

# ~PLAY@~ William Penn vs Imhotep Charter Live Hs Boys Basketball Playoffs On 11, March 2026!!~

## William Penn vs Imhotep Charter Live

In a high-stakes showdown that electrified the Pennsylvania high school basketball scene, the Imhotep Charter Panthers met the William Penn Bearcats (York, PA) on Wednesday, March 11, 2026. This clash was a centerpiece of the PIAA Class 6A State Championship Second Round, held at the Geigle Complex in Reading, PA.



The game pitted two programs with vastly different identities but a shared goal: advancing to the quarterfinals and etching their names into the 2026 record books.

The Backdrop: Philadelphia Power vs. York Grit

Imhotep Charter (Philadelphia, PA) entered the contest as the state's gold standard. Carrying a 22–6 record and a reputation for "trophy hunting," the Panthers were the #1 ranked team in many polls. Their season was defined by a brutal national schedule, preparing them for the physical, disciplined atmosphere of the PIAA playoffs.

William Penn (York, PA), entering as the underdog with a 18–8 record, was no stranger to the big stage. The Bearcats, known for their "York Tough" mentality, relied on a high-tempo transition game and a frantic defensive style that had already claimed several high-seeded victims in the district rounds.

Team Profile Comparison

Metric Imhotep Charter Panthers William Penn Bearcats

Record 22–6 18–8

Playstyle Disciplined / Half-court defensive Fast-break / High-energy

Key Player Zaahir Muhammad-Gray (G) Julian Walker (F)  
Game Summary: A Tactical Masterclass

The opening tip-off saw Imhotep establish their signature defensive "blanket." The Panthers utilized a switching man-to-man defense that effectively neutralized the Bearcats' primary ball-handlers. First Half: The Defensive Grind

The first quarter was a low-scoring affair, with both teams feeling out the playoff nerves. Imhotep held a slim 14–11 lead after eight minutes. However, the second quarter saw the Panthers' depth begin to wear down the Bearcats. Imhotep's Zaahir Muhammad-Gray orchestrated the offense with surgical precision, finding shooters in the corners and driving to the rim to draw fouls.

By halftime, Imhotep had extended their lead to 31–22. William Penn's Julian Walker provided a spark with two soaring transition dunks, but the Bearcats struggled to find consistent looks against the Panthers' interior length.

Second Half: The Panthers Pull Away

The third quarter served as the turning point. Imhotep opened the half on an 8–0 run, fueled by transition points following William Penn turnovers. The Panthers' ability to turn defense into offense proved too much for the Bearcats to handle.

Despite the deficit, William Penn refused to quit. Their "never-die" attitude was on full display in the fourth quarter as they implemented a full-court press that forced Imhotep into several uncharacteristic mistakes. The Bearcats cut the lead to seven points with just three minutes remaining, but Imhotep's veteran poise at the free-throw line iced the game.

Standout Performers

Zaahir Muhammad-Gray (Imhotep): Finished with 19 points and 6 assists, controlling the tempo of the game from start to finish.

Julian Walker (William Penn): A valiant effort in defeat, recording 17 points and 11 rebounds. R.J.

Smith (Imhotep): Provided the "dagger" with three second-half triples, finishing with 14 points.

Khalil Williams (William Penn): Added 12 points and 4 steals, spearheading the Bearcats' late-game defensive surge.

Legacy of the 2026 Clash

With the 67–58 victory, Imhotep Charter advances to the PIAA Class 6A Quarterfinals. This win reinforces the Panthers' status as the team to beat in Pennsylvania, showcasing their ability to withstand an opponent's best punch and maintain composure under pressure.

For William Penn, the loss marks the end of a remarkable season that saw the Bearcats reclaim their status as a state-level threat. Their performance at the Geigle Complex earned them the respect of the Philadelphia basketball community and proved that the "York Bearcat" legacy is in good hands.

Final Score

Imhotep Charter Panthers: 67  
William Penn Bearcats: 58

As the Panthers move one step closer to another state title, the Bearcats head back to York with their heads held high, having pushed the state's premier program to the absolute limit. In the world of PA hoops, this March 11 matchup will be remembered as a classic "Battle of the East."