

2017 Procedure & Criteria for Boys Lacrosse Regional Team Placement & Tournament Seeding

Beginning with spring 2017, the MHSAA Boys Lacrosse Tournament will be expanded from 4 regions in each of the 2 divisions to 8 regions in each division. This will result in 6-8 teams in each region. **ALL teams should plan on playing a tournament game May 18-22, 2017 (this is two Thursday's before Memorial Day).** Only three games permitted in a week Monday-Sunday. After this round all games will be at the Regional Host. See Calendar for May 2017 on page 3.

Seeding Meeting Wed. May 10, 2017
Regional 1st Round: May 18-22, or earlier (at home sites of top team)
Regional Semifinal: May 24-26 at Regional Host
Regional Final: May 30 or 31 at Regional Host
MHSAA Quarterfinal: June 2 or 3 at Selected Regional Host Sites
MHSAA Semifinal: June 7 MHSAA Final: June 10

PRE-SEASON SEEDING DETERMINED BY THE LACROSSE COMMITTEE Oct. 13, 2016

Division 1 Pre-Season Seeded Teams **TBA**

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____
- 4. _____
- 5. _____
- 6. _____
- 7. _____
- 8. _____

Division 2 Pre-Season Seeded Teams:

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____
- 4. _____
- 5. _____
- 6. _____
- 7. _____
- 8. _____

The Tournament seeding and regional placement will follow the procedure and criteria defined below:

- 1. Prior to Oct. 13, 2016 Boys Lacrosse Committee meeting, MHSAA staff will prepare **preliminary** regional groupings based purely on geographical considerations; the 6-8 closest schools will be grouped together to form each of the 8 regions in both divisions.
- 2. At the **October** meeting, the Boys Lacrosse Committee will determine the top eight (8) teams in division based on the following criteria:

Criteria for Determining Regions at Pre-Season Tournament Committee Meeting October 2016:

Top Eight Teams by MHSAA Division ranked in descending order

Two Year Performance (**2015** and **2016**) which includes the following information

- Overall Win - Loss Record for games between MHSAA member schools
- Performance in MHSAA tournament possibly in a former division or as a cooperative agreement
- Lax Power Rankings (non-affiliated computer) all criteria included for games involving MHSAA
- Strength of schedule for games involving MHSAA member schools only
- Head to Head Competition & Common Opponents against MHSAA member schools
- Professional Judgment of the Committee

If a tie exists the criteria above will be used to break the tie.

- 3. Following the selection of and ranking of the top eight (8) seeded teams in each division, these “pre-season seeded teams,” 1-8, will be placed in one of the 8 regions.
 - a. If a pre-season seeded team falls naturally within a geographic regional grouping, that team will likely, but not always, be included in that region.
 - b. If more than one pre-season seeded team falls naturally within a geographic region, one of the seeded teams will stay within the region, and the other seeded team(s) will be placed in another region at the discretion of the committee considering geography and possible Quarterfinal matchups. The committee has full discretion to place any and all preseason seeded teams.

Continued

Late Season Seeding Determined by the Committee May 10, 2017

1. Based on competition played during the current season and on or before the Monday before the late-season seeding meeting (Mon. May 8, 2017), all teams (including pre-season seeded team) in each Region shall be seeded and ranked within the Region using the following criteria:

Criteria for Late-Season Seeding of Regional Brackets (May 10, 2017) - All Teams by Region

- 2017 Season Performance against MHSAA member schools only
- Lax Power for games involving MHSAA member schools only
- Strength of schedule for games involving MHSAA member schools only
- Head-to-Head Competition & Common Opponents against MHSAA member schools during the season
- Discretion of the Committee including the possible use of a blind draw

2. Based on the above criteria the teams shall be ranked and placed on a regional bracket. In the lower half of the seeded teams within each region, the committee may adjust seeding within two seeds to accommodate excessive travel for both teams in a first round home site game.
3. From the teams in each region established in October, each region will have one team designated as a seed; 1-8 determined by the committee. Based on the late season seeds and possibly the overall strength of the region in each division, regions will be matched up at the Quarterfinal level according to the 1-8, 2-7, 3-6, 4-5 formula.. These 1-8, 2-7, 3-6, 4-5 Quarterfinal matchups may change from the pre-season seeding **but no team will be relocated from its original (October) region**. Regional champions carry the regional seed with them through the tournament.
4. The Semifinal brackets will also be set (1 vs. 4; 2 vs. 3) using the criteria above for Late Season Seeding.
5. Prior to the May meeting, the MHSAA will procure host sites for each region. Regional 1st Round games will be played at the home sites of the higher seed hosting. Regional Semifinal and Regional Final games will be held at host sites.
6. All 8 Regional hosts will be asked to hold their facility to host a Quarterfinal game. MHSAA staff will then select Quarterfinal sites based on the geography of advancing teams.
7. Prior to the May meeting, MHSAA will present tentative Semifinal sites. A final decision on Semifinal sites will be made after the Quarterfinals based on geographic considerations of advancing teams.
8. Alternate site policy applies to all rounds but the Final (attempting to relocate games if both teams have travel).
9. Brackets will be posted on MHSAA.com by noon the day following the late season seeding committee meeting.

Note: The decisions of the Tournament Committee are final and not subject to appeal. It may be necessary for a small number of games to be played after the late season seeding meeting and schedule a possible conference call of committee members to finalize seeding.

