

Idaho High School Activities Association

2026

State Softball Manual



unbottled.



Dairy West
Official Sponsor of
IHSAA State Championship Events

IDAHO HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

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2026 STATE SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT MANUAL

WELCOME

Welcome to the State Softball Tournament. The Idaho High School Activities Association is proud to sponsor this tournament and we hope it will be an enjoyable, educational, and memorable experience for all players, coaches, and fans. Thank you for supporting Idaho high school activities.

This manual includes policies and procedures for the State Softball Tournament.

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Coaches' Meeting

A pre-tournament meeting for all classifications will be scheduled by the tournament managers. All participating schools should be represented at the pre-tournament meeting, as important tournament details will be discussed.

Rosters, Team Pictures & Dairy West Sweatshirt Orders

- **Update Team Roster & Upload Team Photo on MaxPreps (Deadline May 4th)**
 - Go to MaxPreps.com and sign into your School Administrator Account
 - On the left side of the page CLICK "Manage Teams"
 - Locate appropriate sport and CLICK "Manage" - SELECT "Varsity"
 - Select "Login to Coach Admin"
 - On the right side of the page, CLICK "Update your Roster"
 - UPDATE Final State Roster – this information will be used by the IHSAA to create your state tournament roster
 - Return to the Coach Admin Page
 - On the right side of the page, CLICK "Photo" box
 - UPLOAD and SUBMIT team picture
- **Submit roster and sweatshirt order at www.idhsaa.org**
 - Under the "Schools" tab CLICK "Rosters"
 - Log in with Username and Password used to update school directory
 - Select appropriate activity
 - Verify School Details – If changes are needed; CLICK "Edit My School" If correct; CLICK "My School is Correct"
 - Add Assistant Coaches
 - Complete and Verify Roster Form
 - ****Only the sports of Football and Basketball Complete "Season Results"**
 - Submit Sweatshirt Order – The total number of shirts requested must be no more than the number of participants listed on the roster. **** To purchase additional sweatshirts, contact Ben at McU Sports ben@mcusports.com**
 - SUBMIT FORM

Softball Sites/Dates/Managers

May 14-16, 2026
(2A: May 14-15, 2026)

Julie Hammons

IHSAA Assistant Executive Director
(208) 375-7027

6A

Coeur d'Alene/Lake City HS
Mgrs: Tony Prka/Troy Anderson
tony.prka@cdaschools.org
tanderson@cdaschools.org

5A

Post Falls HS
Mgr: Craig Christensen
craig.christensen@sd273.com

4A

Filer HS
Mgr: Brodie Parrott
brodie.parrott@filer.k12.id.us

3A

Timberlake/Lakeland HS
Mgr: Scott Miller, Kellogg HS
scott.miller@kelloggschools.org

2A (Dates May 14-15)

Genesee HS
Mgr: Kelly Caldwell
kcaldwell@sd282.org

2026 Softball Representation

<u>6A</u>		<u>5A</u>		<u>4A</u>		<u>3A</u>		<u>2A</u>	
District I	1.5	District I-II	1	District I	.5	District I-II	2	District II	2*
District III	4.5	District III	2	District III	2.5	District III	2	District III-IV	2*
District V-VI	2	District IV	2	District IV	1.5	District IV-V	1.5		<i>*plus next two best MaxPreps seeds</i>
		District V	1	District V	2	District VI	2.5		
		District VI	2	District VI	1.5				

Sportsmanship

The following sportsmanship rules will be in effect at all IHSAA state play-ins and championship events:

1. Face Painting – Full and/or half face painting is not permitted. Partial face painting is permitted such as small markings on the cheeks, nose, or forehead. Covering the face or head with a mask, or anything that obscures identification, is not permitted. School mascots and halftime performers are excluded.
2. Posters/Banners/Signs – All signs must display only positive support for one’s own team.
3. Artificial Noisemakers – Artificial noisemakers are prohibited.
4. Balloons – Balloons are not permitted at any IHSAA state play-in or championship event.
5. Attire – Bare chests are not permitted. Shirts must be worn.
6. Inappropriate Behavior – Throwing objects onto (or entering) the playing area before, during or after a contest and verbal harassment or derogatory remarks directed toward an opponent or official are not permitted.

Crowd Control

Each school is responsible for the conduct of its students and adult fans. IHSAA rules require schools to provide close supervision at all contests and asks for support and cooperation of administrators in enforcing the following rules:

1. No one other than authorized individuals will be allowed on the field or in restricted areas.
2. Persons who enter the field or restricted areas will be removed from the premises for the remainder of the tournament.

Littering

Teams are responsible to pick up litter from the dugout and on the playing field. Schools should assist tournament managers in keeping the facility clean, by closely supervising student sections.

High School Media Credential Protocol

Members of the school media (school newspaper/yearbook) will be issued IHSAA tournament credentials by the school’s Athletic Director and must comply with mainstream media guidelines (see Media page on the IHSAA website).

Broadcasting/Webcasting

Live video and audio broadcasting of IHSAA State events (full or condensed versions) is strictly prohibited and in direct violation of the IHSAA’s agreement with the NFHS Network and Idaho Sports.com.

Broadcasting or streaming events declined by the NFHS Network and/or Idaho Sports.com must be approved by the Idaho High School Activities Association and each member school that is participating in this event.

IHSAA Webcast Partner: [NFHS Network](https://www.nfhs.org/)

Exclusive video broadcast rights of State Play-In and IHSAA sponsored State Tournament events are contracted through the NFHS Network. Permission for cable operators, newspapers, radio stations, television stations, school broadcasting, private individual or Internet sites in relation to video broadcast of State Play-In and IHSAA sponsored State Tournament events must be done by contacting NFHS Network. Credentials will not be granted to media not receiving clearance from the IHSAA through NFHS Network.

IHSAA Audio Webcast Partner: IdahoSports.com

Exclusive audio broadcast rights of State Play-In and IHSAA sponsored State Tournament events are contracted through IdahoSports.com. Permission for cable operators, newspapers, radio stations, television stations, school broadcasting, private individual or Internet sites in relation to audio webcast of State Play-In and IHSAA sponsored State Tournament events must be done by contacting Paul Kingsbury at IdahoSports.com. Credentials will not be granted to media not receiving clearance from the IHSAA through IdahoSports.com.

Terrestrial radio broadcast requests need to be approved, prior to the start of the tournament, by submitting an IHSAA Radio Broadcast Contract. idhsaa.org.

Admission

Tickets can be purchased online using the GoFan app on your mobile device.
Link can be found on the IHSAA homepage; www.idhsaa.org

All Tournament Pass

General Admission \$ 27.00*

Discount Ticket \$ 22.00*

**online only; subject to additional service fees*

Day Ticket – Day 1 or Day 2

General Admission \$ 10.00

Discount Ticket \$ 9.00

Day Ticket – Day 3 (Day 2 for 2A)

General Admission \$ 11.00

Discount Ticket \$ 10.00

NOTE Discount Tickets:

- Seniors 55 & older
 - Students in grades 7-12 with an activity card
 - Students in grades 1-6
- *Children 5 & under admitted free

Team Personnel

Coaches/Support Personnel: All classifications will be allowed **four coaches and three support personnel** to be admitted without an IHSAA card or tournament pass. Any coaches or support personnel exceeding that number must have either an IHSAA card or purchase a tournament pass.

Number of Players: At play-in and state tournament games, a maximum of seventeen players may be in uniform at the start of the contest. Violation of this rule will result in the school being assessed a maximum fine for dressing more than the approved number of players at a state play-in or tournament game with forfeiture of the game if excess numbers play.

Game Policies

Pre-Tournament Practice

Teams who wish to practice in the locale of the state tournament should contact the tournament manager for a site and time. Teams are prohibited from practicing on their tournament's game fields.

Dressing Rooms

Dressing rooms will be assigned daily. Due to limited space, teams are encouraged to dress at their hotel. Arrangements can be made to lock up valuables. Facilities are not for storage.

Training Room/Towels

Training room facilities and a trainer will be available for special assistance or in case of emergency. However, schools should plan to furnish their own tape and supplies. Towels will not be provided at the tournament.

Determining Home Team

At state play-in games, the home team shall be determined by the flip of a coin. At the state tournament, the highest seeded team shall be the home team. (NOTE: In Game #15, the home team shall be the winner of the previous game). The home team dugout shall be determined by the site manager.

Warm-up Between Games

A fifteen (15) minute warm-up on the playing diamond will be allowed for each team playing in their first game of each day. All other warm-up times between games will be limited to throwing and stretching at the side of the field near the teams' respective dugouts. The tournament manager will set the length of the warm-up time.

Official Ball

At all play-in and state tournament games, the **Baden 2BSFPY Perfection** softball will be used.

Officials/Scorers

Tournament umpires will be provided and assigned by the IHSAA and the district commissioners. Tournament management will manage the official scorers' platform.

Official Rules

All Idaho high school softball games are governed by the rules of the National Federation of State High School Association and applicable Idaho state modifications.

Walk Up Music

Walk up music is not allowed at play-in games or state tournament games. Music played between innings is at the discretion of the site manager.

T-shirts & Souvenir Merchandise

State tournament t-shirts and other souvenir merchandise will be sold at the tournament by McU Sports. Please contact Ben at McU Sports (208) 342-7734 with questions.

Programs

The composition, printing and selling of programs is the responsibility of the IHSAA. Each team will receive one complimentary program in their team packets.

National Anthem

The National Anthem will be played at the start of the state championship game when possible.

Lost & Found

The tournament manager will provide a lost found area. Unclaimed items will be held at the IHSAA Office.

Awards

For the 6A, 5A, 4A and 3A tournaments, trophies will be awarded to first-, second-, third- and fourth-place teams. For the 2A tournament, trophies will be awarded to first-, second-, and third place teams. Medals will be awarded to members of the championship and runner-up teams.

Presentation of Awards

The fourth-place* and third-place trophies will be awarded at the conclusion of those games. The second-place and championship trophies will be presented at the conclusion of the championship game. The runner-up trophy will be awarded and the coach will introduce each of the players and present them with their medal if possible. The same procedure will be followed for the championship trophy and medal presentation. **if awarded*

Protests

The IHSAA Board of Directors does not recognize protests of sports officials' decisions. Correction of errors will be handled in accordance with the NFHS rules.

All-Tournament Team

The IHSAA is philosophically opposed to all-tournament team selections. It is the right of the media to conduct polls and establish rankings. However, the IHSAA will not participate in such selections nor announce them at the tournament.

Inclement Weather Procedure for State

In the event the state tournament cannot take place in its scheduled format, the following procedure will be used:

1. All modifications will be handled in accordance with IHSAA Rule 20.
2. All games will use Idaho Rules Modifications 1a and 1b.
3. Alternate sites, if available, must be within reasonable distance to the original site so as not to incur additional travel/lodging costs for teams that have traveled.
4. Games will be shortened to 5 innings until the original game schedule can be resumed.
5. All games on the consolation side of the bracket will be cancelled. Championship semifinal games will be 5 innings.
6. The length of championship games will be determined by the host site manager and the IHSAA.
7. If more than 4 teams remain in the tournament, and it is not possible to get the games in, the tournament may be cancelled.

NOTE: It is very possible that not all classifications will make the same decisions at each step of the protocol above.

2026 State Play-in Games

State Play-ins

6A Play-in

1B McCall-Donnelly HS
1:00 p.m. (MT)
3E Sat., May 9

4A Play-in

1A Moscow City Fields
1:00 p.m. (PT)
3C Sat., May 9

4A Play-in

4B Blackfoot HS
1:00 p.m.
6B Sat., May 9

3A Play-in

4-5B Blackfoot HS
1:00 p.m.
6C Sat., May 9