



2017 RUGBY TOURNAMENT FORMAT

MIAA RUGBY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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			Mr. Jesse Nocon
Dist. E	VACANCY Principal/Asst Principal		<u>Coaches' Representative</u>
	VACANCY Principal/Asst Principal		Mr. Gregory Bruce
			Ms. Sarah Greeley
	Ms. Karrah Ellis A.D., Algonquin Reg. High School		<u>At-Large</u>
	VACANCY Athletic Director		Mr. Seelan Manickam
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			VACANCY
			<u>MASC Representative</u>
			VACANCY

MIAA Staff Liaison(s)

Ms. Sherry Bryant & Mr. Phil Napolitano

2017 RUGBY TOURNAMENT TIMETABLE

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS & INFORMATION	DATES	TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR
Varsity Rugby Rosters entered on MIAA Website. Front row qualified players must be identified (<i>changes can be made as necessary</i>)	Prior to first varsity contest	<u>Boys' & Girls'</u> Amy Daniels
Season Schedule & Commitment	On or before: April 15, 2017	
Official Tournament Entry	May 24, 2017	
Cut-Off Date no later than:	May 29, 2017	
Pairings by Tournament Committee	May 30 th , 2017 at MIAA Office in Franklin	
Tournament Begins on:	June 2, 2017	
State Finals	To be completed by June 17, 2017 (weather permitting)	

In the event of postponement due to inclement weather the State Finals will be played on the first playable date.

Information Due Dates:

Form	Deadline
Season Schedule Committed	April 15, 2017
Tournament Entry Finalized	May 24, 2017
Official Tournament Roster	May 24, 2017
Sportsmanship Compliance Policy (tournament entry section of members only)	May 24, 2017
Team Sportsmanship Award Nomination Form	May 24, 2017

MASSACHUSETTS RUGBY TOURNAMENT RULES

1. TOURNAMENTS

MIAA sponsored Eastern Massachusetts, Central Massachusetts, Western Massachusetts sectional tournaments and state-sponsored competitions are the only tournaments in which Massachusetts high school rugby teams may participate.

A. Rules – Laws of the Game Rugby Union.

2. QUALIFICATIONS

A. See MIAA Handbook Rule 97.3

B. Teams must have played a minimum five (5) game varsity schedule. Scheduled games must be against MIAA member schools and out-of-state high schools in good standing with their state high school associations.

C. In the event of a tie between two teams, the tie will be broken using head-to-head game(s) involving those schools. All other ties will be broken by lottery (coin toss or draw).

D. In order to ensure a proper playoff bracket, at least 4 teams need to be placed into MIAA tournament postseason play for Boys Rugby. The following exception to the .500 rule will apply:

1. If less than 4 teams qualify at .500 or better, the bracket will be completed for a total of 4 teams, first by selecting the next team(s) by winning percentage.

2. In case of a tie for the 4th spot in a bracket (given that the tied teams have not qualified with a .500 record), the following tie breaker(s) will be used, in order:

i. Head to Head

ii. Overall win percentage

iii. Win percentage against tournament qualified teams

iv. Coin flip

E. Girls Rugby - If less than 4 teams, top 2 teams will play for the State Championship.

F. Competition versus out of state High Schools does NOT count towards tournament record. It does count towards the school's weekly and seasonal limitations.

3. PAIRING ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Pairings and Tournament Information will be available on MIAA website, <http://www.miaa.net> throughout the tournament.

4. OFFICIALS

To be eligible to be assigned to an MIAA tournament game, an official must be background check approved by the MIAA and must have worked a minimum of three (3) regular season varsity high school rugby games. There shall be four (4) officials for all tournament games, a referee, two assistant referees, and a match manager, with the referee as the official timekeeper.

5. NUMBER OF PLAYERS

Maximum size of a tournament team shall be consistent with State Tournament requirements, which are 23 players per team. **Front row qualified players must be identified (page 34-35, Law 3).**

6. UNIFORMS (*Laws of the Game Rugby Union*)

Players' must wear their official school uniform. The sleeve of a jersey must extend at least half way from the shoulder point to the elbow.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS OF CLOTHING

- (a) A player may wear supports made of elasticated or compressible materials which must be washable.
- (b) A player may wear shin guards which conform with World Rugby Specifications (Regulation 12).
- (c) A player may wear ankle supports worn under socks, not extending higher than one third of the length of the shin and, if rigid, from material other than metal.
- (d) A player may wear mitts (fingerless gloves) which must conform to World Rugby Specifications (Regulation 12).
- (e) A player may wear shoulder pads which must bear the World Rugby Approval Mark (Regulation 12).
- (f) A player may wear a mouth guard or dental protector.
- (g) A player may wear headgear which must bear the World Rugby Approval Mark (Regulation 12).**
- (h) A player may wear bandages and/or dressings to cover or protect any injury.
- (i) A player may wear thin tape or other similar material as support and/or to prevent injury.

LAW AMENDMENT TRIAL

- (j) A player may wear goggles which must bear the World Rugby Approval Mark (Regulation 12).

SPECIAL ADDITIONAL ITEMS FOR WOMEN

In addition to the previously permitted clothing women may wear:

- (a) Chest pads, which must bear the World Rugby Approval Mark (Regulation 12).
- (b) Cotton blend long tights, with single inside leg seam under their shorts & socks.
- (c) Headscarves, providing they do not cause a danger to the wearer or other players and do not contravene (Regulation 12).

STUDS

- (a) Studs of players' boots must conform with World Rugby Specifications (Regulation 12).
- (b) Molded rubber multi-studded soles are acceptable provided they have no sharp edges or ridges.
- (c) Metal studs are not allowed on turf fields.

BANNED ITEMS OF CLOTHING

- (a) A player must not wear any item that is contaminated by blood.
- (b) A player must not wear any item that is sharp or abrasive.
- (c) A player must not wear any items containing buckles, clips, rings, hinges, zippers, screws, bolts or rigid material or projection not otherwise permitted under this Law.
- (d) A player must not wear jewelry such as rings or earrings.
- (e) A player must not wear gloves.
- (f) A player must not wear shorts with padding sewn into them.
- (g) A player must not wear any other item which does not conform with World Rugby Specifications for such clothing (Regulation 12).
- (h) A player must not wear any item that is normally permitted by Law, but, in the referee's opinion that is liable to cause injury to a player.
- (i) A player must not wear communication devices within that player's clothing or attached to the body.
- (j) A player must not wear any additional item of clothing that does not conform to World Rugby Regulation 12.

7. FIELDS

A. All Tournament Matches will be played on a field size of a minimum of 55 yards wide and 100 yards long at the Sectional Semi-Finals and Finals as well as the State Semi-Finals and Finals.

B. Home site fields of the higher seeded team will be used throughout the tournament, until the State Finals, if conditions are suitable. **If not suitable, the higher seed has the option of securing an alternate suitable site. If unable to do so, the lower seeded team will host the contest.**

C. The State Finals are intended to be played at a neutral site. However, when a single site has been established and the member school is a participant, it will be played at their home site.

D. It is recommended that all fields for tournament play have a minimum of 5 yards of surface parallel to the touch lines.

8. GAME BALLS

The Rugby ball must be a size 5 match ball.

9. STARTING TIME

All tournament games on school days will begin no earlier than 2:30 p.m. and no later than 6:30pm. All times will be set by the Tournament Director.

10. POSTPONEMENT OF GAMES

Only the Tournament Director may decide to postpone a game. Postponed games are to be played the following day on the same field, if possible.

11. REGULATION PLAYING TIME

The time of the game will be two (2) 35-minute halves. There will be no stop time unless indicated by the officials. Half-time will be 5 minutes. Official time is kept on the field by the referee. *Teams will be allowed on the field thirty (30) minutes prior to game time.*

12. TIE BREAKING METHOD

A. When the score is tied at the end of regulation time, the referee will instruct both teams to return to their respective team boxes. There will be a five-minute rest period where teams may confer with their coaches; and the head referee will instruct both teams as to the proper procedure.

B. Procedure

1. One (1) ten-minute (10) overtime period will be played, which may end in sudden victory (first to score). Possession is to be determined by a coin flip. If the score remains tied after the overtime period, there will be a five-minute rest period and the game will go into kicks.
2. Order of kicks will be determined by a coin flip and **all kicks must be drop kicks**. Three (3) kickers representing each team would kick from the 22-meter line (25 yards). **The kickers would have to be on the field at the time of the final whistle.** *Note: The drop kicks are to be 25 yards from the field goal post, thus if game is played on a football field, drop kicks should take place from the 15 yard line.*
3. Teams would alternate kicks until all six kickers (3 per team) had an opportunity. The winner would be the team that had converted the most kicks
4. If after three (3) kickers, per team, the tie is not broken, the three would kick again from 5 meters back (5 yards). If all players miss, the distance is not changed.
5. Teams would then alternate kicks until a winner is found. So team A makes first kick, team B misses first kick, team A wins.
6. Any player who is disqualified, may not participate any further.

13. SPORTSMANSHIP RULES

All athletes serving game suspension(s) as a result of infractions during the regular season will have the remainder of their suspension continued into Tournament play. ***Any player disqualified during tournament play, is to remain on the team bench under the direct supervision of the coach.***

14. MEDICAL COVERAGE

A licensed physician, licensed trainer or certified EMT must be in attendance and on duty for all interscholastic rugby games. The medical person shall be responsible for both teams unless the visiting team has its own medical coverage. His/her judgment will be final with regard to the condition of a player after injury. No player may continue to play against the medical person's advice. The penalty for violation of this provision is forfeiture of the game.

15. MIAA DRONE POLICY

Prohibiting the Use of Drones (Unmanned Aircraft Systems or UAS's) Unless granted special permission by the MIAA Executive Director, the use of drones (UAS), for any purpose, is not permitted at any MIAA tournament event. This prohibition applies to all fields of play, courts, arena, mats, gym floor or pool, and covers a ban on the entire facility being used as part of the MIAA event, including the spectator stands and parking areas.

16. SAT/SAT SUBJECT TESTS:

1. Tournament Games may be scheduled for June 3, 2017, the same date of the SAT and SAT Subject Tests. Please tell all coaches & student-athletes now so alternative plans may be made. A listing of all dates and sports that may take place on schedule College Board exam dates can be found on the MIAA website.

2. The College Board offers a SAT Program Alternate Test Date Policy. As stated in their published material: "The SAT Program will consider granting an alternate test date when the following criteria are met:"

a. The conflicting event must be unexpected. Regularly scheduled sporting events or previously scheduled school activities, such as a prom, are not considered unexpected. An event such as an academic or athletic competition, in which students have advanced through the competition or into post-regular season competition, can be considered an unexpected event.

3. SAT School Day: Allows high schools to administer the SAT to students during the school day, thus avoiding weekend athletic conflicts. To date, the MA school districts that participate are Plymouth, Springfield, Revere, and most recently Fitchburg. SAT School Day is contracted through the College Board with participating districts. Contact Info: **Alan Bernstein, Senior District Director**, K-12 Services, New England Regional Office, The College Board, 1601 Trapelo Road, Suite 12, Waltham, MA 02451;



Rugby Team Sportsmanship Award

The MIAA Tournament Management Committee has approved an Annual Sportsmanship Award to be presented to one school in every sport at the MIAA State Championship. We would like to encourage you to nominate a rugby team for consideration by the MIAA Rugby Committee for recognition at the MIAA Rugby Championships. Nominated teams do not have to be tournament teams but should exemplify the tenets of good sportsmanship to the highest degree. Criteria to include: Teamwork, Fair play/respect for opponents, Ethics and Citizenship. Self nominations are acceptable.

I would like to nominate the following team for consideration of the MIAA Rugby Sportsmanship Award:

School: _____ Girls: _____ Boys: _____ Division: _____
City/Town: _____
Phone: _____ Fax: _____
Principal: _____
Athletic Director: _____ School Phone: _____
Home Phone: _____
Coach: _____ Home Phone: _____
Captain(s) names: _____

Number of Games Played _____

Please provide a brief statement with regard to the reasons for this nomination below!

Your Name _____ **Signature** _____
Position _____ **School** _____
Date _____ **Phone** _____

Send to: MIAA, Attn: Rugby Committee
33 Forge Parkway
Franklin, MA 02038
Fax: 508-541-9888

APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY MAY 24, 2017