

The Western Pennsylvania Athletic Conference Constitution

ARTICLE I Name

The name of the organization will be the Western Pennsylvania Athletic Conference

ARTICLE II Purpose

1. To organize, develop, and direct an interscholastic athletic conference which will promote and protect the health and physical welfare of all participants from the member schools.
2. To formulate and maintain policies that will safeguard the educational values of interscholastic athletics and cultivate high ideals of good sportsmanship.
3. To provide uniformity in the arrangement and control of interscholastic athletic competition among the member schools.
4. To provide recognition to teams and individuals who distinguish themselves in interscholastic athletics.
5. To adopt league schedules that provide uniformity and consistency, that stimulates interest and creates a high standard of competition among the member schools.

ARTICLE III Membership

1. The following is a list of-member schools followed by the date of their admission:

Berlin-Brothersvalley (1999)	Portage (1999)
Blacklick Valley (1999)	Rockwood (1999)
Conemaugh Valley (1999)	Salisbury (1999)
Conemaugh Twp. (1999)	Shade (1999)
Ferndale Area (1999)	Shanksville (1999)
Meyersdale(1999)	Turkeyfoot (1999)
North Star (1999)	Windber (1999)
2. Withdrawals from the conference shall include: (a) Expulsion by a two-thirds vote upon recommendation of the Discipline Committee, (l) Written notification of intent to withdraw by a member school. The letter of withdrawal from the high school Principal must be received by the spring meeting for the withdrawal to be effective for the following year.
3. The withdrawal or exclusion of a member school shall not affect the computation of points or standings for other member schools in determining annual championships for the duration of the official contracts in effect at the time of withdrawal, except that no contract shall extend more than two years beyond the withdrawal date. Each member school so affected must advise the conference secretary of any existing contracts within (4) four weeks after the conference meeting at which a member school's withdrawal or exclusion is made known.

4. Application for membership in this conference shall be made in writing. A letter from the Principal of the school requesting membership shall be sent to the conference secretary along with the required non-refundable entrance fee (\$100). The league President shall investigate the matter and recommend further action. Action on applications for admission will be read at the first business meeting of the conference with action taken at the next business meeting of the conference. Admission is granted if two-thirds of the members concur. Written proxy votes from the high school Principal may be accepted by the conference President.

ARTICLE IV Dues

1. The annual dues structure shall be recommended by the Finance Committee and approved by the membership. Annual dues shall be due on or before October 3.
2. Any problem with delinquent dues shall be referred to the Discipline Committee.

ARTICLE V Organization

1. The officers of this conference shall be: President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. Terms of office shall be for one year.
2. The President and Vice-President shall be Principals or Athletic Directors of member schools.
3. The Vice-President automatically assumes the duties of the President each ensuing year. The Vice-President is selected from the member schools in an alphabetical rotation. In the event of an extenuating circumstance, rotational order for a particular year could be altered by majority vote of the league.
4. The following committees will exist for the purpose of studying issues and making recommendations to the membership: Finance, Discipline, and Scheduling.
5. Other committees may be formed at the discretion of the President

ARTICLE VI Duties of the Officers

1. The President shall call and preside over meetings of the conference. The President shall investigate and report on all applications for membership. The President shall appoint committees as needed. The President shall work with the media and act as the public relations officer of the conference.
2. The Vice-President shall, during the absence of the President, perform the duties of the President. The Vice-President shall assist the President with the leadership responsibilities within the conference.
3. The secretary shall keep minutes of all conference meetings. The secretary shall attend the meetings of all committees. The secretary shall be a non-voting member of all committees. Agendas of the meetings shall be issued by the secretary. The secretary shall put the minutes of each meeting in permanent form and send a copy to each member school. The secretary shall notify the member schools of meetings, payment of dues, and other business of the conference.

The secretary shall have charge over all athletic records (standings and championships) of the conference and shall preserve them in a suitable manner.

4. The treasurer shall have charge over all conference monies, shall keep an accurate record of all transactions, shall maintain a checking account and shall report periodically to the membership on the financial-status-of the conference. Necessary information shall be provided to the Finance committee, so that they can conduct an audit and prepare a budget.

ARTICLE VII Committees

1. The Finance Committee shall consist of five (5) Principals or Athletic Directors - two from each section and the President and Treasurer. Members of this committee will be appointed by the President at the spring meeting each year. The President shall chair this committee. This committee will be responsible for conducting the audit of the conference finances and making recommendations regarding dues, budget and salaries shall meet annually, prior to the fall meeting.
2. The Scheduling Committee is open to all member schools, but must consist of Principals or Athletic Directors from at least five (5) member schools. Two schools from each section shall be represented on this committee. Members of this committee will be appointed for a two-year period. Vacancies on the committee may be filled by Presidential appointment. (The initial committee will serve for (1999-2000)). Members of this committee will be appointed by the President at the spring meeting prior to the beginning of the term cycle. This committee will be responsible for recommending mandatory conference schedules for a two-year cycle that coincides with the PIAA two-year cycle on classification. This committee will also address problems dealing with scheduling conflicts and make recommendations for adjustments as necessary.
3. The Discipline Committee shall consist of five (5) Principals or Athletic Directors - at least two from each section. Members of this committee shall be appointed by the President for each incident. It is recommended that the President chair this committee unless his/her school is involved in the case. This committee will be responsible for investigating problems among member schools and making recommendations that resolve the problem and/or recommendations for penalties against member schools. The Discipline Committee has the authority to recommend temporary or permanent suspension of any member school after a thorough investigation of problems relating to that member school.
4. Committee recommendations must be approved by a majority vote of the member schools. Any change in the committee recommendation or new recommendation that did not come from the committee can only be approved by a two-thirds affirmative vote of the entire conference (10 out of 14).

ARTICLE VIII Meetings & Voting

1. The conference shall hold at least three business meetings yearly. It is recommended that the meetings be held the first Wednesday during the months of October, February and May.
2. Special meetings may be called at any time by the President or at the request of any three member schools.

3. Each member school present is entitled to one vote at any meeting of the conference.
4. Written proxy votes may be accepted by the President on matters submitted in writing to member schools. Proxy votes are void if the recommendation is amended.

ARTICLE IX Amendments

1. Amendments to the Constitution and its By-Laws shall be made only at a conference meeting. Amendments must have the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the entire conference (10 out of 14). Amendment procedure does not apply to guidelines. By-Laws may be changed with majority vote at any WestPAC Conference meeting.
2. Any amendment to be acted upon must be submitted in writing to each member school at least one week prior to the meeting at which the amendment will be read with action to follow at the next business meeting.