



PRESS RELEASE – MECHANICSBURG, PA – FRIDAY, AUGUST 21, 2020

The PIAA Board of Directors voted this afternoon to permit fall sports to begin on Monday, August 24th, based on local school decisions. The Board agrees the decision to compete in athletics should be made locally allowing for each school entity to decide whether to proceed and which sports to sponsor. As the health and safety of students is paramount in moving forward with athletics, the Board believes that through each member schools’ adherence to their developed school health and safety plans and the PIAA Return to Competition guidelines sports can continue.

The PIAA Board of Directors has heard the thousands of voices of student-athletes, parents, coaches, officials as well as community leaders that have contacted us. We remind those individuals who have strongly advocated for athletics that they must keep strict adherence to school health and safety plans. All individuals involved in interscholastic athletic communities have a role in the health and wellness of all participants.

PIAA is committed to providing a season for all sports and all student-athletes in the upcoming school year and will continue to remain flexible. The PIAA Board also voted that based on local school decisions, the PIAA will monitor school participation in fall sports and may pursue alternate solutions, if needed.

Updated Start Dates for Fall 2020:

In compliance with Article XVI: Season and Out-of-Season Rules and Regulations

	GF	GT	XC	GVB	FH	SOC	FB*	WP
First Practice Date:	24-Aug	24-Aug	24-Aug	24-Aug	24-Aug	24-Aug	24-Aug	24-Aug
First Scrimmage Date:	27-Aug	29-Aug	29-Aug	29-Aug	29-Aug	29-Aug	5-Sep	29-Aug
First Contest Date:	27-Aug	31-Aug	11-Sep	11-Sep	11-Sep	11-Sep	11-Sep	11-Sep

*Football must sponsor heat acclimatization for 5 consecutive days if starting prior to Friday, September 4. Following heat acclimatization, 5 days of practice must be completed before a Scrimmage. Based on the practice schedule in completed 5 practices, a Scrimmage could occur as early as 3-Sep. 5 additional days of practice must occur prior to the first Contest. A Contest cannot take place prior to 11-Sep. If starting on or after September 4, sponsoring heat acclimatization is a local school decision to be dictated by weather conditions. Schools must have 15 days of practice prior to their first contest.