



**North Dakota High School Activities Association  
Three-Division Basketball Draft**

## General Information

The NDHSAA Board of Directors accepted a Focus Group's proposal to add a third classification of basketball on December 1, 2022. The Board of Directors, as well as a number of Board Committees, met and reviewed the proposal in depth on January 17-19, 2023. Data and input specific to teams included in proposed divisions A & B was gathered from a majority of member schools, Legal Counsel reviewed several components of the proposal, and several minor changes to the original proposal were approved by the NDHSAA Board of Directors on January 27, 2023.

An updated draft of the proposal is included in this document. The NDHSAA Board of Directors has determined if a third classification of basketball is added for the 2023-24 basketball season, Board approval is necessary on or before February 22, 2023. If approved after this date, implementation would be for the 2024-25 basketball season at the earliest. The Board of Directors (listed below by region/organization representation) requests input on the following draft from member school administrators prior to their next scheduled meeting on Wednesday, February 8, 2023.

Dave Schoch - Class B Northwest  
Josh Johnson - Class A At-Large  
Paul Jundt - Class A West  
Rick Diegel - Class B Southeast  
Andrew Jordan - Class B Southwest  
Matt Bakke - Class A East  
Patti Aanenson - Class B Northeast  
Guy Fridley - NDIAAA  
Ned Clooten - NDASSP  
Kirsten Baesler - NDDPI  
Alexis Baxley - NDSBA

There are several key points in this proposal to be aware of, which are explained in more detail below:

### Coop Deadline

The deadline for 2023-24 basketball coop applications is September 15, 2023. If there is a third division of basketball approved for the 2023-24 season, the Board of Directors has determined the late fee for basketball co-op applications would be waived for this year only.

### Divisions vs. Classes

Previous Boards have classified any sport or activity not split into Class A and B in accordance with Article II, Section I as "divisions". This included football from 1997 through the 2020 season and Division B softball from 2012-2017 when Bishop Ryan was approved to participate in Division A despite having an enrollment of less than 200 (see Article II, Section I).

### Division A Regions

The Focus Group proposal recommended two regions in the A Division. In a recent survey of proposed Division A teams, 96% preferred a four region format, which is included in this updated draft.

### Division B Districts

The Focus Group proposal recommended eight districts and four regions in the B Division. In a recent survey of proposed Division B teams, 67% preferred the eight district, four region format to a super-region format. Several districts have indicated their interest in combining their two districts into one super-region, something the NDHSAA Board of Directors will consider on a case-by-case basis.

### State Qualifier Games

The Focus Group proposal recommended challenge games within the four Division B region tournaments to determine two state qualifying teams. Due to the logistical issues with both venues and officials when having potential “if” games, the current draft includes a day of state qualifier games in both Division A and B that would match up the runner-up in a region tournament with the third place finisher in another region. This would make every game of the region tournament meaningful, including the third place games. More information is available on pages 8 and 9.

### Deadlines

Deadlines for B district tournaments and A boys region play-in games are listed on Wednesdays, but working under the assumption all districts would schedule their tournaments to end on Monday or Tuesday.

### Division Enrollment Framework

Following recommendations from NDHSAA Legal Counsel, the following Framework was developed to place teams into divisions. The enrollment line between A and B was determined by cutting the traditional line of 325 in half. The enrollment line between AA and A was determined by doubling 325.

### Framework

1. Classification of schools for the 2023-24 and 2024-25 basketball seasons will be in three divisions of basketball with the following enrollment ranges:
  - a. Division AA – Enrollment of 650+: Calculated using the average of grade 9-12 enrollments in the Fall of 2021 and Fall of 2022
  - b. Division A – Enrollment of 162.5 – 649 students: Calculated using the average of grade 9-12 enrollments in the Fall of 2021 and Fall of 2022
  - c. Division B – Enrollment below 162.5 students: Calculated using the average of grade 9-12 enrollments in the Fall of 2021 and Fall of 2022
2. Public and non-public schools located within a Division AA school district with 100-399 students shall be placed in Division A. Public and non-public schools located within a Division AA school district with 400 or more students shall be placed in Division AA.
3. Teams may choose to participate in a division higher than their enrollment places them for a minimum of two seasons.
4. Following the 2023-24 and 2024-25 seasons, teams will move divisions after their enrollment has been in a different division range for two consecutive years.
5. A reclassification committee will be established to review any petitions from teams to move to a division lower than their enrollment places them, as well as success factor criteria, beginning with the 2025-26 season.

## Questions and Answers

- Q: Is it possible for a school to have boys and girls teams in separate divisions (e.g. boys in 'B' and girls in 'A')?**  
**A:** Yes.
- Q: For scheduling purposes, what would the individual game limits be in each division?**  
**A:** Division AA - 21 games; Division A - 21 games; Division B - 19 games
- Q: Will Division A use Class A or Class B regulations (halves vs. quarters; mercy rule vs. no mercy rule; 30 second shot clock vs. 35 second shot clock)?**  
**A:** This would be determined in April 2023 by the NDHSAA Board of Directors.
- Q: When will the Reclassification Committee be determined?**  
**A:** The Reclassification Committee will be developed during the 2023-24 school year. The Committee will consider potential school petitions to be placed in a division lower than their enrollment places them based on a number of to be determined criteria that factors in more than wins and losses. The Committee will also consider moving a team up a division if a to be determined success threshold is met. The Realignment Committee may also eventually be used with football classifications in future years.
- Q: Will the change to three divisions of basketball change representation of the Board of Directors?**  
**A:** No. Board representation is a By-Law outlined in Part I, Article V of the NDHSAA Constitution.
- Q: Does this proposal change anything in the current Class A tournament formats within the new AA Division?**  
**A:** No.
- Q: Who would control the Division B Districts in the proposed draft?**  
**A:** This will be determined as part of the Finance Study in the near future.
- Q: What enrollment numbers will be used for this plan?**  
**A:** A two-year average of DPI Fall Enrollment numbers will be used for initial division placement. Following this, if a school's fall enrollment is above or below a cutoff line for two consecutive years, they will move up or down the third year.
- Q: Will teams be required to play other district/region teams twice?**  
**A:** No. Although playing teams twice is assumed in an effort to reduce required travel, as in years past, scheduling will remain locally controlled.
- Q: May teams play teams in other divisions?**  
**A:** Yes. As in years past, scheduling will remain locally controlled.
- Q: Does this plan automatically include volleyball or other sports?**  
**A:** No. Other sports/activities need to follow the Addition of a Classification process regulation as outlined by the Board of Directors.

# NOVEMBER 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			01	02	03	04
05	06	07	08	09	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

Division A & B  
Girls - First  
Allowable  
Practice

Division AA Boys  
& Girls First  
Allowable  
Practice

Division A & B  
Girls - First  
Allowable  
Contest

Division A & B  
Boys - First  
Allowable  
Practice

# FEBRUARY 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					01	02
						03
04	05	06	07	08	09	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
			Deadline for Division B Girls District Tournaments			Deadline for Division A Girls Region Play-In Games
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Division A & B Girls Region Tournaments	Division A & B Girls Region Tournaments		Division A & B Girls Region Tournaments		Division A & B Girls State Qualifier Games	Deadline for Div. AA Boys & Girls Region Play-In Games
25	26	27	28	29		
	Division AA Boys & Girls East Region Tournament	Deadline for Division A Boys Region Play-In Games & Division B Boys District Tournaments	Division AA Boys & Girls Region Tournaments	Division A & B Girls State Tournaments		

# MARCH 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					01	02
					Division A & B Girls State Tournaments	Division A & B Girls State Tournaments
					Division AA Boys & Girls Region Tournaments	Division AA Boys & Girls Region Tournaments
03	04	05	06	07	08	09
Division A & B Boys Region Tournaments	Division A & B Boys Region Tournaments		Division AA Boys & Girls State Tournament	Division AA Boys & Girls State Tournament	Division AA Boys & Girls State Tournament	Division AA Boys & Girls State Tournament
			Division A & B Boys Region Tournaments			Division A & B Boys State Qualifier Games
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
			Division A & B Boys State Tournaments	Division A & B Boys State Tournaments	Division A & B Boys State Tournaments	Division A & B Boys State Tournaments
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

## ***Three Division Basketball Draft Postseason Format and Tournament Locations***

### **Division AA**

- Combined Region Boys & Girls Tournaments - Same format as current Class A
  - o West Region Tournament - Bismarck Event Center - February 29, March 1-2, 2024
  - o East Region Tournament - Fargo - Home Sites (February 27) and Sanford Health Athletic Complex (SHAC) on February 29, March 1-2, 2024
- Combined State Boys & Girls Tournament - March 7-9, 2024 at Bismarck Events Center

### **Division A**

- Four regions - Each champion advances to state tournament
  - o Girls Region Tournaments - February 19, 20, and 22, 2024
    - Sites TBD in April 2023
  - o Boys Region Tournaments - March 4, 5, and 7, 2024
    - Sites TBD in April 2023
  - o Girls State Qualifier Games - Saturday, February 24, 2024 - Winners advance to state tournament
    - East - Site TBD in April 2023
      - Region 1 Runner-up vs. Region 2 Third Place
      - Region 2 Runner-up vs. Region 1 Third Place
    - West - Site TBD in April 2023
      - Region 3 Runner-up vs. Region 4 Third Place
      - Region 4 Runner-up vs. Region 3 Third Place
  - o Boys State Qualifier Games - Saturday, March 9, 2024 - Winners advance to state tournament
    - East - Site - TBD in April 2023
      - Region 1 Runner-up vs. Region 2 Third Place
      - Region 2 Runner-up vs. Region 1 Third Place
    - West - Site TBD in April 2023
      - Region 3 Runner-up vs. Region 4 Third Place
      - Region 4 Runner-up vs. Region 3 Third Place
- State Tournaments
  - o The state tournaments will be seeded by the eight qualifying coaches
    - State A Girls - February 29-March 2, 2024 at Minot State University Dome
    - State A Boys - March 14-16, 2024 at FARGODOME



## **Class B**

- Eight Districts
  - o District Tournaments - Top four teams qualify for region tournament
    - Girls – Deadline of February 14, 2023
    - Boys – Deadline of February 28, 2023
- Four Regions - Same format as current Class B region tournaments
  - o Girls Region Tournaments - February 19, 20, and 22, 2024
    - Sites TBD in April 2023
  - o Boys Region Tournaments - March 4, 5, and 7, 2024
    - Sites TBD in April 2023
  - o Girls State Qualifier Games - Saturday, February 24, 2024 - Winners advance to state tournament
    - East - Site TBD in April 2023
      - Region 1 Runner-up vs. Region 2 Third Place
      - Region 2 Runner-up vs. Region 1 Third Place
    - West - Site TBD in April 2023
      - Region 3 Runner-up vs. Region 4 Third Place
      - Region 4 Runner-up vs. Region 3 Third Place
  - o Boys State Qualifier Games - Saturday, March 9, 2024 - Winners advance to state tournament
    - East - Site - TBD in April 2023
      - Region 1 Runner-up vs. Region 2 Third Place
      - Region 2 Runner-up vs. Region 1 Third Place
    - West - Site TBD in April 2023
      - Region 3 Runner-up vs. Region 4 Third Place
      - Region 4 Runner-up vs. Region 3 Third Place
- State Tournaments
  - The state tournament will be seeded by the eight qualifying coaches
    - o State B Girls - February 29-March 2, 2024 at Jamestown Civic Center
    - o State B Boys - March 14-16, 2024 at Minot State University Dome

Two Year Enrollment Average					
Division AA - Enrollments 650 and up				Total	
1096.5	928.5		Minot (Magic City/Central Campus)	2025	
1513			West Fargo Sheyenne	1513	
1449			West Fargo	1449	
1401.5			Bismarck Legacy	1401.5	
1379.5			Bismarck Century	1379.5	
1362			Williston	1362	
1350			Fargo Davies	1350	
1286			Bismarck	1286	
1236.5			Mandan	1236.5	
1115.5			Grand Forks Central	1115.5	
1095.5			Grand Forks Red River	1095.5	
1058	17.5		Dickinson (Hope Christian)	1075.5	
1064.5			Fargo North	1064.5	
925			Fargo South	925	
760			Jamestown	760	
341.5	15		St Mary's/School of the Holy Family	356.5	Petition Up
340			West Fargo Horace	340	Located in AA district
320			Shanley	320	Petition Up
			Minot North		Varsity program in 2024-25 Located in AA district
Division A - Enrollments 162.5-650					
558			Turtle Mountain	558	
495.5			Devils Lake	495.5	
461	11.5		Watford City/Johnson Corners	472.5	

397.5			Wahpeton	397.5	
366			Valley City	366	
302.5			Central Cass	302.5	
256.5	27		Standing Rock/Selfridge	283.5	
278.5			New Town	278.5	
275			Grafton	275	
186	76.5		Four Winds/Minnewaukan	262.5	
239			Kindred	239	
161.5	57.5		Hillsboro/Central Valley	219	
218.5			Dunseith	218.5	
208			Beulah	208	
202.5			Stanley	202.5	
200.5			Des Lacs-Burlington	200.5	
198			Lisbon	198	
196.5			Bottineau	196.5	
194.5			Northern Cass	194.5	
191.5			Rugby	191.5	
101	85.5		Heart River (South Heart/Belfield)	186.5	
174			Killdeer	174	
172			Hazen	172	
168.5			Carrington	168.5	
167.5			Nedrose	167.5	
167			Thompson	167	
164			Oak Grove	164	
154.5			Shiloh Christian	154.5	Located in AA school district
148			Dickinson Trinity	148	Located in AA school district

Division B - Enrollment 162.5 and below					
134.5	26.5		May-Port CG/Finley-Sharon	161	
154.5			Oakes	154.5	
36.5	40	74.5	Tri-State (Fairmount/Campbell-Tintah/Rosholt)	151	
120	9	21.5	Langdon Area/Edmore/Munich	150.5	
102	47.5		Harvey/Wells County (Fessenden)	149.5	
149			South Prairie	149	
55.5	92.5		Hatton/Northwood	148	
131.5	16.5		Surrey/Sawyer	148	
41	56.5	47.5	Sargent County (Milnor/North Sargent/Sargent Central)	145	
143.5			Bowman Co	143.5	
42.5	67.5	31	Central McLean (Turtle Lake-Mercer/Underwood/McClusky)	141	
67.5	40.5	32.5	Edgeley/Kulm/Montpelier	140.5	
138			Tioga	138	
136.5			Velva	136.5	
54	81.5		Midway/Minto	135.5	
118	13		Park River/Fordville Lankin	131	
72	54.5	2	Griggs-Midkota (Griggs County Central/Midkota/Kensal)	128.5	
83.5	42.5		Linton/HMB	126	
86	39.5		Hettinger/Scranton	125.5	
65.5	55		Wyndmere/Lidgerwood	120.5	
80.5	38.5		Parshall/North Shore-Plaza	119	
59	59		North Prairie (Rolla/Rolette)	118	
116.5			St John	116.5	
114.5			New Salem-Almont	114.5	
41.5	72		Grant County/Mott-Regent	113.5	

92	21.5		Kenmare/Bowbells	113.5	
111.5			Cavalier	111.5	
110			Larimore	110	
110			Divide County	110	
110			Ray	110	
80.5	27		LaMoure/Litchville-Marion	107.5	
105			Garrison	105	
59	44		Valley-Edinburg/Drayton	103	
63	40		Medina/Pingree-Buchanan	103	
48.5	54.5		South Border (Ashley/Wishek)	103	
64	35.5		North Border (Walhalla/Pembina)	99.5	
58	41		Maple River (Maple Valley/Hope-Page)	99	
49.5	49		Hebron/Glen Ullin	98.5	
52.5	44		TGU (Towner/Granville)	96.5	
95.5			Kidder County	95.5	
94.5			Trenton	94.5	
94			Bishop Ryan	94	
93			Enderlin Area	93	
70	23		Napoleon/Gackle-Streeter	93	
93			Beach	93	
92			MLS	92	
69	23		Powers Lake/Burke Central	92	
65	25		Wilton/Wing	90	
90			Richardton-Taylor	90	
89			Ellendale	89	
87			New Rockford-Sheyenne	87	

86			Dakota Prairie	86	
75	11		North Star/Starkweather	86	
85			Washburn	85	
77.5			Hankinson	77.5	
76.5			Barnes County North	76.5	
76.5			Flasher	76.5	
76.5			Lewis & Clark-Berthold	76.5	
74.5			Alexander	74.5	
73.5			Richland	73.5	
72			Center-Stanton	72	
72			New England	72	
69.5			Warwick	69.5	
69			Glenburn	69	
28	40		Benson County (Leeds/Maddock)	68	
67.5			Our Redeemer's	67.5	
48.5	11		Strasburg/Zeeland	59.5	
58.5			Solen	58.5	
54			Max	54	
39	15		Westhope/Newburg	54	
47.5			Williston Trinity Christian	47.5	
46.5			Lakota	46.5	
45			Drake-Anamoose	45	
45			White Shield	45	
44.5			Mandaree	44.5	

## Division AA Regions

East Region	West Region
West Fargo Sheyenne	Minot
West Fargo	Bismarck Legacy
Fargo Davies	Bismarck Century
Grand Forks Central	Williston
Grand Forks Red River	Bismarck
Fargo North	Mandan
Fargo South	Dickinson
West Fargo Horace**	Jamestown
Shanley*	St. Mary's*
	Minot North** - 2024-25
*Petition Up	
**Located in AA School District	

## Division A Regions

Region 1	Region 2	Region 3	District 4
Wahpeton	Devils Lake	Turtle Mountain	Watford City
Valley City	Grafton	New Town	Standing Rock
Central Cass	Four Winds/Minnewaukan	Dunseith	Beulah
Kindred	Hillsboro/Central Valley	Stanley	Heart River
Lisbon	Carrington	Des Lacs-Burlington	Killdeer
Northern Cass	Thompson	Bottineau	Hazen
Oak Grove		Rugby	Shiloh Christian*
Wyndmere-Lidgerwood/ Hankinson (Girls only)		Nedrose	Dickinson Trinity*
		South Prairie/Max (Girls only)	
* Located in AA School District			



## Division B Regions

Region 1		Region 2	
District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4
Wyndmere/Lidgerwood (boys)	Linton-HMB	Drayton/V-E	New Rockford-Sheyenne
Maple River	Ellendale	Cavalier	Benson Co.
Enderlin	Kidder County	North Prairie	Lakota (boys)
Hankinson (boys)	Napoleon/G-S	North Border	Warwick
Richland	Strasburg/Zeeland	St John	Dakota Prairie (boys)
Oakes	South Border	North Star	Larimore
Tri-State	M-P-B	Langdon-E-M	Griggs/Midkota
Barnes County North	LaMoure/L-M	Park River - FL	May-Port-CG
Sargent County	Edgeley/Kulm/M	Midway/Minto	Hatton/Northwood

Region 3		Region 4	
District 5	District 6	District 7	District 8
Hettinger-Scranton	Mandaree	Divide County	Glenburn
New England	New Salem-Almont	Parshall/NSP	Drake-Anamoose
Beach	Garrison	Trinity Christian	Velva
Solen	Wilton/Wing	Trenton	Our Redeemers
Grant Co./Mott-Regent	Center-Stanton	Alexander	Mohall-L-S
Richardton-Taylor	Washburn	Tioga	L&C-Berthold
Glen Ullin-Hebron	Central McLean	Ray	Westhope/Newburg
Flasher	Max (boys)	Kenmare/Bowbells	TGU
Bowman County	White Shield	Powers Lake-Burke Co.	Harvey/Wells Co.
	South Prairie (boys)	L&C-North Shore (girls)	Bishop Ryan
			Surrey

## Proposed 2023-24 State Tournament Television Coverage for Divisions A and B

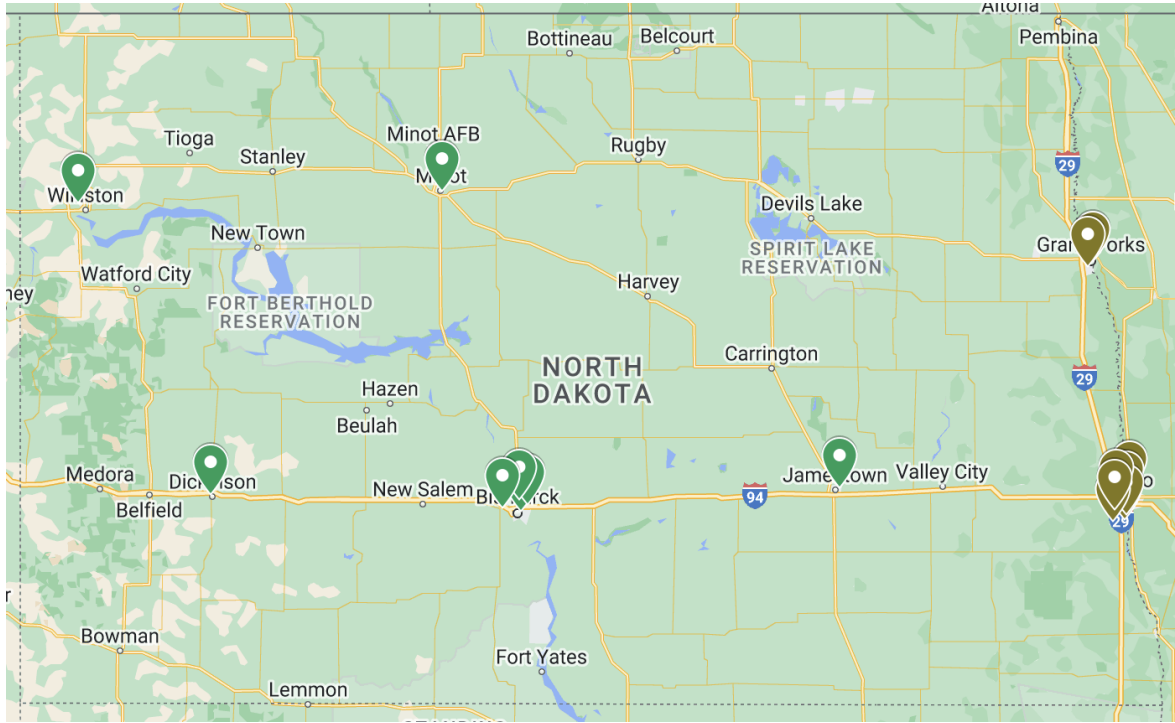
Class B Girls - Jamestown Civic Center				Class A Girls - Minot State University Dome					
Jim Roaldson, Manager		Match-up	Coverage		Mitch Lunde, Manager		Match-up	Coverage	
Thu. Feb. 29	1:00 PM	#2 vs. Random	Xtra/Stream		Thu. Feb. 29	1:00 PM	#2 vs. Random	ABC/Stream	
Afternoon Session	2:45 PM	#3 vs. Random	Xtra/Stream		Afternoon Session	2:45 PM	#3 vs. Random	ABC/Stream	
Evening Session	6:30 PM	#1 vs. Random	ABC/Stream		Evening Session	6:30 PM	#1 vs. Random	Xtra/Stream	
	8:15 PM	#4 vs. #5	ABC/Stream			8:15 PM	#4 vs. #5	Xtra/Stream	
Fri. March 1	1:00 PM	Semifinals	ABC/Stream		Fri. March 1	1:00 PM	Consolation	Xtra/Stream	
Afternoon Session	2:45 PM	Semifinals	ABC/Stream		Afternoon Session	2:45 PM	Consolation	Xtra/Stream	
Evening Session	6:30 PM	Consolation	Xtra/Stream		Evening Session	6:30 PM	Semifinals	ABC/Stream	
	8:15 PM	Consolation	Xtra/Stream			8:30 PM	Semifinals	ABC/Stream	
Sat. March 2	1:00 PM	7th Place	Xtra/Stream		Sat. March 2	9:30 AM	7th Place	Xtra/Stream	
Afternoon Session	2:45 PM	5th Place	Xtra/Stream		Afternoon Session	11:15 AM	5th Place	Xtra/Stream	
Evening Session	6:00 PM	3rd Place	Xtra/Stream		Evening Session	3:00 PM	3rd Place	ABC/Stream	
	8:00 PM	Championship	ABC/Stream			5:00 PM	Championship	ABC/Stream	

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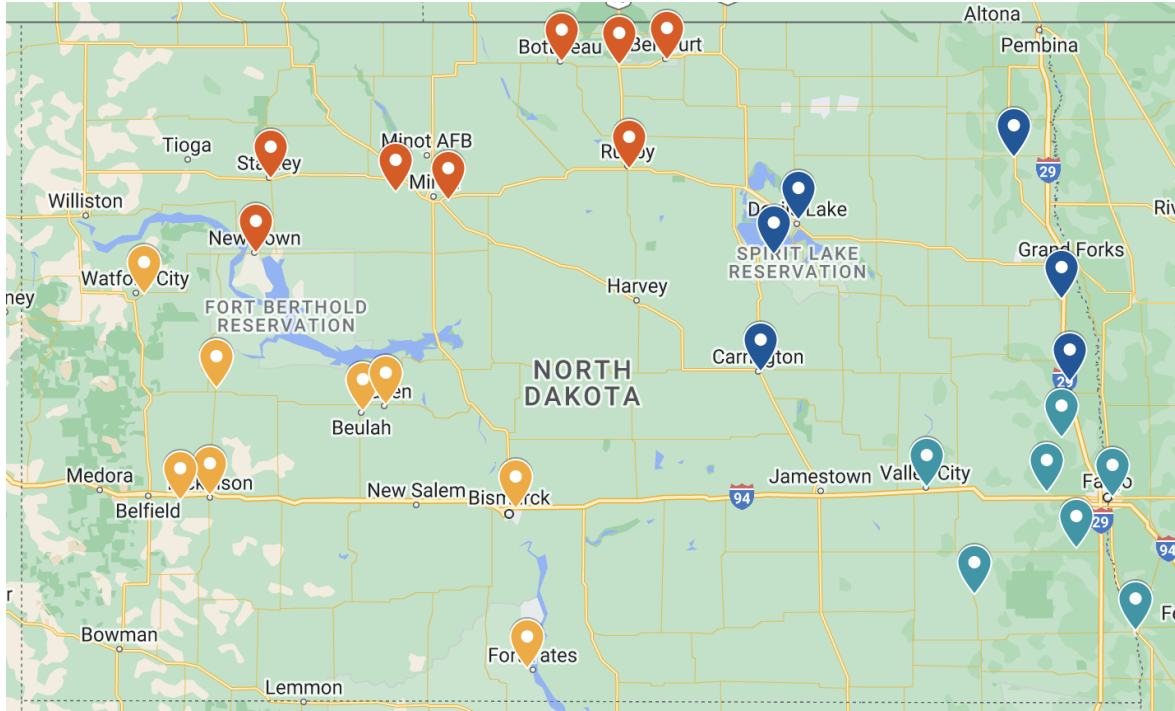
## Proposed 2023-24 State Tournament Television Coverage

<b>Class B Boys - Minot State University Dome</b>					<b>Class A Boys - FARGODOME</b>				
<b>Mitch Lunde, Manager</b>		<b>Match-up</b>	<b>Coverage</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Todd Olson, Manager</b>		<b>Match-up</b>	<b>Coverage</b>	<b>Other</b>
<b>Thu. March 14</b>	1:00 PM	#2 vs. Random	ABC/Stream		<b>Thu. March 14</b>	1:00 PM	#2 vs. Random	Xtra/Stream	
Afternoon Session	2:45 PM	#3 vs. Random	ABC/Stream		Afternoon Session	2:45 PM	#3 vs. Random	Xtra/Stream	
Evening Session	6:30 PM	#1 vs. Random	Xtra/Stream		Evening Session	6:30 PM	#1 vs. Random	ABC/Stream	
	8:15 PM	#4 vs. #5	Xtra/Stream			8:15 PM	#4 vs. #5	ABC/Stream	
<b>Fri. March 15</b>	1:00 PM	Consolation	Xtra/Stream		<b>Fri. March 15</b>	1:00 PM	Semifinals	ABC/Stream	
Afternoon Session	2:45 PM	Consolation	Xtra/Stream		Afternoon Session	2:45 PM	Semifinals	ABC/Stream	
Evening Session	6:30 PM	Semifinals	ABC/Stream	Parade of Champions	Evening Session	6:30 PM	Consolation	Xtra/Stream	
	8:30 PM	Semifinals	ABC/Stream	Between Semifinal games		8:15 PM	Consolation	Xtra/Stream	
<b>Sat. March 16</b>	9:30 AM	7th Place	Xtra/Stream		<b>Sat. March 16</b>	1:00 PM	7th Place	Xtra/Stream	
Afternoon Session	11:15 AM	5th Place	Xtra/Stream		Afternoon Session	2:45 PM	5th Place	Xtra/Stream	
Evening Session	3:00 PM	3rd Place	ABC/Stream		Evening Session	6:00 PM	3rd Place	Xtra/Stream	Parade of Champions
	5:00 PM	Championship	ABC/Stream			8:00 PM	Championship	ABC/Stream	Halftime of Championship

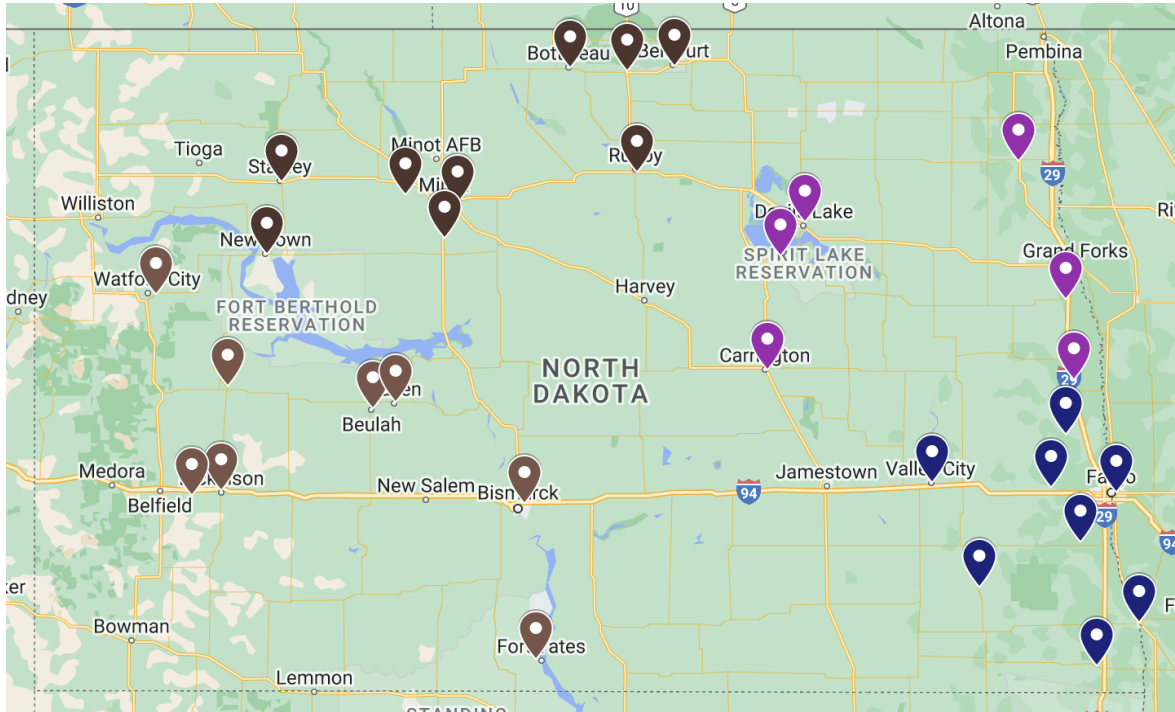
Division AA



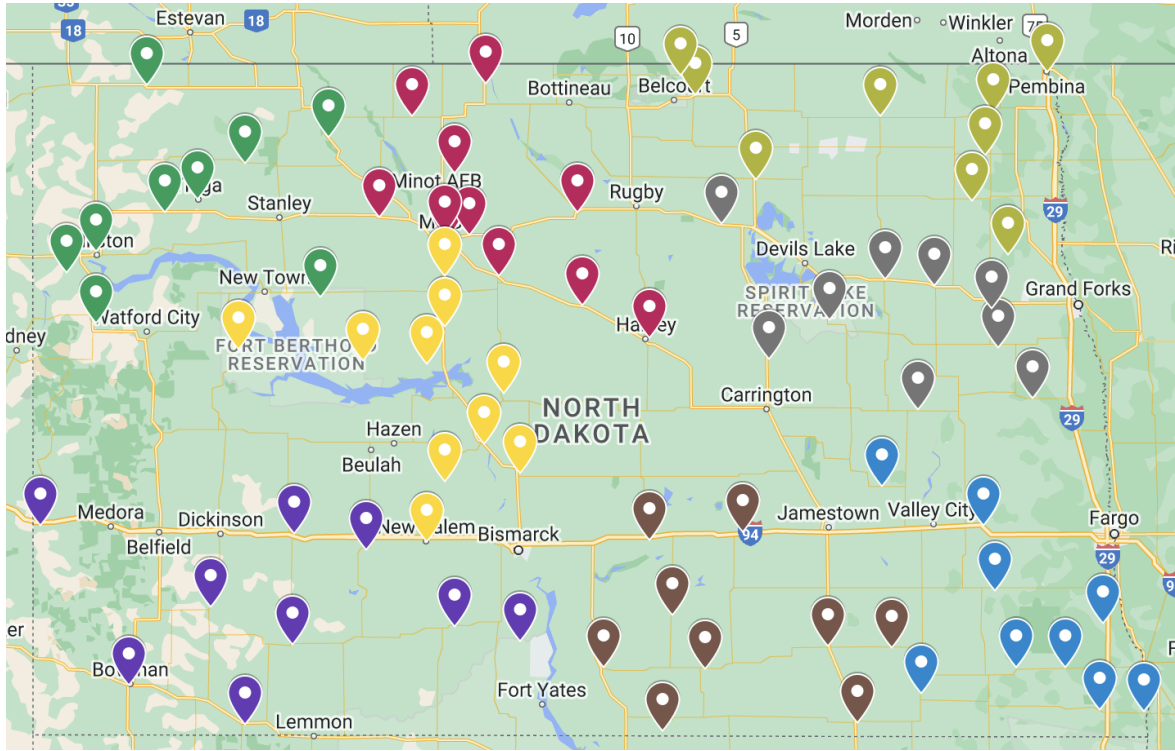
Division A Boys



Division A Girls



Division B Boys



Division B Girls

