



2025-2026 IGHSU Regional Basketball Manual

2025-26 REGIONAL TOURNAMENT DATES

Class 1A — February 12, 17, 20, 25 Class 2A — February 14, 17, 20, 25
Class 3A — February 14, 18, 21 Class 4A — February 18, 21, 24
Class 5A — February 18, 21, 24

2025-26 STATE TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

MONDAY, MARCH 2nd

10:00 - 5A Quarterfinal	5:00 - 3A Quarterfinal
11:45 - 5A Quarterfinal	6:45 - 3A Quarterfinal
1:30 - 5A Quarterfinal	8:30 - 3A Quarterfinal
3:15 - 5A Quarterfinal	

TUESDAY, MARCH 3rd

10:00 - 3A Quarterfinal	5:00 - 4A Quarterfinal
11:45 - 4A Quarterfinal	6:45 - 2A Quarterfinal
1:30 - 4A Quarterfinal	8:30 - 2A Quarterfinal
3:15 - 4A Quarterfinal	

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4th

10:00 - 2A Quarterfinal	3:15 - 1A Quarterfinal
11:45 - 2A Quarterfinal	5:00 - 1A Quarterfinal
1:30 - 1A Quarterfinal	6:45 - 1A Quarterfinal

THURSDAY, MARCH 5th

10:00 - 5A Semifinal	3:15 - 3A Semifinal
11:45 - 5A Semifinal	5:00 - 4A Semifinal
1:30 - 3A Semifinal	6:45 - 4A Semifinal

FRIDAY, MARCH 6th

10:00 - 2A Semifinal	3:15 - 1A Semifinal
11:45 - 2A Semifinal	6:00 - 5A Championship
1:30 - 1A Semifinal	8:00 - 3A Championship

SATURDAY, MARCH 7th

2:30 - 4A Championship	7:00 - 1A Championship
4:45 - 2A Championship	

BASKETBALL ADMINISTRATOR CONTACT INFORMATION

Please contact Tonya Moe at tonya@ighsau.org with any questions regarding the content of this manual.

IGHSAU WEBSITE

All tournament information can be found on the [IGHSAU website](#).

REGIONAL TOURNAMENT ASSIGNMENTS

Tournament sites are tentative and subject to change depending on the participating teams. Regional finals that are not played at a neutral location will be hosted by the highest ranked of the remaining two teams in each region, based on the final IGHSAU rankings. In the case of both remaining teams in a region being unranked, the following tie breaker will be used to determine the higher seed:

- a. Head-to-Head
- b. Bound Power Rankings

IGHSAU member schools must have applied to host the regional tournament and certify that the facility being utilized meets the minimum requirements to host, including adequate court lighting, bleacher safety, restrooms, concessions, etc. The athletic director of a team affected by a site change will be notified. Site/time/date changes will also be posted on Bound.

REGIONAL TOURNAMENT MANAGERS

Please become familiar with tournament administration policies and procedures when hosting regional games for the IGHSAU. **Do not postpone or reschedule any tournament games without first contacting the IGHSAU.** If your school is selected as a host site for a tournament game, it is the responsibility of the tournament manager to contact all schools that will be playing at your site.

REGIONAL SCORE REPORTING

To report regional scores, log into Bound and enter your score on your Bound page as you've been doing all season. Scores must be entered immediately following the conclusion of your regional contest. Regional brackets and scores will be updated on the IGHSAU website immediately after the score is entered. If you are having trouble entering scores in Bound, please text your scores to Jason Eslinger (515-240-7649).

REGIONAL BASKETBALL NATIONAL ANTHEM PROTOCOL:

A United States flag shall be displayed within the gym. The National Anthem shall be played prior to the first game. Players are expected to conduct themselves in a quiet and attentive manner until the Anthem is fully completed. Local decision on whether the host uses a recorded National Anthem or a live National Anthem. Any live presentation of the Anthem involving more than 12 individuals requires IGHSAU approval.

MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT- Local decision on having pep bands at regionals.

Recorded or taped music may be played over the host amplifying system at any regional tournament. This music shall be supplied by the host school and may be played only prior to the first game, between halves, between games, and following games (not during other time- out periods).

If school songs are played, please extend that courtesy to both schools.

Other forms of halftime entertainment are prohibited during regional tournament games. Use good judgment regarding the content and lyrics of music played.

A team shall not bring its individual music to any warm-up or playing area.

Live pep bands will be permitted. Both teams will be permitted to bring their pep bands (up to 30 members). Free admission to pep band members from either school is allowed up to 30 members. Schools should provide the host school with a list of pep band member names.

Pep bands may play during pregame, timeouts, intermission and postgame. When multiple pep bands are present, band directors shall coordinate with each other which band plays at which time.

If you want to use flashing lights and video boards for starting line ups than it needs to be done for both teams. What you do for one team you do for the other.

USE OF FLOOR DURING REGIONAL TOURNAMENT GAMES

The Board of Directors has established a rule prohibiting the shooting of basketballs between halves of regional tournament games, except by the teams participating in that respective game. No spectators or youth basketball games shall use the regional game floor.

RULES OF PLAY & TOURNAMENT FORMAT

- National Federation Basketball Rules with the Iowa Adaptation will be utilized.
- The 35-point continuous clock will be utilized during regional/state tournament play.
- Regional winners (8 per class) advance to state.
- Home team= higher seed and will wear white uniforms..

OFFICIAL PROGRAMS FOR REGIONAL GAMES

- Host schools may provide official programs (free or for sale)
- Contact opposing schools before soliciting ads.

TOURNAMENT ROSTER FORM

The tournament roster form shall be downloaded from Bound using your school's login and password. Each team's athletic director shall complete and send the form to the appropriate tournament manager at least 48 hours before each regional contest in which his/her team is participating. The tournament manager will use this form as follows:

1. As an admission roster for your team - only 15 may be in uniform, not to exceed 23 total in the team party (including managers, coaches, trainers etc.). Please do not add parents, coaches' spouses or children, or non-team personnel to this list. The roster form should include only those personnel with a specific game-day or school-related responsibility. It shall be the responsibility of each participating school/AD to make certain that its roster form is complete in every detail. Keep a copy of the tournament roster form to forward to the tournament manager of each site where your team is assigned.
2. Admission to the tournament site will be made strictly from this form, and the tournament manager will also use this form as a data sheet to prepare the program prior to the tournament. Coaches may change the personnel on this form for each day of competition or if no changes are made, send a copy from round to round to each site's tournament manager.

PASS GATE ADMISSION

The player entries to all tournaments shall be limited to 15 players from each school and 23 total members in the team party on the floor and bench area before and during any regional and state tournament contests. Any of the 15 players may be changed from one tournament game to another (anyone other than the 15 players/substitutes on the bench or in the bench area shall be in street clothing). Coaches and their teams shall be admitted free of charge at any game in the region in which they are assigned - regardless whether they drew a bye, have been eliminated, are scouting, etc. Team members must be accompanied by the coach and must enter together.

One bus driver may be admitted free of charge, in addition to those individuals listed on the tournament roster form. Cheerleaders, when in uniform, are admitted free only during the session in which their team plays. A maximum of six cheerleaders in uniform will be allowed on the floor. A team mascot will be admitted in addition to the six cheerleaders.

ADMINISTRATORS ADMISSION

Administrators (and guest) who hold administrator passes (IGHSAU, IHSAA, IHSMA, and IHSSA) will be admitted to regional contests and to state tournament contests. Administrators (and guest) must enter through the pass gate and show photo identification. At least one administrator present will be expected to supervise their students and crowd.

PRACTICE & WARM-UP SESSIONS

At no time, within ten days of the start of regional tournaments, will tournament managers allow practice sessions for participating teams on the court on which the regional tournament game will be played. On game night, no basketballs shall be made available to either team on the playing court until 30 minutes prior to the scheduled game start time. If a separate facility is available, both teams may be allowed access with balls prior to the actual on-court warm-up. The visiting team must be notified of this opportunity in advance, and both teams must have equal access.

The home team is permitted to have regular practice at its facility prior to hosting a tournament game the same night. However, the floor shall be cleared at least 90 minutes prior to the first game of the evening.

PRE-GAME SCHEDULE

The following warm-up schedule shall be used during IGHSAU Tournament play:

Game Clock		Actual Time
25:00	Timed Warmups/Start Game Clock	6:30 p.m.
0:00	Player introductions	6:55 p.m.
0:00	National Anthem	6:58 p.m.
8:00	Tip-off	7:00 p.m.

When hosting a doubleheader, the second game shall not begin prior to the published start time. A 15-minute warm-up period is guaranteed for teams participating in the second game of the doubleheader.

Tournament managers should attempt to keep as close to the published time schedule as possible.

Begin play promptly as scheduled. Announce the time and location of subsequent tournament play if available.

TEAM BENCH ASSIGNMENTS/OCCUPANTS

The location of each team's bench shall be designated by game management.

During a game, the player bench may only be occupied by the eligible substitutes, head coach, assistant coach(s), qualified team managers, team statistician, scorekeeper, and team trainer or physician, not to exceed 23 total in the team party.

SPECTATORS

The bottom-most row of bleachers shall not be used for spectator seating unless necessary to accommodate a large crowd. All spectators at state-sponsored basketball tournaments shall wear shirts and shoes. Shirts shall extend to the waist-area.

The Board of Directors of the Iowa Girls' High School Athletic Union has adopted the following policies and it is the expectation that the host school enforces these rules regarding unacceptable behavior.

Any of the following actions will result in ejection of the offender from the premises:

- Disrespectful conduct, including verbal or written profanity, obscene gestures or comments, offensive remarks or signs of a sexual nature, or other vulgar actions that demean individuals or the event.
- Throwing articles onto the contest area.
- Entering the contest area in protest or celebration.
- Physical confrontation involving contest officials, coaches/directors, contestants, or spectators.
- Spectator interference with the event.
- Use of laser light pens.

Use of artificial signs, banners, fatheads and noisemakers (airhorns, cowbells, keys, thundersticks, megaphones, etc.) is prohibited. (First offense = Warning. Subsequent offense = Ejection.)

Please notify the IGHSAU if any spectator is ejected from the facility including the name of the spectator. A procedure has been established to assist officials and administrators when spectator conduct becomes a problem.

1. The administrator in charge for the evening shall meet with the officials when they arrive on-site 60 minutes prior to scheduled game time. The administrator should identify his/her location during the contest so the officials know where to locate the administrator if the need arises.

2. If a problem arises during a game, the official shall stop play, notify the administrator in charge of the problem, and determine a remedy to the problem. The remedy may include asking for supervision of the troublemaker, direct confrontation of the troublemaker by the administrator, or removal of the troublemaker from the gymnasium. The game will not restart until the administration complies with the remedy ordered by the official.

Host game management is responsible for every spectator in the gym, regardless of which school the spectator supports. At no time are officials to address spectators directly. Any necessary communication with spectators shall be done by the administrator in charge.

What defines a problem which needs to be addressed?

- Any derogatory or inappropriate remarks directed at players, coaches, or officials.
- Any comments or actions by spectators which prevent the official from doing his or her job at the highest level possible.

ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO POLICY

No alcohol or tobacco is to be sold or consumed on the grounds of any state tournament venue leased or provided to the IGHS AU for the purpose of conducting a state championship.

Section 123.46 of the Iowa Code states: A person shall not possess or consume alcoholic liquors, wine or beer on public school property or while attending a public or private school-related function. A person shall not be intoxicated or simulate intoxication in a public place. A person violating this subsection is guilty of a simple misdemeanor.

PETS/ANIMALS PROHIBITED

No pets are permitted at events sanctioned by the IGHS AU or IHSAA. Any person with a pet will be asked to leave.

This policy shall comply with the provisions of Iowa Code 216c in that such a person with a disability or person training an assisted animal has the right to be accompanied by a service dog or an assisted animal under control. The person is liable for damage done to any premises or facility by a service dog or assisted animal.

HOSTING GUIDELINES/REQUIREMENTS

Host schools are allowed to operate concession stands if they are properly inspected and licensed. IGHS AU hosting contract must be completed on Bound. Facilities must meet safety, lighting, seating and restroom requirements.

HOST SCHOOL PERSONNEL RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Provide the tournament basketball, SPALDING TF 1000 Legacy (28.5 women's). The host school will also provide warm-up basketballs.
2. Provide visible scoreboards.
3. Provide scoresheets (available on IGHS AU website) and qualified adult official scorer wearing a black and white striped garment.
4. Provide a qualified adult official timer.

5. Provide a qualified adult announcer - Announcing of players or actions of the game should be on an impartial basis (the same for both teams).
6. Provide a scorer's table where the official scorer and timer are seated next to each other.
7. Provide a "X" on the floor in front of the scorer's table designating the location of the official scorer.
8. Provide an alternate timing and scoring device at the scorer's table should the primary system fail. An alternate sounding device, such as an airhorn, should also be available.

Please provide the official scorer and timer adequate table space so that they are not crowded by patrons, team representatives, photographers, reporters, etc. Please provide such facilities that they may give their undivided attention to prescribed duties.

Although most tournament games are played on one school's home court, the host site should provide an atmosphere of neutrality. This includes bench/table personnel.

OFFICIAL SCORER & PUBLIC ADDRESS ANNOUNCER

Ensure that the official scorer and public-address announcer arrive at least 30 minutes prior to game time. The public-address announcer shall announce players and/or actions of the game on an impartial and unbiased basis (the same for both teams). Please make sure the public-address announcer visits with each team before the game for correct pronunciations of athlete/coaches names.

RECOGNIZING OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT

A player, coach, or team that achieves an outstanding mark during or upon completion of your tournament game may be recognized at the conclusion of the game - NOT during the game, during a timeout, quarter break, etc.

GAME OFFICIALS

- The IGHS AU will assign game officials.
- Contact information for your game officials will be available to the host athletic director on dragonfly (information will be shared with the host athletic director and officials by the Coordinator of Officials Chuck Brittain and/or Elise Boulton of the IGHS AU).

The officials have a copy of the time schedule for your tournament and are instructed to arrive at least one hour prior to game time.

All information regarding the name of officials assigned is confidential and for the knowledge of the tournament manager only.

GAME OFFICIALS' ACCOMODATIONS

Please provide a private room that the game officials may occupy during the course of the tournament. This room should be available to them as a dressing room as well as a lounging room during intermissions.

Visitors must be excluded from the officials' room during the entire tournament.
Please provide water/gatorade for the officials at halftime and after the game.

Please provide an escort to and from the officials room and the basketball court. Your attention to these details will assure you of a better officiated tournament and the officials will also appreciate it.

PRESS ACCOMMODATIONS

All press outlets have been advised to directly contact the tournament manager of a site from which they wish to cover regional tournament games.

Radio stations and newspapers are not obligated to inquire through the IGHSAU, nor is the tournament manager obligated to acquire sanction from the IGHSAU for regional tournament coverage.

Television stations are not obligated to acquire sanction from the IGHSAU to tape highlights or tape a game for 24-hour or more delayed rebroadcast.

Live video broadcast or video streaming of regional games is permitted per IGHSAU guidelines and fees.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Flash photography is permitted from courtside.

No pictures may be taken directly under the basket area which includes the area of the 12-foot free-throw lane extended.

Photographers shall work with the tournament manager and/or game officials to ensure they are located in a position where they will not interfere with players or officials during the game.

Only official press photographers, who have previously contacted the tournament manager, may be at floor level during the contest.

Any amateur photographers must pay admission to the contest and are not allowed at floor level. These rules apply equally to television stations using video cameras.

VIDEOTAPING

Paying spectators, including those scouting for other teams, are not restricted from videotaping if the video equipment is handheld or on a monopod.

A tripod may be used if located on the ground and does not hinder any spectator's view.

Tournament managers are not to make special arrangements for seating or electrical hook-ups for spectators trying to film or videotape. No supplemental lighting is permitted.

If an area is usually set aside for videotaping by the competing schools, such is also permitted during tournament play, and supplemental power and tripods may be used in this area only.

LIVE STREAMING INFORMATION

The IGHSAU allows schools and third-party media outlets to request live video broadcast access for regional postseason events. Requests must be submitted to the state office and then approved by both the IGHSAU and host site. Applications should be submitted ASAP to allow time for processing.

[IGHSAU Media & Affiliations Guidelines](#)

MANDATORY REGIONAL & STATE BASKETBALL VIDEO EXCHANGE

As noted in communication throughout the season, the HUDL statewide pool has been used during the regular season and will be used in the post-season for the basketball video exchange. Post-season games must be uploaded by 10:00 am the day following the game.

TOURNAMENT TICKETS

- Host schools must use online ticket sales for all IGHSAU regional games.
- Schools should use the Bound ticketing platform.

ADMISSION

- Admission price is \$8 per session for each round of the regional tournament.
- Admission shall be charged to everyone of kindergarten age and up.
- Do not charge for children who are not yet in school.**

PASS OUT TICKETS

Avoid pass-out tickets. In the event where it is necessary to give pass-out tickets, it is suggested that a rubber stamp or marker be used to mark the back of a person's hand.

One bus driver may be admitted, along with those individuals listed on the tournament checklist.

BANNERS & DISPLAYS

The display or usage of balloons, banners, signs, or confetti is prohibited. Signs such as those used for advertisements or for tournament admission are allowed. Additionally, any object which could provide a safety concern is prohibited, as are any artificial noisemakers (e.g. air horns, cowbells, etc.). These rules also apply to the state tournament.

CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS AND SOLICITATIONS

No fund-raising solicitations, etc. will be permitted within the gymnasium. All raffles, bake sales, booster club sales, etc. must take place outside the gymnasium at IGHSAU-sponsored tournament games.

POST-GAME PROTOCOL

No one (fans, parents, spectators) shall be allowed on the playing floor immediately at the conclusion of the game.

The host school is responsible for keeping the floor safe for both teams and the officials and preventing anyone from coming on to the court.

However, each school administration is ultimately responsible for the behavior and conduct of their own spectators and students.

The host school shall make the following PA announcement at least twice prior to the completion of each game:

“At the request of the Iowa Girls’ High School Athletic Union, no one is allowed on the playing floor immediately at the conclusion of this game. Please allow the players of both teams and the officials to exit the floor safely. Thank you for your cooperation.”

Also, due to safety and liability reasons, do not allow teams to cut down nets from the baskets.

TOURNAMENT AWARDS

All awards will be sent directly to the Tournament Manager for presentation at the conclusion of each regional final tournament game. Regional Final hosts will receive a packet of awards including the championship banner, Ticket Punched poster, as well as information for the team advancing to the state tournament.

STATE TOURNAMENT INFORMATION

Prior to the semifinal round of regional play, information will be posted on the IGHSAU website explaining all state tournament protocol and information. A packet of information about the state tournament at Wells Fargo Arena will also be provided to the regional final winner at that site.

STATE TOURNAMENT ASSIGNMENTS

State tournament pairings will be made available on the IGHSAU website upon completion of all regional final contests in each class. Pairings will be made based on the final IGHSAU rankings of the qualifying teams. In the case of multiple unranked teams qualifying in a class, the following tie breaker will be used to determine the higher seed:

- a. Head-to-Head
- b. Bound Power Rankings

Good Luck in your postseason play!

If you have any questions/concerns please reach out to:

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319-533-7519 (cell)
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