



2020 Statewide Playoff Plan

10 Game Regular Season, Post-Thanksgiving, 8-Team Playoff

- Based off the current Connecticut high school plan, established in 2010
- Schools can schedule 10 games in 12 weeks, including Thanksgiving
- Two by weeks must be taken, one between weeks 4-6 and another either Week 11 or Week 12
- The regular season ends on Thanksgiving (Week 12)
- The 8 highest rated schools per division qualify. (Rating System TBA)
- The Quarterfinals will be on the Tuesday night after Thanksgiving (5 days later) -The higher seeds will host unless they lack lights and/or grass ruled unplayable.
- The Semi-Finals will be played Sunday (5 days later) at a neutral site.
- The Super Bowl will be the following Friday (5 Days) or Saturday (6 Days) at a neutral site

Recommended Amendments

- All practices after Thanksgiving are uppers only (helmets & shoulder pads)
- * Extend the winter pre-season 5 days (to 15 days) before the first contest to allow athletes more time to transition.

Benefits

- Makes Thanksgiving more relevant, many outcomes will affect the tournament
- Playoff qualification includes all games / League Championships will matter
- Moves the tournament back to the post-season, like other MIAA team sports
- Eliminates consolation games, like other MIAA team sports
- Adds two required by weeks into the season for player safety
- Removes the need for AD's to schedule JV, Freshman, or last-minute playoff/consolation games
- With 8 Divisions the top 22-23% of schools per division qualify
- MIAA can run the quarterfinals from the home team's venue in most cases

Arguments / Disadvantages

- The one-week extension of the season will delay athletes from 16 teams one week from winter sports.

Concerns

- Rating System needs to accurately provide value for league games between teams from different divisions. We do not want to break up leagues.

* Optional