



# 2011 FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

## 2011-2012 FOOTBALL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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### FOOTBALL COACHES' REPRESENTATIVE

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### DIVERSITY REPRESENTATIVE

### TOURNAMENT DIRECTORS

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Jim Bergenholtz (CMASS)  
Jim O'Connor (EMASS)

### MIAA Staff Liaison

William N. Gainé, Jr.  
Deputy Director

Peter Smith  
Assistant Director

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# MIAA FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

## Time and Date of Games

Time and date of games are determined by the MIAA Football Committee and are designated on the following pages.

### Contingency Plans for Thanksgiving Day Weather Postponement

*The changes below will be administered by and subject to the discretion of the Tournament Director, Tournament Chair and Football Executive*

1. If Thanksgiving games were to be re-scheduled to Friday due to inclement weather, then:
  - Nothing changes in the Playoff system schedule
2. If Thanksgiving games were to be re-scheduled to Saturday due to inclement weather, then:
  - Semi-Final Games would move from Tuesday to Wednesday at 5:15pm and 7:45pm
  - Finals would move from Saturday/Sunday to Sunday/Monday
  - If Thanksgiving games were to be re-scheduled to Sunday due to inclement weather, the Football Committee would determine a revised schedule. No games will be permitted beyond December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2011.

### SAT's-College Board Exams

MIAA Football Superbowls will be played December 3, 2011. This is also the College Board exam date. All prospective playoff teams should advise participants to schedule their college boards on an alternate date.

## Site of Games

The playoff sites have been determined by the MIAA Football Committee; if a team refuses to play at a given site, the next eligible team in that conference will be selected.

In all sectors of the State, Playoff & Superbowl Games are intended to be played at neutral sites, however when a site has been established and the member school is a participant it will be played at their home site. To be clear, examples of established sites that have been utilized in past football playoffs include, Lowell High School, Arlington High School, Wachusett High School, Auburn High School, Reading High School, etc. In cases when the playoff sites are established and that school qualifies, a home site is honored.

In CMASS, WMASS and EMASS, if two competing teams are the established playoff site, the higher seeded team, using the power rating system, will be the home site. If still tied a coin flip would take place on the morning after Thanksgiving.

## Tie Games in Semi-finals and Finals

*The MIAA tiebreaker system below will be used in Divisional Playoffs as well as all Superbowl Finals.*

*Immediately following the conclusion of the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter, the teams will go to their team area for two minutes.*

*The officials will escort the captains to the middle of the field for the coin toss. The winner of the toss will choose one of the following options: (1) offense or defense; or (2) which end of the field shall be used in all series of the overtime period (10-yard line).*

*Each series shall begin at the ten-yard line unless a penalty overrides. First down chains will not be used. It is always goal-to-go. If penalty enforcement calls for an automatic first down, it will be first and goal.*

*For the first and subsequent tie breaking periods, any team that scores a touchdown must attempt a two point conversion by run or pass from scrimmage.*

*If there is a change of team possession during the last play of an overtime period (second series), live ball fouls by opponents of the team last gaining possession, that occur after the change of possession, gives the team in possession the option of putting the ball in play, where the penalty leaves the ball, for one down free of penalty or penalize as a dead ball foul at the succeeding spot in the subsequent overtime period. This option is exercised only if the team last gaining possession is free of foul during the down.*

*Example: Second Series - Team B intercepts Team A's pass and, during Team B's run back, Team A commits a personal foul.*

*Ruling: Team B has the option of extending the overtime period for one down free of penalty, with Team B putting the ball in play where the penalty leaves the ball, provided Team B has not fouled during the down. Or Team B may choose to penalize as a dead ball foul at the succeeding spot in the subsequent overtime period. (NCAA Rules: Section 3-1-3-d, 3-1-3-e, 3-1-3-f 3-1-3-g-1)*

### Practice on Playing Site

*Practice opportunities may be available at the Divisional Final game site. Qualifying teams are invited to communicate with the Site Administrator subsequent to site assignment. **Gillette Stadium will not be available as a practice site.***

### Number of Players Allowed

*The number of uniformed team members eligible for playoffs and/or superbowl may vary based upon the following requirements: All athletes have been declared eligible by their High School Principal. Only athletes who dress regularly as a member of the varsity team may be on the post season squad and only uniform players will be allowed on the sidelines.*

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### **Contingency Plans for Playoff/Superbowl Postponements:**

The last playable date for Semi-Final playoffs will be December 10, 2011. In the event we exceed the semi-final deadline date, we will revert back to a single round format.

The final date to play any MIAA Superbowl game will be Sunday, December 11, 2011. **Tie Breaking Process – Seeding**

If there are league co-champions or multi-champions, the selected league representative shall be determined in the following manner: (1) the league will determine their representative by using their league tie-breaking rule; or (2) if the league does not have a tie breaking process, the following procedure will determine the league representative; follow the order below, eliminate all the teams you can at each step of the criteria, after eliminating all possible teams at that criteria level, revert back to step one and continue the same process until you are only left with one team.

1. Head to head competition
2. Fewest League losses
3. Most League wins
4. Eliminate last two (2) calendar year Super Bowl participants
5. Coin flip

**Please note: In every case a school to be considered for tournament participation must be eligible by all MIAA rules and regulations.**

### **Intent to Enter**

Each league notifies the MIAA of the team that will represent them in the Superbowl by 3:00 p.m. on Thanksgiving Day. Upon notification the eligible team will be required to certify eligibility of their team.

### **Film Exchange**

Schools may make available to their opponent's films or tapes of any two of their games that the opposing coach desires. If one of the teams does not take game films or tapes, there will be no exchange.

### **Site Administration**

Jersey colors, selection of benches, etc., will be determined by the MIAA Football Committee.

### **Official Ball**

The MIAA and Spaulding Sports Company have agreed that *any model* from the Spaulding J5V football will be the official ball of the football play-off series and will be used at all Super Bowl sites. Only the J5V will be used. Our thanks to Spaulding for its support of the MIAA, as represented by this agreement.

### **Game Length**

Playoffs and Superbowls will be 10 minutes per period. It is also REQUIRED by the Football Committee that teams in contention for playoff births be limited to play 10 minute periods in their Thanksgiving game.

### **Timeouts:**

There will be three time outs per half for all Playoff and Super Bowl games.

### **Medical Coverage**

A game will not start unless an MIAA assigned physician, licensed athletic trainer or certified EMT is present. In the event of an accident or injury to a player, that medical person will make the final judgment as to whether a student athlete may continue. In playoffs, the Home team is responsible to provide a Licensed Trainer, Doctor, EMT and the visiting team is welcome to bring their Trainer, Doctor or EMT. In MIAA Superbowls, the MIAA will provide Medical Coverage.

### **Sports Medical Committee Requirements:**

1. All playoff and superbowl games must be played on artificial turf
2. An equipment review must take place for safety compliance prior to post season play
3. There be allowed a maximum of eleven (11) regular season games - No team seeking post season play may schedule the Saturday before Thanksgiving.
4. Each team qualifying for post season play will be required to follow the "established" Sports Medicine Committee practice schedule which will be made available upon qualification.

### **Postponements:**

In the event of postponements for December 3, 2011, Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup> must be reserved on school calendars for postponed games to be played. Conflicts with student activities will not be honored.

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# EMASS FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

**Eligibility:** In every case a school to be considered for Tournament participation must be eligible by all MIAA rules. Schools without league affiliation are not eligible for playoffs. Each league is responsible to forward their league champion to the MIAA for divisional playoff participation. Only MIAA division games as determined below may be used to determine league champion. Should a tie result, the MIAA Tiebreaking Procedure, criteria 1,2,3,4 and 5 will be used to resolve a league championship tie unless the league has their own tiebreaker which will supersede the MIAA tiebreaker.

Each of nine (9) divisions will include four (4) leagues (with the exception of Division V). Leagues in each division are designated as A, B, C, and D (ref. below). The divisional playoff games will be for determining the Finalists for the Divisional Championship to be played the following Saturday, December 3rd, postponed date is December 4th.

## EMASS FOOTBALL DIVISIONAL PLAYOFFS ~ NORTH/SOUTH ALIGNMENT

### Division I

- A) MVC Large
- B) Catholic Conference
- C) Big 3
- D) Bay State Carey

### Division II

- A) MVC Small
- B) Middlesex Large
- C) Hockomock Large
- D) Patriot Keenan

### Division III

- A) Dual County Small
- B) Tri-Valley Large
- C) Hockomock Small
- D) Patriot Fisher

### Division IV

- A) Catholic Central Large
- B) Commonwealth Large
- C) Tri-Valley Small
- D) So. Shore

### Division V

- A) Boston South
- B) Mayflower Small

### Division IA

- A) GBL
- B) NE Large
- C) Old Colony
- D) Dual County Large

### Division IIA

- A) Cape Ann Large
- B) Middlesex Small
- C) Bay State Herget
- D) Atlantic Coast

### Division IIIA

- A) NE Small
- B) Cape Ann Small
- C) EAC
- D) South Coast

### Division IVA

- A) Catholic Central Small
- B) Commonwealth Small
- C) Boston North
- D) Mayflower Large

*League listed first will be the home team designee*

2011 **NORTH** A vs. B **SOUTH** C vs. D  
2012 **NORTH** B vs. A **SOUTH** D vs. C

**EMASS DIVISIONAL SEMI-FINAL ROUND MATCHUPS TO BE PLAYED TUES., November 29, 2011 in doubleheader format at 5:15pm & 7:45pm and sites will be announced Nov. 25th and be played on artificial turf under the lights**

Division V will automatically advance to the Division V Superbowl

**EMASS SUPERBOWLS- DECEMBER 3rd, POSTPONED DATE DECEMBER. 4<sup>th</sup>.  
VICTORS IN THE NORTH AND SOUTH SEMI-FINALS WILL BE PAIRED FOR SUPERBOWLS IN EACH DIVISION**

2011 –DIVISIONS I, II, III and IV WILL BE PLAYED AT GILLETTE STADIUM  
2011 –DIVISIONS IA, IIA, IIIA, IVA AND V WILL BE PLAYED AT SITES TO BE DETERMINED

### Pre-game Organizational/Celebratory Meetings:

~ Playoff Meeting: For all participating member school Athletic Directors, November 28<sup>th</sup>, 10:00am at the MIAA Office in Franklin.

~ Superbowl Meeting: For all participating member school Principals, Athletic Directors, Coaches, Captains and Media, December 1st and 2nd (**time and location to be determined**).

## CMASS FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

**Eligibility:** In every case a school to be considered for Tournament participation must be eligible by all MIAA rules.

Playoff Format: In each division, the top four teams based on power ratings would qualify for the Tuesday playoffs. The #1 seed would play the #4 seed and the #2 seed would play the #3 seed. The winners of the playoff game would play in the Super Bowl game on Saturday.

<b>CMASS FOOTBALL DIVISIONAL PLAYOFFS – TUESDAY NOVEMBER 29<sup>th</sup></b>
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<b>CMASS FOOTBALL SUPERBOWLS – SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3<sup>rd</sup></b>
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Division I Superbowl will be played at Gillette Stadium, Divisions II, III, IV, V, VI will be played at local colleges

<b>Bracket A:</b>	<b>Division I</b>	<b>Division II</b>
	St. Johns	Shepherd Hill
	Wachusett	Westborough
	Shrewsbury	Marlborough
	Algonquin	Gardner
	Leominster	Doherty
	Fitchburg	Nashoba
	Milford	St. Peter Marian
	North Middlesex	Holy Name
<b>Bracket B:</b>	<b>Division III</b>	<b>Division IV</b>
	South	Nipmuc
	Quabbin	Oxford/Sutton
	North	Northbridge
	Hudson	Southbridge
	Burncoat	Lunenburg
	Tantasqua	St. Bernard's
	Groton-Dunstable	Grafton
	Oakmont	Millbury
	Auburn	
<b>Bracket C:</b>	<b>Division V</b>	<b>Division VI</b>
	Clinton	Monty Tech
	David Prouty	Ayer
	Tyngsboro	Maynard
	Leicester	Worcester Tech
	Bartlett/Douglas	Bay Path
	Uxbridge	Littleton
	Narragansett	BVT
	West Boylston/Tahanto	Quaboag
	Murdock	Assabet
		Keefe
		Nashoba Valley

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**LEAGUE ALIGNMENTS****Midland-Wachusett- A**

Wachusett  
Leominster  
Shrewsbury  
Fitchburg  
Milford

**Midland-Wachusett- B**

Marlborough  
North Middlesex  
Westborough  
Nashoba  
Hudson  
Algonquin

**Midland-Wachusett-C**

Groton-Dunstable  
Gardner  
Oakmont  
Lunenburg  
Clinton  
Tyngsboro  
Quabbin

**Midland-Wachusett-D**

West Boylston  
Narragansett  
Murdock  
Littleton  
Ayer  
Maynard

**Central-Mass Conference**

St. John's  
Holy Name  
St. Peter Marian

**Inter-High**

Burncoat  
North  
South  
Doherty

**SWCL A**

Shepherd Hill  
Oxford/Sutton  
Tantasqua  
Northbridge  
Auburn  
Grafton

**SWCL B**

Bartlett  
Millbury  
David Prouty  
Leicester  
Uxbridge  
Southbridge

**Independent Schools**

Nipmuc  
St. Bernard's  
Quaboag

**Vocational League**

Monty Tech  
Worcester Tech  
Bay Path  
Assabet Valley  
Keefe Tech  
Nashoba Tech  
Blackstone Valley Tech

**POWER RATING SYSTEM**

If a game ends in a tie after regulation time, all football games in Central Massachusetts will adhere to the MIAA Tie Breaker procedure to determine a winner of the game.

**10 POINTS**

- 10 points for defeating a team within your division
- 10 points for defeating a team within your league (excluding league crossovers)
- 10 points for defeating a team outside of District E
- 10 points for defeating a team within your bracket: A: Division 1 & 2; B: Division 3 & 4; C: Division 5 & 6

**12 POINTS**

- 12 points for defeating a team within a higher bracket (refer to 2<sup>nd</sup> bullet)

**8 POINTS**

- 8 points for defeating a team in a lower bracket (refer to second bullet)

**2 POINTS**

- 2 points would be earned for each of your opponent's wins (a team that you have defeated)

**1 POINT**

- 1 point would be earned for each of your opponent's wins (a team that has defeated your team)

The total number of points for each team will be divided by the number of games played by that team to determine the team's Power Ranking.

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## **TIE BREAKER FOR DIVISIONAL PLAYOFF SEEDS**

### **1<sup>st</sup> Tie Breaker - Head to Head Competition**

A – Two team tie – Team A defeats Team B, Team A is the higher seed

B – Three team tie: Team A defeats Team B, Team B defeats Team C, Team C defeats Team A – go to 2<sup>nd</sup> tie breaker

C – Four team tie: Team A is 2-1, Team B is 2-1, Team C is 1-2, and Team D is 1-2. Team C & D are eliminated, Teams A & B move to 2<sup>nd</sup> tie breaker

D – Five team tie: Teams will be eliminated based on head to head records with all teams involved in the tie. The remaining teams would move to 2<sup>nd</sup> tie breaker.

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Tie Breaker**

Winning percentage within your division

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Tie Breaker**

Coin flip

# WMASS FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

**Eligibility:** In every case a school to be considered for Tournament participation must be eligible by all MIAA rules.

<b>WMASS FOOTBALL DIVISIONAL PLAYOFFS – TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29<sup>TH</sup></b>
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<b>WMASS FOOTBALL DIVISIONAL SUPERBOWLS – SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3<sup>rd</sup></b>
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## TOURNAMENT FORMAT FOR 2011

**Tournament Structure:** Four teams per division qualify for playoffs

**Qualification Process:** All league champions automatically qualify; the remaining teams are selected through the power ranking process. If there is a tie for league championship; the school with the higher power ranking would receive the automatic bid.

**Seeding Procedure:** All four teams seeded based on power ranking.

DIVISION 1	DIVISION 2	DIVISION 3	DIVISION 4
Agawam	Amherst	Athol	Dean Tech
Central	Commerce	Belchertown	Easthampton
Chicopee	East Longmeadow	Cathedral	Franklin Tech
Chicopee Comp	Hoosac	Drury	McCann Tech
Holyoke	Ludlow	Frontier	Mohawk
Longmeadow	Pittsfield	Greenfield	Palmer
Minnechaug	Putnam	Lee	Pathfinder
Northampton	Sci Tech	Mahar	Pioneer Valley
West Springfield	South Hadley	Monument	Turners Falls
Westfield	Taconic	Mt. Greylock	Ware
	Wahconah	St. Joes	

**Format for all divisions:** #1 v. #4 & #2 v. #3 – The winner of each would play in their respective Divisional WMass Superbowl.

## POWER RATING SYSTEM

- Own team point value – points received for wins vs. following opponents
- All ties receive a half point value, i.e. if a win equals 10 points, a tie would equal 5 points
- ALL LEAGUE / MANDATORY CROSSOVER GAMES EQUAL 10 POINTS VALUE

Independent games are awarded points based on the following point system:

Own Div.	Up 1 Div.	Up 2 Div.	Up 3 Div.	Outside State	Down 1 Div.	Down 2 Div.	Down 3 Div.
<b>10 points</b>	<b>12 points</b>	<b>14 points</b>	<b>16 points</b>	<b>10 points</b>	<b>8 points</b>	<b>6 points</b>	<b>4 points</b>

\* CMass Division 3 – Conference C will equal WMass Division 4 in point value.

Opponent Point Values – If you beat your opponent you receive the following value for each of their wins.

- If you beat your opponent you receive 2 points for every win your opponents had throughout the season.
- If you tie your opponent you receive 1 point for every win your opponent had throughout the season.
- Power Ranking will be divided by total # of teams played by your respective school.
- Tie Breaker – 1. Head to Head; 2. Record against common opponents; 3. Coin flip.

### Pre-game Organizational/Celebratory Meetings:

~ Playoff Meeting: For all participating member school Athletic Directors, November 28<sup>th</sup>, 10:00am – Westfield State College

~ Superbowl Meetings: For all participating member school Principals, Athletic Directors, Coaches, Captains and Media, ~ 9:30am Westfield State College (December 1st)

**Superbowl Venues:** Division I will be played at Gillette Stadium – Division II, III and IV will be played at Westfield College.

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## **PLAYOFF AND SUPERBOWL SELECTION OF OFFICIALS**

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**Five field officials will be assigned as per the following process:**

### **EASTERN MASSACHUSETTS**

Eastern Massachusetts Football Commissioners are asked to submit their assignment of officials by November 5, 2011 to the Director of Officiating. The number and positions of assignments that each Commission receives is dependent upon how many leagues the Commissions represents and where the league is placed in the Eastern Massachusetts Football Tournament as outlined below:

Please refer to the EMASS Football Tournament page for league placement in North/South and Division designation. Note the following abbreviations for official's positions R=Referee, U=Umpire, H=Head Linesman, L=Line Judge (or Field Judge), B=Back Judge and C=Clock Operator.

### **Playoff Assignments:**

In Odd numbered years leagues A and C will assign the R, U, and C and Leagues B and D will assign the H, L and B.

In Even numbered years leagues B and D will assign the R, U, and C and Leagues A and C will assign the H, L and B.

### **Super Bowl Assignments:**

For Divisions I, II, III, IV and V: (Division V: Boston South is considered the North league and Mayflower Small is the South League)

In Odd numbered years the North league (winner of A vs B) will assign the R, U and C and the South league (winner of C vs D) will assigned the H, L and B.

In Even numbered years the South league (winner of C vs D) will assign the R, U, and C and the North league (winner of A vs B) will assign the H, L and B.

For Divisions IA, IIA, IIIA and IVA:

In Odd numbered years the South league (winner of C vs D) will assign the R, U and C and the North league (winner of A vs B) will assign the H, L, and B.

In Even numbered years the North league (winner of A vs B) will assign the R, U and C and the South league (winner of C vs D) will assign the H, L and B.

### **The following conditions must be adhered to:**

1. Officials who worked a Superbowl game last year are not eligible to work a game this year. Officials will be eligible every other year to work the Superbowl.
2. Only officials who are registered with the MIAA will be assigned play-off games.
3. All Officials must have at least 5 years varsity experience and officiated at least 40 games in that period.
4. All Officials must have worked at least 7 varsity high school games during the Fall Season.
5. Officials are to be assigned positions that they usually work.
6. Officials cannot work a semi final round and final round of the Playoffs in the same year.
7. No Official may work two years in succession in the Playoffs. If an official works the playoffs he may work the Superbowl the following year if selected.
8. The head linesman assigned to each game will provide the chain crew for that game. It is expected that the chain crew will be football officials. If the head linesman cannot provide a chance crew, he must notify the Director of Officiating immediately.

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## CENTRAL MASS

1. All Central boards of officials will nominate officials that would be able to work playoff games and super bowls officials must be registered with the MIAA. All nominated official lists must be sent to the CMass Director by October 5th.
  - a. Nominations must be by position where officials worked most of their high school games.
  - b. The assigner has the right to place officials in other positions when necessary.
2. The selection process will take place in late October.
3. Officials for Super Bowls will be: Referee, Umpire, Linesman (Central), Back Judge, Field Judge
4. Chain crews will be supplied by one of the competing teams ( higher seed ).

## WESTERN MASS

1. All West boards of officials will nominate officials that would be able to work playoff games and super bowls officials must be registered with the MIAA. All nominated official lists must be sent to WMass Directors by October 5th.
  - a. Nominations must be by position where officials work during most of their high school games.
  - b. Selection committee has the right to place officials in other positions when necessary.
2. Selection committee meeting will be in late October.
3. Officials for Super Bowls will be: assigned with equitable place from Western MA and Berkshire boards
4. Chain crew will be supplied by home school or host site.

