



NEWS RELEASE

AIA POWER RANKINGS SYSTEM RELEASED

PHOENIX, AZ (Sept. 25, 2007) – The AIA Power Rankings System (APRS) was released today on the AIA website and will be utilized by four conferences (2A, 3A, 4A and 5A) within the AIA membership for the following team sports: badminton, baseball, basketball, football, soccer, softball, tennis and volleyball.

“The AIA presented and developed the power rankings system statewide to its stakeholders, which include member school athletic directors and coaches, ultimately deciding on the power rankings system to be utilized by the conferences,” Chuck Schmidt, AIA Chief Operations Officer, said.

All regular season games against AIA member schools count in the power ranking formula, unless otherwise noted by the conference, up to the maximum number of games allowed for each sport per AIA Bylaws. Furthermore, invitational and region tournament games will not count for power rankings purposes.

In football, the maximum number of games that can towards the power ranking is 10. In volleyball, a member school can compete in 20 volleyball games; however, three invitational tournaments can be played by a member school. As invitational tournaments are not a factor in the power ranking system, the maximum number of regular season games that count toward power rankings in volleyball is 17. The maximum number of games that count in the power ranking system for other sports is as follows: badminton (14), baseball (18), basketball (18), soccer (4A-9, all others-11), softball (18), and team tennis (14).

In most team sports, a member school will earn 50 points for playing a member school of their conference, and the member school can earn five opponent victory points for each one of their opponents wins. If a member school plays one conference/division level lower, they can still earn the same amount of victory points. If a member school plays an opponent one conference/division level higher, that member school would have the opportunity to earn more victory points. In addition, if their opponent plays one conference/division level higher, the member school can earn more opponent victory points.

As determined by the conferences, in 4A and 5A football, badminton, and boy’s volleyball, member schools will earn 50 points for a victory and five opponent victory points for each of their opponents wins, regardless of the classification/division of the member school.

A member school's power ranking is equal to the total amount of points generated for wins by the member school plus the opponent victory points of wins by the member school's opponents. That number is divided by the total number of games played by that member school up to the maximum per AIA Bylaws. The power rankings are updated on the AIA website in real time; therefore, when the AIA member school inputs the result of their home game, the power rankings are immediately updated online.

A feature of the APRS allows users to see how a member school earns points throughout the season of play. By clicking on the member school within the power rankings, a pop-up will be displayed with that member school's schedule detailing the opponent, game date, opponent's record, opponent's classification, the result, victory points, opponent victory points, and total points. If the game was declared as non-counting by one of the member school's conferences, a line next to the game will state that the game is non-counting.

"This is the most intricate project the AIA has ever embarked on involving all our stakeholders," AIA Executive Director Harold Slemmer stated. "It's the philosophy of the AIA that its membership has complete ownership of its systems. The power rankings system can now be utilized by the membership as a way to determine state tournament qualifiers."

The conferences will use power rankings in different ways to seed regional and/or state tournaments. In the 2A Conference for football, the five regular season league champions will earn an automatic berth to the state tournament along with 11 at-large qualifiers. All 16 teams will be seeded according to power ranking. For baseball, basketball, softball, and volleyball (girls), power rankings will not be used to seed the state tournament, but rather the regional tournaments. The top four teams from each regional tournament (16 total teams) will earn an automatic berth to the state tournament.

In the 3A Conference for football, baseball and softball (excluding the North region in baseball and softball), the regular season region champions will be seeded #1, #2, #3, and #4 in the tournament according to their regular season power ranking. If two teams are tied for first place in a region, power rankings will serve as the tie breaker. The second place and third place teams from each region's regular season will earn an automatic berth into the state tournament along with four at-large qualifiers and will be seeded #5-16 according to the power rankings.

In the 3A Conference for basketball and volleyball, (including the North region in baseball and softball), region tournament champions will be seeded #1, #2, #3, and #4 in the state tournament according to regular season power ranking. The second place and third place teams from each region tournament will earn an automatic berth into the state tournament along with four at-large qualifiers and will be seeded #5-16 according to the power rankings.

In the 4A Conference for football, each region champion will earn an automatic berth to the state tournament along with 11 at-large qualifiers and be seeded #1-16 according to power

ranking. In badminton, combined tournament for Division I and II, two teams from each region (as determined by the region) will earn an automatic berth to the state tournament and will be seeded #1-8 according to the power rankings.

In the 4A Conference for baseball, basketball, soccer, softball, tennis, and girl's volleyball, two teams from each region (as determined by the region) will earn an automatic berth to the state tournament along with six at-large qualifiers and be seeded #1-16 according to power ranking.

In the 5A Conference for baseball, basketball, football, soccer, softball, tennis, and girl's volleyball, each region champion will earn an automatic berth to the state tournament along with 10 at-large qualifiers and be seeded #1-16 according to power ranking. In badminton, combined tournament for Division I and II, two teams from each region, based on regular season standings, will earn an automatic berth to the state tournament along with eight at-large qualifiers and will be seeded #1-16 according to the power rankings.

In 4A and 5A boy's volleyball, each region champ will earn an automatic berth to the state tournament, with the remaining spots to be filled based on the power rankings. There will be two separate 16-team state tournaments in boy's volleyball.

The AIA would like to thank the members of the technology committee for their involvement in the process, including Rick Johnson (AIA Executive Board), Mike Maas (Peoria USD), Mike Sterkowitz (1A-Joseph City), Doug Meyer (2A-Arizona Lutheran), Cindy Parravano (3A-Globe), Art Wagner (4A-McClintock), Matt Kuffel (5A-Mountain Ridge), Mark Svornic (Consultant), and Michael Goldfarb (Contact Designs/McMurry).

The power rankings can be found on the AIA website in the Athletics section or by accessing the following link: <http://www.aiaonline.org/pr/index.php>.

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