

**WASHINGTON, DC  
HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS  
REVIEW STUDY**

**Windsor Athletics**

December 2022

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Office of the Deputy Mayor for Education (DME) in Washington, DC and Windsor Athletics Consulting (Windsor) convened a working group of District agency representatives from the District of Columbia State Athletic Association (DCSAA), the District of Columbia Interscholastic Athletic Association (DCIAA), and the DC Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) to collect critical perspectives on high school athletics in DC. The group met regularly over the duration of the study to review analysis, provide critical feedback and information, and guide recommendations.

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## ABOUT WINDSOR ATHLETICS CONSULTING

Founded in 2020, the Windsor Athletics Consulting team draws upon 15 years of experience in coaching and athletic administration to provide schools and government entities with guidance on how to improve their athletics programming. With the modernization of athletics, Windsor Athletics Consulting helps its clients navigate change and build systems and processes for a sustainable athletics future.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY _____	1
OVERVIEW _____	3
SOURCES OF INFORMATION INFORMING THE STUDY _____	3
BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF DC SPORTS PROGRAMMING _____	4
OVERVIEW OF CURRENT DC HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS PROGRAMMING _____	6
OVERVIEW OF CURRENT DC ATHLETIC FACILITIES _____	11
OVERVIEW OF CURRENT DC COACHING DEVELOPMENT _____	28
ATHLETICS IN DC COMPARED TO REGIONAL NEIGHBORS _____	30
FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS _____	34
CONCLUSION _____	48
APPENDIX A, PART 1: WASHINGTON, DC HIGH SCHOOL KEY SPORTS AT A GLANCE, 2018-2019 _____	49
APPENDIX A, PART 2: EXPANDED BACKGROUND ON SPORTS AND THEIR PROGRAMMING, FACILITIES, AND COACHING _____	53
APPENDIX B: SPORTS LEAGUES AND GOVERNING BODIES IN WASHINGTON, DC _____	74
APPENDIX C: PERMIT COSTS FOR DPR FACILITIES, PROGRAMMING AND PERSONNEL _____	80
APPENDIX D: ATHLETIC FIELDS AT PRIVATE SCHOOLS _____	86
APPENDIX E, PART 1: AVERAGE COACH COMPENSATION PER SEASON LOCALLY AND REGIONALLY _____	88
APPENDIX E, PART 2: STUDENT PARTICIPATION NUMBERS _____	90

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Office of the Deputy Mayor for Education (DME) in Washington, DC commissioned a study to assess the breadth and depth of DC high school athletics. The following Washington, DC High School Sports Review Study aims to map the high school sports landscape of DC and compare it to those of its regional peers. By identifying challenges and providing creative solutions, the report can and should serve as a blueprint for future athletics development in DC.

The study assesses three distinct pillars of high school sports in Washington, DC. Firstly, it explores high school athletic programming. Programming encompasses all of the athletic opportunities that DC high school students have before them. This includes sports practices, games, championships, and extracurricular athletic pursuits. Secondly, the study takes a comprehensive look at facilities across DC and nearby. Specifically, facilities refer to the physical infrastructure on or within which programming occurs. From basketball courts to gymnastics equipment, facilities are critical to the success of high school athletic programming. Finally, coaching. Coaches are the foundation for the athletic development of young people. They ensure the safety of their athletes and manage the day-to-day operations of their sport. A coach can change the direction of the life of a young person or propel a student athlete to new heights of athletic performance or sportsmanship.

To better understand each of these pillars of Washington, DC high school sports, significant primary research was undertaken by Windsor Athletics Consulting, including site visits and interviews with students, parents, coaches, government officials, regional athletics personnel and professional athletes. Additionally, as acknowledged above, a working group supported the review and translation of research into locally-relevant action-oriented solutions.

In each pillar, the study revealed opportunities for the development of DC high school athletics. See the recommendations summary below.

The Washington, DC High School Sports Review Study is a significant contribution to the body of literature on high school athletics in DC, as published by DME and its partners. Implementation of the recommendations made herein will greatly improve the quality and competitiveness of DC high school sports.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

### Programming

Develop more low cost and affordable youth programming to feed high school sports

Install streaming cameras in DCPS and public charter schools

Implement strength and conditioning programming

Ensure that each public high school has an athletic trainer

Implement DPR's FY23 Rec for All investments to support additional girl's programming

Add athletic training/assistant athletic trainer positions by implementing career technical education for sports medicine as an educational offering

### Facilities

At RFK Stadium or Kenilworth North, build a significant, multi-purpose sports facility

Renovate the DC Armory to accommodate an indoor track

Add spectator infrastructure at select spaces

At Carter Barron, build baseball fields adjacent to Fitzgerald Tennis Center

Equitably invest in capital improvement projects at sites facing the greatest need

Ensure more eligible organizations/facilities participate in the centralized permitting system

Expand DPR Rangers program

Encourage National Park Service to accommodate more high school athletics

Allow for cross-agency maintenance and management

### Coaching

Create coaching scholarships with professional sports teams

Establish a central database and job board for coaching at DCSAA

Increase stipend pay for coaches in DCPS and public charter schools

Create a permanent paid position to run the Public Charter Sports Athletic Association

Restart the District of Columbia Athletic Directors Association

## OVERVIEW

In April 2022, the Office of the Deputy Mayor for Education in Washington, DC commissioned a study to identify opportunities to further establish Washington, DC as a nationally-recognized locale for competitive high school sports. The study aimed to assess the current state of DC high school sports (1) programming, (2) facilities, and (3) coaching development and to deliver recommendations to improve the level of and access to competitive high school sports in DC.

## SOURCES OF INFORMATION INFORMING THE STUDY

Located in Washington, DC, Windsor relied on its extensive knowledge of local and regional athletic programming and its athletic programming management experience honed over the last 15 years to deliver this report. It also collected publicly-available data and reports from the National Federation for High School Sports (NFHS), high school websites, league websites, the National Parks Service (NPS), DC Department of Parks and Recreation, and District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS). Windsor also collected information using the following methods:

### **WASHINGTON, DC COMMUNITY MEETINGS AND OUTREACH**

During the project, Windsor undertook extensive community outreach and created opportunities for community feedback. It hosted two virtual community meetings on July 20 and 27, 2022 during which community members provided feedback on a draft landscape analysis and recommendations. Approximately 90 participants attended, representing DCPS middle and high schools, public charter high schools, athletic administrators, coaches, DC education advocates, the State Board of Education, and the community at large. DME posted recordings of the meetings online so residents could watch later if they missed the sessions. Following the community meetings, Windsor undertook significant follow-up with 20 community members who attended the meetings or provided input online via phone, in-person meetings, and email in order to dive more deeply into their questions. Residents could also provide feedback via an online Google Form that included slides from the community meeting presentation. Twenty-six community members provided feedback through the form.

Overall, athletic and school communities provided extraordinarily high-level insights and also identified nuanced sport-specific challenges and possible solutions. Based on community feedback, Windsor was able to refine its recommendations and solutions to better address the needs of the Washington, DC sports community.

### **WASHINGTON, DC ATHLETIC STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH**

Windsor interviewed athletic directors, coaches, and league administrators from DCPS, public charter schools, and independent schools operating in Washington, DC, as well as private sports administrators, athletic maintenance personnel, sports media, and community members.

### **REGIONAL ATHLETIC STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH**

Windsor also spoke with regional athletic stakeholders including public and independent school athletic directors and coaches, members of the New York City Parks and Recreation Department associated with the Ocean Breeze and Randall's Island facilities, professional athletes, and organizers of private youth and adult sports organizations. Windsor reached out to regional athletic stakeholders to assess how they allocate facilities when space is at a premium, which facilities have significant impact on their programming, the programming that they offer, and how they recruit and retain coaches in order to support high school athletics. As a result of these conversations, Windsor was able to gather information on best practices regarding program management, facilities management, and coaching development.

## **BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF DC SPORTS PROGRAMMING**

Washington, DC has a rich high school sports history. From the Olympics to the NBA, athletes from Washington, DC have reached great heights in almost every major sport. Since 1896 when the newly formed Inter-High Athletic Association (later called the District of Columbia Interscholastic Athletic Association [DCIAA]) hosted its first track meet, Washington, DC high school sports programming has grown and evolved to include extensive public and private sports leagues and offerings.

In the 20th century, as organized high school sports in Washington, DC grew increasingly popular, so too did sports across the United States, especially in Black communities. Bob Kuska in his book [Hot Potato: How Washington and New York Gave Birth to Black Basketball and Changed America's Game Forever](#) wrote:

“When Edwin Henderson introduced the game to Washington, DC in 1907, he envisioned basketball not as an end in itself but as a public health and civil rights tool. Henderson...believed that by organizing Black athletics, including basketball, it would be possible to send more outstanding Black student athletes to excel at northern white colleges and debunk negative stereotypes about race. He reasoned that in sports, unlike politics and business, the Black race would get a fair chance to succeed. Henderson chose basketball as his marquee sport, and he soon found that the game was a big hit, [for example in] Washington's segregated U Street [neighborhood].”

### **RACE & DC SPORTS**

It is important to recognize the essential role that Black communities played in the growth and excellence of high school sports in Washington, DC.

As public, independent, and parochial school athletic events became more formalized in the middle of the 20th century, Washington, DC organized competitions to crown its best local teams. A highlight of these championship games was a football championship on

Thanksgiving Day every year. Routinely hosting crowds in excess of 50,000, the DC championship football game was the main attraction of the high school sports calendar. However, in 1962, in a newly built Washington, DC stadium (later called the Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Stadium following RFK's assassination in 1968) and in front of a crowd of 50,033, a now-infamous riot occurred that set Washington, DC athletics competition back many years and ended the traditional DC championship football game for the following decades. ([Washington Post, 1981](#)) It took more than 50 years after that game to restart any kind of official championship in Washington, DC. While unofficial basketball “championships” were held between the champion of the Catholic league and the champion of the public school league, often the Catholic school's opponent was from Maryland or Virginia.

The absence of DC championship games was also due to low participation in sports and a lack of qualified coaches, especially in football. Regular season games were canceled routinely. As a result of the riot, a once strong public school athletics program had become a shell of its former self, forcing many of DC's best athletes to participate in private school programs. ([Washington City Paper, 2011](#))

In 2012, under the leadership of then-Mayor Vincent Gray, the Executive Office of the Mayor and the Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) established the District of Columbia State Athletic Association (DCSAA) to facilitate state



championships across sports and attempt to return to the level of play of ‘the glory days.’ During the launch of the DCSAA, Gray stated:

“Today is a groundbreaking occasion for the District of Columbia, a showcase for our student-athletes and an amazing opportunity for our schools to perform on a statewide stage. Sports promote the teaching and learning of life skills through team participation, and by expanding the athletic platform on which students can grow, we also expand their opportunities for success.” ([OSSE, 2012](#))

While the DCSAA started small and took a few years to gain buy-in from many of the public and private schools, especially those that maintained their own schedules, the DCSAA championship reignited high-level athletics throughout Washington, DC and both public and private schools now design their championships around the DCSAA championship schedule. The level of play in DC has begun to return and both public and private schools participate at competitive levels in DC championships. While programming and facility crunches are still adjusting to meet the demands, Washington, DC’s athletic programs are certainly on the rise.

## OVERVIEW OF CURRENT DC HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS PROGRAMMING

High school sports programming in Washington, DC is robust. From governing bodies like the DCSAA that set consistent rules and regulations for the District and sponsor a growing body of state championships to independent schools that offer participation-guaranteed athletic programs, the foundation for high school sports in DC is strong. Washington, DC high school athletes are also fortunate to enjoy a wide range of sports offerings outside of structured leagues that are administered by private entities and that buttress traditional in-school programming. The programmatic section of this study includes a focus on both the specific sports in which high school athletes participate (Appendix A) and the leagues and governing bodies that administer and oversee programming (Appendix B). In this study, we used programming participation data from the 2018-2019 school year collected by the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) as well as interviews with athletic directors, coaches, and community members about the types of programming in which high school athletes are involved as well as sports in which high school-aged students participate but are not part of or administered by organized high school leagues and governing bodies. It also important to note that while we learned a lot during our initial research phase, that more information about the benefits and challenges of Washington, DC

high school sports was uncovered during the community outreach and interview period of the project.

Within schools, athletic directors work hard to provide opportunities for a wide range of athletic interests and skill levels. School philosophies differ, but most public and independent schools strive to facilitate student participation in all sports.

As is the case across the country, according to 2018-2019 data collected by the NFHS, more boys (8,492) participate in organized high school athletics than girls (6,088, Appendix E). Lower female participation is not due to a lack of programmatic opportunity. Instead, the growing emphasis on competitiveness over inclusion in youth sports appears to deter female athletes from participating and continuing to participate at the high school level.

Sports participation in Washington, DC is similar to that across the US. The top five boys' sports by participation nationally are: basketball, outdoor track and field, baseball, cross-country, and football, in that order. In DC, the top five sports by participation are: football, basketball, soccer, baseball, and outdoor track and field, in that order. The only differences between national trends and DC trends are the inclusion of soccer at the local level, which ranks 7th nationally and the lack of cross-country in the top five, which ranks 6th locally. On the boys' side, DC is in line with national offerings and participation.

Washington, DC's female athletic participation also aligns with national trends. The top five girls' sports by participation nationally are: basketball, track and field, volleyball, softball, and cross-country, in that order. In DC, the top five sports by participation are: soccer, volleyball, basketball, outdoor track, and indoor track. Again, with the exception of cross-country being out of the top five locally versus nationally, Washington, DC's female athletes are participating in the same sports as their national peers.

#### **Sports Participation in Washington, DC Similar to that Across the US**

Boys' and girls' sports programming in DC closely mirrors national trends. The top five boys' sports by participation nationally are: basketball, outdoor track and field, baseball, cross-country and football, in that order. In DC, the top five sports by participation are: football, basketball, soccer, baseball and outdoor track and field, in that order. The top five girls' sports by participation nationally are: basketball, track and field, volleyball, softball, and cross-country, in that order. In DC, the top five sports by participation are: soccer, volleyball, basketball, outdoor track and indoor track.

Outside of the traditional high school sports experience and programming, Washington, DC also has niche sports with fewer athletes participating and less traditional infrastructure, but nonetheless loyal followings of athletes and coaches. These sports include ultimate frisbee, which ranks 10th in terms of participation amongst DC boys; ice hockey, which is supported by robust programming at the Fort Dupont Ice Arena; boxing, which boasts a long list of local champions who went on to become national and internationally recognized athletes; as well as other popular sports like gymnastics. These smaller sports are significant to the District's programming because they provide outlets for young people to participate in sports beyond the traditional high school sports framework.

Invariably, there are other niche sports that many residents and students are loyal to that supports youth development. In Windsor's community outreach, it heard from individuals and groups who would like to add and/or expand girls' wrestling, archery, crew, field hockey, and gymnastics, amongst other sports. While these sports do not currently have the participation and organization like the established sports in the District, there is desire to expand offerings beyond those that exist. Some neighboring jurisdictions offer different sports, but the DC is largely meeting its athletes where they want to be.

This study did not focus on elementary and middle school programming. An additional study is vital to understanding the dynamics at these grade levels. Another key area of study should be the dropoff in girls' participation from youth to high school athletic programming. The programs that prepare younger kids as they grow into high school athletes lay the groundwork for future success. An active study of how these programs work, their offerings, and possible program improvements will be important to understanding how the District can better improve the experience of its athletes.

### **WASHINGTON, DC HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS LEAGUES AT A GLANCE**

There are eight leagues that manage athletic programming for public, public charter, parochial, and independent high schools in Washington, DC. These eight leagues range from the District of Columbia Interscholastic Athletic Association (DCIAA), which has a century-long history of organizing DCPS athletics from grades 3-12, to the Potomac Valley Athletic Conference (PVAC), which administers sports for a group of small independent schools across Maryland, DC and Virginia and is responsible for setting and enforcing rules for those institutions. See Appendix B for a detailed description of the current leagues in DC and how each entity facilitates athletic programming to its member schools.

Almost all Washington, DC high schools are in an organized league but have the ability to schedule games outside the league in order to play teams with whom they are better suited in terms of skill. For example, Jackson Reed's (a DCPS high school in Ward 3) baseball team, the perennial DCIAA champion, plays a robust non-league schedule since they are levels above the other competition within the DCIAA.

Athletic leagues in Washington, DC play a crucial role in ensuring that competition is fair and equitable. Schools align with athletic leagues that are composed of other similar schools. For example, DCPS schools are all members of the DCIAA, public charter schools are all members of the Public Charter School Athletic Association (PCSAA) and the Catholic schools are members of the Washington Catholic Athletic Conference (WCAC). Most independent schools are members of leagues that best fit their athletic philosophy and appropriate competition level based on school population and emphasis on competitive athletics. Some smaller Washington, DC independent schools choose to not be in a league to maintain flexibility in their schedules. Others would prefer to be a part of a league in order for their students to have the opportunity to vie for championships, but do not join because existing leagues are not the right fit in terms of school size and competitiveness.

Washington, DC athletic leagues sponsor championships in a wide range of sports. That being said, each league has differences in which sports they sponsor for championship-level play. As a result, some athletes will choose to attend a school whose sports league sponsors a championship in a specific sport over another because of the value of the championship. This is particularly evident in boys' and girls' lacrosse, a sport for which only a few leagues have formal championships.

## **THE ROLE OF ATHLETIC DIRECTORS**

Athletic directors schedule and facilitate practices and games throughout the school year. They are at the ground level of all high school athletics scheduling and programming. Good athletic directors build relationships and work closely with leagues, schools, and government entities to ensure that their school's programming is carried out. Varying from school to school, many athletic directors are teachers in the classroom and some are also sports coaches.

Athletic directors are charged with many day-to-day league responsibilities, notably setting league schedules. As part of one of the organized leagues (Appendix B), schools have schedules for each season. For example, the Field School is a member of the PVAC. During the regular season, it plays other teams in the PVAC. League schedules are developed by the athletic directors up to a year in advance. The vast

majority of athletic directors are also responsible for hiring coaches and facilitating their professional development.

In many ways, athletic directors are the most important people in the high school sports world, ensuring that sports programming operates smoothly on a daily basis.

### **PRIVATE PROGRAMMING OUTSIDE SCHOOLS**

Outside of school systems, Washington, DC also has a robust network of private programs that facilitate practice and competition in sports that are not sponsored by high schools or high school leagues, in which DC high school athletes participate. Private programming also serves athletes who want to continue playing their chosen sport outside of the traditional season. These independent clubs that attract DC athletes are located both inside and outside of Washington, DC. For example, there is significant basketball programming at the St. James complex in Springfield, VA that provides facilities and programming structure for some of Washington, DC's best basketball players.

### **LACK OF EQUITY IN YOUTH SPORTS**

The cost of private youth sports leagues and programming has risen exponentially in the past ten years and has become essentially inaccessible for much of the city's youth. While some private programs do provide financial aid, the majority of youth sports programming has become increasingly expensive and therefore out of reach. This increase in cost is both monetary, in that the initial entry fees are high and in time given the extensive travel that the leagues require to attend both practices and games. The inequity that exists in the youth sports arena no doubt has an effect on the number of kids who stay in sports until high school and how prepared athletes are for high school sports when they arrive.

Additionally, some youth sports programs in DC, for example, youth baseball in Wards 7 and 8 where DPR and Little League are pulling from the same pool of athletes, spread teams so thin that neither program can be as robust as it hopes to be. One solution to this is that the Nationals organization is willing to help bridge the gap in baseball by providing training for DCPS physical education teachers and help to subsidize programming in Wards 7 and 8 in addition to the uniforms they already provide baseball players. Most importantly, recognizing and improving the inequities that exist at the youth level will have a positive impact on both current participants and their prospects as high school athletes in the future.

## OVERVIEW OF CURRENT DC ATHLETIC FACILITIES

As Washington, DC has grown in population over the past decade, the need for athletic fields and facilities to host high school sports practices and games has also grown. DC Mayor Adrian Fenty, who served from 2007 to 2010, made significant investments in DCPS and DPR athletic facilities during his tenure. However, increases in the number of school-aged children in DC far outpaced facility improvements. Today, spaces that are suitable for high-level athletics and have capacity for large numbers of spectators are especially limited. Additionally, more athletic facilities are needed during the hours of 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., when the academic day is over and when after-school programming is occurring.

There are seven primary stakeholders that build and maintain athletic facilities in Washington, DC. These include the Department of Parks and Recreation, the National Parks Service, DCPS, public charter schools, DC's independent schools, DC's colleges and universities, and Events DC. Each entity operates facilities that serve DC's high school athletes.

### DC DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES

The DC Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) operates a significant number of facilities that are used by DC's independent, parochial, and charter schools for practice and competition and sometimes by DCPS. As seen in the below DPR facilities maps, the facilities span all eight wards and serve large numbers of community members in addition to school populations. Despite its many facilities, DPR is nonetheless overwhelmed with requests for space.

DPR also manages a number of facilities that support fitness programming. They are mainly used by community members and not for high school sports.

#### ACCESS TO DPR FACILITIES

DPR has rules and regulations regarding how their facilities are to be used. Permitting is done through the DPR website using the WebTrac platform according to the following permit hierarchy: throughout the year permits are issued on a first come, first-served basis. At times when DPR accepts applications during a "permit window," all applications during that time are considered concurrent and therefore are prioritized in the following order:

1. DPR-sponsored activities
2. Partners with a written Agreement
3. Athletic programs organized by DC Public Schools, District Public Charter Schools, or the DC State Athletic Association for competitive league play (games only)
4. Youth nonprofit organizations, including schools, that principally serve DC residents
5. Adult nonprofit organizations that principally serve DC residents
6. Other organizations, groups, or individuals based in DC for private use; and then others

Organizations that principally serve DC residents are defined as organizations within which more than 75 percent of participants are residents of Washington, DC. A roster or other proof of residency may be required. Even if space and time are available, DPR may issue a permit for less than the hours requested to ensure that DPR property is not overused, to provide for community time, to allow for other types of permitted uses, or to accommodate other applicants who have requested the same space for the same time. ([DPR, 2022](#))

## **ACCESS AND RATES**

Appendix C

## **CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES**

### **Challenges**

- In short supply among DPR facilities are 90-foot baseball fields, especially in northwest DC where the majority of the high schools that participate in baseball are located.
- There is no indoor track in DC to accommodate residents who would like to use one and students who would like to compete in the sport. As a result, the DCSAA championship for the sport is held outside of DC at the Prince George's Sports and Learning Complex.
- Outdoor track access is also a challenge since most outdoor tracks are under the purview of DCPS, and access to those tracks is limited by high school programming and community use of the interior fields.
- Given the high level of use for many DPR grass fields, it is almost impossible to maintain the surfaces during the year, which results in playing surfaces that are inadequate and/or dangerous for those renting the space.

- DPR lacks inventory of high-level competition spaces. That means many of the fields under DPR's purview are not adequately sized or marked and do not have the playing surface that high-level high school athletics require. DPR has sought to address some of these shortfalls recently- the renovation of Hearst soccer field has created an excellent playing field for DC's athletes.
- Many of DPR's facilities, especially those for football and soccer, lack adequate spectator space in order to accommodate parents and fans who want to watch games and practices.

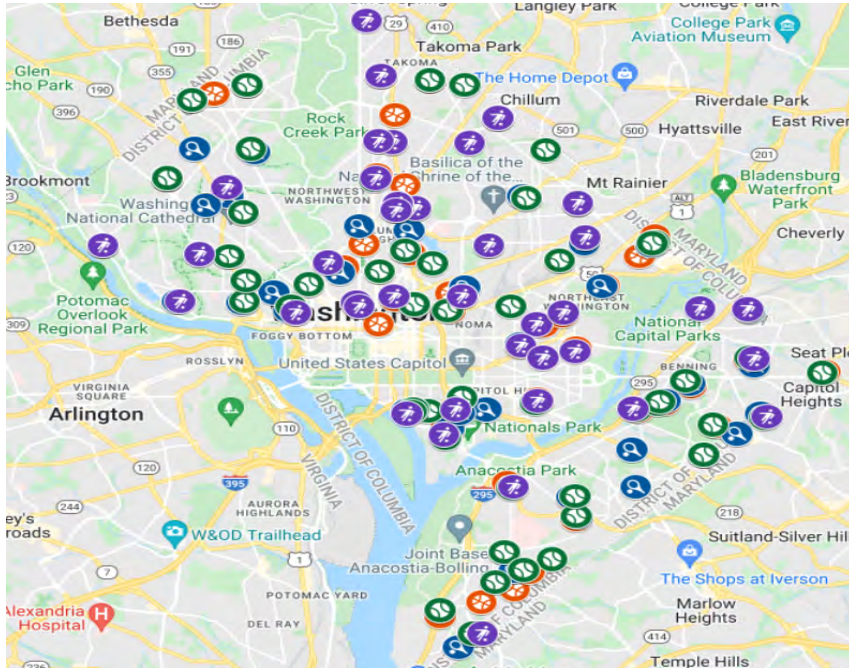
### **Opportunities**

- The mission of DPR is to serve greater Washington, DC, including but not limited to high schools and their athletics programming.
- DPR oversees a significant amount of recreational land that can be utilized for athletic programming.
- The variety of DPR facilities can meet the needs of almost every high school sport in DC.
- The permitting process has improved significantly in recent years with the addition of WebTrac, an online web registration platform used by DC and other parks and recreation departments to schedule facilities and programming.
- Ready2Play is the District DPR's 20 year Master Plan, which aims to reimagine how park space is utilized in the city over the next two decades. This will be supportive of high school athletics.



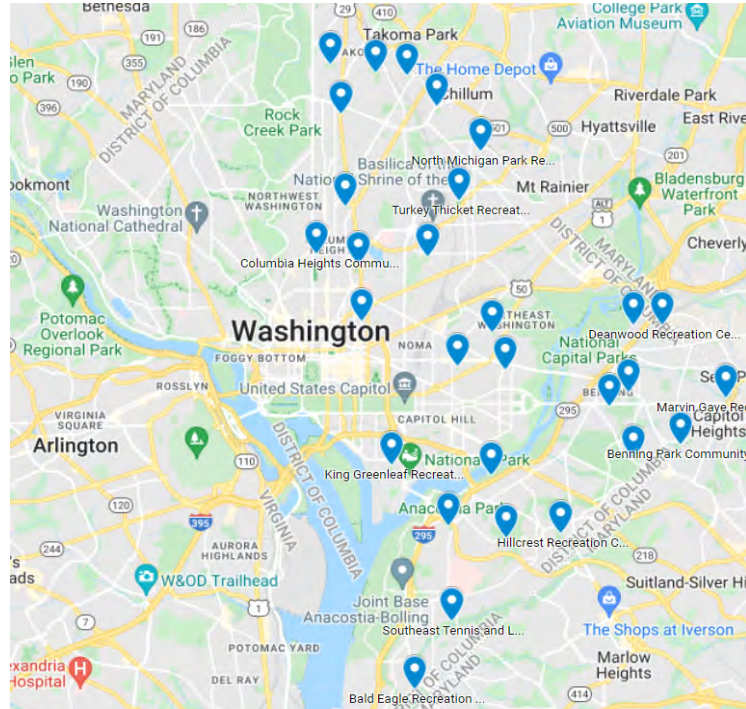
# MAPS

## DPR Facilities in DC



(DPR Athletic Fields Map, 2022)

## DPR Fitness Facilities in DC



(DPR Fitness Facilities Map, 2022)

The National Park Service (NPS) is the largest landholder of recreational space in Washington, DC. However, NPS has very few competition-level spaces for high school athletics, and most of its parks and fields are used for purposes other than high school programming, creating a space and time crunch during the busiest times of the day. As a result, the challenge of balancing permitting for high school athletics and community needs is similar to that facing DPR. NPS does provide a significant amount of recreational space and allocates space for high school practices and games across a number of sports.

### **ACCESS AND RATES**

According to the NPS website, reservations are on a first come, first-served basis but must be made at least one day ahead of arrival. Reservations can be made up to 30 days in advance. Reservations for special times and days are booked separately. Four reservations can be made per transaction.

### **CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES**

#### **Challenges**

- Despite the breadth of recreation space, very few venues are suitable for high school competition beyond the sites listed above.
- Maintenance at Carter Barron softball and baseball fields makes the venue unusable for varsity-level play.
- NPS uses Recreation.gov to permit their spaces. As a result, coaches and athletic directors must create another account and learn different processes in order to secure NPS facilities.
- Third-party operators of NPS facilities (golf and tennis specifically) have created other entities to work through (with different rules) to secure NPS facilities.

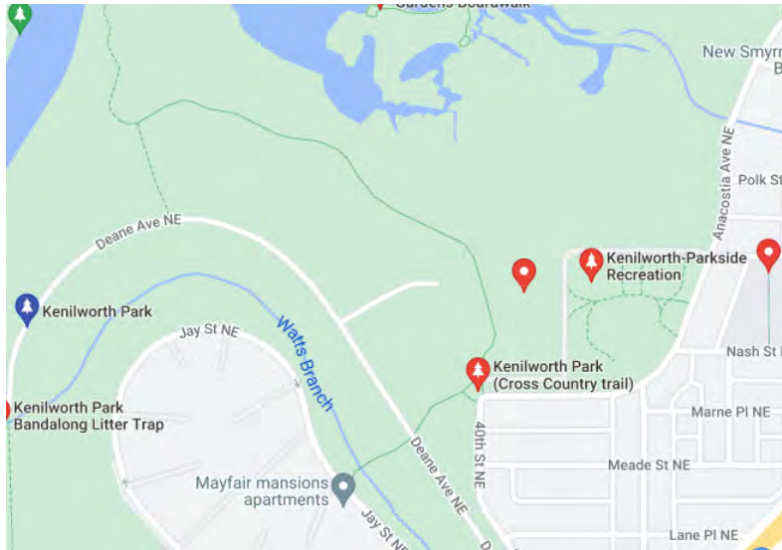
## Opportunities

- NPS owns and operates the most recreational space in DC.
- Kenilworth Park is an excellent venue for high school cross-country. The park hosts the annual state championship in addition to other large cross-country events.
- Carter Barron Tennis is a good venue for high school tennis practice and games, especially given the indoor bubble for inclement weather.
- East Potomac Tennis is a good venue for high school tennis practice and games, especially given the indoor bubble for inclement weather.
- West Potomac softball fields are a good venue for high school softball practice.
- Langston Golf Course hosts the state championship in golf.

## MAPS

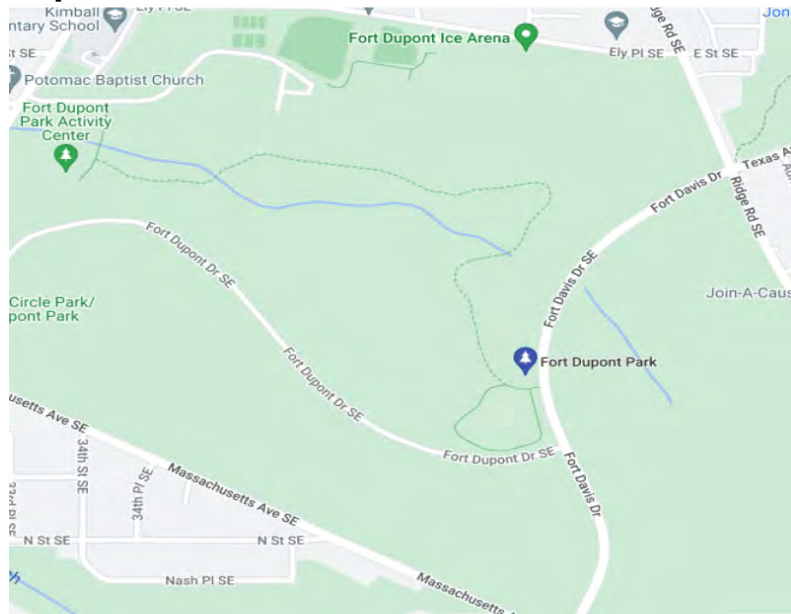
The following five maps display the competitive-level NPS venues for high school sports.

### NPS: Kenilworth Park (cross-country state championship course)



(Google Maps, 2022)

**NPS: Ft. Dupont (public-school cross-country championship course and Ft. Dupont Ice Rink)**



(Google Maps, 2022)

**NPS: Carter Barron Tennis (private school league championship site)**



(Google Maps, 2022)

**NPS: East and West Potomac Park have facilities for tennis, ultimate frisbee, and golf**



([East Potomac Park Softball](#), 2022)



(Google Maps, 2022)

Events DC is a semi-public company that has control over many facilities in DC, some of which accommodate high school sports. Its primary focus, however, is bringing large-scale events to Washington, DC. Its facilities include:

- **RFK Stadium**- Historically, this venue hosted the DC championship football game.
- **DC Armory**- In the past, this venue hosted the DC indoor track championships.
- **Fields at RFK**- These three multi-purpose sports turf fields can accommodate a multitude of sports, including soccer, ultimate frisbee, and softball.
- **Sports and Entertainment Arena** - This new venue, also home to the Washington Mystics, plays host to the DCIAA basketball championships.

### CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES

#### Challenges

- The focus of Events DC is to bring events to Washington, DC, not build and manage spaces for community use.
- The fields at RFK are expensive to rent, and there are only three of them, so they are quickly permitted.

#### Opportunities

- Events DC manages multiple venues that are excellent spaces for high school practice and competition—namely, the Sports and Entertainment Arena and the Fields at RFK.
- The possibility of transforming the RFK campus into a venue to accommodate a wider array of high school sports practices and games beyond soccer, ultimate frisbee, and softball could be transformative for DC athletes.

## MAP

### Events DC: Fields at RFK



([Events DC](#), 2022)

## WASHINGTON, DC'S COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

Washington, DC's colleges and universities have significant numbers of high-level athletics facilities that can accommodate high school use. While NCAA regulations regarding recruiting are a major hurdle, many college and university facilities are able to accommodate high school practices and games. Some high school championship events are held at local colleges and universities, usually taking place after college sports seasons are finished.

Below are some examples of high school sporting events that are held at local colleges and universities:

- DCSAA championships in football, basketball, and soccer at Georgetown University
- DCSAA and private school championships in lacrosse, soccer, and football at Catholic University
- DCSAA swimming and diving championship at Trinity University

- Private school league, the Potomac Valley Athletic Conference, championships hosted by Gallaudet. Gallaudet is also the former host of the DCSAA track and field championships.

## **ACCESS AND RATES**

Most agreements to use college and university facilities are relationship-based and made through high school athletic directors and college or university facilities managers. Sometimes the university has an assistant athletic director who is in charge of facility rentals. Often, facility use at colleges and universities is given in exchange for facility use at high schools. For example, if a university team's field is being renewed, they may use a high school field in return for practice time at the university in the future.

## **CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES**

### **Challenges**

- College and university teams are also using their athletics facilities during the time that high schools want to rent them.
- The expense of renting these facilities for high schools can be significantly higher than renting DPR or DCPS facilities.
- NCAA recruiting rules make it hard for colleges and universities to rent their facilities for high school athletic practices and events since compliance officers want to avoid recruiting sanctions and do not want any overlap of athletes at their facilities.
- Colleges and universities are not always motivated to rent their facilities given the wear and tear on the facilities due to more practice and game times.

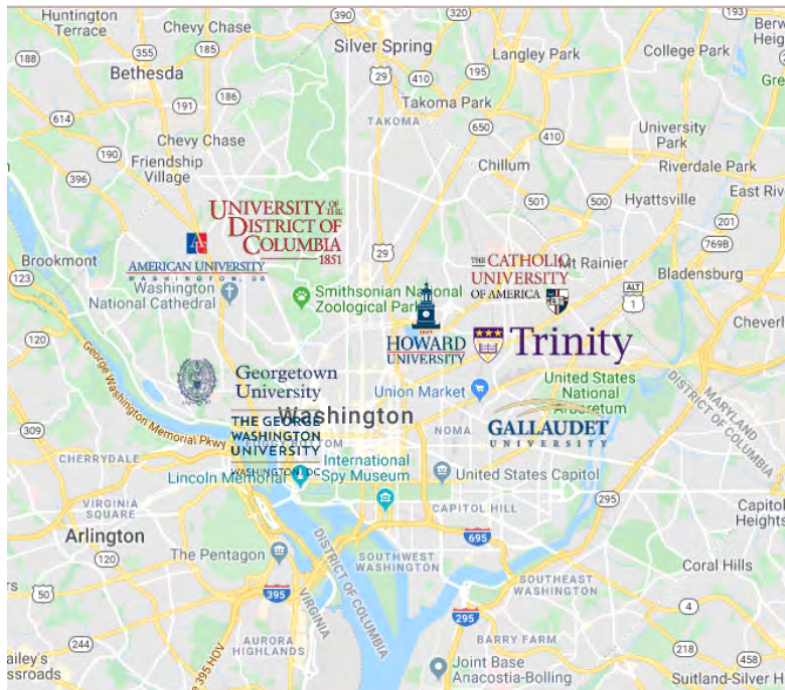
### **Opportunities**

- DC's institutions of higher learning have the most desirable facilities when it comes to high-level athletic competition.
- These institutions are usually willing to host high school events, both practices and competitions, if schedules allow.
- Colleges and universities have competition-ready facilities such as pools, turf softball fields, and baseball fields that are not available through DPR or DCPS.



## MAP

### Colleges and Universities in DC with Athletic Facilities



([Colleges and Universities in DC](#), 2022)

### WASHINGTON, DC'S INDEPENDENT AND PAROCHIAL SCHOOLS

Washington, DC's independent high schools have significant competition and practice facilities. While facility sizes, surfaces, and amenities vary widely at DC's independent and parochial schools, almost every school has at least one gym (Appendix D). Many of those schools also have additional athletic facilities that range from a soccer field to multi-purpose sports complexes with football, baseball, tennis courts, and cross-country courses. While many of these schools have the facilities on which to practice and play, most, if not all, independent schools have to search for space outside their campuses in order to operate their full athletic programs. As a result, they compete with the rest of the DC community for access to DPR, NPS, and Events DC spaces. Many of these schools do not meet the DPR 75 percent DC residency requirement and therefore tend to use university facilities or facilities outside of DC. Significant facility shortfalls for these institutions include pools, 90-foot baseball fields, softball fields, and tennis courts. Some independent schools rent their facilities to the community, but many are also restricted by neighborhood agreements that dictate the frequency and purpose of use. For example, one independent school in northwest DC is not allowed

to rent to any outside group, and its multi-purpose turf field sits vacant outside of their own hours of use.

## **ACCESS AND RATES**

Rental rates vary significantly across independent schools. Some schools, which asked not to be named in this report, rent their turf fields for \$75 per hour, while others ask close to \$300 per hour for the same type of facility. As with other stakeholders in DC, independent schools are inundated with rental requests but always prioritize their own programming over outside groups during the most desirable timeslots.

## **CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES**

### **Challenges**

- Some neighborhood agreements preclude schools from renting their spaces to community members and other schools.
- These institutions maximize their spaces for their own programming. There is very little, if any, time for other schools to use these facilities during after-school hours.
- The cost to rent some independent and parochial school facilities is significantly higher than public facilities.
- These schools are not incentivized to rent facilities to their competitor schools since they compete in athletics and vie for students.

### **Opportunities**

- Washington, DC's independent and parochial schools are second only to colleges and universities in terms of having excellent high-level athletic spaces. Schools that own such facilities are not competing for DPR, DCPS, or NPS space, which alleviates some of the burden on those entities.
- Facility quality at these schools is higher because the venues are not regularly used for community practices and games.

## **DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

DC Public Schools (DCPS) permit use of their facilities through a multi-step process. DCPS facilities are permitted through the DPR WebTrac system. Many DCPS facilities were required to be added to this system after the passage of DC Law 22-210, the

Ensuring Community Access to Recreational Spaces Act of 2018. In addition to requiring DCPS and DC Department of General Services (DGS) to help maximize community use of DCPS recreational spaces, this act also pushed DCPS and DGS to move away from paper scheduling and toward an online portal. After permit requests are submitted through the WebTrac system, requests then have to be approved by a DGS permit officer, the DCPS security team, and the school's principal before being issued. While the space is owned by DCPS, DGS is responsible for the rental logistics including security, scheduling, and maintenance.

### **ACCESS AND RATES**

According to the DCPS website and the DPR WebTrac system, permits are issued on a first come, first-served basis. When DCPS is accepting applications during a "permit window," all applications are considered concurrent and thus prioritized as follows:

1. DCPS-sponsored activities
2. Partners with a written agreement
3. Athletic programs organized by DC Public Schools, District Public Charter Schools, or the DC State Athletic Association for competitive league play (games only)
4. Youth nonprofit organizations, including schools principally serving DC residents
5. Adult nonprofit organizations principally serving DC residents
6. Other organizations, groups, or individuals that are based in DC
7. Organizations that serve DC residents principally and are defined as organizations with more than 75 percent of participants residing in Washington, DC. A roster or other proof of residency may be required
8. Even if space and time are available, DCPS may issue a permit for less than the hours requested (1) to ensure that DCPS property is not overtaxed, (2) to provide for community time, (3) to allow for other types of permitted uses, or (4) to accommodate other applicants who have requested the same space for the same time.

### **DCPS FACILITY RENTAL RATES**

In addition to the rates outlined on the DCPS website, which are the same as DPR facility rates, DCPS requires security and maintenance staff at every permitted event. As a result, posted rates are significantly lower than the actual cost due to the additional security and maintenance requirements.

## CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES

### Challenges

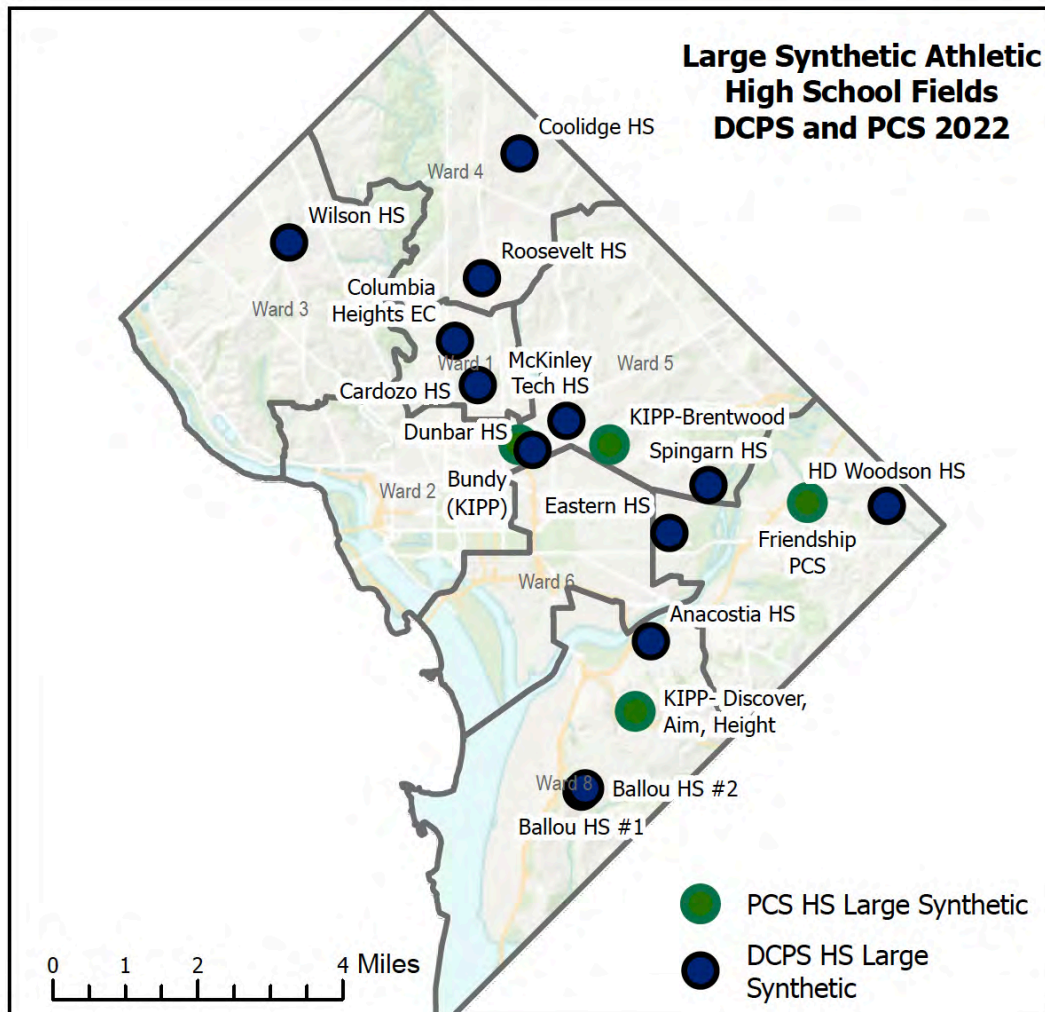
- DCPS athletic directors do not have direct say over who uses or rents their fields, which can make scheduling each school's programming a challenge.
- The permitting process, while improved since 2018, is still inefficient given the need for approval by multiple entities such as DCPS security, DCPS maintenance, DGS, and school principals.
- DCPS has to balance its own programming with that of outside groups wishing to use the facilities.
- Some income from facility rental goes to a DCPS facility fund, which helps with the upkeep and maintenance of the DCPS athletic facilities. The rest of the income goes to DGS, which manages the rental.
- DCPS athletic facility maintenance is inconsistent and sometimes requests for maintenance are not completed during the sports season.

### Opportunities

- The District has spent significant money upgrading DCPS athletic facilities over the last 15 years.
- Many DCPS facilities are built specifically for competitive sports, especially those at DC high schools. They can accommodate high school sports practices and games, as well as spectators.
- Many playing surfaces are synthetic turf and therefore can withstand significant use without the regular maintenance of grass facilities. Ninety-two schools have fields and 35 have synthetic turf fields.
- DCPS operates the largest number of tracks and football fields in DC.
- DCPS has moved many, but not all, of its facilities to the WebTrac portal for improved permitting processes.

## MAP

### Large Synthetic Athletic High School Fields DCPS and PCS 2022



(DPR from Ready2Play, accessed 2022)

## DC PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOLS

Charter schools struggle more than almost any other school athletic stakeholder to gain facility space because many were started in nontraditional school buildings that do not or did not have athletic facilities. As a result, many charter schools that have sports programs rely almost solely on DPR and NPS for practice and competition spaces. They also struggle to obtain permits at other spaces because they are competing for space with other organizations during peak practice and game time. Public charter schools also struggle to obtain DCPS permits because of the high cost

of renting those spaces and perceived competition for students between public charter schools and DCPS.

Charter schools that have their own athletic facilities are in charge of managing their own spaces. Some charter schools rent their facilities on an individual basis, not through a larger portal.

Another struggle for charter schools when it comes to practice and game space is that they lack ways to transport students to facilities far from campus given budget constraints. As a result, they are limited to space very close to their school or have to limit practice days in order to preserve funds for transportation to games.

## **CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES**

### **Challenges**

- Many public charter schools are located in non-traditional school buildings and therefore do not have athletic facilities.
- Public charter schools struggle to secure practice and game space and sometimes have to hold championships outside of the city.
- Many charter school athletic programs were added after the schools gained their academic footing. As a result, many lack robust athletic budgets to support their programming.
- The Public Charter School Athletic Association does not have an executive director and therefore school athletic directors are stretched to run their own programs and the league.

### **Opportunities:**

- Public charter schools educate a significant portion of the city's high school students.
- Public charter schools are looking to expand their athletic programming. Students and families want to have more sports options.
- Public charter schools have a group of athletic administrators and coaches who are eager to improve the programming in their schools.

## **MAP**

See map page 24.

## OVERVIEW OF CURRENT DC COACHING DEVELOPMENT

Until recently, coaching development in Washington, DC was very fragmented. Each school had its own requirements for coaches. While athletic directors aimed to hire passionate and knowledgeable individuals, often the right candidates weren't available. The shortage of well-qualified coaches highlighted a need to facilitate professional development for coaches throughout DC.

In the 2019-2020 school year, the DCSAA instituted a coaching development program for all of DC that standardized coaching development and certification across DC schools. While sports leagues and programs outside the DCSAA still maintain their own rules and processes, the DCSAA coaching development program captures a significant number of DC's coaches. The program requires coaches and schools to submit proof of certification to the DCSAA in order for coaches to be considered certified. The DCSAA maintains a list of certified coaches on its website.

The program includes the following requirements, many of them built on the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) platform. This online learning platform includes classes and modules that provide consistent education for coaches across the country. It is the standard used by most high schools throughout the United States for coaching education:

- First aid, CPR, AED certification
- NFHS Concussion in Sports course
- NFHS Heat Illness Prevention course
- DCSAA Rules Knowledge Exam (NFHS)
- NFHS COVID-19 for coaches and administrators
- At least five hours of continuing education every two years; at least two hours must be sports-specific

## COACH RECRUITMENT MODELS AND COMPENSATION

Recruitment and retention of good coaches is key to successful high school athletic programming in Washington, DC. The traditional model of recruiting coaches is focused on academic teachers in the school building who played sports growing up or were passionate about coaching. This model allows staff to engage with students in a number of ways and is successful when a school has high-quality athletics coaches among their academic staff. That being said, that model has shifted significantly as fewer academic teachers want to take on coaching in the afternoon given the time requirements. Demands for performance in both the classroom and on the sports field

dissuade teachers from coaching. Lastly, if compensated, coaches are paid through small stipends. Coaching pay disparity between the public and independent schools is widening and the cost of living in the DC area is rising. As such, it is becoming harder and harder to attract excellent coaches to public schools and public charter schools in Washington, DC.

There are three dominant models of high school coaching in Washington, DC:

### **Teacher/Coach**

Many Washington, DC coaches are also teachers at the same school where they coach. The traditional model of “teacher, coach, and mentor” is still a practical way to employ coaches. These individuals are compensated mainly through their teaching contracts and receive a stipend for coaching. Compensation varies widely by school and sport. Some teachers are required to coach as part of their employment contract, while others are paid anywhere from \$500 to \$15,000 per season to coach.

### **Coach Only**

Some schools employ individuals as coaches that have other jobs outside the school. These individuals are usually compensated through a stipend system and receive anywhere from \$500 to \$15,000 per season to coach, depending on the sport.

### **Club/Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) Coach Who Also Coaches High School Sports**

The final coaching category is the professional youth sports coach who coaches a high school team during the season but also runs independent athletic programming during the off-season. These individuals often recruit team members from their club programs to play at the school where they are coaching. They are compensated in a number of ways, including stipends for the season, facility-sharing where their club team is allowed to use the school facilities during the summer or evenings when school is not in session, or a combination of both. As a result, schools with strong athletic facilities are able to attract excellent coaches who are able to make a living as professional youth and high school sports coaches.

## **COACH RECRUITMENT**

Schools recruit coaches in a number of ways. Under the teacher/coach model, individuals are already working in the school system and therefore are recruited as much for classroom teaching as they are for their coaching ability.

Coaches are also recruited through various youth sports programs that facilitate programming for DC’s younger athletes. These individuals are recruited by a school’s



athletic director to coach at their school. While the DCSAA and DCIAA offer job boards, there is no central place in DC where coaches are recruited.

### **Challenges**

- Recruiting well-qualified coaches is a significant and constant challenge for DC athletic directors.
- Coaching stipends for DCPS are lower than those in surrounding areas (e.g., Arlington, Fairfax, and Montgomery Counties, and a majority of independent and parochial schools). Given the significant challenges to find adequate facilities, many coaches want to work at institutions that have the fields and courts that support their programming.
- Coaches have more incentive to work in the private athletic sector since there is the potential for better compensation.

### **Opportunities**

- The establishment of a consistent and coherent coaching certification program was a significant step forward for improving the quality of coaching in DC.
- The program is robust and targeted to improve the safety of DC athletes as well as the quality of coaching they receive.
- The requirement for sport-specific work is essential to ensure that DC athletes are coached by knowledgeable individuals.
- DCIAA has its own requirements for coaches that go beyond the DCSAA requirements.

## **ATHLETICS IN DC COMPARED TO REGIONAL NEIGHBORS**

While Washington, DC is unique in many ways, including how high school sports are administered and run, the District has the opportunity to learn from surrounding jurisdictions and cities with similar challenges surrounding high school sports.

### **REGIONAL ATHLETIC PROGRAMMING ANALYSIS**

As stated in the landscape analysis above, Washington, DC has robust programming that supports its high school athletes. Whether the District's leagues are public or independent, they are largely facilitating strong and fair competition across all levels

of sport and creating opportunities for those exceptionally talented athletes to move to the next level.

In surrounding jurisdictions, Washington, DC is a leader in incorporating public and independent schools into its state championships. Maryland lacks a cohesive independent school league and, while the public school programming is strong, its independent schools do not have the same opportunities as those in Washington, DC.

From a sports programming standpoint, Washington, DC is in line with other regional jurisdictions in the sports that it offers given its size and the interest of its constituents. That being said, as stated on page 8, Washington, DC high schools also have constituents who are interested in adding new sports and athletic programming to match and complement programming in surrounding counties.

Lastly, participation for girls' sports is lower than for boys' sports across the country and region. This is reflected in Washington, DC's population as well. Local, regional, and national athletic stakeholders are working to increase girls' participation through various means, which include increased funding where needed, but especially at the elementary and middle school level, where girls tend to leave sports. While the reasons vary for girls leaving, many cite an increased emphasis on high-level competition as one of the main drivers for leaving athletics. Washington, DC has made a concerted effort in FY23 to keep girls in sports through improved DPR programming and Rec for All.

## **REGIONAL FACILITY ANALYSIS**

As mentioned, in a densely populated city or district like Washington, DC, space for high school athletes to practice and play is at a premium. Not surprisingly, other cities have similar challenges to DC in allocating space to high school teams while balancing the needs of other community members and stakeholders. The following describes regional examples of successful athletic complexes built for student athletes and communities, creative materials used on fields to manage the high amount of use, and a more streamlined permitting processes for facilities and fields.

### **Sport Complexes for Youth and Community Members**

New York City faces similar challenges to those facing Washington, DC, since both are very dense areas and with large populations of high school athletes in public, charter, independent, and parochial schools. In New York City, there are limited spaces for athletes to practice and compete. In order to alleviate the crunch, New York City has

invested heavily in competition and practice-level spaces to accommodate high school athletics.

**Two examples are:**

**Randall's Island Park**- Randall's Island is a multi-use complex consisting of 71 grass and synthetic turf fields used for soccer, baseball, football, ultimate frisbee, and lacrosse; a track and field space built for international competitions; and a tennis center. Located on the eponymous Randall's Island, some sport teams routinely travel 30 to 45 minutes to practice, not an atypical commute in New York. One athletic director Windsor interviewed said that without this complex, he would not be able to operate high quality sports programming.

**Ocean Breeze Complex**- Ocean Breeze is an indoor track complex built to serve Staten Island and greater New York City. While its hydraulically banked indoor track is world renowned, the NYC Parks and Recreation-operated facility serves the greater community and high school athletes at the same time. The facility administrator told Windsor that the space has been invaluable, another high-level facility in which New York City athletes can practice and compete. They are also planning to build more fields and a larger cross-country course on the grounds to better serve the area's athletes.

### **Field Maintenance Management**

Fairfax County, Virginia is another example of innovation in high school athletics facilities. Over the past decade, Fairfax has made a concerted effort to add synthetic turf to their high schools and parks and recreation spaces in order to provide safe and consistent playing spaces for their athletes and residents that are weather resistant.

### **Centralized Permitting for Athletic Fields and Tracks**

One of Washington, DC's biggest challenges is inconsistency in permitting processes. Surrounding jurisdictions have combated this by employing centralized software to permit all public spaces. In Arlington, Virginia for example, one athletic director Windsor interviewed talked about how, for him, there is no difference in procedure between renting a public school field and an Arlington Parks and Recreation field. As a result, he can quickly and seamlessly obtain permits to support his athletic program. Montgomery County, Maryland has similarly cohesive systems for management of their public spaces and, as a result, athletic directors and coaches report that the process is relatively seamless when addressing facility needs for their teams.

## **REGIONAL COACHING DEVELOPMENT ANALYSIS**

Many of the athletic stakeholders Windsor talked to about coaching development pointed to the NFHS program that DCSAA has adopted. Washington, DC is on par with best practices. However, some jurisdictions do offer significant ancillary coaching development through clinics and coaching academies. Many of these academies are administered through individual sport governing bodies. For example, some independent school athletic directors interviewed talked about supporting their coaches to travel to get their USA Track and Field certifications in order to better serve their athletes. This was echoed across sports, as dedicated coaches look to get certified by their sport's professional associations.

### **Regional Coaching Compensation**

Recruiting and retaining coaches is a challenge beyond the borders of Washington, DC. Regional athletic directors and athletic stakeholders report the same issues of trying to find qualified coaches both inside and outside of the school building. As a result, they, like Washington, DC athletic directors, look for different ways to find and retain coaches. One significant difference between the surrounding jurisdictions and DC is how coaches are compensated. Throughout the region the coaching compensation model varies widely and has been a point of study and contention for years, as the 1989 Washington Post article "High School Coaches Reap Unequal Rewards" states:

"The boys' basketball game between Wakefield and H.D. Woodson high schools earlier this season featured two evenly matched teams, as proven by the 65-57 final score. On the sidelines, however, there was a major difference. The inequity was not in coaching talent, but in the vastly different amount of stipends the respective coaches will receive for their equally dedicated efforts from November through March. Wakefield's Bob Veldran will be paid almost three times as much money this season (\$3,127) as H.D. Woodson Coach Rudy Peters (\$1,200)." ([Washington Post, 1989](#))

While it is obvious that different jurisdictions have different pay scales and compensation models, DC coaches have trended toward the lower end for decades. (Appendix E)

In the surrounding counties and similarly-sized East Coast cities, most schools and leagues compensate their coaches on a variable stipend system that is largely built on the assumption that the coaches are already part of the school system and therefore receive the majority of their compensation through their academic or staff positions.

As a result, in many public sector data publications, coaching stipends are published in the public schools' extra duty pay packets. Some coaches are compensated additionally through booster clubs or other budgets to supplement the stipend pay from the school. An example of this extra pay, in Montgomery County, crew coaches are compensated by the school athletic department but make the majority of their money through parent- and booster-funded programs.

Another example of differences in regional coaching stipends is that many independent and parochial schools hire full-time coaches. This happens most often in football, but other sports employ this model when funding is available.

## FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Starting with the foundational information provided in the overviews of programming, facilities, and coaching described earlier, Windsor then worked to craft recommendations it feels will have a significant impact on a local level and help the city to meet the goal of making Washington, DC a nationally recognized locale for high school athletics.

In this section Windsor highlights some of the most pressing specific challenges for the city and schools and the recommendations to address them. Some of the challenges were generally described earlier in the overview section of the report, while other more specific challenges were identified during the process of crafting the recommendations.

Windsor developed the following recommendations based on the landscape review conducted for this report, its knowledge and expertise, feedback from local and regional athletic professionals, examples from other cities, and feedback from local athletic directors and community residents. It was also sensitive to not overburden schools, specifically DCPS and public charter schools, with additional costs to solve the needs. Instead, alternative solutions were explored, including bridging Local Education Agencies (LEAs), utilizing existing school infrastructures, and public-private partnerships. It also aimed to build on recommendations from the Office of Planning's 2021 Comprehensive Plan, the DC Department of Parks and Recreation's Ready2Play, and other existing studies.

### Challenge

Washington, DC's youth athletic programming has become increasingly expensive and privatized. As a result, DC is not developing a significant number of its athletes at the youth level, which subsequently affects high school programming.

### Background and Reasoning

- The cost of youth sports programming has increased over the last decade. While the level of competition has also increased, costs have substantially raised the barrier to entry.
- The increased cost and privatization of youth sports has also forced DC families to travel extensively for practices and games.
- In some programs in DC, especially in Wards 7 and 8 baseball, DPR and Little League are competing for the same pool of athletes and therefore are not incorporating players in the area into a cohesive program.
- The Nationals organization is willing to help bridge the gap in baseball by providing training for DCPS physical education teachers and help to subsidize baseball programming in Wards 7 and 8 in addition to the uniforms they already provide baseball players.

### Recommendations

- Create more opportunities for low-cost development programs to feed high school sports through partnerships with DPR and support from professional sports teams to provide funding for coaching and programmatic development.
- The youth sports landscape, especially access to quality programming, is worthy of additional study.
- Implement the FY 2023 investments in DPR's Rec for All that support girls' volleyball, softball, wrestling, soccer, and gymnastics.

## **Challenge**

Many DCPS and public charter high schools lack consistent media coverage and live streaming platforms. That leads to the inability of student athletes to showcase their skills outside of game experiences, thereby lessening the possibility of playing at the next level.

## **Background and Reasoning**

- How Washington, DC's top athletes are being recruited to play at the next level has changed significantly. As a result, coaches and players need to have footage of their games to use for recruiting purposes.
- Because of COVID-19, parents and community members expect to be able to watch games online as opposed to attending in person.

## **Recommendation**

Partner with NFHS to place free streaming cameras in DCPS and public charter school gyms and fields. Work with Local Educational Authorities (LEAs) in DC to negotiate a bulk subscription deal for games.

## **Follow-Up**

DCPS has entered an agreement with NFHS/Pixellot to provide live streaming equipment for high school stadiums and gymnasiums. DCPS athletic events held at these venues will be streamed live on the NFHS Network.

## **Challenge**

Washington, DC lacks best practice strength and conditioning programming in middle and high school physical education classes. This programming could build athletes' foundational strengths and skills.

## **Background and Reasoning**

As students spend more time in front of screens and youth sports programming becomes less accessible, high school coaches are finding that their student athletes are physically weaker and have less body awareness than previous generations. Fortunately, a lot of the infrastructure for strength and conditioning programming is already in schools and DPR fitness centers. Curricula written by former DCPS principals could also be implemented quickly and effectively in schools to help bolster basic strength and conditioning principles for student athletes.

## **Recommendation**

Implement strength and conditioning programming designed and developed by highly qualified Certified Strength and Conditioning Specialists (CSCS) to meet students' needs. This program would be built around NSCA curriculum, and DCPS and public charter physical education teachers could be incentivized to get their CSCS certification.



## Challenge

The DCPS athletic training (AT) staff has not been expanded in many years, and therefore ATs are overstretched. Additional responsibilities have been added to those of ATs, and therefore they are not available to give appropriate athlete care.

### Background and Reasoning

- Athletic trainers are vital to the health and safety of today's student athletes. For many high school athletes, ATs provide the only healthcare services they will receive. Over the last decade, while the requirements of AT staff have increased, the number of ATs in the DCPS system has not. As a result, ATs are not able to cover all sporting events.
- Public charter and independent schools also struggle to find qualified athletic trainers for their events, with many schools having to hire off-duty EMS personnel to cover their games and practices.

### Recommendations

- Ensure that each public high school in Washington, DC has an athletic trainer on call for games.
- Add athletic training/assistant athletic trainer positions by implementing career technical education for sports medicine as an educational offering.
- Create public charter school athletic training positions in order to better support athletes.

### Challenge

Washington, DC lacks the facilities to accommodate expanded athletic programming at the high school level, specifically for soccer, indoor and outdoor track, and baseball.

### Background and Reasoning

Washington, DC's athletic stakeholders are excited to expand and improve their programming, but they have not been able to because of lack of available facilities for high school sports. Windsor looked to other cities to better understand how to accommodate the programming crunch when space is limited. The trend in cities, especially places such as New York City and Chicago, has been to invest in sports fields that have multiple practice and competition purposes.

### Recommendations

- Build a facility similar to New York City's Randall's Island at the Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Stadium and/or Kenilworth North with significant multi-purpose natural grass and turf fields that can be used for a wide range of sports.
- Renovate the DC Armory to accommodate an indoor track.
- Include a high-quality soccer pitch inside any outdoor track facility built at Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Stadium or Kenilworth North.

## Challenge

Washington, DC lacks an indoor track where its athletes can practice and compete. It is the only DCSAA and DCIAA championship contested outside of DC.

## Background and Reasoning

- Washington, DC has a rich history of high school track and field excellence. As the second-most popular winter sport for boys and girls, indoor track is the only sport for which state and local championships are held outside of DC. While the DC Armory served as a home for the championships in the past, the facility cannot support modern high school track athletes.
- Without a competitive indoor track facility in Washington, DC, the best high school teams are forced to travel almost every weekend to premier venues with 200-meter banked tracks at Liberty University, Virginia Beach, Virginia Military Institute, and New York City. The Sports and Learning Center in Prince George's County, Maryland hosts meets, but the facility has become antiquated given its flat, 200-meter surface. The travel raises the cost of competition significantly and reduces the ability for DC's best athletes and teams to maximize their abilities.

## Recommendations

- Build an indoor track facility at the Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Stadium that is similar to New York City's Ocean Breeze, Virginia Beach's Sports Center, and Chicago's Gately. This facility would not only provide a space for high school students to compete and keep all DCSAA and DCIAA championships in DC but would also be a much-needed regional facility for indoor track that would attract significant competitive events to Washington, DC.
- This facility could also anchor significant youth programming that is cost-accessible for DC's youth and create sustainable jobs for coaching professionals.

## **Challenge**

Maintenance and upgrade of existing DPR facilities is needed in order to better accommodate increased use by high school athletes and the community at large.

## **Background and Reasoning**

DPR has a large number of recreational facilities available to DC residents. As DC has continued to expand, especially in school populations outside of DCPS, DPR has taken on a greater share of high school practices and games. As a result, their facilities are seeing more use than ever from high school and community athletes alike.

## **Recommendation**

As discussed in Ready2Play, work to equitably invest in capital improvement projects at sites facing the greatest need is essential. Regular upkeep and repair of DC's parks and facilities in every neighborhood must be ensured.

## Challenge

A consistent and transparent permitting process for renting or using DPR, DCPS, or other DC agency facilities. All public facilities should have the same permitting process.

## Background and Reasoning

- The current permitting system in DC is confusing and inconsistent. Public spaces have inconsistent permitting requirements. Navigating DPR, DCPS, Events DC, and independent institutions' processes and associated costs is detrimental to the growth of programming.
- While currently almost all DCPS and DPR facilities are online, approval processes and costs differ significantly, resulting in confusion.
- Independent schools would like to have greater access to public spaces.
- Surrounding counties have streamlined their permitting processes so that the process is the same across public facilities.

## Recommendation

Create a centralized permitting system using modern reservations software with transparent costs. Any private institutions can choose to opt in.

## Challenge

Many DPR athletic facilities lack adequate spectator facilities for competitive high school athletics contests.

### Background and Reasoning

- DPR administers a significant amount of programming aimed at young athletes and at low costs. DPR aims to modify its playing surfaces to better accommodate higher-level athletics as outlined in Ready2Play. There may also be a need for these facilities to accommodate larger spectator groups that come with increased athletic participation.
- As referenced in Ready2Play, concessions at all outdoor pools and highly-used fields need to be added where feasible, and partnering with local entrepreneurs and vendors to staff concessions and provide service for DPR events is necessary.

### Recommendation

Add spectator infrastructure at the following spaces mentioned in Ready2Play. Some of them include but are not limited to the following:

- Barry Farm
- Ridge Road
- Poplar Point
- Ft. Reno
- Anacostia

## **Challenge**

Washington, DC lacks adequate 90-foot baseball fields, especially in Wards 3 and 4, in order to meet the needs of DC's high schools.

## **Background and Reasoning**

Baseball in Washington, DC is a growing sport with 753 boys participating during the 2018-2019 school year. It is the most popular spring sport and fourth most popular sport for boys overall. There is, however, a severe shortage of playing fields on which to practice and play, particularly in Wards 3 and 4. As a result, the majority of high schools that play baseball in these wards are unable to practice or play in DC and almost always have to go to Maryland or Virginia.

## **Recommendation**

DPR should partner with the National Parks Service at Carter Barron to build new 90-foot baseball fields adjacent to the Fitzgerald Tennis Center. This site has existing infrastructure for baseball fields and is accessible by a number of high schools in both Ward 3 and Ward 4.

### **Challenge**

Many permits that are issued are not being used and/or groups are encroaching on permitted spaces during allocated times.

### **Background and Reasoning**

Permit enforcement and usage is inconsistent. Coaches are unsure whether the permit they have is going to guarantee them exclusive use of the field. Fairfax County has a team of people who come to ensure permits are being used and that other groups are not infringing on permit holders during their allotted time.

### **Recommendation**

Expand DPR Rangers and create central site (Ambassador) programming to ensure permits are being used at facilities and that groups aren't improperly using fields when they are permitted to other groups.

### **Challenge**

Washington, DC needs better collaboration among the recreation and competitive facility stakeholders in order to make more facilities available to DC athletes.

### **Background and Reasoning**

As cited in the DC Government Comprehensive Plan on pages 8-27, "Action PROS-2.2.F: Integration of Federal and District Athletic Fields Better integrate federal and District athletic fields under the jurisdictions of NPS, DPR, and DCPS. 810.21." With better integration of those entities, high school athletes and Washington, DC residents will better be able to utilize the extraordinary facilities within Washington, DC's boundaries.

### **Recommendations**

- As new reservation software is built, make sure to include NPS in those processes, and discussions will be key.
- Encourage the National Parks Service to open and renovate their spaces in order to be more accommodating to high school athletics.
- Allow for cross-agency maintenance and management, which will be helpful in ensuring athletics facilities are accessible and adequate for DC's athletes.



## COACHING DEVELOPMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

### Challenge

Current models of hiring coaches are antiquated and assume and require that coaches are also working in the school system and receive their primary compensation through teaching, not coaching.

### Background and Reasoning

Finding good coaches is increasingly difficult, particularly coaches that are flexible and can coach in the afternoon. As the demands of being a classroom teacher and a high school coach have increased at the same time, the old model of the teacher who is also the coach is increasingly unsustainable.

### Recommendation

Partner with professional sports teams in the area to create coaching scholarships. These positions would be full-time and allow individuals to focus on building youth programming in DC as well as coaching varsity-level programming in public schools.

### Challenge

Athletic directors lack a central place to post coaching positions and therefore struggle to find and attract qualified talent.

### Background and Reasoning

Unlike hiring for academic positions where there is enormous personnel and infrastructure devoted to recruiting teachers, finding coaches is extremely difficult because much of it is done by a small number of people in school athletic offices. As a result, the recruitment of coaches is largely done through word of mouth or personal connections. That limits the ability of DC schools to recruit and retain high-quality coaches, which, in turn, affects athletes.

### Recommendation

Add a position at the DCSAA that oversees a central database and job board for schools looking for coaches and coaches looking for jobs.

## Challenge

DCPS coaches are some of the lowest-paid coaches in the immediate DC area and comparative Eastern cities.

### Background and Reasoning

- It is necessary to increase coaching stipends at the public school level. As cited in the report, independent schools are paying coaches significantly more than their public counterparts and as a result are attracting and retaining better coaches.
- Public charter schools currently do not have a standard pay scale for coaches.

### Recommendation

Increase stipend pay for coaches in the DCPS and public charter system to align with coaches in Arlington, Fairfax, and Montgomery Counties.

## Challenge

Athletic directors in Washington, DC's public charter schools have to operate their league in addition to running their own school's programs.

### Background and Reasoning

As the number of public charter school athletic programs increases in DC, the administration of a league for those schools becomes increasingly complex. While nearly every other league in DC, both DCPS and independent, has hired someone to help administer programming, specifically advising on championship events, securing locations for those events, creating rules and developing rule compliance, and so on, public charter schools are entirely volunteer in their efforts.

### Recommendation

Create a permanent paid position to run the Public Charter Sports Athletic Association (PCSAA). This position would allow stability in the league, enforce and create rules, implement consistent programming, and alleviate overburdened athletic directors.

## **Challenge**

Athletic directors need more access to continuing education and support. While some states have an athletic director association, Washington, DC's association (formerly known as DCADA) has become defunct. As a result, professional development for DC is done on a national level rather than a local level.

## **Background and Reasoning**

For many years, Washington, DC had an organization to help provide professional development and support for athletic directors. When that organization ceased operations, DC was adopted by the Maryland organization, but, that too no longer exists. There is demand for a central organization for athletic directors to receive support in their roles, share best practices, and have representation on the national level through the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association.

## **Recommendation**

Restart the DCADA to provide an organization for DC athletic directors, and encourage all new athletic directors to become certified through the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association.

## **CONCLUSION**

Windsor is confident that these recommendations can have broad positive effects on Washington, DC high school sports. Whether large-scale projects targeted at Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Stadium and Kenilworth North, better support for DC's athletic directors, or improving current programming, Windsor, in conjunction with local stakeholders, has determined that implementing these recommendations will support student athletes in the future. Washington, DC is fortunate to have such passionate sports professionals and exceptionally talented athletes. The future is bright.

**APPENDIX A, PART 1: WASHINGTON, DC HIGH SCHOOL KEY SPORTS AT A GLANCE, 2018-2019**

Based on participation numbers, developed programming, and facility investments, the following is an overview of the sports in which DC high school athletes are participating. This includes sports at DCPS and public charter, independent, and parochial schools in Washington, DC.

<b>Sport</b>	<b>Participation</b>	<b>Key Programming</b>	<b>Key Facilities</b>
<b>Baseball</b>	Boys: 34 high schools with 753 participants	Strong feeder programs in all eight wards  Independent and public schools routinely vie for state championship	12 public 90-foot base path fields and six independent or university fields
<b>Basketball</b>	Boys: 46 schools and 1,164 participants  Girls: 41 schools and 666 participants	DC leagues for high schools, DCSAA, DCIAA, WCAC, IAC, and MAC all provide excellent infrastructure and competition for DC's basketball players	Significant facilities at independent, public, and parochial schools
<b>Cross-Country</b>	Boys: 505 participants and 33 schools  Girls: 438 participants and 33 schools	Strong independent and parochial school programming  Depth at the public and charter school level is lacking	Extensive trail and park system allows for excellent training  Kenilworth Park is a very good championship course
<b>Football</b>	Boys: 1,456 participants and 29 schools	Significant history surrounding DCPS football  Catholic schools (Gonzaga and St. Johns)	DC has significant facilities to accommodate football, and facilities tend to meet programming

		routinely produce multiple Division 1 and NFL players	demands
<b>Ice Hockey</b>	Boys: 142 participants and 4 schools	Ft. DuPont hockey programming is a national model of expanding equity and access to the sport  Some independent schools have teams, all practice outside DC	Ft. DuPont Ice Rink is the only rink inside DC that is suitable for hockey  Rink is in need of rebuilding
<b>Indoor Track and Field</b>	Boys: 489 participants and 29 schools  Girls: 392 participants and 30 schools	Strong high school teams can compete on local, regional, and national levels  Significant history of excellent track and field in DC	No indoor track facility in DC; all competitions are outside DC
<b>Outdoor Track and Field</b>	Boys: 708 participants and 41 schools  Girls: 516 participants and 34 schools	Strong high school teams can compete on local, regional, and national levels  Significant history of excellent track and field in DC	Many public schools have outdoor tracks, but not all are competition tracks  No competition track permitted by DPR  Universities have very good facilities
<b>Soccer</b>	Boys: 910 participants and 30 schools	Excellent programming exists at the youth level, which feeds the high	Robust field space for practice at all facility stakeholder

	Girls: 700 participants and 31 schools	school teams DC high schools have strong competition across all types of schools	spaces Significant competition among high school and other programs to use space  Lacks high-level competition fields open to the public
<b>Softball</b>	21 schools and 349 participants	Programming is strongest in the independent schools	Extensive network of fields through DPR, NPS, and universities  Access to those fields is shared by both Little League and softball teams, so permitting can be challenging
<b>Swimming and Diving</b>	Boys: 269 participants and 18 schools  Girls: 267 participants and 18 schools	DPR youth programming is strong  Most top swimmers train outside DC in Montgomery County programs	Jackson Reed pool is a significant competition-level facility  DPR and DCPS have many other facilities  Access to some pools is tough given use by other community entities

<b>Tennis</b>	Boys: 19 schools and 250 participants  Girls: 19 schools and 170 participants	Significant programming at independent schools  Strong youth programming through DPR	In addition to championship venues such as the Southeast Tennis Center, DC has strong grass-roots facilities for programming
<b>Ultimate Frisbee</b>	Boys: 256 participants and 11 schools  Girls: 185 participants and 14 schools		Very adaptable sport since it can use soccer, football, and other open spaces  Facility list is similar to soccer since space requirements are very similar
<b>Volleyball</b>	Girls: 676 participants and 36 schools	DCPS and private schools have strong programming  DC athletes play at a high level, and many top players are recruited to top schools	Most school gyms are equipped for volleyball. As a result, the infrastructure is there to provide very good facilities for games and practices

([NFHS, 2022](#))

## **APPENDIX A, PART 2: EXPANDED BACKGROUND ON SPORTS AND THEIR PROGRAMMING, FACILITIES, AND COACHING**

The following describes the top sports noted in Appendix A Part 1. Information compiled by Windsor.

### **Baseball**

- Participation data and demographics
  - Boys: 34 high schools with 753 participants
- Programming
  - Highlights
    - Strong youth feeder programs, especially in northwest DC
    - Banneker City Little League
    - Capitol City Little League
    - Capitol Hill Little League
    - DC Dynasty
    - Mamie Johnson Little League
    - Northwest Little League
    - Senators Satchel Paige Little League
    - Ward Eight Little League
    - D.C. Parks and Rec Rookie League
  - Jackson-Reed programming is robust (but see most recent issue with Ft. Reno for how even the public schools struggle with field space and the push and pull of NPS vs. DPR permitting).
  - Challenges
    - Excellent baseball at St Albans, St. Johns, and Gonzaga pulls many of the best players away from DCPS and DCPCS.
- Coaching Development
  - Pay structure
    - Many coaches at the top school programs also run private development programs where they are compensated better.
- Facilities
  - 90-foot base path
  - DPR/DCPS
    - Maury Wills/Banneker
    - Brentwood Hamilton Field Synthetic
    - Dwight Mosley/Taft Field Grass
    - Eliot-Hine Field
    - Fort Greble Field Grass
    - Fort Reno (NPS) Field Grass 1 (baseball diamond)



- Friendship Field Grass
- Jelleff Field Synthetic (not fully controlled by DPR)
- Kelly Miller Field Grass
- Riggs-LaSalle Field Synthetic
- Turkey Thicket Field Grass
- Guy Mason Georgetown U Partnership
- Bryce Harper Field (Takoma Rec Center)
- Alice Deal (not permitted through DPR)
- Private
  - St. Albans
  - Sidwell Friends
  - St. Johns
  - Nats Baseball Academy
  - Ryan Zimmerman Field
  - Catholic University
- NPS
  - West Potomac Park
  - Carter Barron (not in playable shape)
- Highlights
  - Nats Baseball Academy is an extraordinary resource and facility
  - Independent schools and universities have great fields
- Challenges
  - Facilities do not meet the needs of DC's baseball teams (see Jelleff and new CC field project).
  - Historical usage is an impediment to expanding programming.
  - Best athletes will largely go to independent schools, given their facilities.

## **Basketball**

- Participation data and demographics
  - Boys: 46 schools and 1,164 participants
  - Girls: 41 schools and 666 participants
- Programming
  - Highlights
    - Basketball programming in DC is robust. Not only does Washington, DC produce some of the best collegiate and professional players, but the programming to support them from the youth level to the high school level and beyond has significant resources.

- Leagues for high schools, DCSAA, DCIAA, WCAC, IAC, and MAC all provide excellent infrastructure and competition for DC's basketball players
- Facilities
  - Highlights
    - Significant infrastructure in the public and private sector
    - Almost every public high school has a basketball gym
    - Private facilities also help support team and individual development
    - Boys' and girls' clubs as well as church facilities further bolster this programming
  - Challenges
    - Unlike many other sports in DC, basketball facilities seem to be meeting the needs of DC's kids, both public and private. Strong indoor facilities are buttressed by significant outdoor courts for community use.
  - Challenges
    - The best players still end up at private and parochial schools since the coaching, scholarship, and recruiting potential is usually at a higher level.
    - There are significant pay-to-play models when it comes to tournaments outside of DC schools. Travel on the AAU circuit is essential for kids who want to play at a high level because their school teams are usually comprised of their AAU team.
- Coaching Development
  - Pay structure
    - Coaches are paid by stipend but are usually making significant money on the AAU and personal training circuit after school.
  - Development programming
    - AAU programming dominates the off-season programming for DC's top basketball players from an early age.
    - Boys' and Girls' clubs
    - CYO
    - YWBL (DPR Programming)

## **Boxing**

- Participation data and demographics
  - Not a school sponsored sport, so no specific participation data. Washington, DC has a strong history of producing excellent boxers in private and DPR-funded gyms
- Programming
  - Highlights
    - Strong history of high-level boxing programming in Washington, DC
    - Many former coaches give back to youth programs in the District
  - Challenges
    - Not school sponsored so all programming is administered through private gyms and DPR.
- Facilities
  - Highlights
    - Midtown Youth Academy
    - Bald Eagle Recreation Center
  - Challenges
    - Boxing gyms have closed over the years as demographics have changed
- Coaching Development
  - Pay structure
    - Since boxing programming is private or DPR sponsored, coaches are paid through private gyms, DPR or volunteers

## **Cheer**

- Participation data and demographics
  - Girls: 229 participants and 13 schools
- Programming
  - Highlights
    - Washington, DC cheer athletes have high participation, but much of the practice is done in Prince George's County
  - Challenges
    - Significant programming in surrounding counties but very little within DC
- Facilities
  - Highlights
    - There is some school-based programming in basketball gyms.

- Challenges
  - Very few dedicated facilities in DC
  - Zero top cheer gyms in DC
- Coaching Development
  - Pay structure
    - DCPS coaches are paid on Extra Duty paid schedule
    - Most coaches work at or own gyms outside of DC and are largely supported through that work

## **Cross-Country**

- Participation data and demographics
  - Boys: 505 participants and 33 schools
  - Girls: 438 participants and 33 schools
- Programming
  - Highlights
    - Top high school programming at DCPS
      - Jackson Reed
      - Large drop-off in public programming level after Jackson Reed
      - Private and parochial schools are very strong regionally (St. Johns, St. Albans).
  - Challenges
    - Few competitions inside DC
    - Youth programming outside of northwest DC is focused more on track and less on cross-country.
- Facilities
  - Highlights
    - Kenilworth Park Course
    - Ft. DuPont Course
    - Excellent training with trails and C and O Canal
    - Rock Creek Park
    - National Mall
    - East and West Potomac Park
  - Challenges
    - Many large meets are outside DC.
- Coaching Development
  - Pay structure
    - Almost all of the top cross-country coaches are also teachers and are compensated accordingly.

- Development programming
  - Alice Deal has significant middle school programming.
  - Some DCPS elementary schools have programming that helps build high school teams.
  - Youth infrastructure seen in other sports, but especially sports such as basketball, baseball, soccer, and football, do not exist.
  - Programming such as Girls on the Run isn't sport specific.

## **Football**

- Participation data and demographics
  - 1,456 participants and 29 schools
- Programming
  - Highlights
    - A strong tradition of excellent football
    - Catholic schools (Gonzaga and St. Johns) routinely produce multiple Division 1 and NFL players.
    - Even with strong private school programs, public schools continue to provide very good programming for their athletes.
  - Challenges
    - Recruiting for high schools is intense, and the private and parochial schools will routinely win over the public school system.
- Facilities
  - Highlights
    - Many DCPS schools have excellent facilities
      - Dunbar
      - Cardozo
      - Eastern
      - Jackson-Reed
      - Coolidge
    - Many private schools also have high-level facilities
      - St. Johns
      - Gonzaga
      - St. Albans
      - Sidwell
    - Colleges and universities are well-equipped if they have programming
      - Catholic
      - Georgetown

- Howard
  - Gallaudet
- Challenges
  - Scheduling games for the schools that do not have fields at the schools that do have fields
  - Some fields that can host games do not have adequate space for spectators.
- Coaching Development
  - Pay structure
    - Football coaches are almost always the highest-paid coaches in the school.
    - DCPS, Arlington, Montgomery, and Fairfax Counties all report that their football coaches are the highest compensated coaches.
  - Development programming
    - Youth programming is significant but is almost always pay-to-play.
    - There is very little free programming in DC.
    - Flagstar Football
    - DPR Youth Programming

## **Golf**

- Participation data and demographics
  - 18 schools and 133 participants
- Programming
  - Highlights
    - Recently added to the slate of DCSAA Championships in 2022
    - Independent school leagues have robust programming.
    - DCSAA has begun to host golf clinics to increase equity and access to the sport.
  - Challenges
    - Cost of clubs and green fees are high.
    - DC courses, with the exception of Langston, are in need of repair, which limits the expansion of the programming.
- Facilities
  - Highlights
    - Courses operated by NPS have a new vendor that is planning on a multi-year improvement of DC's golf infrastructure.
    - Langston Course
    - Rock Creek Park
    - East Potomac

- Challenges
  - DC courses are in need of repair.
  - Access to golf as a sport has a high bar in terms of cost.
  - Tee times are a challenge for local schools given the timing of the school day.
- Coaching Development
  - Pay structure
    - Many teachers who also coach
  - Development programming
    - DCSAA programming
    - National Links Trust has committed to increasing opportunities for youth golfers in DC and restoring DC's three courses.

## **Gymnastics**

- Participation data and demographics
  - No DC schools have gymnastics programs, according to 2018-2019 data.

## **Ice Hockey** (Specifically Ft. DuPont programming)

- Participation data and demographics
  - Boys 142 participants and 4 schools
- Programming
  - Highlights
    - Ft. DuPont programming brings access to the sport unlike many places in the country, let alone DC.
  - Challenges
    - Facility space holds back the programming.
- Facilities
  - Highlights
    - Ft DuPont, although in need of renovation, is a historic facility in DC.
    - Operated by nonprofit Friends of Ft. DuPont Ice Arena
  - Challenges
    - There is very little space to play hockey in DC.
    - Most games that feature DC schools are played in Ballston or Cabin John.
    - Ice time is next to impossible in order for programming to expand.
    - Ft. DuPont is in need of a major overhaul or rebuild.
    - There are significant challenges to getting the project off the ground.

- Most schools that have ice hockey practice and play outside DC.
- Coaching Development
  - Pay structure
    - Most coaches at schools follow the same models as covered above for other sports.
    - Ft. DuPont has full-time staff members to run their programs.
  - Development programming
    - Funding from NHL at Ft. DuPont

### **Indoor Track and Field**

- Participation data and demographics
  - Boys: 489 participants and 29 schools
  - Girls: 392 participants and 30 schools
- Programming
  - Highlights
    - Some DC teams and athletes are routinely some of the best in the country.
    - Archbishop Carroll, St. Johns, Jackson Reed, Coolidge, and Dunbar all have extremely strong programs.
    - Strong history of producing excellent athletes
  - Challenges
    - All training for indoor track is done either out of state at PG Sports and Learning, outside during the winter, or in hallways.
    - Travel to competitive meets is a significant barrier for many schools and families. Competitive regional meets are in Virginia Beach, Liberty University, New York City (Armory and Ocean Breeze).
- Facilities
  - Highlights
  - Challenges
    - DC does not have an indoor track facility.
    - DC Armory had been used in the past for competitions but has not been available for competition or practice for at least 20 years.
    - Locally, Georgetown Prep, Episcopal High School and PG Sports and Learning are competition venues. None of these venues is a high-level facility (all flat 200-meter tracks as opposed to banked tracks).
- Coaching Development
  - Pay structure
    - Most coaches of the top programs are also teachers.



- Development programming
  - There are many private training groups in PG County, but very few in DC.
  - DPR runs the DC Speed program.
  - Some coaches run club programming outside of the season, but the vast majority of programming is school based.

## **Lacrosse**

- Participation data and demographics
  - Boys: 12 schools and 429 participants
  - Girls: 9 schools and 301 participants
- Programming
  - Highlights
    - Independent schools in DC have robust programming.
    - The ISL, MAC, and IAC leagues routinely have national caliber players on their teams.
  - Challenges
    - Public and charter school programming is lacking. Jackson-Reed and School Without Walls sponsor the sport and play an independent schedule, but the DCIAA does not sponsor the sport at the high school level.
    - The drop-off from very high-level programming to the next level is steep.
- Facilities
  - Highlights
    - Many schools that have lacrosse teams have fields that are marked for the sport, which leaves the competition for field space restricted to schools as opposed to community facilities.
  - Challenges
    - The sport requires very specific lines and boundaries for practice and competition. As a result, it is far less adaptable to alternative facilities than other sports.
    - There is very little infrastructure outside of school facilities.
- Coaching Development
  - Pay structure
    - Given the robust private development programming in Maryland and Virginia, many coaches who coach in DC are involved with club teams and compensated through that work.
    - The sport also employs many teachers as coaches.

- Development programming
  - Significant independent youth programming in Maryland and Virginia, much of which is built to feed the independent schools in those areas.

## **Outdoor Track and Field**

- Participation data and demographics
  - Boys: 708 participants and 41 schools
  - Girls: 516 participants and 34 schools
- Programming
  - Highlights
    - Some DC teams and athletes are routinely some of the best in the country.
    - Archbishop Carroll, St. Johns, Jackson Reed, Coolidge, and Dunbar all have extremely strong programs.
    - Strong history of producing excellent athletes
    - All DC track and field records are in line or better than most states.
    - There are multiple Olympians from DCPS.
  - Challenges
    - Track access is tough for schools that do not have one on campus.
    - Competition tracks are lacking.
    - Travel to competitive meets is a significant barrier for many schools and families. Competitive regional meets are outside DC.
- Facilities
  - Highlights
    - Dunbar
    - St. Albans
    - Gallaudet (best collegiate facility)
    - Catholic University (Great track but cannot host a full meet due to lack of field event facilities)
  - Challenges
    - DC does not have a DPR facility for competition.
    - DCPS does have good facilities (Dunbar being the best), and rental is a challenge.
    - Spingarn track has been the traditional championship track but is in need of repair.
    - Collegiate facilities are lacking in this space. Georgetown, GW, and American do not have competition tracks. The former do not have tracks at all.

- Track access is especially limited given that most are attached to schools, which limit the hours of their use.
- Coaching Development
  - Pay structure
    - Most coaches of the top programs are also teachers
  - Development programming
    - There are many private training groups in PG County but very few in DC.
    - DPR runs the DC Speed program.
    - Some coaches run club programming outside of the season, but the vast majority of programming is school-based.

## **Softball**

- Participation data and demographics
  - 21 schools and 349 participants
- Programming
  - Highlights
    - Independent high schools have strong softball programming.
  - Challenges
    - Public and charter schools have less programming for this sport and therefore struggle to compete at the state championship level.
- Facilities
  - Highlights
    - Extensive network of 60-foot fields (double as Little League baseball fields)
    - West Potomac park has an extensive number of fields.
    - Stoddert Elementary
    - Guy Mason (public and private with Georgetown)
    - Carter Barron
    - Forest Hills
    - Upshur
    - Anacostia Fields
    - Palisades
  - Private
    - Catholic University
    - National Cathedral
    - GW Mt. Vernon
    - Sidwell Friends
    - Visitation

- Georgetown Day School
  - Maret School
- Challenges
  - Softball competes for space with Little League baseball and adult softball leagues.
  - Surrounding jurisdictions have more extensive facilities for softball.
- Coaching Development
  - Pay structure
    - Similar to other sports, many coaches are either teachers and coach in addition to those responsibilities or coach full-time in club programming and also work with schools.

## **Soccer**

- Participation data and demographics
  - Boys: 910 participants and 30 schools
  - Girls: 700 participants and 31 schools
- Programming
  - Highlights
    - DC has a robust soccer community in public and private high schools.
  - Challenges
    - The best soccer athletes are not allowed to play on their school teams due to restrictions with outside club and development teams.
    - Much of the highest level soccer programming is outside DC (Bethesda Soccer Club, DC United Academy, ODP programming).
      - Some of that is due to coaching and organization.
- Facilities
  - Highlights
    - Mix of grass and synthetic fields in DC
    - Significant facilities at schools, both public and private
    - The sport can be more adaptable to space at lower levels given the non-standard size of a high school soccer field.
    - Collegiate facilities in DC are strong.
      - Georgetown (DCSAA Championship site)
      - Catholic
      - American U
      - GW (Mt. Vernon Campus)
      - Gallaudet

- Howard
- Public Facilities
  - Fields at RFK
  - Palisades
  - Hardy
  - Stoddert
  - Hearst
  - Francis
  - Stead
  - Bell Multicultural
  - Shaw
  - Jefferson Field
  - Randall
  - King Greenleaf
  - Kalorama
  - Ft. Reno
  - Upshur
  - Parkview
  - Hamilton
  - Emery
  - Ft. Stevens
  - Shepherd Field
  - Keene
  - Riggs LaSalle
  - Edgewood
  - Harry Thomas
  - Sherwood
  - Kingsman
  - Joe Cole
  - Rosedale
  - Langdon
  - Dwight Mosely
  - Barry Farm
  - Bald Eagle
  - Benning
  - Kelly Miller
  - Kenilworth
  - Deanwood
- Challenges

- Facilities do not meet demand of high school sports programming.
- Significant youth and developmental programming is vying for space at the same time.
- Some grass fields are not suitable for high-level play.
- Some synthetic fields are at the end of their life.
- Many schools are sharing field space with football during the same season and are therefore practicing very early in the morning.
- Adult leagues are also vying for space, and many DCPS facilities are used by adult leagues after school.
- Soccer fields are also used by other sports leagues, so there is an even greater crunch.
- There are only a few championship-quality fields (e.g., Audi field)
- Coaching Development
  - Pay structure
    - Similar to other sports, many coaches are either teachers and coach in addition to those responsibilities or coach full-time in club programming and also work with schools.
  - Development programming
    - Significant youth development programming
    - Stoddert (DC Soccer Club)
    - PPA
    - DC Scores
    - DC United programming
    - Brookland FC
    - i9Sports
    - DPR programming

## **Swimming**

- Participation data and demographics
  - Boys: 269 participants and 18 schools
  - Girls: 267 participants and 18 schools
- Programming
  - Highlights
    - Strong learn-to-swim programming through DPR
    - DC Wave through DPR is a very good program.
  - Challenges
    - Most high-level athletes are training outside DC but especially in Montgomery County with the nation's swim club.

- Top female swimmers are recruited by private schools such as Stone Ridge and Holton that have strong programs.
    - Top male swimmers are at Gonzaga and St. Albans.
- Facilities (does not include outdoor pools)
  - Highlights
  - Public Facilities
    - Some public schools have pools, with Jackson Reed being the crown jewel of DCPS pools.
    - Takoma Aquatic Center
    - Roosevelt Aquatic Center
    - Marie Reed Aquatic Center
    - Dunbar
    - Turkey Thicket
    - William H. Rumsey Aquatic Center
    - Woodson Aquatic Center
    - Barry Farm Aquatic Center
    - Deanwood Aquatic Center
  - Private Facilities
    - Trinity University
    - St. Albans
    - Catholic University
    - University of the District of Columbia
    - Anthony Bowen YMCA
  - Challenges
    - Lane time is a challenge for teams that are competing for space and time with recreational swimmers, club teams, and adult leagues.
- Coaching Development
  - Pay structure
    - Many swim coaches coach full-time
    - Some teachers also coach, but top coaches are full-time instructors.
  - Development programming
    - DPR, summer swim programs in surrounding counties

## **Tennis**

- Participation data and demographics
  - Boys: 19 schools and 250 participants

- Girls: 19 schools and 170 participants
- Programming
  - Highlights
    - Southeast Tennis Center has excellent DC programming.
    - Significant private programming
    - Washington Tennis and Education Center - excellent programming for equity and access to the sport
    - Arthur Ashe Children's Programming
    - DC produces top-level players in private schools on a regular basis.
  - Challenges
    - There is a barrier to entry with this sport in terms of travel to tournaments in order to establish athletes in the ranking system, which ultimately determines collegiate placement.
- Facilities
  - Highlights
    - Southeast Tennis Center is excellent.
    - Multiple NPS properties have good indoor and outdoor courts.
      - Carter Barron (Citi Open stadium, indoor bubbles, multiple court surfaces)
      - Potomac Park Tennis Complex
    - DPR Facilities
      - Banneker
      - Hardy
      - Ft. Reno Tennis Courts
      - Hearst Rec Center
      - Forest Hills
      - Powell
      - Turkey Thicket
      - Edgewood
      - Benning Stoddert
      - Rose Park
      - Washington Tennis and Education Center
    - Private Facilities
      - Sidwell Friends
      - St. Albans Tennis Club
      - GW Mt. Vernon
      - American University
      - UDC Tennis Courts



- Catholic U
  - Challenges
    - Outdoor courts can meet most of the needs.
    - Indoor courts are a challenge.
    - Most of the big facilities are controlled by NPS and in a bit of disrepair.
- Coaching Development
  - Pay structure
    - Many tennis coaches teach tennis full-time.
    - Some teachers also coach, but top coaches are full-time instructors.
  - Development programming
    - USTA has strong continuing education for their coaches.
    - DPR

## **Ultimate Frisbee**

- Participation data and demographics
  - Boys: 256 participants and 11 schools
  - Girls: 185 participants and 14 schools
- Programming
  - Highlights
    - Robust programming at schools that participate in the DCSAA (School Without Walls, The Field School, Sidwell Friends, Georgetown Day, Jackson Reed, Washington Latin).
    - WAFC is well-organized and helpful in building and promoting the sport.
  - Challenges
    - Largely concentrated in Ward 3 and 4, which limits expansion of programming.
    - Public perception of the sport can inhibit growth.
- Facilities
  - Highlights
    - Very adaptable sport in that it can use soccer, football, and other open spaces.
    - Some schools have full-time coaches.
    - Facility list is similar to soccer since space requirements are very similar.
  - Challenges

- The sport is fighting for the same space as soccer and is usually lower on the totem pole given the seniority requirements in DPR permitting.
- Coaching Development
  - Pay structure
    - Largely volunteer coaching
    - Many coaches are teachers and are paid a small stipend to coach.
  - Development programming
    - WAFC leagues are popular
    - American Ultimate Academy - outreach into underserved communities to increase diversity, equity, and inclusion in the sport.

## **Volleyball**

- Participation data and demographics
  - Girls: 676 participants and 36 schools
- Programming
  - Highlights
    - DCPS and private schools have strong programming.
    - DC athletes play at a high level, and many of the top players are recruited to top schools.
  - Challenges
    - Out-of-season programming is largely pay to play and involves using gyms late at night in order not to conflict with basketball and wrestling.
    - Many top athletes train outside DC due to winter gym availability for the club system.
- Facilities
  - Highlights
    - Most school gyms are equipped for volleyball; as a result, the infrastructure is there to provide very good facilities for games and practices.
  - Challenges
    - Teams compete for space with other gym sports, and as a result, practice times are bumped. The volleyball season does not overlap with basketball and wrestling, so they can share space.
- Coaching Development
  - Pay structure

- Coaches are a mix of professional club coaches who are largely compensated through the club system and teachers who are compensated through stipends.
- Development programming
  - Club volleyball is very competitive and expensive.
  - Metro Volleyball dominates the DC club scene.

## **Wrestling**

- Participation data and demographics
  - Boys: 9 schools and 183 participants
  - Girls: 2 schools and 7 participants
- Programming
  - Highlights
    - The DCSAA sponsors a state championship for the sport.
    - The independent schools, especially the schools in the Catholic league, have extremely robust programs.
    - DCIAA has reintroduced the sport and will hold a championship
    - Beat The Streets DC has created development programming for boys
    - DC Mayor's Advisory Committee on Developing Girls' Scholastic Wrestling Program is advocating for more girls programming
  - Challenges
    - Competing for practice time with basketball inhibits future programmatic growth.
    - Girls' program growth is inhibited by the lack of gender-specific teams
    - Girls are not allowed to participate at schools that only offer male programming
- Facilities
  - Highlights
    - Infrastructure is shared with basketball and other gym sports. Because of the significant gym space in DC, wrestling has the space to carry out their programs.
    - Some independent schools have separate wrestling rooms dedicated to the sport.
  - Challenges
    - Wrestling mats are expensive and hard to maintain and store.
    - Practice and match schedules compete with basketball, which dictates much of the winter scheduling.

- Coaching Development
  - Pay structure
    - Teachers as coaches

(Windsor Athletics, [DC DPR](#), [Capital City Little League](#), [DC Little League](#), [Nationals Youth Baseball](#), [Friends of FDIA](#), [Recreation.gov](#), [PlayDCGolf](#), [DC Scores](#), [DC Soccer Club](#), [WAFC](#), [Wrestle Like a Girl](#), 2022)

**APPENDIX B: SPORTS LEAGUES AND GOVERNING BODIES IN WASHINGTON, DC**

<b>League</b>	<b>Type of Schools in League</b>	<b># of DC Schools in the League</b>	<b># of Sports Sponsored</b>
DCSAA	Public, charter, independent, and parochial	30 DC high schools	25 boys' and girls' sports
DCIAA	DCPS schools	115 DCPS schools (elementary, middle, and high schools)	19 boys' and girls' sports
PCSAA	All DC charter schools	19 DC high schools	7 boys' and girls' sports
WCAC	DC, Maryland, and Virginia Catholic schools	3 DC high schools	22 boys' and girls' sports
IAC	DC, Maryland, and Virginia independent and parochial schools (boys only)	1 DC high school	12 boys' sports
MAC	DC, Maryland, and Virginia independent and parochial schools (boys only)	3 DC high schools	10 boys' sports
ISL	DC, Maryland, and Virginia independent and parochial schools (girls only)	5 DC high schools	9 girls' sports
PVAC	DC, Maryland, and	5 DC high schools	18 boys' and girls'

	Virginia independent and parochial schools		sports
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([DCSAA](#), [DCIAA](#), [PCSAA](#), [WCAC](#), [IAC](#), [MAC](#), [ISL](#), [PVAC](#), 2022)

### **District of Columbia State Athletic Association (DCSAA)**

The DCSAA is the governing body, which oversees the state championships in the District as well as sets rules for competition across public and independent schools. In its eighth year, the DCSAA has grown significantly in scope as it continues to add more state championships and elevate the level of play in the District among both public and independent schools.

While public and charter schools are mandated by law to be part of the DCSAA, independent schools are not. If independent schools want to participate in the state championships that the DCSAA hosts, they have to abide by the rules and regulations set forth in the DCSAA handbook.

Interscholastic sports include the following:

- Boys' Cross-country
- Girls' Cross-country
- Boys' Football
- Boys' Soccer
- Girls' Soccer
- Girls' Volleyball
- Boys' Indoor Track
- Girls' Indoor Track
- Boys' Basketball
- Girls' Basketball
- Boys' Swimming
- Girls' Swimming
- Boys' Wrestling
- Boys' Baseball
- Co-ed Chess
- Boys' Outdoor Track
- Girls' Outdoor Track
- Girls' Softball
- Boys' Lacrosse
- Girls' Lacrosse
- Boys' Tennis
- Girls' Tennis
- Co-ed Golf
- Co-Ed Ultimate Frisbee

### **District of Columbia Interscholastic Athletic Association (DCIAA)**

Founded in the late 1800s as the Inter-High Association and renamed the DCIAA in 1991, this governing body is responsible for facilitating DCPS's sports programming. In addition to high school sports programming, the DCIAA is also in charge of all middle and elementary school competitive athletics. The DCIAA has 115 DCPS member schools. As stated in their handbook:

The DCIAA provides a comprehensive athletic program for students enrolled in grades 4 through 12. It coordinates scheduling of athletic events with security, transportation, and proper game officials. It includes athletic health care services for participating students and schools. It endeavors to provide proper and safe athletic equipment and supplies to schools. It supports the professional development of coaches by providing information on sports clinics and coordinating the presentation of workshops to refine their coaching skills and techniques. The programs offered by the DCIAA exist mainly for the value of students and not for the benefit of sponsoring institutions.

At the high school level, the DCIAA facilitates 19 sports seasons and championships. They include the following:

- Boys' Varsity Baseball
- Boys' JV Basketball
- Boys' Varsity Basketball
- Girls' Varsity Basketball
- Girls' Varsity Bowling
- Co-ed Varsity Cheer
- Boys' Varsity Cross-country
- Girls' Varsity Cross-country
- Girls' Varsity Flag Football
- Boys' JV Football
- Boys' Varsity Football
- Co-ed Varsity Golf
- Boys' Varsity Indoor Track
- Girls' Varsity Indoor Track
- Boys' Varsity Outdoor Track
- Girls' Varsity Outdoor Track
- Boys' Varsity Soccer
- Girls' Varsity Soccer
- Girls' Varsity Softball
- Girls' Varsity Stunt
- Boys' Varsity Swimming
- Girls' Varsity Swimming
- Co-Ed Varsity Tennis
- Girls' Varsity Volleyball
- Co-Ed Varsity Wrestling

### **Public Charter School Athletic Association (PCSAA)**

The PCSAA oversees public charter school sports programming in Washington, DC. It is a volunteer-run organization facilitated by the league athletic directors. While all members are also required to be part of the DCSAA and are governed by those rules, the PCSAA has its own championships, handbook, and executive board. It facilitates regular season programming and championships in the following seven sports:

- Soccer
- Cross-country
- Flag Football
- Volleyball
- Cheer
- Chess
- Outdoor Track

### **Interstate Athletic Conference (IAC)**

The IAC, founded in the 1950s to facilitate athletic competition among schools in the greater DMV, the league continues to provide programming and championships for boys' competition among the following independent schools: St. Albans, Bullis, Episcopal, Landon, Georgetown Prep, and St. Stephen's/St. Agnes. While only one school, St. Albans, is in Washington, DC, many DC athletes attend other schools. This league is very competitive on both the local and regional levels, and St. Albans routinely wins the DCSAA championships in various sports (soccer, golf, and chess are some of the more recent championships). As a private school league, it has its own set of rules and regulations that incorporate the rules of the DCSAA but also deviates given the three geographical entities that the member schools are in. All DC schools are also members of the DCSAA and participate in DCSAA championships. The league facilitates regular season and championship contests in the following sports:

- Baseball
- Basketball
- Cross-country
- Golf
- Football
- Ice Hockey
- Lacrosse
- Soccer
- Swimming and Diving
- Tennis
- Track
- Wrestling

### **Independent Sports League (ISL)**

Founded in 1985, the ISL facilitates girls' regular season and championship contests for 16 schools in the District, Maryland, and Virginia. The league is the female complement to the IAC and MAC, and the co-ed schools in those leagues have their girls' programs play in the ISL. The ISL member schools that are located in DC are Georgetown Day School, Georgetown Visitation School, Maret, National Cathedral, and Sidwell Friends. As with their male classmates, this league has a high level of play and routinely produces top female athletes who win local, regional, and national titles. Most recently, the Sidwell Friends girls' basketball team was the number one ranked girls' team in the country. Schools in this league routinely win or compete for DCSAA championships, and their league schedule is designed so the member schools are set up for success at the state championships. The ISL sponsors regular season and championship programming in the following sports:

- Cross-country
- Field Hockey
- Soccer
- Tennis
- Volleyball
- Basketball



- Swimming and Diving
- Lacrosse
- Softball

### **Mid Atlantic Conference (MAC)**

The MAC, founded in the 1990s, is an independent school sports league that has member schools in Virginia, Maryland, and Washington, DC. The DC schools are Georgetown Day School, Sidwell Friends, and Maret. The league also includes St. James, Potomac School, St. Andrews, and Flint Hill. Similar to the IAC, this league has high-level athletics and teams that compete at local, regional, and national levels. Most recently, the Sidwell Friends boys' basketball team was the 2022 state champion, and a number of league schools have won state championships in volleyball, track and field, soccer, and cross-country. All DC schools are also members of the DCSAA and participate in the DCSAA championships. As a private school league, it has its own set of rules and regulations that incorporate the rules of the DCSAA but also deviate given the three geographical entities the member schools are in. The MAC offers regular season and championship programming in the following sports:

- Baseball
- Basketball
- Cross-country
- Football
- Golf
- Lacrosse
- Soccer
- Swimming and Diving
- Outdoor Track and Field
- Wrestling

### **Washington Catholic Athletic Conference (WCAC)**

The WCAC is the latest iteration of the fabled Catholic sports league in Washington, DC. While known by many names over the years and originally a male-only conference, the WCAC currently provides boys' and girls' regular season and championship programming for Catholic schools in Washington, DC; Virginia; and Maryland. The Washington, DC schools include Archbishop Carroll, Gonzaga College, and St. John's College High School. This conference is widely regarded as one of the most competitive high school athletic conferences in the country. While their schools are most competitive in football and basketball, WCAC schools are routinely on top of the podium at state championships in cross-country, track and field, and soccer. Some schools choose not to participate in the DCSAA championships for certain sports and pursue a national schedule based on their recruiting practices and aspirations for basketball and football specifically. The WCAC sponsors the following sports:

- Boys' Cross-country
- Girls' Cross-country
- Girls' Field Hockey
- Boys' Football

- Boys' Soccer
- Girls' Soccer
- Girls' Tennis
- Girls' Volleyball
- Boys' Basketball
- Girls' Basketball
- Boys' Ice Hockey
- Girls' Ice Hockey
- Wrestling
- Baseball
- Golf
- Boys' Lacrosse
- Girls' Lacrosse
- Softball
- Boys' Tennis
- Boys' Outdoor Track and Field
- Girls' Outdoor Track and Field
- Swimming and Diving

### **Potomac Valley Athletic Conference (PVAC)**

The PVAC, founded in 1979, consists of independent schools in Washington, DC; Virginia; and Maryland. Schools in DC include the Field School, Edmund Burke, Washington International, St. Anselm's Abbey School, and Model Secondary School for the Deaf. The league generally plays at a lower level than other independent school leagues but does have state championship caliber individuals and teams from time to time. League schools have won state titles in soccer and have placed high in cross-country, volleyball, softball, and track and field. All PVAC member schools in DC also participate in and are members of the DCSAA, albeit not all schools participate in all state championship events even if they have that sport, given the competitive level of some of their teams. The PVAC sponsors the following sports:

- Boys' Baseball
  - Boys' Basketball
  - Girls' Basketball
  - Boys' Cross-country
  - Girls' Cross-country
  - Co-ed Golf
  - Boys' Soccer
  - Girls' Soccer
  - Boys' Tennis
  - Boys' Outdoor Track and Field
  - Girls' Outdoor Track and Field
  - Boys' Swimming
  - Boys' Volleyball
  - Girls' Volleyball
  - Boys' Wrestling
  - Girls' Softball
  - Girls' Swimming
  - Girls' Tennis
-

## APPENDIX C: PERMIT COSTS FOR DPR FACILITIES, PROGRAMMING AND PERSONNEL

### Permitted Uses of Ball Fields, Courts, Gyms, and Aquatic Lanes

Fee Category	Details	Unit	Resident	Non-Resident
Ball Field Lights	Adults	Per Hour	\$10	\$15
Ball Field	Grass Field (Adult)	Per Hour	\$40	\$60
Ball Field	Turf/Synthetic Field (Adult)	Per Hour	\$50	\$75
Ball Field	Grass Field (Youth)	Per Hour	\$5	\$8
Ball Field	Turf/Synthetic Field (Youth)	Per Hour	\$7	\$11
Indoor Court	Adults	Per Hour	\$40	\$60
Indoor Court	Youth	Per Hour	\$5	\$8
Outdoor Court	Baseball Adults	Per Hour	\$25	\$38
Outdoor Court	Baseball Youth	Per Hour	\$5	\$8
One-Time Indoor or Outdoor Court or Field Permit For Full Day Exclusive	Adults	8 Hours	\$400	\$600
One-Time Indoor or Outdoor Court or Field Permit For Full Day Exclusive	Youth	8 Hours	\$200	\$300
Aquatics - Lane	20 and 25 Yard Swimming Lane (Adult)	Per Lane/hr.	\$15	\$23
Aquatics - Lane	20 and 25 Yard Swimming Lane (Youth)	Per Lane/hr.	\$7	\$11
Aquatics - Lane	50 Meter Swimming Lane (Adult)	Per Lane/hr.	\$20	\$30
Aquatics - Lane	50 Meter Swimming Lane (Youth)	Per Lane/hr.	\$10	\$15

Aquatics - Pool	Full Facility Small Pool	Per Hour	\$250	\$375
Aquatics - Pool	Full Facility Large Pool	Per Hour	\$350	\$525
Pool and Room	Indoor Room fees and additional aquatics employees' fees also apply	Flat Fee	\$25 per hour	\$37.50 per hour

([DC DPR](#), 2022)

### Permitted Use of Park Space and Facilities

Fee Category	Details	Unit	Resident Applications	Non-Resident	Deposit (Resident)	Deposit (Non-Resident)
Small Community Room (holds up to 50 people)	1-49 people	Per Hour	\$25	\$37.50	\$10.00	\$15.00
Large Community Room (holds more than 50 people)	1-49 people	Per Hour	\$35	\$52.50	\$14.00	\$21.00
Outdoor Picnic/Event Space/Park Site	1-49 people	Per Hour	\$25	\$37.50	\$10.00	\$15.00
Other Meeting Room or Open Field Space	Up to 25 people	Per Hour	\$10	\$15.00	\$4.00	\$6.00

Indoor/Outdoor Special Event	50-99 person event	Per Hour	\$50	\$75.00	\$20.00	\$30.00
Indoor/Outdoor Special Event	100-199 person event	Per Hour	\$100	\$150.00	\$40.00	\$60.00
Indoor/Outdoor Special Event	200- 400 person event	Per Hour	\$200	\$300.00	\$80.00	\$120.00
Indoor/Outdoor Special Event	401-700 person event	Per Hour	\$300	\$450.00	\$120.00	\$180.00
Indoor/Outdoor Special Event	701-999 person event	Per Hour	\$400	\$600.00	\$160.00	\$240.00
Indoor/Outdoor Special Event	1,000-1,200 person event	Per Hour	\$500	\$750.00	\$200.00	\$300.00
Market	Per Vendor	Per Day	\$10	\$15.00	\$4.00	\$6.00
Outdoor Lights	Special Events	Per Hour	\$10	\$15.00	\$4.00	\$6.00
Special Event Transportation	Bus	Per Trip (6 hour maximum)	\$400	\$600.0	\$160.0	\$240.00

Special Event Transportation	Van	Per Trip (6 hour maximum)	\$200	\$300.0	\$80.0	\$120.00
Garden Space Fee	Small, Medium, or Large	Per Year	SM \$25	SM \$37.50	N/A	N/A
			M \$50	M \$75	N/A	N/A
			L \$75	L\$112.50	N/A	N/A

(DC DPR, 2022)

### Fee-Based-Use Permit Fees

Fee Category	Details and Units	Resident Applicant	Non-Resident Applicant
Indoor Court - Youth League	Per Permit in Table A (§ 716.2)	\$100	\$150
Indoor Court - Adult League	Per permit in Table A (§ 716.2)	\$150	\$225
Outdoor Court - Youth League	Per Permit in Table A (§ 716.2)	\$50	\$75
Outdoor Court - Adult League	Per Permit in Table A (§ 716.2)	\$75	\$113
Indoor Room - Youth	Per Permit in Table B (§ 716.3)	\$100	\$150
Indoor Room - Adult	Per permit in Table B (§ 716.3)	\$150	\$225
Field - Youth League	Per permit in Table A (§ 716.2)	\$100	\$150
Field - Adult League	Per Permit in Table A (§ 716.2)	\$150	\$225
Instructional/Clinic/ Fitness Special Event/Class	Per Permit in Table A (§ 716.2) or B (§ 716.3)	\$25	\$38

Special Event Admission	Estimated Admission Fees	5%	7.5%
Market Operator or Vendor	For SNAP or WIC program participants	Waived	Waived
Market/Special Event Operator	Vendors: 1-15 per permit in Table B (§ 716.3)	\$75	\$113
Market/Special Event Operator	Vendors: 16-25 per permit in Table B (§ 716.3)	\$100	\$150
Market/Special Event Operator	Vendors 26-50 per permit in Table B (§ 716.3)	\$125	\$188
Vendor/Café/Table Not Part of Market	Individual/Per Day Small /Per Day Large/Per Day	\$20 \$60 \$80	\$30 \$90 \$120
Revenue Agreements	Revenue Share	Up to 20%	Up to 20%
Summer Youth Camp Indoor or Field	Per week per permit in Table A or B	\$200	\$300

(DC DPR, 2022)

### Permitted Use of Equipment

Fee Category	Details	Unit	Resident	Non-Resident	Deposit (Resident)	Deposit (Non-Resident)
Aquatics - Equip. Rental	Timing System (Adult)	Up to 6 Hours	\$175	\$262.50	\$70.00	\$105.00
Aquatics - Equip. Rental	Timing System (DCPS/Charter/D CSAA)	Up to 6 Hours	\$75	\$112.50	\$30.00	\$45.00

<b>Fee Category</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Unit</b>	<b>Resident</b>	<b>Non-Resident</b>	<b>Deposit (Resident)</b>	<b>Deposit (Non-Resident)</b>
Aquatics - Equip. Rental	Timing System (Youth)	Up to 6 Hours	\$150	\$225.00	\$60.00	\$90.00
Equipment - Showmobile	Large Showmobile	Up to 6 Hours	\$750	\$1,125.00	\$300.00	\$450.00
Equipment - Showmobile	Medium Showmobile	Up to 6 Hours	\$500	\$750.00	\$200.00	\$300.00
Equipment - Showmobile	Small Showmobile	Up to 6 Hours	\$400	\$600.00	\$160.00	\$240.00
Equipment Rental	Large PA System	Up to 6 Hours	\$150	\$225.00	\$60.00	\$90.00
Equipment Rental	Small PA System	Up to 6 Hours	\$100	\$150.00	\$40.00	\$60.00
Equipment Rental	Platform	Up to 6 Hours	\$35.00	\$52.50	\$14.00	\$21.00
Equipment Rental	Podium	Up to 6 Hours	\$35.00	\$52.50	\$14.00	\$21.00
Equipment	Miscellaneous	Up to 6 Hours	\$25	\$37.50	\$10.00	\$15.00
Garden Tools	Various	Daily, Weekly, and Monthly	Garden Tool Guide		Garden Tool Guide	Garden Tool Guide

(DC DPR, 2022)



## APPENDIX D: ATHLETIC FIELDS AT PRIVATE SCHOOLS

School	Athletic Facilities
Archbishop Carroll High School	One grass field for soccer and football One gym
Edmund Burke School	One gym
The Field School	One multi-purpose turf field for soccer, lacrosse, and ultimate frisbee
Georgetown Day School	Two multi-purpose turf fields Two gyms
Georgetown Visitation Preparatory School	One grass field for soccer and softball One gym One multi-purpose turf field for soccer and lacrosse Tennis courts
Gonzaga College High School	One multi-purpose turf for football, lacrosse, and soccer Non-competition track One gym
The Lab School of Washington	One gym
Maret School	One multi-purpose turf for soccer, lacrosse, and softball Current building project in Chevy Chase for football and baseball
Model Secondary School for The Deaf	One grass field for football and soccer One pool One gym Access to Gallaudet's facilities
National Cathedral School	Two multi-purpose turf fields for soccer, lacrosse, and softball Two gyms
St. Albans School	One 400-meter competition track Three multi-purpose turf fields for football, soccer, lacrosse, and baseball Two gyms

	One pool Tennis center
St. John's College High School	Two gyms Three multi-purpose turf fields for football, soccer, baseball, and lacrosse
Sidwell Friends School	Two multi-purpose turf fields for football, soccer, and lacrosse One grass field for soccer, baseball, and softball Tennis courts Two gyms
St. Anselm's Abbey School	Grass soccer and baseball field Cross-country course Tennis courts One gym
Washington International School	One multi-purpose field primarily for soccer One gym

([Archbishop Carroll High School](#), [Edmund Burke School](#), [The Field School](#), [Georgetown Day School](#), [Georgetown Visitation Preparatory School](#), [Gonzaga College High School](#), [The Lab School of Washington](#), [Maret School](#), [Model Secondary School for The Deaf](#), [National Cathedral School](#), [St. Albans School](#), [St. John's College High School](#), [Sidwell Friends School](#), [St. Anselm's Abbey School](#), [Washington International School](#), 2022)

**APPENDIX E, PART 1: AVERAGE COACH COMPENSATION PER SEASON  
LOCALLY AND REGIONALLY**

<b>Sport (VHC)</b>	<b>DCPS</b>	<b>MCPS</b>	<b>Arlington</b>	<b>Fairfax</b>	<b>Philadelphia (2019)</b>	<b>DC Independent Ranges</b>	<b>Baltimore</b>
XC	1,357	3,614 (B+G)	4,846	4,476	4,426	2,500- 5,500	2,632
Football	5,000	5,985	7,642	7,445	8,266	7,500 full- time	5,576
Soccer	3,000	3,750	5,778	4,476	6,173	3,000- 7,500	3,251
VB	3,000	3,465	5,778	5,657	6,173	2,500- 7,000	3,768
Cheer	1,500	1,973	5,778	5,657	2,951		3,251
Basketball	4,500	4,845	5,778	4,748	7,089	4,500- 10,000	4,956
I Track	1,357	3,494 (B+G)	5,778	3,241	6,173	2,500- 7,000	4,026
Bowling	2,000	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Wrestling	2,500	5,175	5,778	4,476	6,173	2,500- 5,000	4,956
Swimming	2,500	3,225	4,846	4,476	4,426	2,500- 4,500	N/A
O Track	3,000	4,005 (B+G)	5,778	4,476	6,173	2,500- 7,000	3,251
Baseball	3,000	4,470	5,778	4,476	6,173	2,500- 7,000	3,251
Softball	3,000	4,470	5,778	4,476	6,173	2,500- 7,000	3,251

Stunt	1,357	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Golf	1,357	1,965	4,846	2,310	2,951	2,500-5,000	2,632
Tennis	2,500	3,255	3,914	2,862	4,426	2,500-5,000	3,251

([DCPS/DCIAA Pay](#), [MCPS Pay](#), [Arlington Pay](#), [Fairfax Pay](#), [Philadelphia Pay](#), [Baltimore Pay](#), 2022)

**APPENDIX E, PART 2: STUDENT PARTICIPATION NUMBERS**

Total Participants in DC High School (Public and Private)  
Sports Program SY 18-19

DC	Boys: 8,492	Girls: 6,088	Total: 14,580
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([NFHS](#), 2022)

Ten Most Popular Boys' Sports Programs in DC  
By Participation (Public and Private)  
\*State Championship Contested

Sport	Participants
Football *	1,456
Basketball *	1,164
Soccer *	910
Baseball *	753
Track and Field - Outdoor *	708
Cross-Country *	505
Track and Field - Indoor *	489
Lacrosse *	429
Swimming and Diving *	269
Ultimate Frisbee *	256

([NFHS](#), 2022)

Ten Most Popular Girls' Sports Programs in DC  
By Participation (Public and Private)  
\* State Championship Contested

Sport	Participants
-------	--------------

Soccer *	700
Volleyball *	676
Basketball *	666
Track and Field - Outdoor *	516
Track and Field - Indoor *	392
Softball *	349
Cross-Country *	338
Lacrosse *	301
Swimming and Diving *	267
Competitive Cheer *	229

([NFHS](#), 2022)