI and also to include Girls' Wrestling. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Roger Walter and seconded by Bill Howard to modify a Girls' Wrestling co-op to include Cranberry with a Co-op between Franklin and Oil City. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion to approve a Swimming Co-op modification with Bradford (Host) and Otto-Eldred to now include Smethport passed unanimously with Roger Walter making the motion and Bill Howard seconding.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEES:

Fifty (50) Years Officiating Award – Bill Howard reported that Bud Brennen and Bonnie Wolbert made a visit to Baronick Funeral Home in DuBois to present Paul Bojalad's brothers, with a 50-year officiating award in honor of Paul's service as a PIAA Basketball Official for District IX. Paul sadly passed away December 3, 2025.

SPORTS SPECIFIC COMMITTEES

The District IX Swimming and Diving Championships are scheduled for Friday, January 27, and Saturday, January 28, 2026, at Clearfield Area High School. Tickets will be on sale on the D9 website.

OLD BUSINESS:

NONE

NEW BUSINESS

NONE

OTHER:

A motion was made by Bill Howard, seconded by Misty Hartle, to adjourn at 11:19 a.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Next Meeting – January 21, 2026

Location – Virtual

Time – 9:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie S. Wolbert

D9 Secretary

Female Officials' Representative