



EMERGING SPORTS

ASSOCIATION JURISDICTION
& CHAMPIONSHIP SPONSORSHIP

PIAA POLICY



POLICY FOR DETERMINING NUMBER OF MEMBER SENIOR HIGH SCHOOLS SPONSORING A SPORT BEFORE PIAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS CONSIDERS ESTABLISHING OR DISCONTINUING AN INTER-DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIP IN THAT SPORT

The PIAA Board of Directors shall consider establishing or discontinuing an Inter-District Championship in a sport upon the number of member senior high schools sponsoring that sport reaching 100.



A HISTORY OF SPORT SPONSORSHIP IN PENNSYLVANIA



SPORTS UNDER PIAA JURISDICTION

1974-75 to 2020-21

Girls' Sports (1974-75):

Basketball
Cross Country
Field Hockey
Golf
Gymnastics
Lacrosse
Soccer
Softball
Swimming & Diving
Tennis
Track & Field
Volleyball

Girls' Sports (2020-21):

Basketball	Soccer
Bowling (1980-81)	Softball
Competitive Cheer (2012-13)	Swimming & Diving
Cross Country	Tennis
Field Hockey	Track & Field
Golf	Volleyball
Gymnastics	Water Polo (1980-81)
Indoor T&F (1980-81)	
Lacrosse	
Rifle (1980-81)	



A HISTORY OF SPORT SPONSORSHIP IN PENNSYLVANIA



CHAMPIONSHIP SPORTS

SPONSORED BY PIAA

1974-75 to 2020-21

Girls' Sports

(1974-75):

Basketball
Cross Country
Field Hockey
Golf
Gymnastics (1994-95)
Softball
Swimming & Diving
Tennis
Track & Field
Volleyball

Girls' Sports

(2020-21):

Basketball
Competitive Cheer (2012-13)
Cross Country
Field Hockey
Golf
Lacrosse (2008-09)
Soccer (1992-93)
Softball
Swimming & Diving
Tennis
Track & Field
Volleyball



A HISTORY OF SPORT SPONSORSHIP IN PENNSYLVANIA



SPORTS UNDER PIAA JURISDICTION

1974-75 to 2020-21

Boys' Sports (1974-75):

Baseball
Basketball
Cross Country
Football
Golf
Gymnastics
Soccer
Swimming & Diving
Tennis
Track & Field
Volleyball
Wrestling

Boys' Sports (2020-21):

Baseball	Track & Field
Basketball	Volleyball
Bowling (1980-81)	Water Polo (1980-81)
Cross Country	Wrestling)
Football	
Golf	
Indoor T&F (1980-81)	
Lacrosse (2008-09)	
Rifle (1980-81)	
Soccer	
Swimming & Diving	
Tennis	



A HISTORY OF SPORT SPONSORSHIP IN PENNSYLVANIA



CHAMPIONSHIP SPORTS

SPONSORED BY PIAA

1974-75 to 2020-21

Boys' Sports (1974-75):

Basketball
Cross Country
Golf

Gymnastics (1986-87)

Soccer
Swimming & Diving
Tennis
Track & Field
Volleyball
Wrestling

Boys' Sports (2020-21):

Baseball (1976-77) Volleyball
Basketball Wrestling

Cross Country
Football (1988-89)
Golf

Lacrosse (2008-09)

Soccer
Swimming & Diving
Tennis
Track & Field



SPORT SPONSORSHIP

DRAWING SOME CONCLUSIONS



- Not something we do very often;
- Maintain eye on equity;
- Jurisdiction v
Championship Sport

Jurisdiction over Lacrosse:

- Attempts;
- Data Required;
- Pitfalls; and
- Roll-Out



A CASE STUDY



LACROSSE – JURISDICTION, ADOPTION, PITFALLS & CHAMPIONSHIPS



JURISDICTION

- Under PIAA jurisdiction since 1974...girls' only;
- Tremendous growth in late 1990's and early 2000's;
- Growth specific to boys.



ADOPTION

- Two Separate Occasions;
- Extremely geographic;
- Coincided with membership from Philadelphia Public & Catholic Leagues.



PITFALLS

- Again, extremely geographic in nature;
- Officials not registered with PIAA;
- Costs to Schools and Outside-In Approach.



CHAMPIONSHIPS

- Began effective with the first year of jurisdiction – July 1 , 2008;
- Proportional Representation.

WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE...



Current Sport Consideration:

- E-Sports
- Flag Football (girls)
- Ice Hockey (girls/boys)*
- Rugby (girls/boys)
- Girls' Wrestling



SPORT SPONSORSHIP

CONSISTENCY IN APPLICATION

- Policy-
 - What we have in place vs what we are lacking;
- Board Consideration in July 2019;
- PIAA Emerging Sports Process Guide
- All hell breaks loose!



PIAA Emerging Sports Process Guide

The Emerging Sports program was created by the PIAA Board of Directors in 2021 based on an increase in the number of sport offerings outside of PIAA jurisdiction sponsored by or affiliated with PIAA member schools.

The purpose of this program is to provide emerging sport organizers a roadmap towards potential sponsorship by PIAA and indicate to member schools PIAA's awareness of such programs and support of additional interscholastic opportunities. Where an emerging sport continues to show meaningful interscholastic growth, consideration will be given by PIAA Board of Directors for full sponsorship.

PIAA policy provides the establishment or discontinuance of an Inter-District Championship in a sport upon the number of member senior high schools sponsoring that sport reaching 100. If a sport receives formal adoption after reaching this threshold, it will no longer be considered an emerging : an emerging sport is limited to a 10-year period to become a championship sport, un demonstrated that steady growth within the membership has occurred during that time.

The PIAA Board of Directors has created this process guide as a resource for applicants | sponsorship of a sport.

Definitions of Terms:

Sport:

- Be defined as an athletic activity, sponsored at the varsity or club level, involving physical exertion for the purpose of competition against teams or individuals within an i competition structure.
- Operate under standardized rules with rating/scoring systems ratified by at least one official regulatory agency and/or governing body.

Emerging Sport:

- Meets the definition of a sport.
- Is accepted and recognized by PIAA as an emerging sport.
- Provides additional athletics opportunities to student-athletes and demonstrates PIAA's commitment to increasing athletic opportunities among student-athletes.

Varsity interscholastic sport: A varsity interscholastic sport is a sport that has been accorded that status by the PIAA member School Board of Directors or Board having jurisdiction over the member school and satisfies the following conditions:

- It is a sport that is sponsored by the school or controlled by the school Principal.
- It is a sport for which the eligibility of the student-athletes is reviewed and certified to by the Principal.

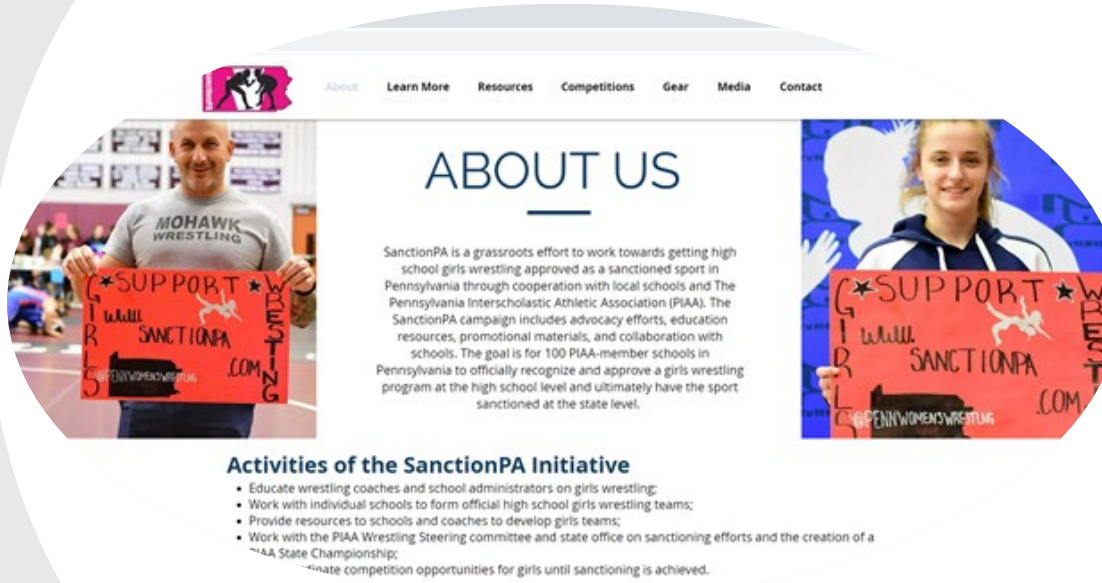
Varsity club sport: A club sport is a sport that has been accorded that status by the PIAA member School Board of Directors or Board having jurisdiction over the member school and satisfies the following conditions:

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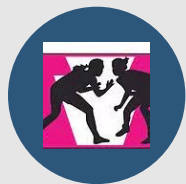
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A WORKING RELATIONSHIP



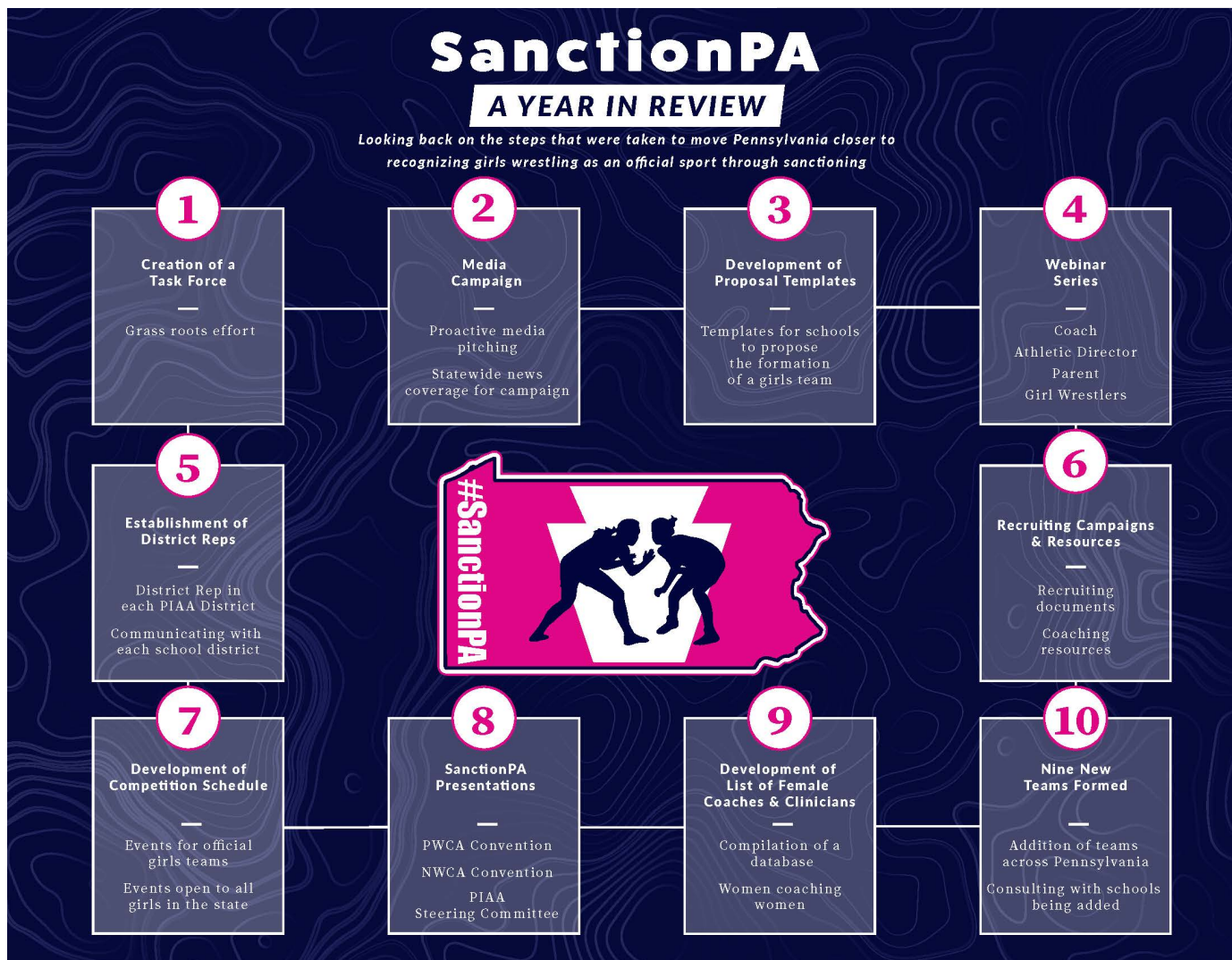
HOW SANCTION PA HAS IMPACTED THE WRESTLING COMMUNITY



HIGHLIGHTS FROM

2020-21

<https://www.sanctionpa.com/>



HOW SANCTION PA HAS IMPACTED THE WRESTLING COMMUNITY



- Created recruiting documents, campaign, and resources to support coaches in drawing in more girls to the sport;
- Created coaching guides to support male coaches if they had not coached girls before;
- Launched campaigns to bring more female coaches into the sport;
- Maintain communication with state association:
 - Inform SA about major initiatives;
 - Ask for guidance around responses to certain questions from schools and appropriate answers/language to use;
 - Keep them informed as schools form teams ;
 - Maintain open dialogue and promote positive relationship when speaking to other stakeholders (i.e., try to dispel “us vs. them” mentality);
- **Ultimately both groups want the same thing – for the development of a sport to be successful and sustainable.**

CREATING AND MAINTAINING A RELATIONSHIP...



“Key to this for the Task Force has been the openness and responsiveness of state association – having an identified person in the state office to speak to is helpful and it is also key that they have valued communication and are responsive to requests and questions, not dismissive.”

-Brooke Zumas

PA Girls HS Wrestling Task Force



QUESTIONS?



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WWW.PIAA.ORG



THANK YOU.



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