

2024-2025



BASKETBALL
Playoff Handbook

UNIVERSITY INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE

BASKETBALL PLAYOFF HANDBOOK

Congratulations to schools who will represent their district in post-season play! Please read the following information carefully regarding the 2024-2025 UIL Basketball playoffs.

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IMPORTANT DEADLINES

Certification Deadlines for Basketball Playoffs.

February 8 (Girls) February 15 (Boys)	District Certification Deadline, All Conferences.
February 10-11 (Girls) February 17-18 (Boys)	Bi-district, All Conferences.
February 13-15 (Girls) February 20-22 (Boys)	Area, All Conferences.
February 17-18 (Girls) February 24-25 (Boys)	Regional Semifinals
February 20-22 (Girls) Feb 27-Mar 1 (Boys)	Regional Finals/Optional Regional Tournament**
Feb 24-25 (Girls) March 3-4 (Boys)	State Semifinals
Feb 27-Mar 1 (Girls) March 6-8 (Boys)	State Finals

***Should the 4 teams in each conference advancing to the Regional Semifinals agree to an optional Regional Tournament format (one site), the Regional Tournament dates would be Feb 20-22(Girls)/Feb27-Mar 1(Boys). The games could be scheduled on Thursday/Friday, Thursday/Saturday, or Friday/Saturday.*

Advancement Structure for Postseason.

The last date for certifying the district to the League office is **February 8 (Girls)/February 15 (Boys)**. District chairs will be submitting directly to MaxPreps via the UIL Portal. Once district certifications are submitted, the online brackets will auto-populate with the teams from your district. The district chairs must **certify the district representatives** through the UIL Portal as soon as they are finalized. Instructions can be found here

<https://www.uilTEXAS.org/basketball/page/district-certification-instructions>

NOTE: *District certification must include the indication of a 1st through 4th place finisher in the dropdown menus based on district standings. All ties must be resolved prior to submission.*

In all conferences, playoff structure would consist of the top four teams from each district advancing to the playoffs. The two advancing schools with the largest enrollments, as submitted in October 2023, in grades 9-12 are bracketed into Division I and the other two schools are bracketed into Division II, with both divisions playing to a state championship. Teams will be seeded according to their order of finish in district play.

EXAMPLE:

District Finish:

1. Green HS – Enrollment 1004
2. Red HS – Enrollment 935
3. Blue HS – Enrollment 985
4. Orange HS – Enrollment 785

Certified into Division I:

1. Green HS
2. Blue HS

Certified into Division II:

1. Red HS
2. Orange HS

Enrollment figures utilized for determining division I and division II status can be found on the UIL website at <http://www.uiltexas.org/alignments>

If the enrollment figures of the 2nd and 3rd largest qualifying schools are exactly the same, the two schools will be required to submit their updated enrollment numbers to the UIL as submitted for the TEA October 25, 2024, snapshot submission to determine division placement. Should the two schools have the same updated enrollment figures, a coinflip should be conducted to determine division placement. *The UIL will contact the schools which could possibly be in this predicament directly to guide them through this process.*

Brackets. (*required for each round of the playoffs)

Bi-District Match-Ups. - Once all DEC Chairs have submitted final district standings, bi-district playoff matchups **will automatically be created** and appear on the bracket once the UIL office publishes the bracket. Please **do not create your bi-district match-up** in your MaxPreps account. Once you see the match-up on your schedule in MaxPreps, please add game details (date, time & location.)

- Updating playoff information in the brackets is **REQUIRED** starting with Bi-District results.
- **Winning teams** must submit playoff game results (scores) and next-round details (location, date, and time) **immediately** after each game via MaxPreps. (If the location is unknown immediately following the game, it should be updated as soon as possible)
- The accuracy of UIL brackets depends on timely updates from coaches.
- UIL syncs schedules, scores, and rosters from MaxPreps to uiltexas.org for postseason publications. Keep this information current throughout the season.
- Make sure that you have admin access to your team in MaxPreps so you can report scores for the UIL playoffs. Coaches and ADs may reach out to MaxPreps representative Alisa Dancer at adancer@maxpreps.com to add admin access to their account.
 - For more information, see <http://www.uiltexas.org/athletics/uil-maxpreps>. To create an account, please go to [MaxPreps](#).

Playoff Broadcast Information - please remember that all video broadcasts of a postseason contest require approval from the UIL. The attached infographic outlines the options schools and media outlets have in regards to broadcasting playoff games as well as the process to be approved. All approved broadcasts will be shared each playoff round to each sport specific media page [on the UIL website](#). Any questions should be directed to pr@uiltexas.org. Full guidelines, resources and forms can be found at the UIL website: <https://www.uiltexas.org/media/broadcast-information>

POSTSEASON GAME INFORMATION

Post-season Warmup Games.

- Teams can schedule a warm-up game after district certification and before their first playoff game if they have not reached their allowable season limit. This game can be scheduled like any other regular season game.

Championship Structure. The top 4 teams in Conferences 1A-6A will advance from district to the playoffs.

Playoff Game Details. All game details for playoff games (Bi-district, area, regional semifinal, regional final and state semifinal) must be mutually agreed upon by the two competing schools. If mutual agreement is not reached on any detail, a coinflip will determine that detail. *Once game details are decided on by the two competing schools that information needs to be added to MaxPreps, **by the home school**, so game details will appear on the bracket.*

Site Selection. The teams involved should select sites for all rounds of playoffs except the regional and state sites. See Section 1208 (o and p) of the UIL Constitution and Contest Rules. If schools cannot agree, they must flip a coin.

- **Home Sites.** When two schools flip for two separate sites other than their home field or court, the sites are considered home sites unless both sites are near mid-point.
- **Neutral Sites.** A site mid-point or near mid-point, or a site agreed on by both schools as neutral, is a neutral

site. Unless mutually agree- able, a site cannot be neutral if its distance from either school is more than two-thirds the total distance between the two schools.

- **Mid-Point Sites.** Unless mutually agreed otherwise, post district contests in the team sports of baseball, basketball, soccer, softball, team tennis and volleyball shall be at a mid-point site for schools located more than 100 miles apart.

Officials. Officials for all playoff rounds, **except for the State Championship Games**, will be determined by the two competing schools. If officials cannot be agreed upon by both teams, the team on the top of the bracket will need to include a list of chapters that they mutually prefer to not call the match (scratch list) that is representative of both teams, and the UIL will make the assignment. UIL has assigned officials for the state finals.

Click here for a direct link to the [Official's Assignment Request Form](#).

Gate Receipts. The UIL no longer collects sixteen percent of the gate receipts for post-district contests for basketball. The financial form previously provided to schools is no longer needed and has been removed from the basketball resources listed on our website.

Program Information for State Tournament.

Teams advancing to the regional finals must submit following materials to the UIL office by *Wednesday, February 19 (Girls) and Wednesday, February 26 (Boys)*.

- **Team Information Form** (list of coaches, managers, trainers, statisticians, etc.)
 - Girls' Team Information Form: <https://www.uiltexas.org/forms/team-info-basketball-girls>
 - Boys' Team Information Form: <https://www.uiltexas.org/forms/team-info-basketball-boys>
 - **Team Roster** - Your team's roster information will be **automatically** retrieved from MaxPreps to complete the team information forms. Therefore, you don't need to manually enter your roster on this team information sheet. However, it is crucial to ensure that your roster information in MaxPreps is accurate before the deadline.
 - Rosters of active players should be completed **entirely** with number, name, class, height, and position. These five categories are utilized by our media department and should be completed on **all** active players.
 - If your MaxPreps account is linked to Hudl, MaxPreps automatically syncs your active roster from Hudl. This also means that the Hudl sync will **override** changes made directly in MaxPreps. Make sure only the student-athletes you want to appear on MaxPreps and subsequently on the UIL page are marked to sync from Hudl.
 - **Game Schedule** – Your team's schedule information will be automatically retrieved from MaxPreps to complete the team information forms. Therefore, you don't need to manually enter your schedule of games. However, it is crucial to ensure that your schedule is correct and **MATCHES** your season record in MaxPreps before the deadline.
- **Pictures Submission Form**
 - We will be collecting your school photo submission through an online form
 - To be completed online at <https://www.uiltexas.org/machform/view.php?id=949239>
 - Team Picture
 - Head Coach Picture
 - Logo

State Tournament Lodging. The UIL will no longer be blocking hotel rooms for teams competing in the state championships. **Schools competing in the Championship Finals will be responsible for securing their own lodging.** UIL will provide participant schools with a list of hotels in the area.

Optional Regional Tournament Information

Should the 4 teams in each conference advancing to the Regional Semifinals **all agree** to an optional Regional Tournament format (one site), the Regional Tournament dates would be February 20-22/February 27-March 1. The games could be scheduled on Thursday/Friday, Thursday/Saturday, or Friday/Saturday.

The four teams involved in the Regional Semifinal matches would need to come to an agreement on:

- Site
- Day and Time of Games
- Ticket Prices
- Any other playoff details that would normally be agreed upon by participating teams

***No teams can be forced into a coin toss to determine any of the above details.*

Officials. If you are self-organizing a Regional Tournament and would like UIL to pre-determine your game officials for the *Regional Final*, UIL will be sending a direct link to qualifying teams for you to submit an officials' request. Otherwise, utilize the normal postseason process for selection of officials.

Awards. UIL will not be providing awards for the Regional Finalists. Regional Finalists will have the option to purchase trophies upon the conclusion of the regional rounds. A link for ordering will be provided at a later date, post regional rounds.

2024-2025 Post Season Video Broadcast Information

Live or tape-delayed video broadcasts of a postseason contest require approval from the UIL. The UIL retains all broadcast rights to postseason contests and has granted rights to its broadcast partners (NFHS Network and Bally Sports Southwest), who have first rights to all postseason activities. Please see below for more information. Any questions should be directed to the UIL Media Department: pr@uiltexas.org

Broadcast Opportunities for UIL Member Schools:

1.Non-Commercial Academic Video Broadcasts

Schools interested in doing a non-commercial Academic Video Broadcast must submit this form by noon the business day prior to the event: [UIL Member School Playoff Video Broadcast Request](#). There are no fees to do an academic broadcast.

The UIL defines an Academic Broadcast as a broadcast with an educational purpose that is produced solely by a UIL-member school and/or school district primarily using school facilities, equipment, staff, and students without any commercial relationship for the financial benefit of another party.

To be approved, the broadcast must feature at least one high-definition camera and an on-air broadcaster. Any use of professional broadcasters should be as an exception on a limited basis and on a non-paid, volunteer basis. Regular season commercial obligations cannot be applied to postseason academic broadcasts.

Schools may air postseason broadcasts LIVE if approved by UIL. Additionally, schools may distribute the broadcast via their school or district website or via their official school-affiliated social media or YouTube channels. Other commercial .com websites are prohibited. The web page where the broadcast is to appear should be free of sponsor logos.

Failure to comply with the above may result in future prohibition of academic broadcasts.

2.NFHS School Broadcast Program Webcast

Schools who are members of the NFHS Network School Broadcast Program (SBP) and wish to broadcast an event on the network must submit this form by noon the business day prior to the event: [UIL Member School Video Playoff Broadcast Request](#). There are no fees to do an NFHS School Broadcast Program webcast.

WHAT IS THE NFHS SCHOOL BROADCAST PROGRAM?

The School Broadcast Program (or SBP) lets high schools produce and broadcast their own games, pep rallies, news shows, and any other event live on the NFHS Network. The NFHS Network has a dedicated support team and account managers to assist these schools with using the platform to stream their events. Most of these events are done by the actual students, and it is a great way for them to get real world experience and exposure to an always evolving technology platform. To learn more about SBP, please visit: <https://www.nfhsnetwork.com/sbp>

Media Outlets

Media outlets and third party, non-school affiliated broadcast entities interested in video broadcasting a postseason contest have two options, abbreviated below. Full information can be found online, [linked here](#).

1. NFHS Production Partner

Media outlets may enter into an agreement with Sports in Action on behalf of the NFHS Network to produce and distribute one or more postseason contests exclusively on the NFHS Network. Outlets interested in participating should contact Sports in Action at sublicense@sportsinaction.com to be set up as an NFHS Production Partner.

2. Sublicense Video Rights

In the occurrence the contest is not being produced by UIL broadcast partners, the contest may be sublicensed to interested media outlets. Media outlets must complete this form by noon the business day prior to the event: [Playoff Video Broadcast Request form](#) and receive an approval email from Sports In Action.

The approved broadcaster is responsible for communication with the schools for selected broadcasts. The approved broadcaster will schedule the set-up and tear-down times for equipment with the schools and the venues. The approved broadcaster is responsible for any expenses associated with the broadcast. UIL approval does not guarantee preferred placement, accommodations are at the discretion of the host venue.