

Sports

New look for sectional hockey tournament this year

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

WEST SPRINGFIELD — The 2026 Western Massachusetts high school hockey tournament is scheduled to take place from Feb. 16-19.

Six of the seven Berry Division teams will qualify for the Class A tournament.

The Berry Division teams, who are looking to qualify for the Class A tournament, are Westfield, East Longmeadow, Greenfield, Minnechaug Regional, Longmeadow, Ludlow, and West Springfield.

The Westfield Bombers

are the two-time defending Class A champions. They defeated the Greenfield Green Wave, 7-3, in last year's championship match.

All six of the teams in the Fay-Wright Division will be competing in this year's Class B tournament.

Those six teams are Easthampton, McCann Tech, Amherst, Taconic, Agawam, and Chicopee High School.

Agawam defeated Taconic, 6-1, in last year's Class B championship match.

The top two teams in Class A & B will automati-

cally advance into the semi-finals.

Prior to playing the semifinal round, the top-seeded team in Class A will be facing the second-seeded team in Class B. The top-seeded team in Class B will also play the second-seeded Class A team.

Those games will boost the team's state power rankings.

The other four teams in each of the classes will be playing in the quarterfinals on February 16.

The higher-seeded teams will be hosting the quarter

Registration open for QVBL

SOUTH HADLEY — Registration has opened for the Quabbin Valley Baseball League, an over-28 recreational league, held its first meeting of 2026 to prepare for the upcoming season.

For the 2026 season, the cost will be \$215 and will include a 16th game added to the regular season schedule.

During the 2025 season, the league experimented with playing on Mother's Day Saturday as well as a weeknight game to allow players an opportunity to play under the lights. While the night games were very successful, the Mother's Day Saturday games were rained out.

Those elements will return along with a 16th

game with an opponent to be determine as the league's board explores possibilities for interleague matchups with another league in the region.

For returning players to the league, the deadline is Mar. 22 at 12 noon to be registered for the 2026 season in order to be guaranteed a roster spot. There will be open practices for all players but specifically targeted at new players scheduled for March 29 and April 4 at times and locations to be announced. The draft is currently scheduled to take place on April 4 following that practice.

The season is currently slated to start on Sunday, April 19 and following the success of the six-team fall

league last year, the league will also have a fall league in September and October this season.

The registration is live at www.quabbinvalleybaseball.org. Players must register and then pay the league dues via Venmo or contact the league leadership if an alternate form of payment is needed.

Aside from the weeknight and Mother's Day games, other games take place Sundays at 10 a.m. outside of Mother's Day, Memorial Day and July 4 weekends. Playoffs will be in August.

This is the 30th season for the league and league officials are looking to celebrate the anniversary with a couple of events.

Railers fall to Lions in overtime

TROIS-RIVIÈRES, QC — The Worcester Railers HC (21-17-4-1, 47 pts) fell in overtime to the Trois-Rivières Lions (18-20-1-3, 40 pts) in front of a crowd of 2,793 on Saturday, February 7th, with a final score of 2-3 at the Colisée Vidéotron. The Railers will play Trois-Rivières next in Worcester on Friday, February 13th, with a 7:05 p.m. puck drop.

The Lions nabbed the first goal for the afternoon, as Anthony Beauregard (1-0-1) took advantage of the heavy traffic in front of the Railers net. Worcester answered Trois-Rivières' goal in the third period with two back-to-back goals from Anthony Callin (1-0-1) to tie the game and Ryan Miotto (1-0-1) to take the lead (2-1). Egor Goriunov (1-0-1) claimed the second Lions goal with a slapshot to re-tie the game. This tally pushed the game into overtime. The final goal of the afternoon came from Lions' captain Morgan Adams-Moisán (1-0-1) for a final score of 3-2 in favor of Trois-Rivières.

Trois-Rivières secured the initial lead of the afternoon at 16:47 in the first.

While Worcester saw a power play turned 5-on-3 chance in the midst of the period, the two-and-a-half-minute advantage would go unfulfilled. Worcester then went on the penalty kill and successfully barred the Lions from capitalizing. As the game neared the 17-minute mark, Trois-Rivières bested the Railers amidst ongoing traffic along Parker Gahagen's crease. While Gahagen remained tied up one one side of the net, Anthony Beauregard (9th) played an opportune rebound off of a Railers' skate to score. Shots on goal were 11-8 in favor of Trois-Rivières. The Railers went 0-for-2 on the power play, while the Lions went 0-for-1.

The Lions held on to their 1-0 lead from the first through the second twenty minutes of action. The Railers received the only power play of the period at the 19-minute mark, as Trois-Rivières' Cédric Deruisseaux headed to the box for slashing. Worcester outshot Trois-Rivières 11-10, while the Lions added another infraction to their count for a total of three.

Worcester's scoreless

streak ended in the third period. Anthony Callin (15th) broke the clean slate with a breakaway goal at 4:54. Callin charged the Lions' net, where Lavallière could not stop the momentum and pushed himself over the goal line. Just thirty-nine seconds later, Ryan Miotto (10th) capitalized on an attempted clear of the Lions' net by Charles Martin. Martin pushed the puck with a backhanded pass into the awaiting Miotto for another Railers goal. The Lions tied the match with a one-timer from Egor Goriunov (2nd) at 16:44. The tally pushed the game into overtime, the third appearance for the Railers in their past four games. Trois-Rivières ended up with the 3-2 OT win, the final goal a tip on the doorstep from captain Morgan Adams-Moisán (8th), the initial shot from Darick Louis-Jean. Final shots were 39 for Trois-Rivières and 25 for Worcester. The Railers and the Lions each earned one penalty in the third, which brought final totals up to two for Worcester and four for Trois-Rivières.

Public Notices

**PUBLIC AUCTION
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN
PURSUANT
TO THE PROVISIONS OF
M.L.C. 225 SEC.39A
THE FOLLOWING
VEHICLES WILL BE SOLD
ON February 28, 2026.
AT A SALE TO
SATISFY OUR GARAGE
LIEN THEREON
FOR TOWING & STORAGE
CHARGES AND EXPENSES
OF SALE AND NOTICE:**

2016 Mercedes-Benz C-Class
VIN 55SWF4JB7GU140041
2015 Subaru Forester
VIN JF2SJABC1FH437794
2006 Honda Civic
VIN 1HGFA16896L042833
2011 Chrysler 300
VIN 2C3CA5CG6BH545980
2009 Volkswagen Tiguan
VIN WVGBV75N09W529770
2019 Jeep Compass
VIN 3C4NJDD87KT733089
2008 Audi A6
VIN WAUDV74F68N013776
2000 BMW 7 Series
VIN WBAGH8341YDP14855
The sale will be held at

**Early's on Park Avenue
536 Park Avenue,
Worcester, MA 01603
02/12, 02/19, 02/26/2026**

**Commonwealth of
Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Probate and
Family Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
(508)831-2200
Docket No.
WO25P3313EA
Estate of:
Kevin R Kenary
Date of Death: 03/19/2025
CITATION ON PETITION
FOR SALE OF REAL
ESTATE BY A PERSONAL
REPRESENTATIVE**

To all interested persons:
A Petition for Sale of Real Estate has been filed by: **Ann E Meilus of Barre, MA** requesting that the court authorize the Personal Representative to sell the decedent's real estate at a private sale.
IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 03/03/2026.**

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

Witness, **Kathryn M. Bailey**, First Justice of this Court.

Date: February 04, 2026
Stephanie Fattman,
Register of Probate
02/12/2026

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Fredette.

"The seniors are very special players and they're going to be very difficult to replace next year," Rucker said. "They're outstanding young men."

Palmer should be able to qualify for the Western Mass. Class C tournament, which starts this week.

Depending on the results of the Class C quarterfinal game, the Panthers will either advance to the semifinals or play a non-playoff game. Regardless of which path they take, those games will also contribute to their overall state power ranking.

Pathfinder Tech (6-7) entered the home contest against Palmer riding a five game winning streak. They were ranked 78th in the Division 5 power rankings

"I don't think that we've ever beaten Palmer in the past, but I was expecting my guys to give them a hard fought battle in tonight's game," said first-year Pathfinder Tech head coach Jeff Kularski. "I'm looking to build a culture here. I think we'll be a dangerous basketball team in a couple of years."

The Pioneers seniors are Aiden Girard (1 point), Dustyn Cook (2 points), and Angelo Rentas, who didn't play in the Palmer game.

Because they probably won't be one of the top 32 teams in the power rankings, the Pioneers will need to finish the regular season with a .500 record to clinch a berth in the state tournament for the first time in two years.

The mood of the varsity game was a little bit somber after Palmer freshman Abees Castillo suffered a serious leg injury during the second quarter of the junior varsity game. That game was delayed for about 30 minutes as Castillo was taken by ambulance to Wing Hospital.

"The varsity and J.V teams normally practice together," Rucker said. "The



Cayden Bousquet takes a free throw.

players were very emotional when Abees was injured because the other players really care about their teammate. Abees is a swing player for us and it's an unfortunate injury."

Because of the long delay, the j.v. game ended at halftime, which allowed the varsity contest to start on time.

Rucker decided to make a couple of changes to the starting lineup.

Stapleton, along with sophomore Liam McKee, and eighth grader T.J. Smola made their first career starts in a varsity game.

"Chris is a senior and I wanted to give him the opportunity to start a game," Rucker said. "I've also seen some good things from Liam and T.J. at practice. I wanted to see what they could do at the start of the game."

Doherty and junior Taydem Haley, who are normally starters for the Panthers led the way offensively.

Doherty scored 14 of his

game-high 18 points during the second half. Haley scored 14 points, which gave him a total of 937 career points.

Sophomore Cassian Kowalik (16 points) and junior Cayden Bousquet (16 points) combined to score 32 of the Pioneers 41 points. No other Pathfinder player scored more than four points.

A Haley foul-line jumper gave Palmer a 3-0 lead with 6:30 left in the opening quarter before the Pioneers put together an impressive 14-2 run.

Kowalik and Bousquet scored five points apiece during that span. Sophomore Grayson Griswold (4 points) added a lay-up and sophomore Maddox Baer buried a jumper, which was his only points of the game.

Santos, Fredette (9 points), and Gavin Smola (5 points), who are the Panthers other three normal starters, were on the court at the start of the second quarter, along with Haley and Doherty.

The Panthers outscored the Pioneers, 18-9, during the second stanza and the contest was tied 23-23 at halftime.

After outscoring Pathfinder, 10-6, in a low scoring third quarter, Palmer entered the final eight minutes with a slim 33-29 lead.

A Bousquet lay-up closed the gap to 33-31 with 7:35 left in regulation.

With 4:28 remaining on the scoreboard clock, the Panthers built a 42-36 lead following a Doherty old fashion three point play.

The home team responded with a lay-up and put-back hoop by Kowalik making it a two point game again.

A minute later, Fredette made an inside hoop, and Doherty hit a short jumper, which helped the Panthers pull away down the stretch. They sealed the victory by making four of six shots from the free throw line.

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SOCIAL SECURITY from page 4

before your full retirement age of 67, your SS benefit was reduced because you claimed early. And if you had less than 35 years of SS-covered employment, your AIME was less, resulting in a smaller PIA. And that is likely why your monthly Social Security retirement benefit is low.

One other thought to consider: if you are married and your spouse's monthly SS benefit is considerably more than yours (e.g., more than twice as much as yours), you may want to explore your options for

spouse benefits.

I hope this explains how your SS benefit is calculated, but if you still question your monthly SS retirement amount, I suggest you first obtain your "Earnings Statement" to review the lifetime earnings SS has on file for you. If there are any discrepancies in your Social Security's earnings record, there are correction remedies available to you. If that is the case, please feel free to contact us again for more information.

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