EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES
May 13, 2026

HIGHLIGHTS

3.1 **CARRIED:** March 25, 2026 Section VI Executive Committee meeting minutes

AC ACTION ITEMS

3.1 AC ACTION ITEM: Approval of the March 25 2026 Section VI Athletic Council meeting minutes

5.1 AC ACTION ITEM: Approval of the Combining of Schools Applications

6.1.1 AC ACTION ITEM: Approval to keep Chautauqua/Panama/Clymer/Westfield Wrestling in Division 1 for dual meets for the 26-27 school year

6.3.1 AC ACTION ITEM: Approval of the Treasurer's report (Appendix B)

6.4.2 AC ACTION ITEM: Approval of the Fall 2026 pre-season reports: Boys Volleyball, Field Hockey, Football, Game Day Cheer, Girls Soccer, Boys Soccer, Girls Swimming, Girls Tennis, Girls Volleyball, Girls Gymnastics, Cross Country (Appendix C)

6.14.1 AC ACTION ITEM: Approval of Marisa Fallacaro-Dougherty as Section VI Female Representative, term July 2026 – June 2030

6.14.2 AC ACTION ITEM: Approval Kaine Kelly as President-Elect, term July 2026 – June 2028

6.14.3 AC ACTION ITEM: Winter Sports Chairs, term July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2029

- The following incumbents provided intention to renew their terms: Boys Basketball – Larry Jones, Girls Basketball – Chris Durr, Girls Bowling – Joe Biondo, Boys Bowling – Dan Kaplan, Cheerleading – Justina Grudzinski, Boys Ice Hockey – Rick Brooks, Girls Ice Hockey – Rick Hopkins, Boys Indoor Track – Jason Bibler, Girls Indoor Track – Justin Craddock, Rifle – Kristina Brown, Boys Swimming Co-Chairs– Nate Bourke & Chris Miller, Girls Wrestling – Tom Shifflet, Unified Bowling – Doug Ames

- Boys Wrestling Chairperson – Add Joe Scapeletti

6.14.4 AC ACTION ITEM: Approval of Alex Chambers as Co-Chair (Remaining term: present to June 2027)

6.14.5 AC ACTION ITEM: Approval of Patrick Lester as Alpine Skiing Chairperson, term: July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2029

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MINUTES

**Agenda numbers coincide with the athletic council agenda*

Attendance: (*Indicates present)
*D. Lilleck, President
*M. Donahue, Past President
*B. Banker, President-Elect
*J. Sortisio, Superintendents' Representative
C. Alvarez, Principals' Representative
*M. Fallacaro-Dougherty, Female Representative
*J. Roth, Male Representative
*M. DiFilippo, Executive Director
*K. Schon, Asst. Executive Director

1.0 **CALL TO ORDER** (D. Lilleck)

Commenced: 9:32am

3.0 **MINUTES** (D. Lilleck)

3.1 ***Motion to approve of the March 25, 2026 Section VI Executive Committee meeting minutes***
CARRIED
Donahue/Fallacaro-Dougherty

4.0 **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT** (M. DiFilippo)

4.1 Fall Start Date – August 24, 2026; Football - August 17, 2026 (informational)

4.2 Fall Mandatory AD Workshop – August 20, 2026 @ Erie 1 BOCES (informational)

4.3 Fall Mandatory Coaches Meetings - August 19, 2026 (informational)

4.4 26-27 Indoor Track Commitment Forms Due May 27, 2026 (informational)
Council members will be asked to remind their respective leagues of the deadline to submit at the following meeting.

4.5 OFC Report
New York is the only state where officials are not centrally registered, certified, and organized by the state, but rather by independent local groups. This decentralized model complicates the contract negotiation process between athletic sections and officials. To address these inefficiencies, preliminary discussions have started to restructure the system, with M. DiFilippo tasked to gather feedback from the leagues.

4.6 26-27 Credentials
Section VI is seeing an increase in unauthorized media credentials, which is becoming problematic at both sectional and district events. Next year, there will be a stronger credentialing process. This plan will be detailed at the mandatory Athletic Director meeting.

4.7 NYSPHSAA Summer Meeting / Foundation Golf Tournament July 27, 2026
A reminder will be given to the council for league groups and individuals to register and consider sponsorship.

4.8 June 17, 2026 Athletic Council Meeting - Zoom Meeting
This meeting is confirmed, as we have NYSPHSAA voting items to address. The Executive Committee will convene at the Section VI office, with lunch to follow at The Ridge in West Seneca. A Zoom link will be sent to the council following today's meeting.

5.0 **COMMUNICATIONS** (M. DiFilippo)

5.1 AC ACTION ITEM: Approval of the Combining of Schools Applications COS Status Chart

FALL 2026

1. Soccer Girls, New **Royalton-Hartland**, Medina, 391 A, V, JV

WINTER 2026-27

2. Basketball G, Existing, **West Seneca West,** West Seneca East, 1322, AAA, V
3. Bowl BG, Existing, **Kenmore East,** Kenmore West, 1463, D1, V, JV
4. Hockey G, Existing, **Amherst (CASH),** Clarence & Sweet Home, 2390, one division, V
5. Wrestling B, Existing, **Franklinville,** Hinsdale, West Valley & Ellicottville, 380, D2, V, JV, 78
6. Wrestling G, Existing, **Franklinville,** Hinsdale, West Valley & Ellicottville, 380, One Division, V, JV, 78

6.0 STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

6.1 Combining of Schools Committee (J. Sortisio) Appendix A

6.1.1 AC ACTION ITEM: Approval to keep Chautauqua/Panama/Clymer/Westfield Wrestling in Division 1 for dual meets for the 26-27 school year.

6.1.2 End of Season Reporting Revision

The information in Appendix A regarding end of season reporting revision, specific to eliminating sub-varsity end of season reporting, will be sent to the Policy Committee for review and recommendation.

6.1.3 The committee began discussions surrounding two concerns surrounding larger schools demonstrating success:

1. Combined teams already participating at the highest level
2. Why larger schools are combining / unable to field a standalone team

6.2 Charter Schools Classification Committee (J. Sortisio)

6.2.1 Charter School Placement (Informational – results of Google vote, which was unanimous)

a) ***CARRIED*** (unanimous) Charter School Placement, Sport of Boys Basketball, committee is recommending Tapestry to move up from class B to class A.

b) ***CARRIED*** (unanimous) Charter School Placement, Sport of Boys Basketball, committee is recommending Health Science to remain in class AAA.

*The NYSPHSAA determines charter school playoff placement through standardized criteria mandated by the **Section Classification Committee**. Schools categorized as "schools without boundaries" are evaluated on factors including league, in-class, and overall winning percentages, as well as championship performance, to ensure fair competition against traditional public schools*

1) Criteria for Section Classification Committee Movement Up in Classification:
Non-Public & Charter school sport programs may be subject to annual reclassification based on performance and enrollment data. A Non-Public or Charter school team may be considered for movement to a higher classification if at least one of the following criteria is met:

1. *The team achieves a winning percentage of .750 or higher in any of the following categories: overall record, league record, or in-class record (with a minimum of four games played).*
2. *The team is recognized as a league and/or playoff champion.*
3. *The team is a sectional semifinalist.*
4. *The team wins a state championship.*

Remain in Current Classification: A Non-Public or Charter school team may remain in its current classification if it meets at least one of the following during the season:

1. *a winning percentage of .500 or above in-class, overall regular season, or league competition;*
2. *the team qualifies for sectionals or wins a first-round sectional game.*

Move Down in Classification: If a non-public or charter school team was previously moved up in classification but does not meet any of the criteria listed above (#1 & #2 of remain in current classification), the Section Classification Committee will consider moving the team down one classification level. Any exception to this downward reclassification will require clear, objective justification. However, a team may not be placed in a classification lower than the level determined by its BEDS (Basic Educational Data System) number under any circumstances.

Changes in BEDS or Sport Variation Numbers If updated BEDS numbers or changes to NYSPHSAA sport classification cutoff numbers would result in a non-public or charter school's team moving down a classification, a review of the team's placement may be initiated. The criteria used to justify reconvening the Section classification committee will mirror those required to consider a move up in classification.

*2. Examination Process Timeline: The Section Classification Committee will convene three times a year to review the classification of Non-Public and Charter schools and the dissemination of information. Fall Sports – Section Classification Committee Meeting in January *To be reported at February NYSPHSAA Executive Committee meeting Winter Sports – Section Classification Committee Meeting in April *To be reported at May NYSPHSAA Executive Committee meeting Spring Sports – Section Classification Committee Meeting in June *To be reported at July NYSPHSAA Central Committee meeting Information to be reviewed: Relevant information should be submitted to the Section Classification Committee. 1. Sectional tournament brackets, scores and results. 2. Section Transfer information. Decision to be made for the following school year by the Section Classification Committee*

3) Appeal process Any NYSPHSAA Section may submit an appeal request to the NYSPHSAA Classification Oversight Committee within 15 calendar days following the information being reported to the NYSPHSAA Executive/ Central Committee. Upon receipt of such a request, the Committee will conduct a comprehensive review of all relevant information submitted by both the appealing Section and the Section in which the non-public or charter school is located. Based on the totality of the evidence and circumstances, the Classification Oversight Committee maintains the authority to assign the non-public or charter school to the classification it deems most appropriate. In instances where a NYSPHSAA member school is directly affected by a decision rendered by its Section's Classification Committee, that school must first exhaust all administrative remedies available to it under its Section's governing documents (e.g., bylaws, constitution, or other applicable policies and procedures). Only after those avenues have been pursued in full may further appeal or review be considered at the state level in accordance with the NYSPHSAA Handbook.

* Noted:

- A section has to review those teams that meet one of those criteria, but as a section, the section does not have to move them up.
- Concern about the 15-day window for a section to challenge a placement in other sections/leagues
- M. DiFilippo, on behalf of Section VI, to challenge Seton Catholic (Section IV), Boys Basketball

6.3 Finance Committee (S. Penhollow)

6.3.1 AC ACTION ITEM: Approval of the Treasurer's report (Appendix B)

6.3.2 26-27 Participation Fees (informational)

- Indoor Track – increase of $250; to $2850
- Girls Ice Hockey – increase of $750; to $7000
- Boys Ice Hockey – no change; $5000

6.3.3 Post-Season Adult/Student Ticket Sales

Stemming from an inquiry by S. Zipp at the January 14, 2026 Athletic Council meeting, member leagues are in favor of investigating a reduced admissions rate for high school students. M. DiFilippo will look into gathering adult/student sales data to inform an implementation approach that balances financial sustainability with operational logistics.

6.3.4 Boys & Girls Basketball Profit/Loss

This data will be shared with the DEI Committee as well. The consensus of the executive committee is to stay consistent, and wait to produce and review let the 2 years of data show.

6.4 Sectional/Intersectional (M. DiFilippo)

6.4.1 2 Year Pilot- Boys Volleyball Tie Breaker Proposal (Fall 26,Fall 27) *Action Item June 2026 AC

1. League win percentage
2. Head to Head within your league
3. Set Percentage Head to Head within league
4. Head to Head Non-League
5. Win percentage within your class

6. Coin Flip

6.4.2 AC ACTION ITEM: Approval of the Fall 2026 pre-season reports: Boys Volleyball, Field Hockey, Football, Game Day Cheer, Girls Soccer, Boys Soccer, Girls Swimming, Girls Tennis, Girls Volleyball, Girls Gymnastics, Cross Country (Appendix C).

6.4.3 Promotion Rule Revision – (Informational – Results of the Google Vote)
At the January 14, 2026 Athletic Council Meeting, the Athletic Council directed M. Fallacaro-Dougherty, Female Representative, and J. Roth, Male Representative, to support the Modified Committee – Revision to the NYSPHSAA Promotion Rule. At the February 2026 NYSPHSAA Executive Committee Meeting, the Revision to the NYSPHSAA Promotion Rule was supported at the beginning of the 26-27 school year. "With Section approval, contestants may be promoted to a higher classification within the modified program or to a junior varsity or varsity team at any time." With that, sections now have the choice to apply the revision to the NYSPHSAA Promotion Rule.

CARRIED (unanimous) Motion to support application of the revision of the NYSPHSAA Promotion Rule within Section VI. This will begin fall 2026.

6.7 State Executive Committee/Central Committee

a) Superintendent (J. Sortisio)

- Update: Schools Without Borders, results from the April 24 virtual meeting
  See agenda item 7.2

b) Principal (C. Alvarez)

c) Female Rep./Male Rep. (M. Fallacaro-Dougherty/J. Roth)

6.7c1 Action Items – (Informational – results of Google vote)
. ***CARRIED*** *(unanimous) Field Hockey – Establish a Pilot Program for Modified and Junior Varsity Teams*
CARRIED *(unanimous) Competitive Cheerleading: Classification Cut-off Numbers*
DEFEATED *(16 opposed, 4 in favor) (Softball – Establish pregame timeline and protocol for regular season games*

**11 eligible voting members did not submit votes.*

6.7c2 The following are discussion items. Action will be taken at the June 17, 2026 Athletic Council meeting (via Zoom) to provide direction for M. Fallacaro-Dougherty, Female Representative, and J. Roth, Male Representative at the May 2026 NYSPSHAA Executive Committee meeting (Appendix E):

a) Championship Advisory Committee – NYSPHSAA Officials Fees and Policies Document
b) Sportsmanship – Lopsided Score Guidance
c) Modified Committee – Wait time between Modified Wrestling Matches
d) Boys Soccer – Adjust Regional Rotation in Class D for 2026 Season
e) Football Committee – Classification Cut-Off Numbers
f) Girls Volleyball – Request for a Waiver on Bench Protocols
g) Girls Volleyball – Request for Waiver of Administrative Red Card (uniform)
h) Girls Volleyball – Request to Revise Classification Formula for 2027
i) Boys Swimming – Revise Qualifying Standards for 2026-2027 Season
j) Gymnastics – Revise Scoring Change in technical Handbook for 2026-27 Season
k) Boys/Girls Bowling – Increase Daily Game Limitation to Ten Games for Post-Season Events
l) Boys/Girls Bowling – Amend Individual State Championship Format to Add Single Elimination Bracket
m) Girls Basketball – Waive NCAA Rule on minimum Court Dimensions
n) Girls Basketball Committee – Waive the NCAA uniform rule requirements for all sub-varsity teams
o) Girls Basketball Committee – Changing the length of the timeout in Overtime from 30 second to a full timeout
p) Girls Wrestling Committee – USA Wrestling Junior Weight Classes

q) Girls Wrestling Committee – Increasing the percent of body fat to follow NFHS Rule Change

6.8 Extended Eligibility (M. DiFilippo)

Nothing to report

6.10 Transfer/Foreign Student (M. DiFilippo)

Transfer reports are accessible to the committee for review through the respective google file.

6.13 Mixed Competition (C. Alvarez)

Nothing to report

6.14 Nominations (B. Banker)

6.14.1 AC ACTION ITEM: Approval of Marisa Fallacaro-Dougherty as Section VI Female Representative, term July 2026 – June 2030

6.14.2 AC ACTION ITEM: Approval of Kaine Kelly as President-Elect, term July 2026 – June 2028

6.14.3 AC ACTION ITEM: Winter Sports Chairs, term July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2029

- The following incumbents provided intention to renew their terms: Boys Basketball – Larry Jones, Girls Basketball – Chris Durr, Girls Bowling – Joe Biondo, Boys Bowling – Dan Kaplan, Cheerleading – Justina Grudzinski, Boys Ice Hockey – Rick Brooks, Girls Ice Hockey – Rick Hopkins, Boys Indoor Track – Jason Bibler, Girls Indoor Track – Justin Craddock, Rifle – Kristina Brown, Boys Swimming Co-Chairs– Nate Bourke & Chris Miller, Girls Wrestling – Tom Shifflet, Unified Bowling – Doug Ames

- Boys Wrestling Chairperson – Joe Scapelliti will be announced as selected candidate for approval at the following AC

6.14.4 Girls Tennis Chairperson

- AC ACTION ITEM: Approval of Alex Chambers as Co-Chair (Remaining term: present to June 2027)

6.14.5 Alpine Skiing Chairperson (*Jason Lehmbeck stepped down)

- AC ACTION ITEM: Approval of Patrick Lester as Alpine Skiing Chairperson, term: July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2029

6.15 Corporate Partners (K. Schon)

Nothing to report

6.17 Policy Committee (K. Schon)

6.17 Policy Manual Updates: June 17, 2026 Athletic Council Action Item (Appendix G)

7.0 SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

7.1 All WNY Scholar Athlete (J. Roth)
Spring nominations are due May 26, 2026.

7.2 Schools Without Boundaries Ad Hoc Committee (M. Fallacaro-Dougherty/J. Sortisio)

- Committee Voted 10-1 to approve
  - Results of the vote with **option; #1 (5 votes),** #2 (3 votes), #3 (3 votes)

Three (3) options regarding the Schools Without Boundaries Proposal:
1. Stay with the approved process and evaluate after 2 years.
2. Continue to examine potential revisions / hybrid model.

3. Consider complete separation of non-public and public, recognizing potential costs of litigation.

10.0 **OLD BUSINESS**

Nothing to report.

11.0 **NEW BUSINESS**

Nothing to report.

12.0 **GOOD OF THE ORDER/ADJOURNMENT**

12.1 ***Motion to adjourn***
CARRIED
Sortisio/Roth

Appendix A

Eden Central Schools

8289 North Main Street
Eden, New York 14057

Jeffrey A. Sortisio.
Superintendent of Schools

Phone (716) 992-3629
Fax (716) 992-3656

To: Mark DiFilippo, Executive Director, Section VI Athletics
From: Jeffrey A. Sortisio, Chair-Combining of Schools Committee
Date: April 23, 2026
Re: Winter 2026 Recommendations

Wrestling-Boys

a. Chautauqua/Panama/Clymer/Westfield Wrestling
    i. Recommendation: Maintain in Division 1 for dual meets
    ii. Justification: Dominance, multiple years, section championship in D1, 2026

Discussion Topics

Several sports chairs shared concerns about large schools combining within districts (Ken-Ton, West Seneca, Williamsville). The committee acknowledged that some of the teams did achieve a high level of success in the form of sectional championships. It was also discussed that the teams in question were already at the highest classification level. A committee member shared his own experience of needing to combine with a nearby large school because of under enrollment in what had been a fairly popular sport. The committee discussed that our work is essentially reactionary—we act after the seasons are concluded to determine if combined programs established dominance. If a change is warranted, and the committee is non-committal on this point, it likely needs to be implemented through the combined approval process.

End of Season Reporting-A committee member questioned the need for Combined Schools End of Season reporting at the sub-varsity level. It was noted that COS does not review these reports as our work is limited to the Varsity level. The COS recommends ending the requirement for end of season reporting at the sub-varsity level unless the Section uses these reports for its own purposes.

Additionally, Kevin Salisbury shared that he will be stepping away from COS in the next few months. Chad Bartoszek, Salamanca AD, will represent the CCAA.

APPENDIX B

Section VI NYSPHSAA, Inc.

Treasurer's Report

As of May 7, 2026

	May 7, 26
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
1040.2 · Bankof America CD #2	101,854.11
1040.1 · Bank of America CD	27,868.05
1043.1 · Northwest CD	360,350.64
1050 · Arbiter Pay	7,719.92
1030 · Bank of America Checking	263,929.48
1040 · Bank of America Money Market	1.69
1043 · Northwest Savings Bank	101,034.75
Total Checking/Savings	862,758.64
Total Current Assets	862,758.64
TOTAL ASSETS	**862,758.64**
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	0.00

Dedicated Funds	Budgeted	Expenses	Current Assets
State Championships	$ 215,000.00	$ 123,531.00	$ 91,469.00
FUND BALANCE	$ 771,289.64		

APPENDIX C

Fall 26 Pre-Season Report
Sport: Boys Volleyball

Sport Chair: Brett Widman

Sport Committee(* Indicates voting members):

NFL	Bill Schultz*	Grand Island
ECIC I	Jason Stang	Lancaster
ECIC II	Peter Wlosinski	Amherst
ECIC III	Thomas Knab	Williamsville South
ECIC IV	Robert Pierce*	Eden
League Chair		
Buffalo	Tom Cullen*	Hutch Tech
ECIC	Robert Pierce*	Eden
NFL	Bill Schultz*	Grand Island

Sport Committee Meeting Dates: August, 19th 2026

Number of Schools Participating/Sectional Alignment: **2026Fall BEDS**

2026 Boys Volleyball Classifications								
School/Team	**League**	**BEDS**	**#**		**School/Team**	**League**	**BEDS**	**#**
Division 1 901+ Teams 8					**Division 2 0-900 Teams 24**			
Niagara Falls	NFL	1475	1		I-Prep COS02	BFLO	919	1
Lancaster	ECIC	1308	2		Hutchinson Tech PS 304	BFLO	885	2
Kenmore West COS 01	NFL	**1126**	3		Sweet Home	ECIC	782	3
Lockport	NFL	1025	4		West Seneca West	ECIC	771	4
Orchard Park	ECIC	1019	5		Niagara-Wheatfield	NFL	756	5
Clarence	ECIC	948	6		City Honors COS03	BFLO	755	6
Frontier	ECIC	939	7		Hamburg	ECIC	717	7
Williamsville North	ECIC	930	8		North Tonawanda	NFL	701	8
					Grand Island	NFL	683	9
					Williamsville East	ECIC	683	10
					Starpoint	ECIC	666	11
					Amherst	ECIC	626	12
					McKinley PS 305	BFLO	594	13
					Williamsville South	ECIC	560	14
					West Seneca East	ECIC	551	15
					Charter/ Applied Tech	NFL	536	16
					Maryvale	ECIC	516	17
					Lake Shore	ECIC	503	18
					Cheektowaga	ECIC	497	19
					East Aurora COS04	ECIC	493	20
					Iroquois	ECIC	444	21
					Buffalo Culinary Arts PS 355	BFLO	347	22
					Eden COS05	ECIC	337	23
					Tapestry Charter School	ECIC	261	24
					Riverside Academy PS 208	BFLO	252	25

2026 Post-Season Calendar

VOLLEYBALL BOYS			
Opt Out 10/24 **Last League** 10/30 **Seeding Meeting** Fri 10/31 By phone 6:30 pm			
Pre-Quarters		Tue 11/3	Higher Seed 6 pm
Quarterfinals		Th 11/5	Higher Seed 6 pm
Semi-finals – Div. 1		Sat 11/7	Higher Seed 2 pm
Semi-finals – Div. 2 A & B		Sat 11/7	Higher Seed 2 pm
Finals – D2A & D2B		Tues 11/10	TBD
Crossover Finals D2		Fri 11/13	TBD D2
Finals – D1		Fri 11/13	TBD D1
State Championship		Sat 11/21	Section V, TBD

Changes in Policy/Practice for the upcoming season:

2 Year Pilot- Boys Volleyball Tie Breaker Proposal (Fall 26, Fall 27)

1. League win percentage
2. Head to Head within your league
3. Set Percentage Head to Head within league
4. Head to Head Non-League
5. Win percentage within your class
6. Coin Flip

Ongoing/Active Pilots:
None

Respectfully Submitted: *Brett Widman*

Fall 2026 Pre-Season Report
Sport: Field Hockey

Sport Chair: Jeff Costello

Sport Committee(* Indicates voting members):

Section Chair	Jeff Costello *	Barker
ECIC Chair	Peter Tonsoline *	Iroquois
ECIC Rep	Dawn Kauderer-Kromer	Sweet Home MS
N-O Chair	Rob Mucha *	Barker
N-O Rep	Amber Cleaveland	Medina

Sport Committee Meeting Dates:

Number of Schools Participating/Sectional Alignment: **2026Fall_BEDS**

2026 Field Hockey Classifications

School/Team	League	BEDS	#		School/Team	League	BEDS	#
Class A 915+ Teams 6					**Class C 0-449 Teams 8**			
Lancaster	ECIC	1308	1		Iroquois	ECIC	444	1
Kenmore West COS 01	NFL	1126	2		Akron	NO	279	2
West Seneca West COS 02	ECIC	1047	3		Eden	ECIC	276	3
Orchard Park	ECIC	1019	4		Medina	NO	273	4
Clarence	ECIC	948	5		Newfane	NO	263	5
Williamsville North	ECIC	930	6		Royalton-Hartland	NO	236	6
Class B 450-914 Teams 8					Wilson	NO	209	7
Sweet Home	ECIC	782	1		Barker	NO	155	8
Hamburg	ECIC	717	2					
Williamsville East	ECIC	683	3					
Starpoint	ECIC	666	4					
Amherst	ECIC	626	5					
Williamsville South	ECIC	560	6					
Holland COS 03	ECIC	477	7					
Pioneer	ECIC	464	8					

2026 Post-Season Calendar:

FIELD HOCKEY		
Last League Game: Fri, 10/23 Opt Out: Sat, 10/17 Seeding Meeting: Sat, 10/24		
Quarter Finals - C (4 games)	Mon, 10/26	Higher Seed
Quarter Finals - A (2 games) & B (4 games)	Tue, 10/27	Higher Seed
Semi-finals All (6 games)	Fri, 10/30	Higher Seed
Finals (C, A, B)	Wed, 11/4	TBD (Alden HS- Make-up Th, 11/5) C - 4:00 PM, A - 6:00 PM, B - 8:00 PM
Regionals (C, A, B)	Sat, 11/7	TBD @ Section V
States (C, A, B)	Sat - Sun 11/14 - 16	@ Arlington HS

Changes in Policy/Practice for the upcoming season:

None

Ongoing/Active Pilots:

None

Other Pertinent Data:

At the modified level an agreement has been reached between the ECIC and the Niagara-Orleans League to schedule their games together so that a more complete and competitive schedule can be made for all modified teams within the two leagues. Games will most likely be aligned geographically to limit travel between the leagues.

I've targeted Wednesday, September 4, 2026 and/or Thursday, September 5, 2026 as potential dates for a WNY Field Hockey Showcase event to highlight our sport. We ran this last year, but only had a few teams able to participate due to scheduling on the Friday before Labor Day. Several teams expressed interest if it didn't conflict with the long weekend. Location and time are TBD.

Respectfully Submitted:

Jeff Costello



Fall 26 Pre-Season Report
Sport: Football

Sport Chair: Jay Sirianni
Asst Chair- Ken Stoldt

Sport Committee(* Indicates voting members):

Division Chairs:		
AA	Don Bass	Niagara Falls
AA	Tom Langworthy	Jamestown
A1:	Ron Luders	Williamsville North
A2:	Al Cavagnaro	Starpoint
B1:	Joe Licata	Williamsville South
B2:	Doug Ames	Retired
C North:	Eric Valley	Medina
C South:	Chris Payne	Retired
D:	Scot Greenough	Forestville
Buffalo:	Pat Ricci	
At Large:	Adam Erickson	Falconer
	Glenn Graham	Cleveland Hill/Retired

NYSPHSAA Safety Rep. Matt McKenna, Niagara Wheatfield

Sport Committee Meeting Dates:

Winter Meeting - February
Spring Meeting - June
Summer Meeting - August
Fall Meeting - September
Seeding Meeting - October

Number of Schools Participating/Sectional Alignment: link _2026Fall_BEDS

2026 Football Classifications

School/Team	League	BEDS	#	Alignment	School/Team	League	BEDS	#	Alignment
Class AA 1025+ Teams 7					**Class C 273-401 Teams 17**				
Hutch Tech COS 01	BFLO	2988	1	AA	Tonawanda	ECIC	384	1	C North
L J Bennett COS02	BFLO	1890	2	AA	Falconer COS 07	CCAA	375	2	C South
Niagara Falls	NFL	1475	3	AA	Springville Griffith Inst	ECIC	363	3	C North
Lancaster	ECIC	1308	4	AA	Alden	ECIC	359	4	C North
Jamestown	ECIC	1053	5	AA	Fredonia	CCAA	356	5	C South
Lockport	NFL	1025	6	AA	Southwestern COS 08	CCAA	334	6	C South
Health Science CS COS 04 * 6.2.1 AC 1/14/26	BFLO	612	7	AA	Salamanca	CCAA	329	7	C South
					Portville COS 09	CCAA	326	8	C South
Class A 651-1024 Teams 16					Eden COS 10	ECIC	325	9	C South
Orchard Park	ECIC	1019	1	A1	Chautauqua Lake COS 11	CCAA	316	10	C North
Clarence	ECIC	948	2	A1	Cleveland Hill	ECIC	312	11	C South
Frontier	ECIC	939	3	A1	Barker COS 12	NO	298	12	C North
Williamsville North	ECIC	930	4	A1	Gowanda COS 13	CCAA	281	13	C North
Kenmore West	NFL	788	5	A1	Akron	NO	279	14	C South
Sweet Home	ECIC	782	6	A1	Allegany-Limestone COS 14	CCAA	273	15	C North
West Seneca West	ECIC	771	7	A1	John F Kennedy	ECIC	273	16	C South
Niagara-Wheatfield	NFL	756	8	A1	Sherman COS 17 *3/25/26 Appeal Stage3	CCAA	182	17	C North
WNY Maritime CS COS 03	Indep.	724	9	A2					
Hamburg	ECIC	717	10	A2					
North Tonawanda	NFL	701	11	A2	**Class D 0-272 Teams 6**				
South Park	BFLO	684	12	A2	Newfane	NO	263	1	D
Grand Island	NFL	683	13	A2	Silver Creek COS 15	CCAA	244	2	D
Williamsville East	ECIC	683	14	A2	Randolph	CCAA	225	3	D
Kenmore East	NFL	675	15	A2	Franklinville COS 16	CCAA	214	4	D
Starpoint	ECIC	666	16	A2	Wilson	NO	209	5	D
					Cattaraugus-Little Valley	CCAA	203	6	D
Class B 402-650 Teams 16									
Amherst	ECIC	626	1	B1					
McKinley	BFLO	594	2	B1					
Williamsville South	ECIC	560	3	B1					
West Seneca East	ECIC	551	4	B1					
Medina COS 05	NO	520	5	B2					
Lewiston Porter	NFL	516	6	B1					
Maryvale	ECIC	516	7	B1					
Lake Shore	ECIC	503	8	B1					
Cheektowaga	ECIC	497	9	B1					
Lackawanna	ECIC	488	10	B2					
East Aurora COS 06	ECIC	477	11	B2					
Pioneer	ECIC	464	12	B2					
Dunkirk	CCAA	456	13	B2					
Depew	ECIC	446	14	B2					
Iroquois	ECIC	444	15	B2					
Olean	CCAA	414	16	B2					

2026 Post-Season Calendar:

FOOTBALL Chair:		
Pre-Season Coaches	Wed 8/13	**Seeding Meeting** 10/26 9am Virtual
Wk #8 Playoffs	Th 10/29 - Sat 10/31	Higher Seed
Chuck Funke Bowls	Wed 11/4	Higher Seed
Semi-Finals	Th 11/5 - Sat 11/7	Higher Seed
Sectionals	Th 11/12 & Fri 11/13	University of Buffalo
Far West Regionals	Fri 11/20 & Sat 11/21	Section V Hosting
Western Regionals	Fri 11/27 & Sat 11/28	
State Website	Fri 12/4 - Sun 12/6	JMA Wireless Dome TBD

Changes in Policy/Practice for the upcoming season:

None

Ongoing/Active Pilots:

None

Other Pertinent Data:

None

Respectfully Submitted:

Jay Sirianni



Fall 26 Pre-Season Report
Sport: Game Day Cheer

Sport Chair: Justina Grudzinski

Sport Committee(* Indicates voting members):

Committee Members/ League Representatives:				
Buffalo Schools	**CCAA**	**ECIC**	**NFL**	**NO**
Genah Lasby	TBD	Jill Manka - OP	Jackie Lockport	Eric Valley Medina

Sport Committee Meeting Dates: August 19th 6:00 pm virtual

Number of Schools Participating/Sectional Alignment: 2026Fall BEDS

2026 Game Day Cheer Classifications								
School/Team	**League**	**BEDS**	**#**		**School/Team**	**League**	**BEDS**	**#**
Class A 849+ Teams 9					**Class C 0-478 Teams 23**			
Hutch Tech COS 01	BFLO	7558	1		East Aurora COS 02	ECIC	477	1
Niagara Falls	NFL	1475	2		Pioneer	ECIC	464	2
Lancaster	ECIC	1308	3		Dunkirk	CCAA	456	3
Jamestown	ECIC	1053	4		Depew	ECIC	446	4
Lockport	NFL	1025	5		Iroquois	ECIC	444	5
Orchard Park	ECIC	1019	6		Olean	CCAA	414	6
Clarence	ECIC	948	7		Tonawanda	ECIC	384	7
Frontier	ECIC	939	8		Alden	ECIC	359	8
Williamsville North	ECIC	930	9		Frewsburg COS 03	CCAA	334	9
					Salamanca	CCAA	329	10
Class B 479-848 Teams 17					Portville	CCAA	325	11
Kenmore West	NFL	788	1		Cleveland Hill	ECIC	312	12
Sweet Home	ECIC	782	2		Akron	NO	279	13
West Seneca West	ECIC	771	3		Eden	ECIC	276	14
Niagara-Wheatfield	NFL	756	4		Newfane	NO	263	15
Hamburg	ECIC	717	5		Tapestry CS	ECIC	261	16
North Tonawanda	NFL	701	6		Gowanda	CCAA	245	17
Grand Island	NFL	683	7		Royalton-Hartland	NO	236	18
Williamsville East	ECIC	683	8		Randolph	CCAA	225	19
Kenmore East	NFL	675	9		Franklinville COS 06	CCAA	214	20
Starpoint	ECIC	666	10		Wilson	NO	209	21
Amherst	ECIC	626	11		Holland	ECIC	164	22
Williamsville South	ECIC	560	12		Forestville	CCAA	93	23
West Seneca East	ECIC	551	13					
Maryvale	ECIC	516	14					
Lake Shore	ECIC	503	15					
Cheektowaga	ECIC	497	16					
Lackawanna	ECIC	488	17					

2026 Post-Season Calendar:

CHEER		
Competition Date Request Opens	August 1st 8AM	
Competition Registration Opens	August 24th 8AM	
Opt into Sectionals	October 2nd	
Sectional Hold Date	October 26th	* No changes after, or ineligible after
Section Final 2 rounds*	October 31st OR November 2nd	*waiting on Bills Schedule
State Championships	Sun 11/08	

Changes in Policy/Practice for the upcoming season:

1: Changes to Sectional opt in (if a team pulls from sectionals) AFTER October 26th, they will be ineligible come next season

2: Updates voted on by committee in May.

Ongoing/Active Pilots:

None

Other Pertinent Data:

None

Respectfully Submitted:

Justina Grudzinski

Fall 2026 Pre-Season Report
Sport: Girls Soccer

Sport Chair: Chris Durr Asst. Joanna Fildes

Sport Committee (* Indicates voting members):

AT Large	Kevin Rice	retired
ECIC III	Joanna Fildes*	Amherst
ECIC I	Mike Graffeo	Orchard Park
CCAA I	Dale MacArthur*	Allegany-Limestone
CCAA II	Michael Matz	Portville
CCAA III		
BFLO		
NFL	Dave Bowman*	Conner Middle (Grand Island)
NO	Maggie Orbaker	Albion

Sport Committee Meeting Dates:
May 2026, August 19th Pre-Season Coaches Meeting

2026 Post-Season Calendar:
Tentative- Some shifts may occur based on subregional needs and collaboration with Section V, this communication has not yet been finalized

SOCCER GIRLS			
Last League Game Th 10/15	**Opt Out Date** 10/10		**Seeding Meeting**: Sat 10/17
Qualifiers	As Needed	Mon 10/19	Higher Seed
Pre-Quarter	AA, A	Tue 10/20	Higher Seed 3:30, 6 or 7
Pre-Quarter	B, C	Wed 10/21	Higher Seed 3:30, 6 or 7
Quarters	AAA, AA, A	Fri 10/23	Higher Seed 3:30, 6 or 7
Quarters	B, C	Sat 10/24	Higher Seed 12:00 Noon
Semifinals	AA, A	M 10/26	Higher Seed 2:30, 6 or 7 Times on Brackets
Semifinals	AAA, B	T 10/27	Higher Seed 2:30, 6 or 7 Times on Brackets
Semifinals	C, D	W 10/28	Higher Seed 2:30, 6 or 7 Times on Brackets
Finals	AAA, AA, A, B	Sat 10/31	TBD
Finals	C & D	Sat 10/31	TBD
Sub Regionals	A & B (Only)		TBD
Regionals	FRI 11/6 & SAT 11/7	Section VI	TBD

State Championships	Sat-Sun 11/14-11/15		

Updated 5/6/26 Number of Schools Participating/Sectional Alignment: 2026Fall_BEDS

2026 Girls Soccer Classifications

School/Team	League	BEDS	#
Class AAA 1057+ 4 Teams			
City Honors COS 01	BFLO	7338	1
Niagara Falls	NFL	1475	2
West Seneca West COS02	ECIC	1322	3
Lancaster	ECIC	1308	4
Class AA 677-1056 13Teams			
Jamestown	CCAA	1053	1
Lockport	NFL	1025	2
Orchard Park	ECIC	1019	3
Clarence	ECIC	948	4
Frontier	ECIC	939	5
Williamsville North	ECIC	930	6
Kenmore West	NFL	788	7
Sweet Home	ECIC	782	8
Niagara-Wheatfield	NFL	756	9
Hamburg	ECIC	717	10
North Tonawanda	NFL	701	11
Grand Island	NFL	683	12
Williamsville East	ECIC	683	13
Class A 387-676 Teams 17			
Kenmore East	NFL	675	1
Starpoint	ECIC	666	2
Amherst	ECIC	626	3
Williamsville South	ECIC	560	4
Charter/ Applied Tech	NFL	536	5
Lewiston Porter	NFL	516	6
Maryvale	ECIC	516	7
Lake Shore	ECIC	503	8
Lackawanna	ECIC	488	9
Pioneer	ECIC	464	10
Dunkirk	CCAA	456	11
Depew	ECIC	446	12
Iroquois	ECIC	444	13
Olean	CCAA	414	14
East Aurora	ECIC	411	15
Roy-Hart COS03	**CCAA**	**391**	**16**
Falconer COS04	CCAA	390	17

School/Team	League	BEDS	#
Class B 244-386 Teams 15			
Tonawanda	ECIC	384	1
Albion	NO	383	2
Springville Griffith Inst	ECIC	363	3
Alden	ECIC	359	4
Fredonia	CCAA	356	5
Salamanca	CCAA	329	6
Pine Valley COS05	CCAA	281	7
Akron	NO	279	8
Eden	ECIC	276	9
Allegany-Limestone COS06	CCAA	273	10
John F Kennedy	ECIC	273	11
~~Medina~~	~~NO~~	~~273~~	-
Southwestern	CCAA	270	12
Newfane	NO	263	13
Tapestry CS	ECIC	261	14
Silver Creek COS07	CCAA	244	15
Class C 136-243 Teams 10			
~~Royalton-Hartland~~	~~NO~~	~~236~~	-
Randolph	CCAA	225	1
Portville	CCAA	213	2
Chautauqua Lake	CCAA	209	3
Wilson	NO	209	4
Westfield COS08	CCAA	204	5
Barker COS09	NO	204	6
Cattaraugus-Little Valley	CCAA	203	7
Holland	ECIC	164	8
Frewsburg	CCAA	159	9
Franklinville	CCAA	149	10
Class D 0-135 Teams 2			
Ellicottville	CCAA	125	1
North Collins	CCAA	122	2

Changes in Policy/Practice for the upcoming season:

Ongoing/Active Pilots:
None

Other Pertinent Data:

Would like to explore using a central site for Class C Final if a Northern school vs a Southern tier school. Class D Final could be moved to its own site (between North Collins and Ellicottville)

Todd and I discussed using the SB and Baseball model (hosting agreement by V and VI) for Sub Regionals. Waiting for feedback from SB and Baseball Chairs. Also need an agreement from Section V Boys and Girls Chairman. This is noted above, and could cause shifts to the framework calendar.

Respectfully Submitted:
Chris Durr

Fall 2026 Pre-Season Report
Sport: Boys Soccer

Sport Chair: Todd Marquardt

Sport Committee(* Indicates voting members):

Chairman:	Todd Marquardt -Kenmore
Buffalo:	*Dominic Massaro**
CCAA East:	JJ McIntosh (Portville)
CCAA West	Jon Luce (Allegany-Limestone)*
CCAA Central	Jay Walters (North Collins)
ECIC Conf 1	CO- Andrew Gates (Clarence)
ECIC Conf 1	C0- Tony Schiappa (Will East)
ECIC Conf 2	C0- Kevin Beale (East Aurora)*
ECIC Conf 2	CO- Trevor Lawler (Will South)
ECIC Conf 3	J.J. Gabor (Tonawanda))
NFL:	Shane Magaris (Ken-West)*
NO:	Steve Luksch (Medina)*

Sport Committee Meeting Dates: Pre-Season Coaches on August 19th, 2026

Number of Schools Participating/Sectional Alignment: _2026Fall_BEDS

2026 Boys Soccer Classifications

School/Team	League	BEDS	#
Class AAA 1041+ Teams 6			
Hutch Tech COS 01	BFLO	1601	1
Niagara Falls	NFL	1475	2
West Seneca West COS02	ECIC	1322	3
Lancaster	ECIC	1308	4
Burgard COS03	BFLO	1119	5
Jamestown	ECIC	1053	6
Class AA 674-1040 Teams 14			
Lockport	NFL	1025	1
Orchard Park	ECIC	1019	2
Clarence	ECIC	948	3
Frontier	ECIC	939	4
Williamsville North	ECIC	930	5
Lewis J Bennett COS04	BFLO	808	6
Kenmore West	NFL	788	7
Sweet Home	ECIC	782	8
Niagara-Wheatfield	NFL	756	9
Hamburg	ECIC	717	10
North Tonawanda	NFL	701	11
Grand Island	NFL	683	12
Williamsville East	ECIC	683	13
Kenmore East	NFL	675	14
Class A 399-673 Teams 20			
Starpoint	ECIC	666	1
Amherst	ECIC	626	2
McKinley	BFLO	594	3
Williamsville South	ECIC	560	4
West Seneca East	ECIC	551	5
Riverside COS05	BFLO	546	6
International Prep	BFLO	533	7
Lewiston Porter	NFL	516	8
Maryvale	ECIC	516	9
Lake Shore	ECIC	503	10
Cheektowaga	ECIC	497	11
Lackawanna	ECIC	488	12
Pioneer	ECIC	464	13
City Honors	BFLO	461	14
Dunkirk	CCAA	456	15
Depew	ECIC	446	16
Iroquois	ECIC	444	17
Bflo Acad Science	Indep.	419	18
Olean	CCAA	414	19
East Aurora	ECIC	411	20

School/Team	League	BEDS	#
Class B 246-398 Teams 17			
Lafayette International	BFLO	386	1
Tonawanda	ECIC	384	2
Albion	NO	383	3
Frederick Olmsted	BFLO	366	4
Springville Griffith Inst	ECIC	363	5
Alden	ECIC	359	6
Fredonia	CCAA	356	7
Cassadaga Valley COS06	CCAA	330	8
Salamanca	CCAA	329	9
Pine Valley COS07	CCAA	281	10
Akron	NO	279	11
Eden	ECIC	276	12
Allegany-Limestone COS08	CCAA	273	13
Medina	NO	273	14
Southwestern	CCAA	270	15
Newfane	NO	263	16
Tapestry CS	ECIC	261	17
Class C 145-245 Teams 12			
Silver Creek COS09	CCAA	244	1
Royalton-Hartland	NO	236	2
Middle Early College	BFLO	231	3
Randolph	CCAA	225	4
Global Concepts CS	ECIC	216	5
Portville	CCAA	213	6
Chautauqua Lake	CCAA	209	7
Wilson	NO	209	8
Westfield COS10	CCAA	204	9
Ellicottville COS11	CCAA	199	10
Holland	ECIC	164	11
Frewsburg	CCAA	159	12
Class D 0-144 Teams 2			
North Collins	CCAA	122	
Maple Grove	CCAA	114	

2026 Post-Season Calendar:

Tentative- Some shifts may occur based on subregional needs and collaboration with Section V, this communication has not yet been finalized

SOCCER BOYS			
Last League Game Fri. 10/16	**Opt Out Date:** Sat 10.12		**Seeding meeting** Sat 10/17
Pre-Quarter	B,, C	Tue 10/20	Higher Seed Times TBA
Pre-Quarter	AA, A1 & A2	Wed 10/21	Higher Seed Times TBA
Quarters	AAA	Th 10/22	Higher Seed Times TBA
Quarters	B, C	Fri 10/23	Higher Seed Times TBA
Quarters	AA, A1 & A2	Sat 10/24	Higher Seed Times
Semifinals	AAA, B	M 10/26	Higher Seed Times
Semifinals	AA,A1,A2,C	Tue 10/27	Higher Seed Times
Finals	B	Th 10/29	@TBD
Finals	A1, A2 * if split	Fri 10/30	@ TBD
Finals	C, AAA & AA	Sat 10/31	@ TBD
Finals	A Crossover	M 11/2	@ TBD
Sub Regionals	A,B,D	TBD	@ Section V
Regionals	11/6 - 11/7	@ Section V	
States Championships	11/14, 11/15 @ Cortland		

Changes in Policy/Practice for the upcoming season:

Sub Regionals in A,B,D

Ongoing/Active Pilots:

None

Other Pertinent Data:

None

Respectfully Submitted: *Todd Marquardt*



Fall 26 Pre-Season Report
Sport: Girls Swimming

Sport Chairperson/Coordinator
Nathan Bourke
Kenmore-Tonawanda UFSD
nbourke@ktufsd.org

Assistant & Technology Integrator
Paul Cary
Clarence CSD
pcary@me.com

Girls Swim/Dive Committee Members:

BPS:	Ann Doleski*	Bennett	adoleski@buffaloschools.org
CCAA:	Dan Brown* Todd Conklin	Olean Southwestern	dbrown@oleanschools.org toconklin@swcsk12.org
ECIC:	Patrick McNelis	Sweet Home	patrick.mcnelis@yahoo.com
NFL:	James Stypa*	Niagara Falls	jstypa@nfschools.net
At Large:	Cindy Cranston	South Park	ccranston@buffaloschools.org
At Large:	Chris Musshafen	East Aurora	Coach.moose15@gmail.com
At Large:	Adam Smith	Officials Association	smitha@maryvaleufsd.org

Committee voting privileges:
As per the Section VI Constitution item 7.6, "The representative members on each sport committee will be appointed by each league and have only one vote per league. Other non-voting members may be selected by the Sport Chairperson. Federated sport representative members that are appointed by their division, league or school will have only one vote. The Sport Chairs of Federated Sports that have divisions will verify that among division representatives each participating league is represented. The Sport Chair may only vote when the vote is tied. A Sport Chair who also represents a league can serve in both capacities but will have only one vote."
The voting members of the committee are indicated below with an asterisk.

Sport Committee Meeting Dates:

May 7, 2026 7:45 pm via zoom

2026 Post-Season Calendar:

SWIMMING GIRLS Chairs :		
Class Prelims-Diving-Final	Tuesday 10/27-Saturday 10/31	Diving all rounds- one or two member schools Swim Prelims & Finals- three multiple member schools. 5:30 pm start for all meets.
State Qualifier - Sectionals Diving/Swim Finals	Thur 11/5 or Friday 11/6	Location/s pending facility availability
State Championship	Fri-Sat 11/20 & 21	Webster Aquatic Center

PRELIMINARY-

Subject to change pending potential additional program merging

Girls Swimming & Diving Classification for 2026-2027

Classification by School District Link
Combined Schools Approval Chart

	Class/Division A (15) Greater than 750			Class/Division B (16) 500-750			Class/Division C (15) Less than 499		
1	Niagara Falls	1475	NFL	Hamburg	717	ECIC	Cheektowaga	497	ECIC
2	Kenmore*	1463	NFL	North Tonawanda	701	NFL	Pioneer	464	ECIC
3	West Seneca*	1322	ECIC	*South Park*	*684*	BPS	City Honors	461	BPS
4	Southwestern*	1323	CCAA	Williamsville East	683	ECIC	Depew	**446**	ECIC
5	Lancaster	**1308**	ECIC	Grand Island	**683**	NFL	*Iroquois*	444	ECIC
6	Fredonia*	1198	CCAA	Starpoint	666	ECIC	Panama*	405	CCAA
7	Lockport	1025	NFL	Bennett*	**659**	BPS	Frewsburg*	429	CCAA
8	Orchard Park	1019	ECIC	Eden*	644	ECIC	Tonawanda	**384**	ECIC
9	Clarence	**948**	ECIC	Olean*	**627**	CCAA	Chautauqua Lake*	**370**	CCAA
10	Frontier	**939**	ECIC	*Amherst*	**626**	ECIC	Alden	**359**	ECIC
11	Williamsville North	**930**	ECIC	Performing Arts*	**615**	BPS	Springville	**363**	ECIC
12	*Hutch Tech*	**885**	BPS	McKinley	594	BPS	Olmsted	**366**	BPS
13	Cleve Hill*	828	ECIC	East Aurora*	575	ECIC	Salamanca	**329**	CCAA
14	Sweet Home	782	ECIC	Williamsville South	**560**	ECIC	Franklinville*	**312**	CCAA
15	Niagara Wheatfield	**756**	NFL	Lewiston Porter	**516**	NFL	Allegany-Limestone	**246**	CCAA
16				Lake Shore	503	ECIC			

Approved Combined Schools for the 2026 Season

Host School	Status				Approval	BEDS	Division
LJ Bennett	Existing	MEC & Research Lab	V		1/14/26	659	B
Chautauqua Lake	Pending	Westfield	V			370	C
Cleveland Hill	New	Maryvale	V		3/25/26	828	A
East Aurora	Existing	Holland	V		3/25/26	575	B

Eden	Existing	Gowanda, North Collins	V		1/14/26	644	B
Franklinville	Existing	Ellicottville, West Valley	V		1/14/26	312	C
Fredonia	Existing	Dunkirk, Forestville, Pine Valley, Cass Valley	V		3/25/26	1198	A
Frewsburg	Existing	Falconer	V		1/14/26	429	C
Kenmore East	Existing	Kenmore West	V		3/25/26	1463	A
Olean	Existing	Portville	V		1/14/26	627	B
Panama	Existing	Maple Grove, Clymer, Sherman	V		1/14/26	405	C
Performing Arts	Existing	Leonardo DaVinci	V		1/14/26	615	B
Southwestern	Existing	Jamestown	V		3/25/26	1323	A
West Seneca West	Existing	West Seneca East	V		3/25/26	1322	A

Other Pertinent Data:

1. The State Championships will be held in Webster again this year. The Hilton Garden Inn will again host the Section VI team. This same location worked well from 2022-2025. This site has been contracted again for 2026.

2. The Girls and Boys Swim Committees continue to recommend mandatory online reporting of all results by member schools via swimcloud. All of NYS now uses this site.

3. The NYSPHAA Committee meeting on May 7 will address concerns of the length of the 2025 state championship meet and changes in qualification times.

4. The Section VI girls swim/dive committee will discuss cut times for Class Championships the evening of May 7.

Respectfully submitted Date: April 13, 2026
Nathan Bourke



Fall 26 Pre-Season Report
Sport: Girls Tennis

Sport Chair: Kristin Janese & Alex Chambers

Sport Committee(* Indicates voting members):

	League Rep.	School
CCAA	Jamie Sposato	Frewsburg
ECIC	Paul Biddle	Amherst
NFL	John Lemar	
BPS	Christopher Meszaros	Olmsted

Sport Committee Meeting Dates:
August 19th- Zoom Meeting

2026 Post-Season Calendar:

TENNIS GIRLS		
Opt Out- Sat 9/12	**Team**	**Individual**
Seeding meeting	Sat 9/19 Virtual	Sun 10/11
Sectionals	Quarter/Semi Sat 9/26 & Finals Tues 09/29 4pm	Fri-Sat 10/16 &10/17
Regionals	@ Section VI (TBD need to correspond w V, due to Regional rotations.	no regionals
State Championship	11/6	Mon - Wed. 10/28-10/30

Number of Schools Participating/Sectional Alignment: 2026Fall_BEDS

2026 Girls Tennis Classifications

School/Team	League	BEDS	#	School/Team	League	BEDS	#
Class Large 600+ Teams 9				**Class Small 0-599 Teams 8**			
Niagara Falls	NFL	1475	1	Williamsville South	ECIC	560	1
West Seneca West COS 01	ECIC	1322	2	I-Prep PS 198	BFLO	533	2
Lancaster	ECIC	1308	3	Lewiston Porter	NFL	516	3
Jamestown	ECIC	1053	4	Maryvale	ECIC	516	4
Burgard COS 02	BFLO	1035	5	Lake Shore	ECIC	503	5
Lockport	NFL	1025	6	Cheektowaga	ECIC	497	6
Orchard Park	ECIC	1019	7	Pioneer	ECIC	464	7
Clarence	ECIC	948	8	City Honors	BFLO	461	8
Frontier	ECIC	939	9	Dunkirk	CCAA	456	9
Williamsville North	ECIC	930	10	Depew	ECIC	446	10
Hutch Tech	BFLO	885	11	Iroquois	ECIC	444	11
Kenmore West	NFL	788	12	Frewsburg COS 04	CCAA	429	12
Sweet Home	ECIC	782	13	Olean	CCAA	414	13
Niagara-Wheatfield	NFL	756	14	East Aurora	ECIC	411	14
Hamburg	ECIC	717	15	Tonawanda	ECIC	384	15
North Tonawanda	NFL	701	16	FL Olmsted	BFLO	366	16
Grand Island	NFL	683	17	Springville Griffith Inst	ECIC	363	17
Williamsville East	ECIC	683	18	Alden	ECIC	359	18
Kenmore East	NFL	675	19	MST	BFLO	359	19
Starpoint	ECIC	666	20	Fredonia	CCAA	356	20
LJ Bennett COS 03	BFLO	659	21	Salamanca	CCAA	329	21
Amherst	ECIC	626	22	BPS Arts Acad	BFLO	321	22
				Leo Da Vinci	BFLO	294	23
				Eden	ECIC	276	24
				John F Kennedy	ECIC	273	25
				Falconer	CCAA	270	26
				Chautauqua Lake	CCAA	209	27
				Cassadaga Valley	CCAA	149	28
				Research Lab PS 366	BFLO	149	29
				Maple Grove	CCAA	114	30

Changes in Policy/Practice for the upcoming season:

None known at this time for Fall 2026

Ongoing/Active Pilots:

None

Other Pertinent Data:

With the new At-Large Regional Rotations, we may need to consider moving up our date for our regional tennis match vs. Section V as the winner then needs to play against Section 3 in Section 3 prior to the Team Sectional Finals. I indicated TBD as a place holder as I will need to correspond with the Section V sports chair to collaborate.

Respectfully Submitted:

Kristin Janese



Fall 2026 Pre-Season Report
Sport: Girls Volleyball

Sport Chair: Deb Schruefer

Sport Committee: (* Indicates voting members):

Debby Schruefer

Sue Pernick

Buffalo	**Deborah Matos**	City Honors
CCAA 1	Amanda Krawkowiak	Fredonia
CCAA 2	Tara Bartone	Alleghany/Lime
CCAA 3		
CCAA 4	Melissa King	Cassadaga Valley
ECIC	**Becky Edwards***	Lancaster
1	Becky Edwards	
2	Natalie Berrafato	Williamsville East
3	Denae Hickson	Cheektowaga
4	Jen Breier	Holland
NFL	Katie Harrington	North Tonawanda
NO	John Grzymala	Roy Hart

Sport Committee Meeting Dates: NYSPHSAA Executive Committee Meeting May 5, 2026
NYSPHSAA Girls Volleyball Committee Meeting March 24,2027

2026 Post-Season Calendar:

VOLLEYBALL GIRLS Chair: **Deb Schruefer**		
Opt out 10/15	Last league game 10/21	Seeding Meeting Thurs 10/22
Qualifiers (if needed)	Fri 10/23	Higher Seed Times on website Brackets
Pre Quarter-finals:	Tue 10/27	Higher Seed Times on website Brackets
Quarter finals All Classes	Th 10/29	Higher Seed Times on website Brackets
Semi-Finals B & C	Mon 11/2	Higher Seed Times on website Brackets
Semi-Finals AAA, AA, A & D	Mon11/2	Higher Seed Times on website Brackets
Finals B1, B2 A1, A2 (If split is needed)	Wed 11/4	TBD
Finals D & C	Thur 11/5	TBD
AA Final & B Crossover Finals	Fri 11/6	TBD
Crossover Finals A & AAA	Sat 11/7	TBD
Sub Regionals- Section VI	11/10	A-TBD, B-TBD, D-TBD
Far West Regionals	Sat 11/14 Section VI	Times. Sites- TBD
State Championship	Fri-Sun 11/20-11/22	Cool Insuring Arena, Glens Falls

Note- Due to Regional Rotations- We host a Sub-Regional in A,B,D

Changes in Policy/Practice for the upcoming season:

Waiting to hear back on the following rule changes:

1. Looking for a waiver on the bench protocol
2. Administrative red card asking for temporary waiver for uniforms

Tie Breaker rule-change needed in the language of the tie breaker rule. The Operations Packet should state the final two matches, not the final match.

Number of Schools Participating/Sectional Alignment: 2026Fall BEDS

2026 Girls Volleyball Classifications								
School/Team	**League**	**BEDS**	**#**		**School/Team**	**League**	**BEDS**	**#**
Class AAA 1124+ Teams 2					**Class B 274-448 Teams 22**			
Niagara Falls	NFL	1475	1		Depew	ECIC	446	1
Lancaster	ECIC	1308	2		Iroquois	ECIC	444	2
					Burgard PS 301	BFLO	441	3
Class AA 722-1123 Teams 11					Bflo Acad Science	Indep.	419	4
Jamestown	ECIC	1053	1		Olean	CCAA	414	5
Lockport	NFL	1025	2		East Aurora	ECIC	411	6
Orchard Park	ECIC	1019	3		Health Science CS	BFLO	386	7
Clarence	ECIC	948	4		Lafayette	BFLO	386	8
Frontier	ECIC	939	5		Tonawanda	ECIC	384	9
Williamsville North	ECIC	930	6		Albion	NO	383	10
Hutchinson Tech PS 304	BFLO	885	7		FL Olmsted	BFLO	366	11
Kenmore West	NFL	788	8		Springville Griffith	ECIC	363	12
Sweet Home	ECIC	782	9		Alden	ECIC	359	13
West Seneca West	ECIC	771	10		East Community	BFLO	359	14
Niagara-Wheatfield	NFL	756	11		MST Prep PS 197	BFLO	359	15
					Fredonia	CCAA	356	16
Class A 449-721 Teams 23					Salamanca	CCAA	329	17
Hamburg	ECIC	717	1		Buffalo Arts Academy	BFLO	321	18
Buffalo Culinary COS 01	BFLO	716	2		Cleveland Hill	ECIC	312	19
North Tonawanda	NFL	701	3		Leo Da Vinci	BFLO	294	20
South Park PS 206	BFLO	684	4		Akron	NO	279	21
Grand Island	NFL	683	5		Eden	ECIC	276	22
Williamsville East	ECIC	683	6					
Kenmore East	NFL	675	7		**Class C 168-273 Teams 17**			
Starpoint	ECIC	666	8		John F Kennedy	ECIC	273	1
Middle Early College COS 02	BFLO	659	9		Medina	NO	273	2
Amherst	ECIC	626	10		Falconer	CCAA	270	3
McKinley PS 305	BFLO	594	11		Southwestern	CCAA	270	4
Williamsville South	ECIC	560	12		Newfane	NO	263	5
West Seneca East	ECIC	551	13		Tapestry CS	ECIC	261	6
Charter/ Applied Tech	NFL	536	14		Riverside	BFLO	252	7
International Prep PS 198	BFLO	533	15		Allegany-Limestone	CCAA	246	8
Lewiston Porter	NFL	516	16		Gowanda	CCAA	245	9
Maryvale	ECIC	516	17		Royalton-Hartland	NO	236	10
Lake Shore	ECIC	503	18		Randolph	CCAA	225	11
Cheektowaga	ECIC	497	19		Global Concepts CSr	ECIC	216	12
Lackawanna	ECIC	488	20		Portville	CCAA	213	13
Pioneer	ECIC	464	21		Chautauqua Lake	CCAA	209	14
City Honors PS 195	BFLO	461	22		Wilson	NO	209	15
Dunkirk	CCAA	456	23		Silver Creek	CCAA	207	16
					Cattaraugus-Little Valley	CCAA	203	17
					Class D 0-167 Teams 14			
					West Valley COS 03	CCAA	165	1
					Holland	ECIC	164	2
					Westfield	CCAA	161	3

					Cassadaga Valley	CCAA	149	4
					Research Lab PS 366	BFLO	149	5
					Ellicottville	CCAA	125	6
					North Collins	CCAA	122	7
					Maple Grove	CCAA	114	8
					Sherman	CCAA	110	9
					Brocton	CCAA	107	10
					Clymer	CCAA	95	11
					Forestville	CCAA	93	12
					Pine Valley	CCAA	90	13
					Panama	CCAA	86	14

Ongoing/Active Pilots:
NONE

Other Pertinent Data:
Sub Regionals- A,B,D Section VI Host Site

Respectfully Submitted:

Debby Schruefer

Event	Details	Date/Time
First Practice	Monday August 24	
First Scrimmage/Contest	After 6 individual practices	
Pre-Season Coaches Meeting		
Rosters deadline	sectionalsports.com	Friday September 4, 2026
Referee Rating deadline		
Deadline to opt out of Sectionals	Email chair by 12pm	
Last League Game		
Power PointRating form Deadline	email chair	
Seeding Meeting		
End of year records deadline		
All-WNY Scholar Athlete Deadline	On-Line Form Only	

Play-off Dates		
Pre-Quarters B1, B2 & C	Higher Seed	
Pre-Quarters A1, A2 & AA	Higher Seed	
Quarters B1, B2 & C	Higher Seed	
Quarters A1, A2, AAA & AA	Higher Seed	
Bring Sectional Admittance form	Sectional Admittance form	
Semis B1 & B2	Higher Seed	
Semis A1 & A2	Higher Seed	
Semis AA & C	Higher Seed	
Semis AAA		
Finals B1 & B2	B1/ B2- SITES?	
Finals A1, A2, AAA, AA	SITES?	
Finals C & D	SITES?	Mon. 10/30 C- 5 & D- 7:30 PM (example)
State Qualifier A, B	WS West	
Far West Regional C, AAA	West Seneca West	
Far West Regional B, D, A, AA	West Seneca West	
State Championship	Middletown HS	11/11 & 11/12 Time tba

Other Important Dates:

Fall 26 Pre-Season Report
Sport: Gymnastics

Sport Chair: Joe Buscaglia

Sport Committee(* Indicates voting members):

D1 Chair	Chris Watson	Kenmore
D2 Chair	Margaret Buscaglia	Maryvale

Sport Committee Meeting Dates: TBA

Number of Schools Participating/Sectional Alignment: 2026Fall_BEDS

2026 Girls Gym Classifications			
School	**League**	**26-27 BEDS**	**#**
Williamsville North COS 01	ECIC	1596	1
Williamsville East COS 02	ECIC	1465	2
Frontier COS 03	ECIC	1442	3
Lancaster	ECIC	1308	4
Williamsville South COS 04	ECIC	1186	5
Orchard Park	ECIC	1019	6
Clarence	ECIC	948	7
Hamburg	ECIC	717	8
Maryvale	ECIC	516	9

2026/27 Post-Season Calendar:

GYMNASTICS GIRLS		
Sectionals:	Sat. 10/31	9 am at Lancaster HS
States	Fri-Sat 2/26-2/27	Cold Spring Harbor High School - Long Island, NY - Section 8

Changes in Policy/Practice for the upcoming season:

Division Alignments:

Division 1: Orchard Park, Frontier/Lake Shore, Lancaster & Will East/Sweet Home

Division 2: Will North/Starpoint, Hamburg, Will South/Amherst, Clarence & Maryvale

Ongoing/Active Pilots:
None

Other Pertinent Data:
None

Respectfully Submitted:
Joseph Buscaglia

Fall 26 Pre-Season Report
Sport: Cross Country

Sport Chair: Jason Longo, Walt McLaughlin

Boys League Representatives

ECIC	*Jason Longo
Buffalo	*Maria Monaco
NFL	*Tim Willett
NO	*Paul Dersarkissian
CCAA	*Tim O'Donnell

Girls League Representatives

ECIC	*Walt McLaughlin
Buffalo	*
NFL	*Tim Willett
NO	*Mike Heitzenrater
CCAA	*Kathy Stamets

Sport Committee Meeting Dates: TBD Our preference would be during the first week of the official season start.

Number of Schools Participating/Sectional Alignment: 2026Fall BEDS

2026 Cross Country Classifications

School/Team	League	BEDS	#		School/Team	League	BEDS	#
Class A 815+ Teams 10					**Class C 255-449 Teams 29**			
Niagara Falls	NFL	1475	1		Depew	ECIC	446	1
Lancaster	ECIC	1308	2		Iroquois	ECIC	444	2
Jamestown	CCAA	1053	3		Burgard	BFLO	441	3
West Seneca West COS 01	ECIC	1047	4		LJ Bennett	BFLO	428	4
Lockport	NFL	1025	5		Fredonia	CCAA	420	5
Orchard Park	ECIC	1019	6		Bflo Acad Science	Indep.	419	6
Clarence	ECIC	948	7		Olean	CCAA	414	7
Frontier	ECIC	939	8		East Aurora	ECIC	411	8
Williamsville North	ECIC	930	9		Lafayette	BFLO	386	9
Hutch Tech	BFLO	885	10		Tonawanda	ECIC	384	10
					Albion	NO	383	11
Class B 450-814 Teams 22					FL Olmsted	BFLO	366	12
Kenmore West	NFL	788	1		Springville Griffith Inst	ECIC	363	13
Sweet Home	ECIC	782	2		Alden	ECIC	359	14
Niagara-Wheatfield	NFL	756	3		East Com	BFLO	359	15
Hamburg	ECIC	717	4		MST Prep	BFLO	359	16
North Tonawanda	NFL	701	5		Falconer	CCAA	330	17
South Park	BFLO	684	6		Salamanca	CCAA	329	18

Grand Island	NFL	683	7		Arts Academy	BFLO	321	19
Williamsville East	ECIC	683	8		Cleveland Hill	ECIC	312	20
Kenmore East	NFL	675	9		L Da Vinci	BFLO	294	21
Starpoint	ECIC	666	10		Akron	NO	279	22
Amherst	ECIC	626	11		Eden	ECIC	276	23
McKinley	BFLO	594	12		John F Kennedy	ECIC	273	24
Silver Creek COS 02	CCAA	576	13		Medina	NO	273	25
Williamsville South	ECIC	560	14		Southwestern	CCAA	270	26
Bflo Culinary Arts	BFLO	543	15		Newfane	NO	263	27
Charter/ Applied Tech	NFL	536	16		Tapestry CS Boys Only	ECIC	261	28
I-Prep	BFLO	533	17		Panama COS 07 Girls ONLY as C	CCAA	162	29
Lewiston Porter	NFL	516	18					
Maryvale	ECIC	516	19		**Class D 0-254 Teams 19**			
Lake Shore	ECIC	503	20		Riverside	BFLO	252	1
Pioneer	ECIC	464	21		Allegany-Limestone	CCAA	246	2
City Honors	BFLO	461	22		Gowanda	CCAA	245	3
					Royalton-Hartland	NO	236	4
					MEC	BFLO	231	5
					Randolph	CCAA	225	6
					Global Concepts	ECIC	216	7
					Portville	CCAA	213	8
					WNY Maritime CS	Indep.	210	9
					Chautauqua Lake	CCAA	209	10
					Wilson	NO	209	11
					Cattaraugus-Little Valley	CCAA	203	12
					Franklinville	CCAA	199	13
					Panama COS 07 Boys Only as D	CCAA	162	14
					Frewsburg	CCAA	159	15
					Barker	NO	155	16
					Research Lab	BFLO	149	17
					Maple Grove	CCAA	114	18
					West Valley	CCAA	38	19

2026 Post-Season Calendar:

*10/30/2026 Section 6 Cross Country Championships at Elma Meadows Golf Course
*11/14/2026 NY State Cross Country Championships Queensbury High School
*11/21/2026 NY State Federation Cross Country Championships Bowdoin Park, Wappengers Falls

Changes in Policy/Practice for the upcoming season:

None at this time

Ongoing/Active Pilots:

Sectional Championships at Elma Meadows

Other Pertinent Data:

None

Respectfully Submitted:

Walt McLaughlin
Jason Longo

APPENDIX D

Safety Committee Meeting Re

Date: April 5, 2023, at 10am

Topic Discussed:

1. Modified Committee Recommendations
2. Girls Wrestling Recommendations
3. Baseball Pitchers start date

Attendees:

Section I – Maureen Myers
Section 2 –Rick Knizek
Section III –
Section IV – Cathy Haight
Section V – John Lombardi
Section VI –Matt McKenna
Section VII – Jenn Drucker
Section VIII – Pat Pizzarelli
Section IX – Janet Carey
Section X – Erica Backus
Section XI – Tim Mullins
NYSPHSAA – Todd Nelson, Aimee Brunelle, Jarett Rhoads, Dr. Donatelli, Kylie Tyo, Connie Griffin

Status Updates:

1. **Concussion Management** – BIANYS is still promoting and meeting with NYS legislators to update the NYS Concussion Management Law. Specifically, BIANYS would like Nurse Practitioner and Physician Assistants included with Physicians on who can clear a student back to participation following a concussion. BIANYS continues to work with the NYS Senate and Assembly to update the Concussion Law. BIANYS is still offering COPE Trainings for member schools. These trainings are open to administrators, coaches, athletic trainers, school nurses, school medical directors and parents.
2. Team Up for Sports Safety (TUFFS) is hosting a meeting in Albany on April 24th to discuss topics related to athletic injuries and reducing risk for student athletes. NYSPHSAA will be represented at the meeting.
3. NFHS RIO Data – The 2024-2025 Sport injury Data was shared with the committee. This information is collected from Certified Athletic Trainers from across the country. If any NY Certified Athletic Trainer would like to participate in the collection of injury data, please contact the NYSPHSAA office. There is a small stipend to the collectors of the data.

Items Discussion/ Action Taken:

1. **Modified Recommendation** – The Safety Committee discussed the recommendation for modified wrestling to go from 30 minutes between matches to 20 minutes between matches. The time of periods in modified wrestling matches are a minute to ½ minute shorter than HS wrestling matches. The NFHS rule for HS matches is 30 minutes. The only concern raised by the Safety Committee of reducing the time between modified matches was any liability issues NYSPHSAA may have if the time was lower than the NFHS rulebook.
2. **Girls Wrestling Committee Recommendation** – The Safety Committee fully supported the recommendation to increase the % body fat in the formula to determine the minimum wrestling weight from 14% to 17%. There was discussion to increase it to 19% based on a study conducted by the National Wrestling Coaches Association for HS wrestlers. The NCAA just changed their percentage body fat to 17%.
3. **Section Concerns** – Section 2 Baseball pitchers start date. The Committee discussed and supported baseball pitchers and catchers starting one week before all other Spring sports. The Committee cited the need to prepare for the baseball season and the fact that baseball requires 10 practices and has a pitch count. The committee agrees that no other baseball activity would be allowed during this time and that all practices would count toward the minimum number of practices required. The committee believes this could be an opportunity to develop other players into relief pitchers that could help during the season.

Future Items/Meeting:

1. Next Meeting: October 8, 2026, at 10am (Zoom)

New York State Public High School Athletic Association

Executive Committee Meeting – May 6, 2026

Championship Advisory Committee – NYSPHSAA Officials Fees and Policies Document

Vote July

____ Action Item
__X__ Discussion Item
____ Informational Item

Presenter:
Greg Ransom, Championship Advisory Committee Chairperson

Proposal:
The Championship Advisory Committee is recommending approving the NYSPHSAA Officials Fees and Policies for 2026 - 2029.

Effective Start Date:
Fall 2026

Rationale:
The Championship Advisory Committee is responsible for recommending the NYSPHSAA Officials Fees and Policies for the NYSPHSAA Championships. The Committee reviewed the current fees and examined the average fee for all of the 11 Sections to establish the fees for all NYSPHSAA Championships. The Committee is also recommending a pilot program for Girls and Boys Basketball as it relates to hotel accommodations. The committee is also recommending minor changes to Field Hockey and Girls Basketball.

Proposal Originated:
NYSPHSAA Championship Advisory Committee

Budgetary Impact:
Increase to all Official Fees for NYSPHSAA Championships including Regionals

Notes:
None

Attachments:
Attached Draft NYSPHSAA Fees and Policies Document

DATE REVISED: April 16, 2026

NEW YORK STATE PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

OFFICIATING FEES & POLICIES

2026-2029

REGIONAL
SEMIFINAL
CHAMPIONSHIP CONTESTS

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GENERAL POLICIES

A. The selection of officials from a section to service NYSPHSAA, INC. tournament contests is the responsibility of the section's sport committee.

B. In team sports, the best available officials from each section shall be selected. Assignments will not be made on a chapter by chapter or rotating basis.

C. For the selection of officials, if a section does not present a candidate for an assignment (for whatever reason), the state sport committee will accept additional nominations of qualified officials from other sections.

D. The state sport chairperson (or designee) will notify each selected official in writing of NYSPHSAA fees, policies, accommodations and tournament schedules as they apply to the official's selection. Provision for the official to acknowledge his/her selection shall be made.

E. To gain approval for an increase in the number of officials used in team sports at NYSPHSAA, Inc. tournament contests, that number of officials must be used in sectional tournament play in a majority of the sections.

F. Sport Coordinators, Section Treasurers, and Tournament Directors must direct, in writing, any questions relative to officiating expenses to the NYSPHSAA, Inc. Executive Director.

G. A review of the NYSPHSAA, Inc. Championship Tournament Fees/Policies will be conducted every three (3) years.

H. When neutral officials are selected, they must be assigned from the nearest non-participating Section.

I. No revisions to an existing fee or policy may occur without the initial approval of the NYSPHSAA Championship Advisory Committee.

J. In Regional competition, the use of host officials will occur unless mutually agreed upon by the participating Sections.

K. If there is a change in working conditions for the officials in any sport, the CAC will review those changes and discuss the impact on the Fees and Policies and make any necessary recommendations to the NYSPHSAA Executive Committee.

FEES POLICIES

A. The same fees for girls' and boys' programs will be adopted, except for those contests with a variance in playing time.

B. NO ONE is authorized to pay a fee in conducting a championship tournament contest other than those fees established by the NYSPHSAA, Inc.

C. If a contest fee has not been established by the NYSPHSAA, Inc., the Sport Coordinator must contact the Executive Director of the NYSPHSAA, Inc. for approval of a fee.

D. In team sports, officials assigned the final round contests (championship games) will receive an additional $10.00 above the established fee. Wrestling Dual Championship is included.

E. All fees will be established by taking the average fee of all 11 sections. If a sport does not have a Section fee or a sport average decreases then an average increase of all other sports will be used, excluding Cross Country, Indoor and Outdoor Track and Field and Individual Wrestling.

FEES/REIMBURSEMENT

A. MILEAGE: When travel is reimbursed by the NYSPHSAA, INC. mileage will be paid from the section where the officials' chapter is located according to the NYSPHSAA, INC. Mileage Chart @ .10 less the current IRS rate. Primary host section tournament officials will receive a transportation fee of $30.00 per day. Transportation will be paid for one car per officials' chapter. *Exception: When it is more economical or practical to do so, transportation will be paid for more than one car per official's chapter once approved by the NYSPHSAA office staff (Semi-Final/Finals) or Section Executive Director (Regional contests).

B. TOLLS: Toll charges will be reimbursed with necessary receipts from the section where the officials' chapter is located to the tournament site. *For round trip reimbursement of tolls (road and/or bridge), only one-way receipts will be required. Host section officials are eligible for bridge toll reimbursement only. For E-Z Pass reimbursement, exit numbers (on/off) and/or bridges must be identified. For E-Z Pass, no receipts are required, unless otherwise required by host section policy.

C. LODGING: Lodging for each official, when needed, will be arranged and provided by the NYSPHSAA. Officials will be offered double occupancy per night. Officials selecting their own lodging will be reimbursed at the NYSPHSAA secured rate. Where possible, the NYSPHSAA will assume room only charges with a direct billing arrangement in place.
Officials working consecutive days shall receive lodging expenses. Lodging for the night prior to, or after a contest shall be determined by the tournament director depending on the distance traveled and the time of the contest. Pilot program for Girls and Boys Basketball. NYSPHSAA will block out rooms up to one week before the championships at a NYSPHSAA rate. Officials will make their own reservation using our block and provide a method of payment. Once the deadline has passed the unused rooms will be released and all officials are on their own to make reservations. Each official will be paid ½ the NYSPHSAA hotel rate for each night they stay to work. They will be reimbursed on their final voucher submitted to NYSPHSAA.

D. MEALS: Meal expenses shall be determined by the tournament director depending upon the distance traveled and the time of the contest. Where approved, maximum reimbursement will be $40.00/day as follows: Breakfast: $10, Lunch: $10, Dinner $20. Officials will not be reimbursed when NYSPHSAA or the official hotel provides a meal.

E. For team sports that do not utilize an additional number of officials during the regular season, in a majority of the Sections, a standby official will be assigned to all regional, semifinal and final games. The standby official will receive a stipend of 1/2 of the game fee. If the standby official enters the contest, they will receive a full fee. (Example. Football uses 5 officials during the regular season, in a majority of the Sections. A standby official will be assigned to all regional, semifinal and final games). For sports that do utilize an additional official for regional, semifinal, and final games and an official cannot complete the game they will utilize the system that was used during the regular season.

F. All minor officials in any team sport acting in a decision-making capacity will receive $46.00 per contest, no expenses (ex: lines person, goal judge, etc.).

G. All minor officials in any team sport acting in a non-decision-making capacity will receive $40.00 per contest, no expenses (ex: chain crew, scorekeeper, etc.).

H. Any official who travels to a tournament site and was not notified that the contest that day was canceled or postponed to another date will be reimbursed ½ the contest fee plus transportation (mileage .10 less the current IRS rate/grid chart and tolls with receipts OR E-Z Pass).

I. Should a contest be interrupted/suspended and resumed the following day (or later), a full contest fee with allowable reimbursement for expenses will be paid for each day.

TRANSPORTATION MILEAGE CHART

Mileage listed round trip as of 9/98

SECTION	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	NYC
1 Mt. Kisco		240	540	340	690	840	550	100	120	720	200	90
2 Albany	240		280	280	450	580	300	340	230	430	440	300
3 Syracuse	540	280		150	170	320	490	640	390	280	740	580
4 Binghamton	340	280	150		290	420	500	440	230	430	540	370
5 Rochester	690	450	170	290		150	660	780	540	440	880	750
6 Buffalo	840	580	320	420	150		780	930	690	560	1030	880
7 Plattsburgh	550	300	490	500	660	780		680	510	190	780	630
8 Mineola	100	340	640	440	780	930	680		240	790	100	40
9 Middletown	120	230	390	230	540	690	510	240		670	340	100
10 Potsdam	720	430	280	430	440	560	190	790	670		900	760
11 Riverhead	200	440	740	540	880	1030	780	100	340	900		140
New York City	90	300	580	370	750	880	630	40	100	760	140	

Officiating Services Travel Reimbursement will be paid .10 less the current IRS rate (round trip) according to the chart above, from the area where the official chapter is located. A daily transportation fee of $30 will be paid to officials from the host area.

BASEBALL

EFFECTIVE DATES: 9/1/26-8/31/29

CONTEST FEE PER OFFICIAL $154.00

NUMBER OF OFFICIALS PER CONTEST 3

SELECTION PROCESS:

Regionals: HOST section supplies 3 on-field officials per contest.

Semifinals and finals: 6 classes - 18 games - 54 total game assignments. 27 officials will work 2 games. Each Section will provide 2 umpires. The host Section will provide 3 umpires. Sections 5/6 will provide an additional 2 umpires every other year. Sections 2/9 will provide 2 additional umpires on the years opposite of 5/6.

THE OFFICIAL IS TO PAY ALL PERSONAL EXPENSES (see lodging exception) SEE FEE REIMBURSEMENT POLICIES FOR ALLOWABLE CLAIMS. VOUCHERS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE CONTEST.

BASKETBALL - BOYS

EFFECTIVE DATES: 9/1/26-8/31/29

CONTEST FEE PER OFFICIAL $155.00

NUMBER OF OFFICIALS/CONTEST 3

SELECTION PROCESS:

Regionals: See J under General Policies.

Semifinals and finals: Each section will supply 2 officials. An additional 5 Officials will be selected on a rotating basis from all the Sections Total number of Officials will be 27. Each official will be assigned 2 games.

THE OFFICIAL IS TO PAY ALL PERSONAL EXPENSES. (see lodging exception) SEE FEE REIMBURSEMENT POLICIES FOR ALLOWABLE CLAIMS. VOUCHERS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE CONTEST.

BASKETBALL – GIRLS

EFFECTIVE DATES: 9/1/26 – 8/31/29

CONTEST FEE PER OFFICIAL $155.00

NUMBER OF OFFICIALS/CONTEST 3 SELECTION PROCESS:

Regionals: See J under General Policies.

Semifinals and finals: 6 classes- 18 games with a total of 54 game assignments. All Sections will submit 2 names of their top officials. The host section will submit their top 3 officials The committee will select an at-large official from any Section to complete the pool. A total of 23 officials will be used during the championship.

Fifteen officials will work 2 games and eight officials will work 3 games during the four-day event.

If a Section did not submit a name to the State Coordinator by the deadline, then the Section would forfeit their selection and the State Committee would reallocate the Selection to the remaining pool of candidates.

THE OFFICIAL IS TO PAY ALL PERSONAL EXPENSES. (See lodging exception} SEE FEE REIMBURSEMENT POLICIES FOR ALLOWABLE CLAIMS. VOUCHERS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE CONTEST.

COMPETITIVE CHEERLEADING

Effective Dates: 9/1/26 – 8/31/29

Contest Fee: $301.00

Number of Judges: 11 + State Rules Interpreter

Selection Process:

Each Section will submit 3 judges to the Sport Chairperson based on judging skills and expertise in the judging score sheet areas. Each Section will have one judge selected. In the event a judge at the last minute cannot uphold their selection, the Sport Chairperson will select a replacement based on names submitted fitting the criteria needed and the spot on the panel to be filled.

THE OFFICIAL IS TO PAY ALL PERSONAL EXPENSES. (See lodging exception} SEE FEE REIMBURSEMENT POLICIES FOR ALLOWABLE CLAIMS. VOUCHERS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE CONTEST.

CROSS COUNTRY

EFFECTIVE DATES:	9/1/26 – 8/31/29
MEET FEE (ALL OFFICIALS)	$4275.00
NUMBER OF OFFICIALS/CONTEST	25

SELECTION PROCESS:

The host section sport committee will select a minimum of 25 officials from the local certified track/field chapter(s). The chapter treasurer(s) will receive the fee for service, no expenses. Lunch for the officials conducting the meet will be provided.

NOTE: The above fees are based on a 4 class State Championship meet.

FIELD HOCKEY

EFFECTIVE DATES:	9/1/26 – 8/31/29
CONTEST FEE PER OFFICIAL	$157.00 $78.50 (table/standby)
NUMBER OF OFFICIALS/CONTEST	2 plus 1 table/standby official (semifinals and finals)

SELECTION PROCESS:

Regionals: See J under General Policies.

Semifinals and finals: Each Section can select a minimum of one official from their Section. They should rank order multiple selections. Each Section is guaranteed at minimum of one official from their Section. The NYSPHSAA Committee selects and assigns 10 officials for the tournament.

THE OFFICIAL IS TO PAY ALL PERSONAL EXPENSES. (see lodging exception) SEE FEE REIMBURSEMENT POLICIES FOR ALLOWABLE CIAIMS. VOUCHERS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE CONTEST.

FLAG FOOTBALL

EFFECTIVE DATES:	9/1/26 – 8/31/29
CONTEST FEE PER OFFICIAL	$158.00 $79.00 (standby)
NUMBER OF OFFICIALS/CONTEST	4 officials (semifinals and finals) 3 officials plus 1 standby (regionals)

SELECTION PROCESS:

Regionals: See J under General Policies.

Semifinals and finals: Officials will be selected from all 14 chapters and approved by the Girls Flag Football Committee. Officials will only work one semifinal or one final game as part of a crew.

THE OFFICIAL IS TO PAY ALL PERSONAL EXPENSES. (see lodging exception) SEE FEE REIMBURSEMENT POLICIES FOR ALLOWABLE CIAIMS. VOUCHERS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE CONTEST.

NYSPHSAA, INC. Officiating Fees and Policies
(Regional, Semifinal, and Championship)

FOOTBALL

EFFECTIVE DATES:	9/1/23 – 8/31/26
CONTEST FEE PER OFFICIAL	$155.00 $77.50 (standby)
NUMBER OF OFFICIALS/CONTEST	5 plus 1 standby official NYSPHSAA Semi and Finals will use the standby official
Clock Operator (if required)	$70.00
Minor Officials:	
Non-decision Making	$40.00/contest.

SELECTION PROCESS:

Regionals: See J under General Policies.

Semifinals: 25 game assignments for 5 classifications/region. Section Officiating Chapters will provide information on possible officials based on the following: (All officials will be approved by the Sectional Coordinator)

- Small officiating chapters will provide 3 officials: Referee, Umpire & Line Judge.
- Large Chapters will provide 10 officials: 2 Referees, 2 Umpires, 4 Line Judges, 2 Back Judges.

Finals at Carrier Dome: 25 game assignments for 5 classifications. Section Officiating Chapters will provide information on possible officials based on the following: (All officials will be approved by the Sectional Coordinator)

- Small officiating chapters will provide 3 officials: Referee, Umpire & Line Judge.
- Large Chapters will provide 5 officials: Referee, Umpire, 2 Line Judges, Back Judge.

The local officials' chapter will supply 3 members to serve as the chain crew. See non-decision-making fee.

THE OFFICIAL IS TO PAY ALL PERSONAL EXPENSES. (See lodging exception) SEE FEE REIMBURSEMENT POLICIES FOR ALLOWABLE CLAIMS. VOUCHERS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE CONTEST.

GOLF – BOYS/GIRLS

EFFECTIVE DATES	9/1/26 –8/31/29
TOURNAMENT FEE9	$183.00/day

A certified official from a recognized organization will be selected by the State Coordinator and serve as tournament referee. The referee will receive $183.00/day. Any other officials will receive breakfast, lunch, and a cart per day.

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GYMNASTICS - GIRLS

EFFECTIVE DATES:	9/1/26 – 8/31/29
MEET FEE PER OFFICIAL	$163.00
NUMBER OF OFFICIALS/MEET	9

SELECTION PROCESS:

4 events. 8 judges and 1 meet referee. The host section shall furnish 2 officials, other participating sections 1 each (a total of 7) on a rotation basis each year.

THE OFFICIAL IS TO PAY ALL PERSONAL EXPENSES. (See lodging exception) SEE FEE REIMBURSEMENT POLICIES FOR ALLOWABLE CLAIMS. VOUCHERS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE CONTEST.

ICE HOCKEY

EFFECTIVE DATES: 9/1/26 – 8/31/29

CONTEST FEE PER OFFICIAL $144.00

NUMBER OF OFFICIALS/CONTEST 3

SELECTION PROCESS:

Regionals: See J under General Policies.

Semifinals and Finals: 6 games - 18 assignments (8 sections). 12 officials work four Day One games, 6 selected for 2 Day Two games. Each section submits four top-rated officials and two alternates to the NYSPHSAA tournament official's committee. The committee selects and assigns three neutral on ice officials to work on each game. These neutral officials will be selected from the same section. Host sections provide minor officials.

Minor Officials:	Goal Judge - 2 Penalty Box Judge - 2
Two games per day.	Host section to furnish minor officials. 24 assignments.
Minor Officials Fees:	Decision Making -$46.00. Non-decision-making - $40.00

THE OFFICIAL IS TO PAY ALL PERSONAL EXPENSES. (See lodging exception) SEE FEE REIMBURSEMENT POLICIES FOR ALLOWABLE CLAIMS. VOUCHERS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE CONTEST.

INDOOR TRACK/FIELD

EFFECTIVE DATES:	9/1/26 – 8/31/29
MEET FEE (ALL OFFICIALS)	$13328.00
NUMBER OF OFFICIALS	70

The fee will be remitted to the treasurer of the contracted State Officials Organization for disbursement. Each Chapter will select an official to work the State Championship. Section reps may reject any selection by the chapter.

In addition, lunch on Saturday (day of competition) will be provided to the officials conducting the meet.

LACROSSE – BOYS

EFFECTIVE DATES:	9/1/26 – 8/31/29
CONTEST FEE PER OFFICIAL	$155.00
NUMBER OF OFFICIALS/CONTEST:	3 field officials plus 1 Chief Bench Official
Chief Bench Official (Regionals on):	Full game fee (no meals, mileage, or lodging

SELECTION PROCESS:

Each Section selects a minimum of one official from each Section. If they select multiple officials, they should be ranked. Each section will have one representative in the semifinal or final. The host Section in the semifinal and final will have 9 officials and the remaining Sections will have 7 in total. The NYSPHSAA Committee makes the final selections and assignments.

THE OFFICIAL IS TO PAY ALL PERSONAL EXPENSES. (See lodging exception) SEE FEE REIMBURSEMENT POLICIES FOR ALLOWABLE CLAIMS. VOUCHERS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE CONTEST.

LACROSSE – GIRLS

EFFECTIVE DATES:	9/1/26 – 8/31/29
CONTEST FEE PER OFFICIAL	$155.00 $77.50 (Table Official)
NUMBER OF OFFICIALS/CONTEST:	3 Field Officials plus 1 table official
Table Official (Semifinals & Finals):	½ game fee (no meals, mileage, or lodging)

SELECTION PROCESS:

Regionals: See J under General Policies.

Semifinals/Finals: Each Section selects a minimum of one official from each Sections. If they select multiple officials, they should be ranked. Each Section has one representative. The remaining officials are selected from the remaining pool. (32 assignments for semi-finals, 16 assignments for finals)

THE OFFICIAL IS TO PAY ALL PERSONAL EXPENSES. (See lodging exception) SEE FEE REIMBURSEMENT POLICIES FOR ALLOWABLE CLAIMS. VOUCHERS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE CONTEST.

OUTDOOR TRACK & FIELD

EFFECTIVE DATES:	9/1/26 – 8/31/29
MEET FEE (ALL OFFICIALS)	$15300.00
NUMBER OF OFFICIALS	85

A fee has been approved for officiating services rendered at the Track and Field State Championships. The fee will be remitted to the treasurer of the contracted State Officials Organization for disbursement. Each Chapter will select one official for the State Championship. A Section rep can eliminate any official selected from the Chapter.

In addition, a meal will be provided to officials for each session of the meet.

SKIING

EFFECTIVE DATES: 9/1/26– 8/31/29

MEET FEE $183.00/day.

A certified official from a recognized organization will be selected by the State Coordinator and serve as tournament referee. The referee will receive $173.00/day, no expenses.

SOCCER – BOYS/GIRLS

EFFECTIVE DATES:	9/1/26 – 8/31/29	
CONTEST FEE PER OFFICIAL	$158.00 $79.00 (table)	
NUMBER OF OFFICIALS	3 plus 1 table/standby official	
Semifinal and Finals only	Ass't Referee #1	$140.00
	Ass't Referee #2	$140.00
	Table/standby official	½ game fee

SELECTION PROCESS (Boys):

Regionals: See J under General Policies.

Semifinals/Finals: All Sections will select a 3-person crew with the host section selecting (2) 3-person crews. The host Section will also provide additional table officials if needed. Total number of officials 36. Selection of officials for the Final contests will be based on the outcome of the Semi-final contests. Total assignments: 54.

SELECTION PROCESS (Girls):

Regionals: See J under General Policies.

Semifinals and Finals: All Sections will submit 3 names of their top officials. Each Section will have their top two officials selected to work the Championship. 2 additional officials will be selected from the remaining pool of candidates. Total number of Officials 25. Selection for the Final contests will be based on the outcome of the Semi-final contest. Total assignments: 54.

THE OFFICIAL IS TO PAY ALL PERSONAL EXPENSES. (See lodging exception) SEE FEE REIMBURSEMENT POLICIES FOR ALLOWABLE CLAIMS. VOUCHE.RS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE CONTEST.

SOFTBALL

EFFECTIVE DATE: 9/1/26 – 8/31/29

CONTEST FEE PER OFFICIAL $154.00

NUMBER OF OFFICIALS/CONTEST: 3

SELECTION PROCESS:

Regionals: See J under General Policies.

Semifinals and Finals: 6 classes - 18 games with a total of 54 total game assignments. Each Section will provide 2 officials each and the host Section will provide 3 officials. A total of 23 officials will be used during the championship.

THE OFFICIAL IS TO PAY ALL PERSONAL EXPENSES. (See lodging exception). SEE FEE REIMBURSEMENT POLICIES FOR ALLOWABLE CLAIMS. VOUCHERS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE CONTEST.

SWIMMING – BOYS/GIRLS

EFFECTIVE DATES: 9/1/26 – 8/31/29

MEET FEE (All Officials): $13,211.00

NUMBER OF OFFICIALS/MEET: 40

SELECTION PROCESS:

State tournament: A fee has been approved for officiating services rendered at the Swimming and Diving State Championships. The fee will be remitted to the treasurer of the contracted State Officials Organization for disbursement. Each Chapter will select one official for the State Championship. A Section rep can eliminate any official selected from the Chapter.

In addition, a meal will be provided to officials for each session of the meet.

TENNIS – BOYS/GIRLS

EFFECTIVE DATES: 9/1/26 – 8/31/29

FEE FOR TOURNAMENT OFFICIALS 3 officials - $183 each per day

Officials must be certified by the Eastern Tennis Umpires Association.

VOLLEYBALL – BOYS/GIRLS

EFFECTIVE DATES:	9/1/26 – 8/31/29	
CONTEST FEE PER OFFICIAL	$152.00	
GAME FEE PER OFFICIAL	Pool Play - $28.00/game.	
NUMBER OF OFFICIALS/CONTEST	2 plus 1 standby official	
Minor Official:		
Decision Making	3/5: $46.00/match	Pool Play: $9.50/game.
Non-decision making	3/5: $40.00/match	Pool Play: $8.00/game.

SELECTION PROCESS:

Regionals: See J under General Policies.

Pool Play and Finals: 2 officials from each participating section.

THE OFFICIAL IS TO PAY ALL PERSONAL EXPENSES. (See lodging exception) SEE FEE REIMBURSEMENT POLICIES FOR ALLOWABLE CLAIMS. VOUCHERS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE CONTEST.

BOYS WRESTLING

EFFECTIVE DATES:	9/1/26 - 8/31/29
CONTEST FEE PER OFFICIAL (Based on a 22-hour total tournament schedule)	$660.00
ALTERNATE OFFICIALS FEE @ 50%	$330.00 (2 alternates)
NUMBER OF OFFICIALS (Ind):	30
NUMBER OF OFFICIALS (Dual):	12
CONTEST FEE PER MATCH (DUAL):	$154 per match

SELECTION PROCESS (Ind and Dual):

Each chapter and Section can nominate an official to go through a screening process. Each Section can eliminate any official from going through the screening process. Following the screening process by the State Wrestling Officials a final recommendation is made to the Wrestling Committee. The Wrestling Committee has final say in the Section representative. Each Section is given a minimum of one representative at the Tournament.

ADDITIONAL FEES:

The policies for standby officials in team sports apply to the alternate official.

The certified official's chapter of the host section will furnish a minimum of 30 secondary officials for which the treasurer of the chapter will be paid (no expenses): $498.00.

All officials who are assigned a finals bout (Championship match) will receive an additional $10.00 above the tournament fee.

THE OFFICIAL IS TO PAY ALL HIS OWN EXPENSES. (see lodging exception) SEE FEE REIMBURSEMENT POLICIES FOR ALLOWABLE CLAIMS. VOUCHERS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE CONTEST.

Girls WRESTLING

EFFECTIVE DATES:	9/1/26 - 8/31/29
CONTEST FEE PER OFFICIAL (Based on a 22-hour total tournament schedule)	$330.00
ALTERNATE OFFICIALS FEE @ 50%	$165.00 (2 alternates)
NUMBER OF OFFICIALS (Ind):	26
NUMBER OF OFFICIALS (Dual):	N/A
CONTEST FEE PER MATCH (DUAL):	N/A

SELECTION PROCESS (Ind and Dual):

Each chapter and Section can nominate an official to go through a screening process. In order to be eligible the official must hold a rating of M2 or higher. Following the screening process by the State Wrestling Officials a final recommendation is made to the Wrestling Committee. The Wrestling Committee has final say in the Section representative. Each Section is given a minimum of one representative at the Tournament (if they have an official that is rated an M2 or higher)

ADDITIONAL FEES:

The policies for standby officials in team sports apply to the alternate official.

The certified official's chapter of the host section will furnish a minimum of 30 secondary officials (if available) for which the treasurer of the chapter will be paid (no expenses): $249.00.

All officials who are assigned a finals bout (Championship match) will receive an additional $10.00 above the tournament fee.

THE OFFICIAL IS TO PAY ALL HIS OWN EXPENSES. (see lodging exception) SEE FEE REIMBURSEMENT POLICIES FOR ALLOWABLE CLAIMS. VOUCHERS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE CONTEST.

New York State Public High School Athletic Association

Executive Committee Meeting – May 6, 2026

Sportsmanship – Lopsided Score Guidance

___ Action Item
_X_ Discussion Item
___ Informational Item

Vote July

Presenter:
Todd Nelson/Kristen Jadin, NYSPHSAA Assistant Directors

Proposal:
Consider approval to add Lopsided Score Guidance to the recommendation section of the NYSPHSAA Handbook.

Effective Start Date:
Fall 2026

NOT MANDATED

Rationale:
The Sportsmanship Committee

Proposal Originated:
NYSPHSAA Sportsmanship Committee

Budgetary Impact:
None

Notes:
The Sportsmanship Committee recommends lopsided score guidance to promote respectful competition, provide coaches with clear expectations in managing one-sided contests, and support positive experiences for student-athletes while maintaining the integrity of the game

Attachments:
Lopsided Score Guidance

Lopsided Score Recommendations

Purpose

This recommendation is provided by NYSPHSAA to assist schools in addressing lopsided scores in a manner consistent with the values of education-based athletics. Each school or section may adapt any or all recommendations to meet local needs while ensuring that respect, integrity, safety, and sportsmanship remain the highest priorities.

Suggested Best Practices

- Coaching Strategies: Rotate players to provide participation opportunities; emphasize skill development once a game becomes unbalanced; adjust defensive approaches (e.g., discontinue pressing/trapping).
- Athlete Expectations: Show respect to opponents at all times; avoid excessive celebrations or conduct that may embarrass others.
- Game Management: Communicate expectations clearly with athletes; work with officials to ensure contests remain respectful and safe.

Oversight and Accountability

- Local Policy: Each school/section may establish thresholds (e.g., score differentials) to trigger game-management adjustments.
  Example: "At [X]-point differential, teams must [insert local rule]."
- Reporting Process: Schools may choose to report contests exceeding the agreed threshold to [insert local coordinator/AD committee].
- Review: Reported contests may be reviewed by [insert committee/AD group] to determine if further discussion or action is necessary.

Recognition of Sportsmanship

- Schools/sections are encouraged to recognize teams that consistently demonstrate outstanding sportsmanship. This may include:
  - A sportsmanship rating system completed by officials and coaches after contests.
  - Certificates, banners, or public recognition for teams achieving high sportsmanship scores.
  - Example: "Teams averaging [X%] or above on sportsmanship ratings will receive recognition."

Goals

Lopsided scores are sometimes unavoidable, but the way schools, coaches, athletes, and communities respond defines the true spirit of high school sports. By adopting local policies guided by NYSPHSAA's recommendations, schools can ensure that athletic participation remains a positive, educational, and character-building experience for all.

New York State Public High School Athletic Association

Executive Committee Meeting – May 6, 2026

Modified Committee – Wait time between Modified Wrestling Matches

___ Action Item
_X_ Discussion Item
___ Informational Item

Vote July

Presenter:
Jim Rose, NYSPHSAA Modified Co-Coordinator
Judy Salerno, NYSPHSAA Modified Co-Coordinator

Proposal:
The NYSPHSAA Modified Committee is recommending lowering the NFHS minimum wait time between modified matches from 30 minutes to 20 minutes.

Effective Start Date:
2026-2027

Rationale:
The current NFHS rule regarding 30-minute wait tim is written for the HS matches which consist of 3, 2-minute matches. The NYSPHSAA modified matches are either 3, 1.5-minute periods or 1, 1 minute period and 2, 1.5-minute periods. The HS girls have 2, 3-minute periods and a wait time of 15 minutes between bouts based on the USA Wrestling rules. The Modified Committee believes that a 20-minute rest between bouts is appropriate for this level and would help the pace of the event.

Proposal Originated:
NYSPHSAA Modified Committee

Budgetary Impact:
None

Notes:
The NYSPHSAA Safety Committee only concern was deviating from the NFHS rulebook and any liability NYSPHSAA may have.

Attachments:
None

DATE REVISED: April 14, 2026

BOYS SOCCER - Adjust Regional Rotation in Class D for 2026 Season

Vote July

____ Action Item
__X__ Discussion Item
____ Informational Item

Presenter:
Matt Allen, NYSPHSAA Boys Soccer State Coordinator

Proposal:
The Boys Soccer State Committee is seeking approval to revise the regional rotation for Class D for the 2026 season. See attached proposed rotation.

Effective Start Date:
Fall 2026

Rationale:
The proposal is designed to ensure a team cannot reach the Final Four playing just one postseason (Sectional or Regional) game. It shows a more balanced rotation by setting up a schedule where teams must play a similar number of postseason games to advance to the Final Four.

Under the current rotation, Section 9 has just one Class D boys soccer team, while Section 11 has two. As a result, the Section 9 team would advance directly to the Regional Final after the regular season, while the Section 11 teams would need to play only one game to determine who advances to face them. In contrast, teams in other regions may be required to play six or seven games—including sectionals, sub-regionals, and regional finals—before reaching the Final Four.

Proposal Originated:
Section 7 Coordinator Rob McAuliffe brought this proposal forward for consideration in November 2025 then again at the state committee zoom call on February 6, 2026. The state committee voted in favor of this proposal (10-1) at the February meeting.

Budgetary Impact:
The budgetary impact of this proposal would be minimal. With the same amount of games to be played as the current rotation the cost of officials would remain constant. Travel expenses would vary depending upon the Section participating in the games.

Notes:
The state committee voted 10-1 in favor of this proposal.

Attachments:
A proposed Regional Rotation is attached.

CAC Feedback
On April 15th, voted 10-0 in favor of recommending this proposal.

9-1 Not to Approve

DATE REVISED: APRIL 16, 2026

BOYS SOCCER - Adjust Regional Rotation in Class D for 2026 Season CONTINUED...

Current Rotation for Class D Boys Soccer

Sub Regionals	Regionals
10 vs 3 (31 schools)	10/3 winner vs 7/2 winner (52 schools) (47 % of schools)
7 vs 2 (21 schools)	
NA	9 (1 school) vs 11 (2 schools) (2% of schools)

Sub Regionals	Regionals
NA	5 vs 6 (21 schools) (18% of schools)
NA	At large (Section 2) vs 4 (36 schools) (33% of schools)

Proposed Rotation for Class D Boys Soccer for Fall 2026

Sub Regionals	Regionals
9 vs 11	9/11 winner vs 2 (17 schools) 15%
NA	7 vs 10 (22 schools) 20%

Sub Regionals	Regionals
6 (2 schools) vs At large	6/At large winner vs 5 (31 schools) 27%
NA	3 vs 4 (36 schools) 32%

New York State Public High School Athletic Association

Executive Committee Meeting – May 6, 2026

Football Committee – Classification Cut-Off Numbers

___ Action Item
_X_ Discussion Item
___ Informational Item

Vote July

Presenter:
Gary Vanderzee, NYSPHSAA Football Committee Coordinator

Proposal:
The NYSPHSAA Football Committee is recommending the following change in the Classification Cut-Off Numbers.

Class AA	1025 and Up
Class A	662 – 1024
Class B	393 – 661
Class C	273 – 392
Class D	272 - Down

Effective Start Date:
Fall 2027 , 28

Rationale:
The 2026 season will be the end of the current 2-year cycle for classification cut-off numbers for the sport of Football. After reviewing and discussing the current number of teams in the sport of Football the committee is recommending the top 51 teams in Class AA and the bottom 62 teams in Class D and equally dividing the remaining classes.

Proposal Originated:
NYSPHSAA Football Committee

Budgetary Impact:
None

Notes:
None

Attachments:
None

DATE REVISED: April 17, 2026

New York State Public High School Athletic Association

Executive Committee Meeting – May 6, 2026

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL – Request for a Waiver on Bench Protocols

VOTE JULY

____ Action Item
__X__ Discussion Item
____ Informational Item

Presenter:
Peggy Seese, NYSPHSAA Girls Volleyball State Coordinator

Proposal:
The NYSPHSAA Girls Volleyball State Committee is seeking approval for a waiver of the NCAA bench protocols for 2026, if the NCAA adopts this rule in the spring. The new rule states: *"Teams switch benches only after the completion of the second set. After the coin flip in the 5th set, where a team can choose to serve, receive or which side to compete on. The teams will remain on their side of the net for the entire time."* The intention of the NCAA using this rule is to increase pace of play.

Effective Start Date:
August 2026

Rationale:
Not all high school gyms are created equal regarding court space. If the NCAA adopts this rule, in some gyms this would create an adverse effect on the visiting team due to lack of space. Many gyms have objects like bleachers, batting cages, banners and other objects that are on one side of the court and not the other. This means a team having to play the first two sets on the side with obstacles will be at a disadvantage. High school matches are not televised like NCAA matches so the rationale provided by the NCAA to use this rule does not apply to high school to help increase the pace of play.

Proposal Originated:
At the March 25, 2026 State Committee meeting.

Budgetary Impact:
There is no budgetary impact

Notes:
The NYSPHSAA Girls Volleyball Committee voted to approve this amendment 11-0 on March 25, 2026.
The NCAA ruling only addresses five- set matches. Many sections conduct JV matches as best of three. Adopting this rule would create confusion for the JV level if this went into effect?

CAC Feedback:
NA

DATE REVISED: March 27, 2026

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL: Request for Waiver of Administrative Red Card (uniform)

Vote July

____ Action Item
__X__ Discussion Item
____ Informational Item

Presenter:
Peggy Seese, NYSPHSAA Girls Volleyball State Coordinator

Proposal:
The NYSPHSAA Girls Volleyball State Committee is seeking approval to waive the NCAA penalty, administrative red card, for having a non-compliant uniform. The one-year pilot has expired.

Effective Start Date:
Fall 2026

Rationale:
If a team has a non-compliant uniform the NCAA penalty is an administrative red card which means the team starts the match losing one point. There is no further penalty assessed for the team and the match proceeds. NYSPHSAA does provide a waiver to schools that cannot purchase new uniforms to be compliant. If a school has a waiver, then the administrative red card is not issued. NYSPHSAA directs the school that when purchasing new uniforms, they must buy ones that are compliant with the rules.

Many teams believe they have legal uniforms when in fact they don't, therefore do not ask for a waiver, and an official's interpretation determines a uniform to be illegal.

Proposal Originated:
NYSPHSAA Girls Volleyball Committee proposed this waiver last year as a 1 year pilot. They would now like to make it permanent.

Budgetary Impact:
None

Notes:
The NYSPHSAA Girls Volleyball Committee voted to approve this amendment 11-0 on March 25, 2026. The rule is 6.5.1 and 6.5.2 referencing rule 7.1.1.1.and 7.1.2 of the NCAA rulebook.

CAC Feedback:
NA

DATE REVISED: March 27, 2026

New York State Public High School Athletic Association

Executive Committee Meeting – May 6, 2026

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL: Request to Revise Classification Formula for 2027

Vote July

____ Action Item
__X__ Discussion Item
____ Informational Item

Presenter:
Peggy Seese, NYSPHSAA Girls Volleyball State Coordinator

Proposal:
The NYSPHSAA Girls Volleyball Committee is seeking approval to revise the classification cut-off formula for Girls Volleyball from the top 60 teams in class AAA and the bottom 80 teams in class D and equally dividing the rest of the classes to the top 70 teams in class AAA and the bottom 90 teams in class D and equally dividing the rest of the classes.

Effective Start Date:
October 2026

Rationale:
This is the first time in many years the committee has addressed the always changing numbers. The committee is trying to stay current with the enrollment numbers. The significant shift in numbers the last couple years is a reason adjustments are necessary at the very top of the classification and the bottom. The 70/90 helps balance the upper and lower levels while still keeping those classes within a competitive range. Large schools will not play much smaller schools. This breakdown mostly increases the number of teams in some sections that were struggling to provide teams.

Proposal Originated:
First discussed November 2025 at the state tournament. The formal proposal was discussed at March 2026 meeting.

Budgetary Impact:
There is no budgetary impact

Notes:
The state committee voted 10-0 in favor of this proposal.

Attachments:
SEE NEXT PAGE

CAC Feedback:
On April 15th, voted 10-0 in favor of this proposal.

DATE REVISED: April 16, 2026

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL: Request to Revise Classification Formula for 2027 CONTINUED...

The example below was generated by using the current data.

60/80	1124 - UP	722 - 1123	449 - 721	274 - 448	168 - 273	167 - DOWN
70/90	1050-UP	723 - 1049	453-722	280-452	175-279	174-DOWN

Section	AAA	AA	A	B	C	D	
I	13	20	14	16	7	1	**71**
II	7	8	11	14	21	16	**77**
III	4	8	4	8	5	4	**33**
IV	2	4	4	9	16	9	**44**
V	3	15	13	12	25	30	**98**
VI	3	10	23	20	20	14	**90**
VII	0	0	0	5	3	1	**9**
VIII	15	18	17	7	1	1	**59**
IX	5	6	9	10	6	4	**40**
X	0	0	2	4	1	5	**12**
XI	18	14	12	5	4	4	**57**
Total	**70**	**103**	**109**	**110**	**109**	**89**	
%	11.86	17.46	18.47	18.64	18.47	15.0	

Total Programs **590**

DATE REVISED: April 16, 2026

BOYS SWIMMING – REVISE QUALIFYING STANDARDS FOR 2026-2027 SEASON

___ Action Item
_X_ Discussion Item
___ Informational Item

Vote July

Presenter:
Scott Warner, NYSPHSAA Boys Swimming & Diving State Coordinator

Proposal:
The NYSPHSAA Boys Swimming & Diving Committee is seeking approval to modify the State Qualifying Standards for the 2026-27 season. This adjustment is necessary because the previous standards did not align with the Championship Philosophy Committee's required participation range of 5%–8%. The state committee utilized a 5-year average of the 20th place finisher in the 200 medley relay, 200 freestyle relay, 200 IM and 50 freestyle to determine revisions for the upcoming season, noted below with an **R**. These new standards will eliminate approximately 70-80 athletes from the state meet.

EVENT	PROPOSED STANDARD
200 Medley Relay	1:40.27 R
200 Freestyle	1:47.60
200 Individual Medley	1:59.11 R
50 Freestyle	21.87 R
Diving	450.00
100 Butterfly	53.95
100 Freestyle	48.76
500 Freestyle	4:52.52
200 Freestyle Relay	1:30.07 R
100 Backstroke	54.82
100 Breaststroke	1:01.20
400 Freestyle Relay	3:18.87

Number of varsity boys participating in Swimming & Diving: **4,138 (2024-25 Participation Survey)**
Number of boys participating in NYSPHSAA Championships after using a five-year average of the 20th place in the 200 Medley Relay, 200 Free Relay, 200 IM, and 50 Free. **313 athletes (7.6% participation)**

Quality vs. Quantity (page 3 of the Championship Philosophy document updated May 2025:
The percentage of opportunities for athletes to compete in NYSPHSAA Championships should fall within a designated range of 5% to 8% for all sports. Percentages will be calculated using the number of varsity athletes/teams participating in the sport and the number of competitors in the championship event.

Effective Start Date:
Winter 2026-2027

CAC Feedback: On April 15, voted 10-0 in favor of recommending this proposal.

DATE REVISED: April 16, 2026

New York State Public High School Athletic Association

Executive Committee Meeting – May 6, 2026

GYMNASTICS – Revise Scoring Change in Technical Handbook for 2026-27 Season

____ Action Item
__X__ Discussion Item
____ Informational Item

Vote July

Presenter:
Marbry Gansle, NYSPHSAA Gymnastics Coordinator
Kim Rhatigan, NYSPHSAA Gymnastics Assistant Coordinator

Proposal:
The NYSPHSAA Gymnastics Committee is seeking approval of the following scoring change in its Technical Handbook for the 2026-27 school year (can be found on page 24 for bar and 41 page for beam):

for Bars & Beam

- **No 0.3 deduction off the start value for lack of a dismount**

Effective Start Date:
Fall 2026

Rationale:
The proposed change is to be less restrictive on overall individual athlete scoring.

Proposal Originated:
NYSPHSAA Gymnastics Committee at its March 27th meeting then subsequently discussed at its April 10th meeting.

Budgetary Impact:
None

Notes:
The NYSPHSAA Gymnastics State Committee was unanimously (8-0 vote) in favor of this proposal at its April 10, 2026 zoom meeting. The committee and staff consulted with Maria DeCristoforo, longtime gymnastics rules interpreter and current editor of the Gymnastics Technical Handbook.

CAC Feedback:
Not applicable

DATE REVISED: April 13, 2026

New York State Public High School Athletic Association

Executive Committee Meeting – May 6, 2026

BOYS/GIRLS BOWLING – Increase Daily Game Limitation to Ten (10) Games for Post-Season Events

Vote July

____ Action Item
__X__ Discussion Item
____ Informational Item

Presenter:
Mike O'Connell, NYSPHSAA Boys Bowling Coordinator
Eileen Shultis, NYSPHSAA Girls Bowling Coordinator

Proposal:
The NYSPHSAA Boys and Girls Bowling State Committee is seeking approval to increase the maximum daily game limitation from six (6) games to ten (10) games for post-season events. Post season championship tie-breaking procedures would remain exempt from this limitation. The current six (6) game limit would remain in effect for all regular season competition.

Effective Start Date:
Winter 2026-27

Rationale:
The current six (6) game daily limit was established for regular season competition and does not reflect the demands or design of post-season championship play. The following summarizes the basis for this proposal:

- **The current rule does not distinguish between regular season and post-season play.** The six (6) game limit applies uniformly to both regular season matches and state championship events. Regular season matches are contested in dual or multi-team formats at commercial facilities under time and space constraints. Post-season championships are held at dedicated venues over structured multi-day schedules featuring the most competitive student-athletes in the state. A single standard does not serve both environments equally.

- **USBC rules do not define a limit – USBC tournaments regularly schedule 8–10 games in a single championship day.** NYSPHSAA follows USBC rules for the sport of bowling, and USBC does not define a game limit within their rules. Many of New York's top high school competitors bowl in the U15 and U18 Junior Gold divisions of USBC, which routinely schedules eight (8) to ten (10) games in a single championship day.

- **Comparable state athletic associations do not impose a similar per-day game cap at the championship level.** A review of peer state athletic associations reveals that New York's six (6) game per day limit is among the most restrictive in the country for championship competition. New Jersey (NJSIAA), Pennsylvania (PIAA), Florida(FHSAA), and Nebraska (NSAA) do not impose a comparable per-day game maximum in their bowling championship

regulations. These states govern post-season participation through similar season or tournament contest limits and daily participation is gated by the tournament format design---- not a hard per-day game count.

- **A ten (10) game limit enables competitive bracket formats at the state and sectional level.** The 2026 NYSPHSAA State Bowling Championships introduced a new Individual State Championship format. Increasing the post-season daily game limit would give tournament directors the flexibility to design bracket-style and match play competition formats consistent with national standards. A ten (10) game allowance accommodates a qualifying block plus multiple rounds of bracket play within a single competition day, making the state championship a more meaningful and appropriately structured culminating event.

- **Post-season competitors are physically prepared for an increased game limit.** Student-athletes who qualify for sectional and state competition regularly participate in youth bowling leagues, Junior Gold qualifying events, and travel tournaments where bowling six or more games in a single day is routine. High-level competitors train at volumes well in excess of the current NYSPHSAA limit. A ten (10) game cap applied exclusively to post-season events is a reasonable and appropriate standard for varsity championship-level competition.

Proposal Originated:
Section 3 brought this proposal forward to the committee in March for consideration.

Budgetary Impact:
Since this would apply to the State Tournament, there is minimal additional cost, if any, to NYSPHSAA. Any increase in lineage resulting from additional games bowled at post-season events would be managed within existing host site agreements and entry fee structures.

Notes:
The Boys and Girls Bowling State Committees voted 20-0 (10-0 each committee) in favor of this proposal.

Attachments:
None

CAC Feedback:
On April 15, voted 10-0 in favor of recommending this proposal.

New York State Public High School Athletic Association

Executive Committee Meeting – May 6, 2026

BOYS/GIRLS BOWLING – Amend Individual State Championship Format to Add Single Elimination Bracket

___ Action Item
_X_ Discussion Item
___ Informational Item

VOTE JULY

Presenter:
Mike O'Connell, NYSPHSAA Boys Bowling Coordinator
Eileen Shultis, NYSPHSAA Girls Bowling Coordinator

Proposal:
The NYSPHSAA Boys and Girls Bowling State Committee is seeking approval to amend the format of the NYSPHSAA Individual State Bowling Championship from its current six (6) game total-pinfall format to a two-phase competition. The two phases will be:

* Qualifying Round (phase #1) a six (6) game qualifying round
* Add single elimination finals (phase #2) bracket for the top ten (10) qualifiers. The top two (2) seeds would receive a two-round bye directly into the semi-finals. Athletes who do not qualify for the finals will not receive awards and may return home earlier in the day. The maximum number of games bowled in a single day is ten (10), not including tiebreaking procedures.

Phase 1 – Qualifying Round (6 Games)
All individual state qualifiers bowl six (6) games with standard lane rotation. The current break and reassignment of lanes after 3 games would be eliminated. Total pinfall across all six games determines seeding with the top ten (10) bowlers advancing to the Finals Bracket. Ties for the 2nd or 10th position will be broken using a traditional 9th and 10th frame rolloff until the tie is broken. Ties for seeding within places 3-9 would be broken by taking high game scores.

Phase 2 – Single-Elimination Finals Bracket
The top 10 qualifiers compete in a single-elimination bracket. Each match is one (1) game; highest score advances. Seeds 1 and 2 receive a two-round bye and advance directly to the Semi-Finals. Seeds 3 through 10 compete in the following bracket progression:

- **Round 1 – First Round (8 bowlers):** Seeds 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10 bowl. Matchups: #3 vs. #10 • #4 vs. #9 • #5 vs. #8 • #6 vs. #7. Four (4) winners advance.
- **Round 2 – Quarterfinals (4 bowlers):** The four (4) Round 1 winners bowl. Matchups determined by bracket seeding. Two (2) winners advance to the Semi-Finals.
- **Round 3 – Semi-Finals (4 bowlers):** Seeds #1 and #2 enter the bracket. Four (4) bowlers compete: #1 vs. lowest remaining seed, #2 vs. next lowest remaining seed. Two (2) winners advance to the Championship Final.
- **Round 4 – Championship Final (2 bowlers):** The two (2) semi-final winners bowl one championship game. Highest score is the NYSPHSAA Individual State Champion.

Effective Start Date:
Winter 2026-27

DATE REVISED: April 16, 2026

THIS Depends on Previous Proposal.

New York State Public High School Athletic Association

Executive Committee Meeting – May 6, 2026

Rationale:
The current NYSPHSAA Individual State Bowling Championship is decided solely by total pinfall across six (6) games with no bracket or head-to-head component. The proposed format creates a competitive championship atmosphere while honoring the existing qualifying investment.
Peer states use qualifying-plus-bracket formats. A review of comparable state athletic associations shows that many peer states use a bracket or elimination final to crown its individual champion:
- Michigan (MHSAA): 6-game qualifier, top 16 advance, single-elimination match play (2-game sets through QF/SF/Final).
- New Jersey (NJSIAA): 3-game Round 1, top 18 advance; 3-game Round 2, top 5 advance; stepladder final.
- Iowa (IHSAA): 3-game qualifier, top 8 seeded into single-game single-elimination bracket.
- Pennsylvania (PIAA): 6-game qualifier, top 5 stepladder finals, single-game single-elimination. (not a true bracket, but utilizes head-to-head competition)

The two-round bye for seeds #1 and #2 rewards qualifying performance and incentivizes competitive excellence.
Single-elimination bracket competition produces a competitive, championship environment.
Head-to-Head Competition creates high leverage situations and excitement.
Potential opportunity to live stream final rounds: the current cumulative pinfall model provides no opportunity to stream the finals. Using head-to-head championship bracket model would provide the possibility of streaming the finals, increasing the sport exposure.

Proposal Originated:
Section 3 in March 2026. The proposal was introduced during a meeting at the state tournament then the committee met formally on April 7, 2026 via Zoom to cast a vote.

Budgetary Impact:
A total of 72 games (boys & girls, both divisions) at $4.50 per game would be added to the tournament and be an additional $324 lineage expense for NYSPHSAA. No facility or other costs would be incurred and it would not be necessary to add staffing to the facility or NYSPHSAA operations. No additional cost for sections (travel, etc). NOTE: During the break before seeding of the brackets, sportsmanship awards would be presented so those athletes/sections can get on the road to travel home.

Notes:
This proposal is intended to be considered in conjunction with the companion proposal to increase the NYSPHSAA post-season daily game limit from six (6) to ten (10) games. Adoption of both proposals is recommended, as the revised championship format requires the higher daily game limit to be permissible under NYSPHSAA regulations. (The Boys and Girls Bowling State Committees voted 20-0 in favor of the increase in postseason games proposal on a zoom call on April 7, 2026.) The Boys and Girls Bowling State Committees voted 20-0 in favor of this new bracketed format proposal on a zoom call on April 7, 2026.

Attachments:
None

CAC Feedback:
On April 15, voted 10-0 in favor of recommending this proposal.

DATE REVISED: April 16, 2026

GIRLS BASKETBALL – Waive NCAA Rule on Minimum Court Dimensions

____ Action Item
_X_ Discussion Item
____ Informational Item

Vote July

Presenter:
Tim Lincoln, NYSPHSAA Girls Basketball Coordinator

Proposal:
The NYSPHSAA Girls Basketball Committee is seeking approval for a waiver of the NCAA Rule for court dimensions.

Effective Start Date:
Fall 2026

Rationale:
Due to NCAA rules requiring a minimum of 94' for the length of a basketball court, it is necessary to request a waiver so courts that are 84' (NFHS rule) in length may be used for a girls basketball game in New York State. If courts are less than 84', then a school should apply for a waiver to use a smaller court.

A waiver was never requested for the NCAA court dimensions rule and therefore it was never included in the NYSPHSAA Handbook.

Proposal Originated:
NYSPHSAA Office/Coordinator on April 1, 2026

Budgetary Impact:
None

Notes:
The NYSPHSAA State Committee voted 11-0 in favor of this proposal.

Attachments:
None

DATE REVISED: April 2, 2026

New York State Public High School Athletic Association

Executive Committee Meeting – May 6, 2026

Girls Basketball Committee – Waive the NCAA uniform rule requirements for all sub-varsity teams

Vote July

____ Action Item
__X__ Discussion Item
____ Informational Item

Presenter:
Tim Lincoln, NYSPHSAA Girls Basketball Coordinator

Proposal:
The NYSPHSAA Girls Basketball Committee is requesting to waive the NCAA uniform rules for all sub-varsity teams.

Effective Start Date:
Winter 2026-2027

Rationale:
The Girls Basketball Committee believes the NCAA rules are intended for the Varsity level teams and that many schools have difficulty meeting the uniform rules at the sub-varsity level.

Proposal Originated:
NYSPHSAA Girls Basketball Committee

Budgetary Impact:
None

Notes:
None

Attachments:
None

This will allow 1 pair of shorts w/ Reversible Tops

DATE REVISED: April 16, 2026

New York State Public High School Athletic Association

Executive Committee Meeting – May 6, 2026

Girls Basketball Committee – Changing the length of the Timeout in Overtime from 30 second to a Full Timeout

Vote July

____ Action Item
__X__ Discussion Item
____ Informational Item

Presenter:
Tim Lincoln, NYSPHSAA Girls Basketball Coordinator

Proposal:
The NYSPHSAA Girls Basketball Committee is requesting to waive the length of the additional timeout in overtime from a 30-second time out to a full timeout.

Effective Start Date:
Winter 2026-2027

Rationale:
The Girls Basketball Committee believes a full timeout would be more beneficial to the student athletes and teams to have a full timeout.

Proposal Originated:
NYSPHSAA Girls Basketball Committee

Budgetary Impact:
None

Notes:
None

Attachments:
None

DATE REVISED: April 16, 2026

New York State Public High School Athletic Association

Executive Committee Meeting – May 6, 2026

Girls Wrestling Committee – USA Wrestling Junior Weight Classes

____ Action Item
__X__ Discussion Item
____ Informational Item

Vote July

Presenter:
Ryan Palmer, NYSPHSAA Girls Wrestling Coordinator

15 weight classes

Proposal:
The NYSPHSAA Girls Wrestling Committee is recommending following the USA Wrestling Junior weight classes, 95, 100, 105, 110, 115, 120, 125, 130, 135, 140, 145, 155, 170, 190, and 235.

Effective Start Date:
Winter 2026-2027

Rationale:
In girls wrestling we are currently following the USA Wrestling Junior rules, and this recommendation would fall in line with the rules governing the sport. As Girls Wrestling has grown, we have seen a growth in the lower weights and this recommendation would add two weight classes to the lower weights which would benefit a large number of wrestlers.

Proposal Originated:
NYSPHSAA Girls Wrestling Committee

Budgetary Impact:
This would increase the number of participants in both the Sectional tournaments and at the State Championships.

Notes:
None

Attachments:
None

DATE REVISED: April 14, 2026

New York State Public High School Athletic Association

Executive Committee Meeting – May 6, 2026

Girls Wrestling Committee – Increasing the Percent of Body Fat to follow NFHS Rule Change

____ Action Item
__X__ Discussion Item
____ Informational Item

Vote July

Presenter:
Ryan Palmer, NYSPHSAA Girls Wrestling Coordinator

Proposal:
The NYSPHSAA Girls Wrestling Committee is recommending increasing the precent of body fat to the level approved by the NFHS from 14% to 19%.

Effective Start Date:
Winter 2026-2027

Rationale:
The Girls Wrestling Committee reviewed two studies completed by the National Wrestling Coaches Association and the NCAA (see notes). Both studies indicated that the percentage of Body Fat should be increased. The NCAA increased the percentage of body fat to 17% and the NWCA recommended moving it to 19%. The NFHS has increased the percent of body fat in the formula for females from 12% to 19%.

Proposal Originated:
NYSPHSAA Girls Wrestling Committee

Budgetary Impact:
None

Notes:
NWCA
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1k-7PJ8Vw-PajQO4mKOp47yv9H-W1-Sg-/view?usp=drive_link

NCAA
https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/#inbox/QgrcJHsNjpwTllZgXPxfSqQQsdwlxzXwCGG?projector=1&messagePartId=0.1

Attachments:
None

Safety Committee IN FAVOR

DATE REVISED: April 16, 2026

APPENDIX F

Sportsmanship Committee Report

Date: April 8, 2026 at 1pm

Attendees:
Anthony Nicodemo (I), Doug Gejay (proxy for Curtis Wilkinson) (2), Chris Doroshenko (III), Hank Neubert (IV), Shawn Strege (V), Jim Graczyk, Doug Ames (VI), Brent Denis (VII), Justin Jonas/Jim Amen (VIII), Erik Whitcombe (X), NYSPHSAA –Kristen Jadin, Rebecca Verspoor (SAAC)
Not Present –Todd Nelson, Jeremy Thode, Aaron Hasbrouck

STATUS UPDATES/DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

1. Sportsmanship Promotion Banner Survey – Kristen reported that approximately 309 submissions had been received, which is consistent with prior years. Due to spring breaks and scheduling disruptions, Anthony recommended extending the deadline, and the committee agreed to extend it to April 17. Kristen will distribute certificates to participating schools and provide submission data to sections by April 20, with plaque winners to be determined by sections by mid-May.

   Further discussion focused on the effectiveness of the sportsmanship survey. Doug A. raised the question of whether participation could be increased, even suggesting the possibility of requiring submissions, while acknowledging enforcement challenges. Chris D. noted that some schools choose not to participate if they have had suspensions. Jim A. stated that the survey feels too generic and does not always reflect real sportsmanship issues. Anthony added that he does not use the survey as an evaluation tool, but rather as a way to highlight and recognize positive behavior within his program. Overall, the committee expressed concern that the survey may be more burdensome than useful in its current form. ***Kristen suggested that sections discuss the purpose of the survey and provide feedback, and indicated that revisions or alternative approaches to recognizing sportsmanship could be developed over the summer.***

   The committee also discussed ways to promote sportsmanship beyond the survey. Anthony shared several initiatives from Section I, including seasonal sportsmanship awards for teams, recognition of officials, and a professionally produced public service announcement shown at championship events. He also highlighted student leadership conferences that bring athletes together to discuss sportsmanship. Erik W. suggested creating a way for sections to share ideas. ***Kristen will create a shared document where sections can contribute and review different strategies, with the goal of generating new ideas for future implementation.***

2. Lopsided Score Recommendation - The committee revisited the topic of lopsided scores. ***A motion was made by Anthony and seconded by Jim to include lopsided score guidelines in the NYSPHSAA handbook, under the recommendation section. The motion passed unanimously.*** During discussion, Anthony emphasized that including guidance would provide helpful direction for coaches without imposing mandates. Justin J. shared last meeting and Kristen will share Section VII's sport-specific policies in the meeting report. Jim noted that improving competitive balance through scheduling may be a more effective long-term solution. Examples were shared, including Section I's use of ability-based leagues to create more competitive games, and Section VIII's experience with

power leagues, which has presented both benefits and scheduling challenges. The proposal will move forward to the Executive Committee in May for discussion and possible action in July.

3. NFHS Bench Bad Behavior Resource – Kristen shared the NFHS "Bench Bad Behavior" campaign as a resource that sections may use to support sportsmanship efforts, particularly with parents and spectators. Anthony added that Section I has built upon similar concepts by developing its own PSA campaign, which has been well received and reinforces expectations at events.

4. Section Concerns/New Business - Most sections reported no concerns. Justin reminded the group that sections have the authority to impose stricter penalties than NYSPHSAA minimums, and emphasized the importance of clearly communicating those differences to coaches and officials to avoid confusion when enforcement occurs.

   Kristen confirmed the next steps, including the extended survey deadline of April 17, distribution of results by April 20, and a mid-May target for plaque winner submissions. She will also create a shared document for sections to contribute sportsmanship initiatives and will review the current survey tool over the summer for potential updates. The meeting adjourned with the next committee meeting scheduled for the fall.

Future Items/Meeting:

1. Fall 2026

Lopsided Score Recommendations

Purpose

This recommendation is provided by NYSPHSAA to assist schools in addressing lopsided scores in a manner consistent with the values of education-based athletics. Each school or section may adapt any or all recommendations to meet local needs while ensuring that respect, integrity, safety, and sportsmanship remain the highest priorities.

Suggested Best Practices

- Coaching Strategies: Rotate players to provide participation opportunities; emphasize skill development once a game becomes unbalanced; adjust defensive approaches (e.g., discontinue pressing/trapping).
- Athlete Expectations: Show respect to opponents at all times; avoid excessive celebrations or conduct that may embarrass others.
- Game Management: Communicate expectations clearly with athletes; work with officials to ensure contests remain respectful and safe.

Oversight and Accountability

- Local Policy: Each school/section may establish thresholds (e.g., score differentials) to trigger game-management adjustments.
  Example: "At [X]-point differential, teams must [insert local rule]."
- Reporting Process: Schools may choose to report contests exceeding the agreed threshold to [insert local coordinator/AD committee].
- Review: Reported contests may be reviewed by [insert committee/AD group] to determine if further discussion or action is necessary.

Recognition of Sportsmanship

- Schools/sections are encouraged to recognize teams that consistently demonstrate outstanding sportsmanship. This may include:
  - A sportsmanship rating system completed by officials and coaches after contests.
  - Certificates, banners, or public recognition for teams achieving high sportsmanship scores.
  - Example: "Teams averaging [X%] or above on sportsmanship ratings will receive recognition."

Goals

Lopsided scores are sometimes unavoidable, but the way schools, coaches, athletes, and communities respond defines the true spirit of high school sports. By adopting local policies guided by NYSPHSAA's recommendations, schools can ensure that athletic participation remains a positive, educational, and character-building experience for all.

DRAFT

Section VIII Sport Specific Lopsided Score Policies

Boys Basketball

Lopsided Score Policy *The Section VIII Athletic Council has asked that all sports adopt a lopsided score policy. In the event a team(s) does not adhere to the policy, there will be an investigation and findings brought to a Section VIII lopsided score committee. They will decide if it warrants any type of action like a coach suspension. The boys basketball committee has come up with the following policy approved by the Athletic Council: At any time during a Section VIII game (league or non-league) if either team is up by 35 points, BOTH teams must remove their starters. Teams may play second and third string players and the defense must begin at the top of the key of their defensive zone. Each team can play zone or man to man, but cannot trap. If the losing team gets the score to 20 points or below, starting players may come back into the game. If the score gets back to a 35 points differential, both teams must follow the policy stated above. All scores that exceed 35 points will be reported to the sports coordinator and an investigation will take place on why this happened. The lopsided score committee, AD's and Coaches from both schools will meet to discuss the possibility of a consequence.*

Section VIII Sport Specific Lopsided Score Policies

Girls Basketball

The Section VIII Athletic Council has asked that all sports adopt a lopsided score policy. In the event a

team(s) does not adhere to the policy, there will be an investigation and findings brought to a Section

VIII lopsided score committee. They will decide if it warrants any type of action like a coach

suspension.

• When two Section VIII teams are playing and the point differential is 35 points, policy is as follows:

• If your team is able to clear the bench and play 2nd and 3rd string, you should. If your team does

not have 5 back ups to put in, you are to teach the starters that are in to navigate and share the

ball for the 2nd and 3rd string players to score. Each team MUST make every attempt to keep

main(better) players from dominating and scoring. They are to assist the back ups to gain more

game experience and chances to be involved.

• There is to be no pressing and trapping by EITHER defense.

• Defense for BOTH teams should wait at the 3 point line and in.

• Teams can play man or zone but still NO Trapping.

• Winning team should make an attempt not to fast break.

•If the losing team gets the score to 20 points or below, starting players may come back into the game. If

the score gets back to a 35 points differential, both teams must follow the policy stated above.

•All scores that exceed 35 points will be reported to the sports coordinator and an investigation will take

place on why this

happened. The lopsided score committee, AD's and Coaches from both schools will meet to discuss the

possibility of a consequence.

Section VIII Sport Specific Lopsided Score Policies

Football

Section VIII Athletic Programs are educationally based and designed to encourage safety, participation, and sportsmanship in all playing levels. Section VIII feels that this policy will serve to provide a wider range of players with additional playing time while keeping the game competitive.

Once the score of the games reaches a point differential of 35 or more, the game will be played with a running clock. The clock will run unless the score differential reaches 14 points or less and then the official time is kept. The clock will only stop for the following:

- Score
- Injuries
- Officials Timeout/Injury Timeout
- Timeouts

Field Hockey

NYSPHAA Field Hockey Policy: When a team is beating another team by 5 or more goals, the clock will run after goals.

Girls Lacrosse:

SCORE DIFFERENTIAL POLICY:

1. A 10-goal differential will result in a running clock.

2. Half time conversation with the 2 coaches if there is a 15 goal differential to discuss a plan for the second half.

3. Should the score differential become less than 10 goals, you can substitute freely.

4. If a team should win by 15+ goals the Girls Lacrosse Coordinator will call the athletic director and coach to discuss the game in regard to what measures were put into action to maintain the dignity and respect of all involved.

Section VIII Sport Specific Lopsided Score Policies

Boys Volleyball:

A lop-sided score will consist of any match where:

1. The match result must be 3-0

2. Each game within the match must have been won by a margin of 20 or more points

3. The coach of the losing team must perceive that the winning coach made no effort to mitigate the lopsided outcome.

Procedures:

1. The losing coach, if perceiving no attempt to mitigate the lopsided outcome, must report the incident to: Their Athletics Director, the opponent Athletics Director, the Sport Coordinator, the Coaches Association President, and the Section VIII Executive Director. The losing coach will be responsible for submitting a written explanation substantiating their belief that there was either no attempt or an inadequate attempt to mitigate the lopsided outcome.

2. The first reported incident of a lopsided outcome will be communicated by the Sport Coordinator to the winning team's Athletics Director who will address the concern internally using their best judgment and will be expected to communicate that outcome to all listed above in #1.

3. A second reported incident involving a coach will be communicated to all the listed above in #1, but the details involved will be addressed by a committee of: the Sport Coordinator, the Coaches Association President, at least 3 Division Coordinators/Representatives. This committee will consider evidence (scorebooks, video, written/verbal reports from both coaches and officials) to determine the if an adequate attempt was made to mitigate the lopsided score. A written communication of those findings will be sent to the Athletics Director and Principals of both teams involved. The Athletics Director of the winning team will report back to the committee the further steps, additional to and/or above and beyond those taken following the first incident, taken to address the concern internally.

4. A third reported incident involving a coach will be referred to the Section 8 Ethics Committee.

5. These procedures will apply only to contests played during the League Schedule, will not include tournament play or the post-season and will not carry over from year to year.

Section VIII Sport Specific Lopsided Score Policies

Boys Lacrosse:

After the first half, any time the score differential reaches 12 goals or ore, starting with the whistle resuming play, the clock will only be stopped for a team time-out, offici's time-out, or an injury time-out. No longer will normal play resume fi the goal differential si reduced to fewer than 12 goals. Once the 2nd half begins, the winning team should begin to substitute (if they have not already done so.)

APPENDIX G

April 2026 Meeting Notes:

Adjustments to make to Policy Manual-

150.1- Remove Girls Wrestling

160.1- Add Line
“This split will occur after all opt outs are determined.”

211.1

New Language

A school team that does not show or refuses to play in a Sectional contest after the seeding is finalized, spoils the integrity of the tournament.Schools shall declare their intent to play or not play by the determined sport specific opt out deadline. The athletic director will complete the opt out form to indicate their schools decision. Schools failing to fulfill their tournament commitment shall be subject to the following sanction: "Ineligibility for sectional play in that sport during the next season. An appeal of this sanction must be submitted in writing to the Executive Director of Section VI within 14 days after receipt of violation notification from the Section VI office.

Review of Policy #211- Current Language

A school team that does not show or refuses to play in a Sectional contest after the seeding meeting, spoils the integrity of the tournament. Schools shall declare their intent to play or not play prior to sectional seeding. (See sectional sport handbook) Schools failing to fulfill their tournament commitment shall be subject to the following sanction: "Ineligibility for sectional play in that sport during the next season. An appeal of this sanction must be submitted in writing to the Executive Director of Section VI within sixty (60) days of the competition of sectional play.

212.1- Remove

A team's power rating is the sole method of determining where a team is seeded. Each team is required to submit a Power Point Rating Form (in the sports handbook) prior to the seeding meeting.

ADD Instead:

Each team is required to review their power ratings on the website for accuracy prior to the seeding meeting.

212.4 If teams have identical power ratings, the following criteria will be used to break the tie:

a. The team with the most **League/Division** wins will be the higher seeded team. If still tied:
b. The team with the fewest league **League/Division** losses will be the higher seeded team. If still tied:
c. The team with the higher winning percentage of games scheduled will be the higher seeded team (determined by total league wins divided by total **League/Division** games scheduled). If still tied:
d. If teams are in the same **League/Division**, use head-to-head results. If still tied:
e. A toss of a coin will determine the higher seeded team.

Remove all in red, (note for context- it varies sport to sport).

Add Statement- they will follow sport specific tie breaker criteria.

221:

New Additions:

221.4- Schools shall send adequate supervision for their teams and spectators who are participating at neutral site contests. (Note- this is expected practice, having it entered into the policy manual helps strengthen enforcement, and ensure that neutral sites are supported from a supervision standpoint).

222- New Policy (Approved at Jan 25 AC Meeting) This is to update the policy manual.

Due to new regional rotations- Need to enter the At- Large Pathway Determination:

Policy 820- Replace old process with this:

Protest Procedure

Judgment calls by officials cannot be protested. If the head coach would like to protest the misapplication of a sport specific rule, the protest must be made immediately to the game official prior to resuming play. Once play resumes, any protest is null and void. Per NYSPHSAA, in any case, video may not be used to overturn an official's decision.

Sports that have an outlined appeal process in their sport rule book, that process shall be followed.

710- Section VI Pass Policies - Modifying it

I. Media outlets should complete media credentialing forms found on the Section VI website.

934- Financial Reimbursement Requests

Section VI Chairpersons & Staff

Any individual who enters a submission for financial reimbursement must follow the directions and process provided by the Section VI treasurer.

Recruitment and Retention of Officials Vouchers

Submission requirements and penalties for falsified claims are outlined in the Expense Voucher FAQs, located on the Section VI website under the Officials tab.

APPENDIX H

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI) Committee Meeting Report

Date: April 14, 2026 @ 1pm

ATTENDEES:

Kim Saxton (I), Carlos Cotto (2), Alton Hicks (III), Samantha Little (IV), Camaron Johnson (V), Aubrey Lloyd (VI), Kru Patel (VIII), Justin Gardner (VIII), Greg Ransom (IX), Aaron McEathron (X), NYSPHSAA – Dr. Robert Zayas, Kristen Jadin, Adam Stoltman, Renee James, Joe Altieri, Tim Mullins, Todd Nelson, Jennifer Pyle (Consultant, Conference of Big Five)

Not present: Joe Mercado (XI)

Status Updates/Items Discussion/ Action Taken:

1. **Welcome & Opening Remarks** – Dr. Carlos Cotto opened the meeting by thanking members for their continued leadership and emphasizing the importance of advancing DEI efforts within the association. He referenced prior discussions at the Executive Committee level, particularly around increasing representation on sport committees and addressing broader equity concerns, including those involving private and charter schools.

2. **Executive Committee Agenda Review** – Dr. Robert Zayas provided an update on the upcoming Executive Committee agenda, noting that DEI will remain a standing agenda item. He indicated that a formal DEI report will be included in the May Executive Committee meeting materials. Staff also introduced a proposal from the Boys Soccer Committee regarding adjustments to the recently implemented three-region rotation model. The proposal aimed to address perceived inequities in postseason advancement, particularly for smaller sections where teams may have an easier path to the Final Four compared to stronger sections that require additional rounds of competition. Discussion highlighted concerns that approving such a proposal would create inconsistency across sports and undermine the recently adopted three-region model. Dr. Zayas and Greg R. both emphasized that the current system was designed to improve balance across sections, even if it cannot fully equalize all disparities due to differences in section size and competition levels. The committee generally supported maintaining consistency and allowing the current model to operate for a full cycle before making significant adjustments was important.

3. **Cheerleading: Out of season – Choreography –** The committee then revisited the issue of offseason restrictions in competitive cheerleading. Todd N. explained that the current restriction prohibits formal choreography during the offseason to address inequities between schools that can afford professional choreography services and those that cannot. While the intent is to create a more level playing field, several members raised concerns that cheerleading is being treated differently from other sports. Camaron noted that competitive success in cheerleading, like other sports, often depends on early development and consistent training, and that restricting offseason work may disadvantage programs still trying to build competitiveness. Dr. Cotto and others echoed that similar disparities exist in sports such as lacrosse, basketball, and soccer, where athletes participate in year-round club programs. Samantha shared Section IV representatives do not support additional restrictions, while Section III shared research indicating that only a limited number of sections have historically won state cheer titles, suggesting a competitive imbalance linked to access and resources. Additional discussion

focused on whether the issue is less about the rule itself and more about enforcement. Several members pointed out that existing rules already require offseason activities to be open and non-mandatory, but violations occur when teams selectively invite athletes or effectively begin their season early. Concerns were also raised about booster club funding, Title IX implications, and differences in how districts manage outside services. Ultimately, the committee reached consensus that cheerleading is being treated differently compared to other sports, and this concern will be reported to the Executive Committee for further consideration.

4. **DEI Representative on Sports Committees** – Dr. Robert Zayas asked for feedback regarding the potential opportunity to add on DEI Representative on all sport committees, noting diverse perspectives are needed and ensure that decisions reflect the experiences of all student populations. Todd N. outlined a potential process in which interested individuals could show interest to serve as DEI Rep, with selections made by the state office based on both sport knowledge and ability to contribute diverse perspectives.

   Jennifer P. emphasized the need for more direct and structured representation. She expressed concern that large urban and small city districts continue to lack a consistent voice in decision-making, and noted that the current structure has not resulted in meaningful representation in practice. Jennifer asked for the description of the role of a general DEI representative, specifically asking who that individual would represent and how that role would differ from existing sectional representatives. She explained that DEI should function as an overlay that ensures all perspectives, across district size, geography, and student populations, are considered, rather than assigning one individual to represent all aspects of diversity. She noted that current committee structures often lack representation from urban districts and communities of color, which can impact how policies are understood and applied locally. She also highlighted ongoing legislative efforts to address this issue, stating that proposed legislation, supported by the State Education Department and members of the state legislature, would expand representation on sport and executive committee. She indicated that the legislation is being actively advanced and reflects a growing urgency to ensure equitable representation, rather than waiting for gradual internal changes. Jennifer further noted that while opportunities may exist within the current system, structural limitations, such as representatives covering large numbers of districts, make it difficult to fully advocate for underrepresented populations. She emphasized that adding designated representation would help ensure that decisions are made with a clearer understanding of their impact on all districts, particularly those with fewer resources.

   Camaron supported the need for increased representation and shared her personal experience attempting to serve in a leadership role within her section. She noted the challenges in being selected for these positions and questioned whether biases or lack of visibility can impact opportunities for diverse candidates. She emphasized that representation from large urban districts, such as those in the Big 5, is limited compared to suburban districts, and suggested that designated seats or structures may be necessary to ensure those perspectives are consistently included.

Samantha also supported moving forward with DEI representation but cautioned that while the concept is important, the process does not need to be perfect before taking action. She encouraged the group to focus on making progress, even if the model evolves over time, and suggested forming a smaller working group to help develop the structure. She further noted that only a small number of diverse voices are currently contributing regularly to discussions, reinforcing the need to intentionally create space for broader representation and input.

Dr. Zayas suggested developing a formal recommendation for review at a future meeting, and members were invited to participate in a smaller working group to help shape the proposal.

5. **Schools Without Boundaries Update –** Dr. Zayas explained that an ad hoc committee has been reconvened to evaluate options, including maintaining the current structure, continuing to explore modifications, or separating public and private school championships. Each section has been asked to provide feedback on these options, with further discussion expected at upcoming Executive and Central Committee meetings.

Future Items/Meeting:

1. Tuesday, June 23, 2026 @ 1pm

APPENDIX I

Combining of Teams Meeting Report

Date: April 17, 2026 @ 1:00 PM via ZOOM

Attendees: Austin Goldberg/Jesse Merchant (I), Doug Gejay/Dan Ward (2), Chris Doroshenko (III), Jeff Ferrara (IV), Kathy Hoyt (V), Jeff Sortisio (VI), Matt Walentuk (VII), Mike Pelan (VIII), Tim Bult (IX), Eric Luther (X), Tom Combs/Todd Gulluscio(XI), NYSPHSAA – Tim Mullins, Adam Stoltman, Russell Bartlett, Renee James, Dr. Robert Zayas, Kristen Jadin, Todd Nelson

Status Updates/Items Discussion/Action Taken:

1. **Welcome:** Dr. Zayas opened the meeting by noting the purpose of this meeting was to gather feedback from sections on three items, emphasizing the importance of ensuring policies continue to support student participation while maintaining competitive balance.

2. **Section Feedback on Individual Mergers & Team/Individual Mergers:** Individual-only sports should be permitted to merge under NYSPHSAA policy. Todd N. presented data related to the impact of merged teams in individual sports championships. Reviewing results from 2021 through the current school year, he reported that in indoor and outdoor track and field, merged teams have had minimal impact, with only one merged relay team winning a championship event across both boys and girls competitions during that time. In contrast, swimming and diving showed a more balanced distribution between merged and single-school success. In girls swimming, of 15 relay championships, eight were won by single-school teams and seven by merged teams. In boys swimming, nine of 15 relay championships were won by single-school teams, while six were won by merged teams. Todd noted that the concern prompting this discussion originated from Section 3's swimming and diving committee, and that the issue appears to be more sport-specific rather than widespread across all individual sports.

   Chris D. explained that although concerns were raised within his section, particularly in swimming and cross country, there has not been a strong push to eliminate mergers. He noted that some sport committees are discussing limitations, including concerns about cross-section mergers, but no formal recommendations have been made. Jesse shared that his section has implemented local restrictions to address concerns, including limiting cross-section mergers and preventing merged teams from earning team points toward championships in certain sports.

   Several members emphasized that the primary purpose of merging is to provide participation opportunities for students. Dr. Zayas noted that while students in individual sports can often participate through shadowing, this does not always replicate the full team experience. Matt W. described challenges with shadowing, including logistical complications in meets and situations where students feel disconnected from the team, suggesting that mergers can provide a more inclusive experience.

   Dan W. reported that approximately 85% of responding schools in his section supported continuing mergers in individual sports. He noted that feedback highlighted the importance of maintaining team identity, supporting student inclusion, and avoiding potential financial and staffing complications that could arise if separate teams were required. Overall, the

committee reached general consensus to maintain the current approach, while acknowledging that some sport-specific concerns may continue to be evaluated.

3. **Graduated Scale** – Dr. Zayas asked the committee to provide feedback on whether the graduated scale should expire after a designated number of years, or if the current system, relying on league and sectional approval, adequately addresses concerns related to competitive balance.

   Matt W. supported exploring changes, particularly in cases where multiple schools merge across programs and achieve sustained competitive success, raising concerns about equity when competing against single-school teams.

   Kathy noted that most mergers now exist to sustain programs rather than grow them, and that removing the graduated scale could force small schools into higher classifications, making competition more difficult. Jeff F. added that many small schools rely heavily on mergers across multiple sports, and changes could significantly impact their ability to offer programs. Todd G. and Chris D. also stressed that altering the scale could discourage larger schools from accepting merger partners, ultimately reducing opportunities for students.

   Dan W. reported that his section was nearly evenly split on the issue, with some supporting adjustments tied to team success and others cautioning against unintended consequences.

   The discussion highlighted the complexity of balancing fairness in competition with the core goal of maximizing participation opportunities. A straw poll of the sections indicated no clear consensus to pursue changes to the graduated scale. Sections I, II (with consideration tied to program success), III, V, and VII expressed support for continuing to explore potential adjustments, while Sections IV, VI, VIII, IX, X, and XI indicated they do not support changes at this time. While some sections expressed interest in continued discussion, the overall result did not support advancing a formal proposal at this time.

   The committee also discussed the concept of fully merged programs, where schools combine across multiple sports. Members noted that this may be an area for further review, particularly regarding classification and competitive balance. Dr. Zayas encouraged sections to bring this topic back for further discussion and to develop proposals if concerns persist.

   Sections were encouraged to review the report, continue discussions locally regarding the graduated scale, and bring forward any concerns to the Executive/Central Committees.

Future Items/Meeting:

1. As needed

CHAMPIONSHIP ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC)
Meeting Minutes – Wednesday, April 15, 2026

CAC Members Attending: Greg Ransom (Chair), Jen Keane (At-Large), Mark Ward (At-Large), Stephen Luciana (At-Large), Josh Harrica (At-Large), Eileen Troy (At-Large), Mike Andrew (Team Sports), Kristin Frazer (Individual Sports), Kathy Hoyt (Executive Director) Dave Lileck (Superintendent), ABSENT with notice: Matt Ronca (At-Large)

Staff/Officers Attending: Dr. Robert Zayas (Executive Director), Joe Altieri (CAC Liaison/Assistant Director), Todd Nelson (Assistant Director), Kristen Jadin (Assistant Director), Tim Mullins (President), Adam Stoltman (Vice President), Deb Ferry (2nd Vice President)

SAAC Members Attending: Julia DiMichele (Section I – Putnam Valley), Jamie Pereira (Section VIII – Lynbrook)

Sport Coordinators Attending: Mike O'Connell (Bowling), Matt Allen & Rob McAuliffe (Boys Soccer), Scott Warner (Boys Swimming/Diving), Peggy Seese (Girls Volleyball)

Call to Order by Chair Greg Ransom at 10:01 am. Greg welcomed everyone. Joe Altieri introduced Student Athlete Advisory Committee members Julia DiMichele (Putnam Valley HS) and Jamie Pereira (Lynbrook HS) on the call. He stated one member will be absent (with notice) today so there will be 10 voting members.

Greg asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the January 14, 2026 CAC meeting.
MOTION by Kristin. SECOND by Mike A. CARRIED 9-0.

PROPOSALS
(*These items will be presented as discussion or action at the next Executive/Central Committee Mtg)*
Following proposal presentations by Sport Coordinators, Greg announced Sport Coordinators may depart the call so the CAC can discuss and vote on proposals.

BOWLING Increase Daily Limitation for Postseason Games – State Coordinator Mike O'Connell explained the proposal. It was noted this had to be approved for the next proposal to be in play. No concerns were brought forward with this proposal.
MOTION by Mark. SECOND by Steve. CARRIED 10-0

BOWLING Add Bracketed Finals to State Tournament – State Coordinator Mike O'Connell explained the proposal. Kristin F. asked if this would increase the # of athletes or was just a format change. Mike O. confirmed no format change but it does add games. Mark asked if other states are doing this. Mike O. stated yes, several are and they are listed in the proposal. Steve stated as a former member of the bowling committee, he supported this as a great opportunity for the tournament.
MOTION by Josh. SECOND by Jen. CARRIED 10-0

BOYS SOCCER Revise Regional Rotation for Class D – State Coordinator Matt Allen explained the proposal and Section VII Boys Soccer Coordinator added information about it as well. Steve noted there is a 3-region rotation addressing travel and it's a current rotation already in place. Kristin F. and Kathy echoed this concern and Kathy noted the issues in boys soccer are across the board in other sports. Matt added he and his committee understood that but was only concerned with improving their sport. Adam asked if the committee had a chance to look at the 3-region concept before it was put in place. Matt stated yes but they never had a chance to evaluate and come up with a solution. Mike A. stated the layout of the regions and it being unknown about some sections not having schools in certain classifications. Greg explained other sections (like IV) who only have three schools were not examined by boys soccer. Rob noted the soccer committee was advised to look at one class at a time to optimize the chances for change. Joe noted although that is true, a meeting was set up for the boys soccer committee last Friday for anyone on the committee to bring forward a similar concern or proposal. Robert warned that if we fix the issue with boys soccer then we will have a line of other sports who want to change the system when we haven't even had a year of this in place. Eileen confirmed the staff urged this not to go into implementation so quickly with all the issues including the ones the soccer committee outlined but it was voted into place by membership in a close vote in July of the same year. Robert confirmed this is correct. A discussion continued about the 3-region system.

FOLLOWING THE COORDINATORS LEAVING THE CALL:

Jen K asked if NYSPHSAA is collecting issues and feedback from committees about the 3-region rotation. Joe reported each sport committee has a feedback form they were directed to use to provide concerns and solutions on any issue including the 3-region concept. He noted four sports have already submitted the form about the 3-region system and boys soccer wanted to submit a proposal before they submitted their form. Robert stated he has begun a list of the issues identified with each sport using the 3-region system. The plan is to share the list and the feedback forms following a full year of the 3-region rotation. Dave noted the frustration of committees wanting to change things immediately after a proposal is approved when we should let things go through a cycle. A discussion continued about the evaluation of this system, pros/cons, rationale and plan going forward.

MOTION by Mike A. SECOND by Eileen. DEFEATED 9-1

BOYS SWIMMING/DIVING Revise Qualifying Standards – State Coordinator Scott Warner explained the proposal. Kathy asked how the committee determined the events to change standards for. Scott said the committee looked at the size of the events and heats for each.

MOTION by Jennifer. SECOND by Mark. CARRIED 10-0

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL Revise Classification Formula – State Coordinator Peggy Seese explained the proposal. Greg inquired about the # of schools changing and the motivation for that since it's a variation sport changing their percentages. Todd noted it was not for manipulating or giving anyone an advantage and he sees girls volleyball as a "formula" sport, not a variation sport. Todd also clarified the formula was the change they were looking for and explained further details of why. Kathy asked how long it has been since the formula was changed. Todd believed it was four years—the year before six classes began.

MOTION by Mark. SECOND by Kathy. CARRIED 10-0

OFFICIALS FEES & POLICIES 2026-27, 2027-28, 2028-29 – Assistant Director Todd Nelson reported this will expire at the end of this year and outlined the proposed changes including the lodging pilot for girls and boys basketball. Kristin F. inquired about indoor track now that it's a two-day meet. Todd reported it went from 85 to 70 officials but the fee will remain the same.
MOTION by Mike A. SECOND by Dave. CARRIED 10-0.

NEEDS REVIEW/INPUT:
Greg reminded committee members when reviewing site selections, their task is to identify concerns of site selections for the Executive Committee if they were not during the committee and staff bid discussions.

Girls Soccer Site Selection 2027-29 – Two bids were submitted by Albany (Section 2) and Cortland (Section 3). Greg indicated both staff and committee agreed on Cortland as recommendation.
CAC expressed no concerns with the recommendation.

INFORMATIONAL:
Girls Swimming & Diving Qualifying Standards – Assistant Director Joe Altieri reported due to these standards not seeking to be changed by the committee for 2026-27, this item will be informational for CAC and Executive Committee.

Status of Girls Ice Hockey & 8-Man Football (Regional Championships) – Joe reported next week the girls hockey coordinator Carl Normandin has a meeting set up with executive directors to determine if there will be four regions of four or more programs to continue a regional championship. This sport is due for bid in the next two months and an RFP for bid will go out immediately after it is determined. The football state committee will also determine the final # of programs in each section within the next two months to see if 8-Man Football is eligible for a regional championship similar to girls ice hockey.

2025-30 Championship Dates & Sites – Greg noted the updated championship documents in the packet.

ADJOURNMENT:
MOTION by Jen. **SECOND** by Eileen. **CARRIED** 10-0. The meeting adjourned at 11:2 am.

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, June 24, 2026 @ 10:00 am

PRELIMINARY MEETING DATES FOR 2026-27:
Wednesday, October 7, 2026
Wednesday, January 13, 2027
Wednesday, April 14, 2027
Wednesday, June 23, 2027

Minutes respectfully submitted by NYSPHSAA liaison Joe Altieri; reviewed/approved on 4/16/2026 by CAC Chair, CAC members and the NYSPHSAA Executive Director prior to distribution.

NYSPHSAA BOYS GOLF State Committee
April 16, 2026 at 10:00 am
MEETING MINUTES

ATTENDEES:
NYSPHSAA Staff: Joe Altieri, Chris Joyce
COMMITTEE: Tom Gladd (State Coordinator), Adam Lodewick (I), Ben Smith (2), Erik Saroney (III), Matt Loveless (IV), William McDermott (V), Jacob Reimer (VI), Calvin Hamel (VII), Anthony Brancato (VIII), Randy Todd (X), Jorma Tompuri (IX), Kevin Finnerty (XI)

1. Attendance & Introductions

Meeting called to order at 10:04 am by Coordinator Tom Gladd.

2. NYSPHSAA Staff Reports

Joe Altieri, Assistant Director

a. Asked committee to review the boys golf landing page so it has their correct information.
b. Thanked Tom Gladd, Mill Creek, the state committee and all the volunteers/committee members who helped make it a successful tournament.
b. Staff update – He noted Lexi Swatt (Director of Sports Information) is no longer with the Association and relocated to Iowa for her husband's new job. Natalia Gibbons will take her place and start in the office in two weeks. He also reported Zach Betkowski (TPG Sales) has replaced Joe deGuzman handling sales/sponsorships.
c. State Tournament Hotel – The Marriott Rochester Airport is again the host property. He complimented those coordinators who have reached out to the hotel already. Hotel contact is below if you have not yet contacted it. The Rochester Marriott Airport, Taylor Buffa, taylor.buffa@hospitalitymgt.com, 585-250-6398 (or Carolyn Lygus). Tom and other committee members identified the need for breakfast at the hotel starting at 6:00 am both Sunday and Monday. Eight sections were interested in a breakfast buffet. Joe will reach out to the hotel and begin negotiating this which will be a separate cost (not included in the room rate). He also indicated hotel buffets at full service hotels like The Marriott are typically not cheap. Tom asked if we could consider the course for breakfast as well. It was agreed that would be an option if the hotel doesn't work out.
a. The annual NYSPHSAA Hall of Fame deadline is January 29th. We are appreciative that Tom put together a nomination on behalf of boys golf and submitted it for Class of 2025-27 consideration.

Chris Joyce, Director of Marketing & Foundation

a. Reported we had a great year of fundraising in 2024-25 for the foundation. Grants of up to $1,000 per school are now available on our website. Applications are reviewed quarterly. Applications are on the NYSPHSAA website. https://nysphsaa.org/sports/2023/4/21/Foundation_Grants.aspx

3. Committee Business

- Duties - coordinators:
  - Tom reviewed distributed Coordinator duties with committee members. He thanked Jake Reimer, (Section VI) for agreeing to be the committee liaison with all RDGA volunteers. Tom and Jake will work on the information to be shared jointly over the next few weeks.
- Duties - coaches:

- Tom reiterated that coaches will have duties, especially related to spotters on course during play on Sunday and Monday. Additionally, Tom reminded the committee that a document to identify where spotters was previously distributed, for the purpose of identifying needs and assignments during competitive play. Finally, Tom thanked Ben Smith, (Section 2) for his contributions to this document thus far.

- Hotel room needs:
  - Adam Lodewick, (Section I) indicated he had not yet contacted the hotel, stating he would do so at the conclusion of the meeting. All other sections are all set, relative to initial contact with the hotel.
- Practice round - shotgun start at 12:30:
  - All agreed this was a good idea. Additionally, it was decided that the Saturday player/coach meeting would be held immediately following the completion of the round at Mill Creek GC. Furthermore, the Committee will hold their meeting during practice round play. Lastly Ben Smith, (Section 2) created a randomized tee assignments sheet for the shotgun start, by Section, which was shared with everyone.
- Cart use by student athletes during practice round - not allowed:
  - Coaches may rent a cart for their use to monitor their players, however.
    - Tom emphasised both points.
- Scoring on Sunday and Monday:
  - Tom reminded everyone that the players were responsible for official scoring, which would be verified at the completion of each round in a separate scoring area. Additionally, it was reiterated that RDGA volunteers and/or coach markers were responsible for recording reported player scores, inputting those into the live scoring system, and helping to maintain an appropriate pace of play.

4. Section Concerns:

Section 8 – use of **Meta glasses** during competition.

- All quickly agreed they should not be allowed during competitive play, and that violation could lead to disqualification. Additionally, Tom will contact Andrew Hickey at NYSGA for their language. Finally, Joe noted NYSPHSAA is keeping an eye on this new technology as the office has already received calls about it for tennis and other sports.

No other Sections identified concerns.

5. Annual Committee Meeting for 2026-27: Monday, March 29, 2027 at 10:00am

6. The meeting adjourned at 11:15 am.

--minutes respectfully submitted by Tom Gladd and Joe Altieri

NYSPHSAA FOOTBALL
STATE COMMITTEE MEETING
MONDAY, March 16, 2026 @ 1:00 pm
MEETING MINUTES

ATTENDANCE: Joe Altieri, Todd Nelson, Kristin Jadin, Lexi Swatt-NYSPHSAA Staff; Ken Stoldt-Asst. FB Chairman, Ric Hamblin, Tim Arden, Pat English-Officials; Paul Sealy-NYSHSFCA; Steve Luciana- Section1; Sean Colfer-Section 2; Keith Kempney-Section3; Matt Hafele, Jeff Paske- Section 4; Ty Winter-Section 5, Jay Sirianni-Section 6; Joe Martillotti-Section 8; Tom Cassata-Section 9; Matt Tessmer-Section 10

NYSPHSAA STAFF: No report

CLASSIFICATIONS: Ken Stoldt made a MOTION: The football committee submitted the proposal to amend the classification numbers for the sport of football for the 2027 & 2028 seasons to reflect the following: AA- 1025-above, A-662-1024,B-393-661,C-273-392, D 0-272. SECOND by Matt Tessmer (10), Carried 8-0. (Sections 2, 7, 11-absent)

AAA PROPOSAL: Discussions took place on the Section 3 proposal to create a AAA Class in the sport of football. Concerns were brought up regarding difficulty in getting games , limited number of schools, and travel. Todd Nelson noted that the Schools Without Boundaries Ad hoc Committee had recently met and had similar discussions. It was noted that there is a policy in place for classifying private/charter schools now. The committee will meet again in six weeks to discuss several options in for classifying the private/charter schools. Todd also clarified that there is currently a regulation that if a public school merges with a private school the team is subject to reclassification. It was decided that the Section 3 proposal will be tabled for the time being until more information is gathered from the next SWB meeting.

PLAYER/COACH COMMUNICATIONS: Ken Stoldt followed up on an inquiry regarding the status of electronic communication between coaches and players. Patrick English stated that at this time the NFHS has not approved such communications. All will be notified if any such discussions take place in the future.

OFFICIALS: No report

MODIFIED: No report

NYSHSFCA: Paul Sealy reported that the State Clinic was very well attended. He also informed all that the Girls Flag Tournament will be held on July 10th. The 7 on 7 Tournament and Big Man competition will be held on July 11th. Both will be held at SUNY CORTLAND.

NEXT MEETING: Monday March 16th @ 1:00 PM

Respectfully submitted by,
Gary Vanderzee, NYSPHSAA FB Chairman
Ken Stoldt, Asst. Chairman **3/23/26**

NYSPHSAA
GIRLS VOLLEYBALL Committee
Wednesday, March 25, 2026
MEETING MINUTES

ATTENDANCE: Joe Altieri, Todd Nelson, Chris Joyce, Kristen Jadin
COMMITTEE: Peggy Seese (State Coordinator), Gina Carlone (1), Alicia Collier (2), Karla Prince (3), Des Ford (4), Matt Glover (5), Deborah Schruefer (6), Vicki McMillian (7), Cathleen Dnyprowsky (8), Stephen Boucher (9), Sue McLean (10), Dan Butler (11)
GUESTS: Sally Wise (officials)

1. Attendance & Introductions

Meeting called to order at 10:03 am by State Coordinator Peggy Seese. She congratulated Deb Schruefer for her soon to be induction into the NYS Volleyball Coaches Hall of Fame. Steve added Dan Butler was recognized at the NYSAAA Conference last week as Section XI Administrator of the Year.

2. NYSPHSAA Staff Reports

Joe Altieri, Assistant Director

a. Thanked Peggy Seese, who is retiring as State Coordinator, for her many hours and dedication to the position and the sport. Served as state chair since 2021, was on the committee since 1995 and ran the state tournament for 25+ years. We are grateful for her work. Steve Boucher applied for the position and NYSPHSAA feels he is a very strong person to succeed Peggy. He will be recommended as the coordinator, approved in July at the Central Committee meeting.
b. Thanked Alicia Collier, Peggy, Section 2 and all the volunteers for another great tournament in the first year of a new three-year bid.
c. Staff update – He noted Lexi Swatt (Director of Sports Information) is no longer with the Association and relocated to Iowa for her husband's new job. He also reported Zach Betkowski (TPG Sales) has replaced Joe deGuzman handling sales/sponsorships.
d. Sponsorships – Joe announced Zach secured Excelsior Volleyball Empire Association as the boys and girls volleyball state tournament presenting sponsor for the next four years.
e. Service Passes – Joe announced if you have 10+ years on the state committee, you're eligible for a Service Pass. He asked each coordinator to ensure the first year of each committee member is accurately reflected on the committee directories.
f. NYSPHSAA Hall of Fame deadline is January 29th annually.
g. 3-Region Rotation – Joe reviewed the latest on this including that NYSPHSAA is seeking feedback from team sports for review this summer. This will help address issues going forward.(Peggy forwarded the form to the section coordinators) He also announced the declaration dates for each season regarding how many teams are in each class in each section. Fall Sports declaration is the Monday of Week #43 (April 27th). Sections will not be permitted to add teams after that date. Then regional rotations will be announced in early to mid May. Remember, this only applies to 9 or more sections in a class. A discussion and questions ensued. Coordinators will be securing and finalizing their regional sites when the rotations come out.

Todd Nelson, Assistant Director

a. Reported the 2026-27 school enrollment #'s and the 2026-27 classification cut-off numbers were approved in October and posted on our website.

Kristen Jadin, Assistant Director

a. Spalding – Reported we are in our second year of a five-year extension with Spalding. Coordinators can provide feedback on the ball to Kristen which will be passed along to Spalding. Balls without air or with damage should be collected and sent to our office to send to Spalding.
b. Operations Packet – The new staff member replacing Lexi will be taking over this responsibility. (Kristen will be handling media going forward.)
c. Student Programs – She encouraged promoting students to apply for the Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC). She is currently seeking rising juniors for this committee. Deadline is May 11, 2026 for students starting in fall 2026. App link below. https://nysphsaa.org/sports/2021/6/8/SAAC.aspx
d. Records – Jill Gregorius (handles rulebooks in office will take over maintaining NYSPHSAA records. It was asked of coordinators to review the records at the link below and utilize the Record Report form on the website to submit updates. Link below. https://nysphsaa.org/documents/2024/1/22/RecordReportingForm_Jan24.pdf https://nysphsaa.org/sports/2021/6/9/wvb-record-books.aspx

Chris Joyce, Director of Marketing & Foundation

a. Reported we had a great year of fundraising in 2024-25 for the foundation. Grants of up to $1,000 per school are now available on our website. Applications are reviewed quarterly. Applications are on the NYSPHSAA website. https://nysphsaa.org/sports/2023/4/21/Foundation_Grants.aspx

3. Officials Report, Sally Wise

a. Reported the NCAA rules meeting is tonight. They meet on even years to discuss rule changes.
b. Shared NCAA rules being considered including the bench protocols rule. Sally discussed this and the issues with this rule. The committee provided feedback.
MOTION by Alicia if the NCAA approves the bench protocol goes into effect (after tonight's meeting), the committee is asking for a waiver of that rule. SECOND by Deb. Carried 11-0.

c. Administrative Red Card Waiver – Peggy shared that the committee asked for a temporary waiver of this rule last year. A discussion ensued. Todd asked why is there a waiver if there is no penalty. Peggy indicated some schools do not know they are in violation of the uniform rule. Steve noted Chris Joyce was busy two years ago handing out waivers at the state tournament. Sally stated numerous sections were in violation of this rule. She also indicated you can protest on site if needed.
MOTION by Steve to waive this rule. SECOND by Vicki. Carried 11-0.

d. Todd has been told the NFHS rules have come closer to NCAA rules and asked for the committee to consider looking at NFHS rules. Using NFHS rules means NYSPHSAA would get a rotational seat at the table on the rules committee and be able to give feedback and suggestions on rule changes. The timeline also fits the high school season.

4. Rule Change Considerations

a. Tie-Breaker Rule – Due to a situation in the 2025 state tournament, Peggy indicated a change was needed to the language of the tie-breaker rule. The Operations Packet should state the final two matches, not the final match. The change will allow for quicker matches. Joe confirmed the tie-breaker concept was approved and this is a simple operations language change that can be made within the committee/staff.

5. State Tournament

a. Credentials – A concern arose allowing credentialed athletes to stand behind the benches when the roster exceeds the max. Matt asked why would we allow that when we have a rule for # of athletes and personnel. Volleyball has 15 athletes, 6 team personnel max. Kristen stated NYSPHSAA does not deny student-athletes going to the state tournament. We provide enough credentials but because of bench space, they go in the stands or stand behind the bench. Steve stated Section IX officials don't allow standing behind the bench. Sally confirmed this. Todd noted we have a maximum for awards, lodging and other things that we are strict with.

b. Sport Court Flooring: Deliver Wednesday again, 3-4 pm. Set up will be Thursday late morning/afternoon. State Committee meeting will be Friday at 9:00 am in Heritage Hall.

6. Concern from Executive Committee

Peggy and Joe A. explained the following concern from the February 4th Executive Meeting:
In addition, Section VIII raised concerns regarding the use of pool play in volleyball, noting that volleyball is currently the only sport utilizing this format. Representatives shared feedback from coaches indicating a perception that pool play may allow for manipulation of outcomes, as opposed to a bracketed tournament format.

Committee Rationale for Pool Play:

Most schools run tournaments during the regular seasons and those tournaments are pool play. Tournaments gained more importance when the number of contests allowed by NYSPHSAA dropped from 24 to 20. Pool play format allows a team to play numerous sets against multiple teams in one day. Some sections even run their sectionals as a pool play tournament to allow for steady play and no major gaps in the schedule . Even though pool play is unique to other state tournament, it fits for volleyball.

Historically, volleyball has used pool play format since 1996, except for 2023 (bracketed) and 2020 (COVID). Since 1996, a minimum of 918 sets have been played, not including tie-breakers, and only two matches there was a question of if the coach was trying to manipulate the outcome (0.002%). Pool play brings a different level of excitement to the tournament that you do not see in bracket play. Additionally, during the bracket play experiment in 2024, feedback from coaches and fans was negative because it did not allow fans to see teams all play each other and truly determine the best teams. Pool play provides a higher chance that the best teams will advance to the finals. Pool play also eliminates seeding of the tournament which would be strongly suggested if the format was bracketed. Finally, with the new tie

breaker format, it would be extremely difficult for a coach to try to manipulate the outcome.

Cathleen clarified Section 8 does not have tournaments (due to lack officials) and its position is if the season is played best-of-five, why would we go to states and play pool play.

7. Classification

Peggy and Steve discussed the cut-off numbers for classification and importance of an accurate listing of schools in each section. If there is a change, Peggy would submit a proposal for the May Executive Committee meeting then it would be voted on in July for the 2027 season.

MOTION by Cathleen to adopt the new cut-off numbers using 70/90 for the 2027 season.
SECOND by Karla. Carried 10-0.

8. Sectional Concerns:

No concerns were brought forward by any of the 11 sections

9. 2027 Meeting Date – Wednesday, March 24, 2027 @ 10:00 am

Joe will send out a zoom link/invitation via Outlook.

Meeting was Adjourned at 11:37 am

Minutes respectfully submitted by Peggy Seese & Joe Altieri on 3/27/26

NYSPHSAA Gymnastics State Committee
Thursday, March 26, 2026
Meeting Minutes

ADDENDUM FOLLOWING MEETING
ON MONDAY, APRIL 13, 2026 @ 7:00 AM (see page 3)

ATTENDANCE: Joe Alteiri, Chris Joyce, Kristin Jadin,
Committee: Marbry Gansle (State Coordinator), Vin Collins & Ray Pappalardi (1), Deb Smarro (2), Danielle (McQueary) Cerminaro (3), Carol Mancari (5), Joe Buscaglia (6), Janice Trudeau (7 & Modified), Kim Rhatigan (8), Absent with notice (9), Joe Mercado (11), Pat Acker (Scoring Secretary)

1. Attendance & Address Directory

Meeting called to order at 10:03 by Marbry Gansle (State Coordinator).
3 Corrections requested to address list. Marbry will update and reissue.

2. Election of Secretary

MOTION by Vin to nominate Pat Acker. SECOND by Kim. Carried 9-0.

3. Review of 2025 Minutes – No changes, minutes accepted

4. Review of 2026 State Meet

Marbry congratulated Dani on a wonderful Meet.
Dani said she had a great time and stated it was the best meet she hosted and learned a lot.
Positive comments from committee

Committee & gymnasts were happy with selections from CP Sportswear. Loved the Gymnastic imprints.
Great equipment for the meet.
Wonderful having all the mats
Joe Altieri stated the State Office appreciated all that Dani did. He also mentioned that everything went well with 3 Hotels this year, they did a great job.

5. 2027 State Championship – Sat. Feb. 27, 2027

Kim said she was excited to host. Mike Bongino is working on obtaining a floor border instead of using mats. Mike is seeking quotes for the mats and working with NYSPHSAA to possibly share the cost since they will be used in Long Island for the next three years. Hopes to have everything in order by summer.

Kim is working with other schools to borrow mats. Dani said she can bring 4", 8" and sting mats to Cold Spring.

Joe B. questioned the need for 30 minute warmup rotations. Marbry stated we went to 20 minute rotations a few years back and it was a problem for a few Sections. 30 minute rotations will remain.

Joe A. has already signed a contract with Mariott Melville for 2027 and all Sections will be together.

Kristin asked Kim if Cold Spring Harbor has cameras. Kim said she believes they use Huddle, she will confirm.

Kim stated she liked Dani's extra area for the gymnast and will check to see if the other Gym at Cold Spring can be used for that purpose.

Rene stated PSAL would have a problem arriving in time to be in the first rotation for warm-ups. Dani said section 3 can switch time slots with them. We will hold two open slots in the last rotation in case of bad weather.

Rules
#4 – This year changes were collected by Pat Acker at the end of each warm up session and given to Carl to make changes in the scoring system. This worked well as all lineup changes must be made by the end of each section's warm up session. Changes can be made on the day of competition if a gymnast is injured or ill.

Kristin reminded the committee that the Google form in the Operation Packet must be completed.

#16 - Marbry explained how judges are selected and suggested following the same determination, which is, previous state tournament judges are asked first. If they are not available, judges are asked based on recommendations from committee members. The State Coordinator and Assistant will fill vacancies and try to have as many sections represented as possible. High School rated judges can be used, but not as head judge or bars judge. Kim will pass that information to Maria, who has agreed to be meet referee in 2027.

Rotation for next years meet was drawn by Marbry and Pat and a BYE Column has been added to the diagram.

6. 2026 Award Changes Feedback & 8. Team Component Added

Many participants and parents were upset with the No Team award change even though the award medals increased to 10.

It was stated that many gymnasts were deflated due to no Team Award. There were also negative feedback from parents on the lack of a Team Award. Kristin said Coordinators should give complainers Robert Zayas' number and he will handle the calls. Joe A reminded the Committee that the Championship Philosophy Committees Minutes were sent to Coordinators and it is up to them to disseminate the information to coaches, athletes and parents. Coordinators were disappointed that voting members on CPC did not contact the Gymnastic Committee on their reason for non support, as no contact with committee members had been made prior to the decision. Joe A mentioned that each Section has a committee member and coordinators should reach out to them with their thoughts.

Vin said Section 1 looked forward to participating as a team at States and the gymnast found it a great honor to represent the Section. The Team Competition is a legacy at the State Meet. Coordinators feel we need to figure out how to hang onto the Section Team (In the Olympics all different gyms combine to made up Team USA.)

Ray stated that the reason they do not compete as Sections throughout the season is that there is no vehicle for them to do that. Therefore, he doesn't see it as a valid argument.

Kim wanted to know if Coordinators can present Team awards. Kristin said NYSPHSAA could not authorize that option and Ray does not recommend going rogue.

Championship Philosophy Committee is looking at how individual's qualify for the State Meet. Qualifier #'s should fall in the 5 – 8 % range. Gymnastics is currently over that number

Marbry & Kim will draft a letter to CPC Rep explaining the displeasure of the Gymnastics Committee and lack of team award.

Joe M suggested setting up a meeting with the Gymnastics Committee to set-up framework for 1 day event and include a Team Event. This needs to be done without adding headcount to the rosters.

7. Rule Changes Proposals

- A vote was Taken on a value change for a layout full dismount on bars and beam be a "C".
- Committee voted no on Beam and bars.
- Carol proposed a true flight series get and .10 bonus (handspring/handspring, straddle/straddle, handspring round off).
- Renee requested the adoption of the USA Rule – no deduction for lack of dismount.
- Kim/Marbry will talk to Maria on the two proposals and get back to the committee for further discussion.
- There was a parent request for a video review of events be made available. Committee stated we are not ready for that!

9. Nationals - No Sections have any interested gymnasts this year.

10 . New Business

Staff Update

- Joe Altieri stated that Lexi Swatt (Director of Sports Information) is no longer with the Association and relocated to Iowa for her husband's new job. He also reported Zach Betkowski (TPG Sales) has replaced Joe Guzman handling sales/sponsorships.
- Joe reported NYSPHSAA Hall of Fame deadline is January 29th annually.
- Kristin Jadin thanked Danielle, Marbry and the workers for a great meet.

11. Annual Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 25, 2027, 2 – 3 p.m

Meeting was adjourned at 11:14 a.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Pat Acker & Joe Altieri

****NEW** FROM MEETING ON MONDAY, APRIL 13th:**

ATTENDEES: Marbry Gansle (Coordinator), Vin Collins (1), Deb Smarro (2), Joe Bruscaglia (6), Carol Mancari (7), Kim Rhatigan (8), Nicole Calerone (9), Joe Mercado (11), Joe Altieri (Assistant Director), Absent with notice: 3, 4

Discussion of the following scoring change in the Technical Handbook for the 2026-27 school year:

- **No .3 deduction off the start value for lack of a dismount for bars and beam. This can be references in the Handbook on page 24 (bar, III, b3) and 41 (beam, g1),**
  MOTION by Joe M. SECOND by Kim. Carried 8-0.

  Joe explained this will now go to the Executive Committee for May 6th (agenda released on this Friday) for "discussion" then to Central Committee for a vote on July 29th.
  Marbry also shared with the group she will be completing the Sport Committee Feedback Form to reflect the committee's concerns on the elimination of the Section Team Championship at States.
  Meeting adjourned 7:12 am

GYMNASTICS Committee
Thursday, March 26,2026
Meeting Minutes

ATTENDANCE: Joe Alteiri, Chris Joyce, Kristin Jadin,
Committee: Marbry Gansle (State Coordinator), Vin Collins (1), Deb Smarro (2), Danielle Cerminaro (3), Carol Mancari (5), Joe Buscaglia (6), Janice Trudeau (7 & Modified), Kim Rhatigan (8), Raymondo Pappalardi (9), Joe Mercado (11), Pat Acker (Scoring Secretary)

1. Attendance & Address Directory

Meeting called to order at 10:03 by Marbry Gansle (State Coordinator).
3 Corrections requested to address list. Marbry will update and reissue.

2. Election of Secretary

Vin nominated Pat Acker, Kim seconded. All in Favor.

3. Review of 2025 Minutes – No changes, minutes accepted

4. Review of 2026 State Meet

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Dani said she had a great time and stated it was the best meet she hosted and learned a lot.
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No Sections have any interested gymnasts this year.

10 . New Business

Staff Update - Joe A. stated that Lexi Swatt (Director of Sports Information) is no longer with the Association and relocated to Iowa for her husband's new job. He also reported Zach Betkowski (TPG Sales) has replaced Joe Guzman handling sales/sponsorships.

NYSPHSAA Hall of Fame deadline is January 29th annually.

Kristin Jadin, Assistant Director had no report. She thanked Danielle, Marbry and the workers for a great meet.

Annual Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 25, 2027, 2 – 3 p.m.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:14 a.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Pat Acker & Joe Altieri.

New York State Public High School Athletic Association

Executive Committee Meeting – May 6, 2026

GYMNASTICS – Revise Scoring Change in Technical Handbook for 2026-27 Season

_____ Action Item
__X__ Discussion Item
_____ Informational Item

Presenter:
Marbry Gansle, NYSPHSAA Gymnastics Coordinator
Kim Rhatigan, NYSPHSAA Gymnastics Assistant Coordinator

Proposal:
The NYSPHSAA Gymnastics Committee is seeking approval of the following scoring change in its Technical Handbook for the 2026-27 school year (can be found on page 24 for bar and 41 page for beam):

- **No 0.3 deduction off the start value for lack of a dismount**

Effective Start Date:
Fall 2026

Rationale:
The proposed change is to be less restrictive on overall individual athlete scoring.

Proposal Originated:
NYSPHSAA Gymnastics Committee at its March 27th meeting then subsequently discussed at its April 10th meeting.

Budgetary Impact:
None

Notes:
The NYSPHSAA Gymnastics State Committee was unanimously (8-0 vote) in favor of this proposal at its April 10, 2026 zoom meeting. The committee and staff consulted with Maria DeCristoforo, longtime gymnastics rules interpreter and current editor of the Gymnastics Technical Handbook.

CAC Feedback:
Not applicable

NYSPHSAA
Girls & Boys Indoor Track Committee
Friday, March 6, 2026
MEETING MINUTES

ATTENDANCE: Dr. Robert Zayas, Chris Joyce
GIRLS COMMITTEE: Bob Wallen (State Coordinator & Section 2), Pete Modaferri (1), Dan Reid (3), Todd James (4), Bob Goodell Jr (5), Jason Bibler (6) Sean Ganter (7), Dave Feuer (9), Amy Farrell (10), Deb Ferry (11), Jim Christian (11), Dwayne Burnett (PSAL), Alex Petrecca (AIS), Gerry Sullivan (CHSAA)

BOYS COMMITTEE: Kristin Frazer (State Coordinator & Section 8 Girls), Phil Carbone (1), Doug Hadley (2), Norm Deep (3), Todd James (4), Bob Goodell Jr (5), Jason Bibler (6), Sean Ganter (7), Dennis Kornfield (8), Mike White (Assistant Coordinator & Section 9), Bryan Huntley (10), Joe Mercado (11), Dwayne Burnett (PSAL), Alex Petrecca (AIS), Stephanie Irvin (CHSAA)

GUESTS: Lou Vasquez & Lauren Primerano (Ocean Breeze), Kyle Brazell (Milesplit), Bob Headwell, Ken Knappe & Patti Knappe (Officials)

1. Attendance & Introductions

Meeting called to order at 9:00 am by State Coordinators Bob Wallen and Kristin Frazer.

This is our first year with our meeting straight into competition. Our committee has done a good job communicating. If concerns arise, please remember to remain calm.

2. NYSPHSAA Staff Reports

Dr. Robert Zayas

a. Welcome
b. First year with a 2 day state Meet, we will identify any issues and improve upon them.

Chris Joyce, Director of Marketing & Foundation

a. Badge pick up will be in the cardio room. 1 Coach can pick up badges, please keep athletes out of the cardio room.
b. Coach tickets have been sent out, close to 1,000 issued.
c. Discussion Phase - Championship Philosophy Committee Proposal. Adaptation of Outdoors proposal. Standard can be reached anytime during the season, at Qualifier Champion qualifies automatically (possibly 2nd place) anyone who finishes in the top 5 at the Qualifier with the standard will also qualify. May be a discussion item in July.

3. Ocean Breeze Staff

Welcome to Ocean breeze, it will be a Great Meet.

4. Officials

Bob Headwell passed out a Protest Form that can be used at the State Meet and at any meet in your Section. Bob explained that a Coordinator or Coach can fill out the form, including the rule that was not followed, and it is due 30 minutes after the results have been posted.
No electronics on the Track (Restricted Areas).
If an athlete misses their event, they can no longer compete, today or tomorrow.

5. Committee Business

a. Heat Sheet review/corrections

b. Distance Races -Boxed, will let the Clerks box the athletes on the line.

Todd James (4) asked about the Random Seeding, it seems counter productive after athletes have earned their seed performance throughout the season. Discussion item at our March 31 meeting.

c. TJ Boards - have asked for a 32' for Girls and a 40' for Boys
d. Relay shirts are here
e. Committee Gear has been handed out
f. Lunches will be delivered today and tomorrow
Lou has asked if we can develop a Lunch Delivery Sheet that will include the Section Contact Person and a Phone Number they can be reached at.

7. Upcoming Meeting Dates

Tuesday, March 31, 2026 at 10:00 am via Zoom

8. **Old Business**

a. Doug Hadley (2) asked if the State Meet can be scored by section.
Chris Joyce explained that Section Results are not recognized by NYSPHSAA.
Robert Zayas explained that the athletes are representing their schools and NYSPHSAA is looking for consistency across all sports. He did say someone could keep track of the scores unofficially.
It was suggested to write up a proposal for all Individual Sports if interested.

9. New Business

a. Dave Feuer (9) asked if there was interest in having a DMR instead of the Intersectional Relay where schools would qualify .
b. Discussion for March 31 meeting - the possibility of having the 600 and 1,000 on separate days.

Adjournment at 10:49 am.

Minutes respectfully recorded by Kristin Frazer, Bob Wallen on 3/6/2026.

NYSPHSAA
Girls & Boys Indoor Track Committee
Tuesday, March 31, 2026
MEETING MINUTES

ATTENDANCE: Joe Altieri, Todd Nelson, Chris Joyce, Kristen Jadin
GIRLS COMMITTEE: Bob Wallen (State Coordinator & Section 2), Pete Modafferi (1), Lisa Papparone (2 Asst), Dan Reid (3), McKenzie Rhone (4), Bob Goodell, Jr. (5), Justin Craddock (6), Sean Ganter (7), Kristin Frazer (8), Dave Feuer (9),, Deb Ferry (11), Jim Christian (11 Asst), Dwayne Burnett (PSAL), Sam Deutch (PSAL), Alex Petrecca (AIS)

BOYS COMMITTEE: Kristin Frazer (State Coordinator), Doug Hadley (2), Norm Deep (3), Todd James (4) , Dave Hennessey (5), Jason Bibler (6), Sean Ganter (7), Dennis Kornfield (8 & State Meet PA Announcer), Mike White (Assistant Coordinator & Section 9), Bryan Huntley (10), Joe Mercado (11), Dwayne Burnett (PSAL), Alex Petrecca (AIS)

GUESTS: Bob Headwell (Officials), Lou Vasquez (Ocean Breeze)

1. Attendance & Introductions

Meeting called to order at 10:05 am by State Coordinators Bob Wallen and Kristin Frazer.

2. NYSPHSAA Staff Reports

Joe Altieri, Assistant Director

a. Thanked Bob Wallen, Kristin Frazer, Lou Vasquez, Lauren Primerano and everyone who contributed to a successful two-day tournament for the first time.
b. Service Passes – Joe announced if you have 10+ years on the state committee, you're eligible for a Service Pass. He asked each coordinator to ensure the first year of each committee member is accurately reflected on the committee directories. Bob has set up the directory so each committee member can add the year they started and Joe can figure out who is eligible for Service Passes.
c. Staff update – He noted Lexi Swatt (Director of Sports Information) is no longer with the Association and relocated to Iowa for her husband's new job. He also reported Zach Betkowski (TPG Sales) has replaced Joe deGuzman handling sales/sponsorships.
d. NYSPHSAA Hall of Fame deadline is January 29th annually.

Todd Nelson, Assistant Director

a. No report.

Kristen Jadin, Assistant Director

a. Student Programs – She encouraged promoting to students to apply for the Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC). She is currently seeking rising juniors for this committee. Deadline is May 11, 2026 for students starting in fall 2026. App link below. https://nysphsaa.org/sports/2021/6/8/SAAC.aspx
b. Operations Packet – It is important you share this with your coaches. The new staff member replacing Lexi will be taking over this responsibility. (Kristen will be handling media going forward.)

Chris Joyce, Director of Marketing & Foundation

a. Reported we had a great year of fundraising in 2023-24 for the foundation. We raised over $12,000 from our inaugural golf tournament this past summer. Grants of up to $1,000 per school are now available on our website. They can apply on the NYSPHSAA website. GRANT APPLICATIONS: https://form.jotform.com/NYSPHSAA/SchoolGrantApplication

3. **2026 State Meet Recap**

Bob noted the link that had the recap notes from the 2026 state meet. Various topics were discussed. https://docs.google.com/document/d/145S7UsmwNDO3cj3El2fCB7oyvCQjFit1sliAMKaJNA0/edit?tab=t.0

a. Coaches on the infield: Much discussion. We will add into the COP to allow Coaches onto the infield before each flight for 10 minutes. We will also have a sign up sheet for Sections to assist with asking Coaches to leave the infield after the 10 minute warm up for each flight. We will also add in the COP if Coaches do not leave the infield following the warm up then the event will not start and in the future Coaches will not be allowed on the infield during warm up times.
b. Athletic Trainers - Sections 1,8,11, and PSAL will ask their Trainers to have 2 per day. If/when we have Trainers willing to work, please let Todd Nelson (NYSPHSAA) know.
c. We will not announce the meet is moving 30 minutes ahead of schedule, Chris Joyce pointed out the COP already states we reserve the right to move 15 minutes ahead of schedule.
d. Practice times will remain as is, and we will not have specified hand off times or lanes.
e. OB will have blocks near the finish line for the 4X2 Division final. Bob will check next year to make sure they are present.
f. Homemade numbers - if an athlete loses/forgets their number - the athlete/coach must see their section Coordinator who will then go to the Table and ask Lou for a replacement number from the extras.
   We will add into the COP that athletes are responsible to have their athlete pass and competitor numbers with them both days. We will have some extras just in case.
g. Distance seeding - we will waterfall start distance races, the Games Committee will need to decide how the Box will be assigned (better seeds on the outside).
h. 4X8 - Kristin and Bob will look at numbers and Divisions when seeding and try their best to not have too many teams in each heat.
i. HJ - a lot of discussion. OB staff will be able to move the PV mats out of the way for marks, We will make a change to have one gender on 2 pits at the same time and will decide when seeding opening heights for each pit - this will help eliminate the overlapping of different genders in the same area. This will follow whichever gender competes first on the track will go first in the HJ.
j. 3,000/3,200 - we will line them up differently and possibly use a 1 or 2 turn stagger.
k. Krisitn has a recording of Oscar singing the National Anthem that she will share with Lauren to play from upstairs.
l. 4X2 and 4X4 - much discussion. Tabled until after the April 24 State meeting.
m. Packet Pick Up - Section 8 used a non coaching person to hand out their packlets. Each section will need to have someone hand out their packets for next year, if any Section cannot, please email Bob and Kristin. We will be using the Cardio room again and will add that into the COP.

n. With the meet seeded ahead of time we will have a zoom meeting on Wednesday night to review seeding and then meet briefly as a Committee Friday morning at 10 am to hand out athlete lanyards, competitor numbers, committee gifts, etc and allow coordinators to stuff their own envelopes. The Track will open at 12 pm for Warm Up and close at 1pm for Warm Ups. Opening Ceremony will be at 1:15, with Track and Field events starting at 1:30.

o. Girls will compete first for 2027 - Girls PV will be on Friday and Girls HJ will go first on 2 pits on Saturday.

4. **Committee Business**

a. Distance seeding - from 2026 notes - we will Waterfall.

b. Packet Distribution - discussed in 2026 notes.

c. Possibility of having the 600m and 1,000m on separate days
Kristin Frazer (8) made a motion to move the 1,000m to Friday to precede the 55m Hurdle Final. Bob Wallen (2) seconded. The vote was Unanimous for.

d. Link for the 2026 order of events:
https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1gSBIcJWWiN6WwKrPPYUVvqAa7NRXS8Hz/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=103620596913721905313&rtpof=true&sd=true

e. Intersectional Relay - do we allow 3rd place with Standard to choose to compete in the Relay or have them compete in the Open event? Discussion took place. It was decided to leave it as is for the 2027 Championship.

f. DMR for schools instead of the Intersectional Relay - much discussion took place. It was decided this was too big of a decision to make today, everyone should go back to their Section and have more conversations. Kristin and Bob will put something together to share with the Committee to share with their Sections.

g. Adjusting standards like it is done at the NCAA level. They have a normal 200m flat track standard, an undersized standard, and a banked standard. Bob shared out information from NCAA. sections 2,5,and 11 are interested in moving forward with this.

h. Championship Philosophy Committee proposal
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1x6Ye1vpSaTH93DRZQQx0AdZyJ6gH4lba/view?usp=sharing
A lot of discussion took place. Bob shared a spreadsheet with a page for each section and asked all Coordinators to look at their Section page and then place the numbers of qualifiers they would have had with the 3 different proposed standards if each Section advances their Winner and anyone in the top 5 who achieved that standard during the year. So at a minimum each Section will have 1 person in that column and at most 5 qualifiers.

If anyone thinks of a different/better standard, please feel free to email the Committee so we can have email conversations.

i. Section Concerns: None reported at this time from any Section.

2027 Meeting Date – Tuesday, March 30, 2027 @ 10:00 am

MOTION by Norm Deep (3) to adjourn at 12:35. SECOND by Doug Hadley (2). Carried 22-0.
The meeting was adjourned.

NYSPHSAA Boys Soccer
State Committee Meeting
Friday, April 10, 2026
MEETING MINUTES

ATTENDANCE: Joe Altieri, Chris Joyce
COMMITTEE: Matty Allen (Boys Coordinator/Section 1), Ernie Clapper (Section 2), Bill Donald (Section 3), Allecia Lang (Section 4), Gary Pollack (Section 5), Kevin Beale proxy for Todd Marquardt (Section 6), Rob McAuliffe (Section 7), Al Freeman (Section 8), Pete Ferguson/Tony Martelli (Section 9), Rob Franco (Section 11). Section 10 absent with notice.

1. Attendance & Introductions

Meeting called to order at 9:04 am by Assistant Director Joe Altieri

PURPOSE OF MEETING/TIMELINE

Joe reported now that the Class D proposal (authored by Section 7) was approved by the state committee in February and is going forward, the task at hand today was to give sections the opportunity to discuss new proposals for this coming fall season. One section reached out to indicate their interest in a similar concept as the Class D proposal. The Class D proposal was approved Feb 6th and will go forward to Championship Advisory Committee (CAC), Executive Committee and Central Committee because it was provided to the committee in advance of the Feb meting and followed protocols of a committee bringing a proposal forward. Joe also noted, along with Dr. Zayas and Chris Joyce, he informed the committee if they don't like something they are entitled to make a proposal.

Joe noted the importance of the committee convening today was due to the following timeline:
Fri, April 10 (today) – CAC agenda and packet out to committee
Wed, April 15 – CAC meeting, review of proposal
Wed, May 6 – Executive Committee meeting, introduction of new proposals
Wed, July 29th – Central Committee meeting, vote on May proposals

CLARIFICATION OF CLASS D PROPOSAL VOTE

He clarified, the Class D proposal was recorded as 10-0 (plus 1 abstention) in February. However, Section XI did not abstain, rather they voted no so the vote was revised to 10-1. He then opened the floor to comments and new proposals.

ROLE OF COMMITTEE

Matty asked the role of the committee and if the Class D and other regional rotation proposals have a serious chance of being approved. Joe responded that while regional rotations used to be studied and set up by committees, an ad hoc Regional Rotation Committee evaluated them and they ultimately got approved by the Central Committee after Executive Director input. He referenced the state committee's many hours and work put in to figure out the last set of regional rotations using the Guiding Principles. The committee still has an important role in overseeing the sport, bringing forward issues for discussion and managing the state tournament. Joe stated other sports like Field Hockey, Baseball and Basketball have submitted their concerns in writing to NYSPHSAA in hopes of considering change in the future. Sport Committees were offered a Feedback Form to identify issues and provide solutions to concerns. He will send the form to the entire committee.

3-REGION CONCEPT ISSUES

The following issues were discussed with the current 3-region concept:

- Matty Allen stated the same issues will be present next year because the rotation is the same in 2027. Rob McAuliffe said he thought it was best we tackle this one year and one class at a time for best success. Rob Franco said there needs to be changes for all regions.
- Rob F raised concerns about the impact of requiring sectional champions to travel for at-large bids and asked if at-large can always play a sub-regional game. Chris clarified that logistically this wouldn't work in the current format.
- Matty stated the Section IV AL vs Section IV champion teams playing only once when they should matchup twice (once in sectionals and once in regionals) is not right. With yellow cards dependent on # of games, they should play twice.

- Matty believed the at-large of four schools minimum in a class is not best. Allecia stated Class A in Section IV only has three teams. Joe stated if that's the case then the at-large would go to Section V and Section IV would miss their turn until next rotation. Rob Franco asked why four teams make sections eligible for the at-large. Chris Joyce noted it was sort of arbitrary but did take into account a section being able to host a final four.

DISCUSSION OF NEW PROPOSALS/REGIONALS

Pete stated his section was against the proposal. But he voted yes for it in February. He indicated he didn't see the proposal in advance but Matty Allen provided it with the meeting agenda in advance. Joe also confirmed there was a motion, second and vote on the Class D proposal during the Feb meeting. Rob M put together the Class D proposal because he thought it was the best way to get regional rotations changed as opposed to a full 6-class regional rotation changes.

Matty asked Pete if there something specific we should be looking at. Pete stated no but overall, all classes and matchups should be looked at. Tony stated it used to be 2/9/11 matchup and wondered why it was changed. Rob M. explained the new rotation has created an issue that two sections could have one team each under .500 playing to get to the Final Four. Rob M. said he'd love to sit down after the season and review all the classes and rotations, then propose a full six-class set up.

Ernie did not have a specific proposal but wanted to look at a percentage of schools as the factor in setting up regional rotations. Joe stated unfortunately the regional rotation committee did not take percentage of schools into consideration. Chris J. stated it was done for travel alone. Chris further explained that while people are still in an evaluation phase of the 3-region concept, plans exist to evaluate the system over the summer. Ernie felt the state tournament is diminished in the way they are currently doing regionals now.

Al Freeman added that he voted for the proposal to get our foot in the door instead of doing it for all classes. That is our best chance to be successful.

Joe mentioned NYSPHSAA is collecting feedback on the 3-region concept through a sport committee feedback form, which will be shared with the Regional Rotation Committee or Central Committee.

Pete expressed concerns about the proposal, stating that his request to include a broader review of all classifications was not incorporated, leading to his change in support. The group debated the merits of addressing specific issues versus taking a more comprehensive approach to reviewing regional rotations across all classifications.

Several participants, including Pete and Tony from Section 9, expressed concerns about the proposal only addressing one classification rather than all six classifications simultaneously.

<u>While no new specific proposals were formally submitted from this meeting for the fall season, the group agreed to continue evaluating the system and potentially submit a broader proposal for the following year's regionals.</u>

DECLARATION DATES AND CLASSIFICATIONS

Joe confirmed that all fall declarations are due April 27th, then two weeks later matchups will be announced. While several participants acknowledged disparities in large classifications, particularly on the island, the group decided to see what happens with the Class D proposal and address broader rotation changes next year, hoping the Section 7 proposal gains approval as a first step.

FOLLOW UP

- Matty: Will send finalized regional and sub-regional game dates and times (specifically for Section 1, including AAA and AA games on Saturday the 7th) to Al as soon as possible.
- Joe: Will provide committee the minutes of this meeting and the Sport Committee Feedback Form to identify issues and proposed solutions with the 3-region concept and at-large bid process.
- Matty: Will reach out to all committee members to schedule a meeting in late August to review and propose changes for the 2027 brackets.
- Joe will invite Matty and Rob M to attend the Championship Advisory Committee meeting (Wednesday, 10am) to present the Class D proposal.

MEETING ADJOURNED at 9:42 AM

NYSPHSAA GIRLS WRESTLING Committee Meeting

Thursday, March 26, 2026 @11:00am
Meeting Link

1. **Welcome, Introductions & Announcements –** Ryan Palmer (State Coordinator)
   a. Meeting Called to Order at:

Roll Call:

Present	Section	Coordinator(s)
☑	1	Jamie Block
☑	2	Frank Fronhofer
☑	2	Dianna Acors
☑	3	Rick Spicer
☑	4	Kristin Canedo
☑	4	Greg Lehr
☑	5	Andrea Gabel
☑	6	Tom Shifflet
☑	6	Brade Rowe
☑	7	Rob Witkiewicz
☑	8	Sean Severin
☑	9	Eric Hartmann
☑	10	Randy Morrison
☑	11	Martino Sottile
☑	State Coordinator	Ryan Palmer
☑	Asst. State Coordinator	Brandon MacWhinnie
☑	NYSWOA	Joe Alvarez, Tom Fauvell, Matt Smith
☐	~~USA-W~~	~~Kevin Maxwell~~
☐	NYSWC	Marty Sherman
☑	NYSPHSAA	Todd Nelson, Joe Alteri, Chris Joyce, Kirsten Jadin, Robert Zayas

Committee Directory: Click Here

Minutes: Respectfully Submitted April 1, 2026 by Ryan Palmer & Brandon MacWhinnie

2. **NYSPHSAA Office Updates:**
    a. Nothing to report, thanks to the committee for an outstanding tournament and progress within girls wrestling.

3. **Departing / Incoming Section Coordinators?**
    a. Dianna Acors is joining the committee as Section 2 assistant.
    b. Reach out to Ryan if changes are coming.
    c. Joe Alvarez selected as NYSWOA coordinator.

4. **PIAA State Championships Review**
    a. PA has two boys divisions (AA and AAA) and a girls division, similar to NY. The tournament is run on six mats with mostly separate sessions for each division.
    b. Concern over three days of weigh ins: weigh ins can be staggered based on session start times.
    c. Concerns expressed around lodging, parking and transportation to/from hotels
    d. Potential for girls wrestling on Sunday - would need to know soon to accommodate arena needs
    e. Is there an opportunity to expand 16-person brackets? The rule of 5%-8% of eligible participants is driven by the championship committee and is currently being reviewed with no appetite to raise the ceiling of 8%.
    f. Support for the concept of a combined event.
    g. Can we fit 12 mats in the venue? It's possible; the head table would need to be constructed in the stands.
    h. Potential to run all three tournaments concurrently with designated mats for each division.
    i. Pulse for 3-Day Integrated Tournament (can it be done in 2-days with more mats?):
        i. In Favor: Sections: 2,3,4,5,6,8
    j.

Section Pulses - (All Sections will <u>NEED</u> to converse with coaches)
1 - Wrestle Thursday, finalists come back Saturday night. If Saturday is not an option, stick with Thursday. Break but run placing matches simultaneous
2 - Get more than ten mats, and run both tournaments (integrated) over two days. If not possible, move to Sunday. No Break on Thursday
3 - Same as Section 2. If not Section 2's suggestion, keep Thursday. Keep break, stand alone finals
4 - Same as Section 2. If not Section 2's suggestion, move to Sunday. Keep break, shorten break length, keep stand alone finals
5 - Same as Section 2. If not Section 2's suggestion, keep Thursday. Keep break, stand alone finals
6 - Move tournament to Sunday. Keep break, shorten break length, keep stand alone finals
7 - Stay with Thursday Tournament. Keep break, shorten break length, keep stand alone finals
8 - Move to a three day fully integrated. If not, run on Thursday. Keep break, shorten

break length, keep stand alone finals
9 - Move the tournament to Sunday, would entertain a two-day merger. Keep break, keep stand alone finals
10 - Stay with Thursday Tournament. Keep break, shorten break length, keep stand alone finals
11 - Keep it on Thursday. Keep break, shorten break length, keep stand alone finals. Run placing round before the break.

5. **PSAL?**
    a. Still awaiting final answer from PSAL for inclusion into the 2027 tournament.
    b. Federation meeting April 15th to discuss.
    c. Would only get one allocation per weight and are not counted in participation numbers.
        i. Could push the tournament to 17 per weight with inclusion of PSAL.
    d. Would become part of the committee without voting rights.
    e. Concerns: representation rule, mixed competition rule

6. **2025-2026 Seeding Mechanics vs. Placement Review vs. PINS**
    a. Placement / Allocations Comparisons & Calculations
    b. Overall placements align fairly closely with seeds and PINS ratings
    c. Discussed protected status for returning state champions (cannot be jumped by a third party wrestler)
    d. Discussed past champions who missed the prior season
    e. Seeding Committee will Discuss and bring back:
        i. Hartman
        ii. Spicer
        iii. Severin
        iv. Fronhofer
7. **2026-2027 Allocations**
    a. Frank Fronhofer - Allocations Procedures
    b. Frank presented the allocation formula with updated numbers for the number of girls moving up a weight class utilizing a single year of data.

8. **Items for Future Discussion**
    a. Live Document - Section Coordinators will contribute topics and potential voting items for future discussions
    b. Covered in Agenda Items #6

9. Discussion Items

Name	Section Number	Discussion / Rule / Topic
Ryan Palmer	Coordinator	Consider increasing Minimum Body Fat Percentage from 14% to 17%, consistent with NCAA and NWCA. *Resources:* ● *"Minimum Wrestling Weight for High School Girls Wrestling: Time to Revisit Minimal Body Fat Percent"* ○ *Summary* ● *"Collegiate women's wrestling body fat percentage and minimum wrestling weight values: time for revisiting minimal body fat percentage"* ● *"NCAA Women's Wrestling Weight Management Program"* *Action Item Below*
Sean Severin	8	Adopt the USAW Junior weight classes. 95, 100, 105, 110, 115, 120, 125, 130, 135, 140, 145, 155, 170, 190, 235. Rationale: Creates 2 additional weight classes between 100-135 pounds. Means we will gain 32 additional allocations where we have the most need due to quality and depth in the state. So, rather than generally grow the bracket sizes beyond 16 for all weight classes, we would keep the brackets the same size and add the allocations where we really need them by adding the weight classes. Consideration: We are currently at 13 total weight classes. Our 2025-26 participation numbers without PSAL were 2,626. We might have PSAL coming in next season, which will boost participation numbers over 3000. We should be able to increase to 14 weight classes and remain in line with participation guidelines, but not to the full 15 weight classes utilized by USAW. We should try to increase to push for all 15, but if we can only get to 14, we should drop the 95 pound weight class. Looking at the recent state tournament, 7 of the wrestlers at 94 were in MS and we only had 6 other MS athletes total across the remaining 12 weights. Action Item Below

10. **Action Item(s) from "7. Discussion Items"**
    a. Action Item: Motion to Approve moving to selected USA Juniors Weight Classes, effective for the 2026-2027 season. Weight classes include: 95, 100, 105, 110, 115, 120, 125, 130, 135, 140, 145, 155, 170, 190, 235.
        i. Motion Made by: Eric Hartmann
        ii. Seconded by: Andrea Gabel
        iii. Voting:

Section	"Yes" Vote	"No" Vote	Abstain	Absent
1	☑	☐	☐	☐
2	☑	☐	☐	☐
3	☑	☐	☐	☐
4	☐	☐	☐	☑
5	☑	☐	☐	☐
6	☑	☐	☐	☐
7	☑	☐	☐	☐
8	☑	☐	☐	☐
9	☐	☑	☐	☐
10	☑	☐	☐	☐
11	☑	☐	☐	☐

	Total "Yes"	Total "No"	Total "Abstain"	Total "Absent"
Vote Tally	10	1	0	0
Vote Results	☑ Pass	☐ Fail		

    b. Action Item: Motion to Approve increasing minimum body weight percentage from current 14% to 17% beginning in the 2026-2027 season.
        i. Motion Made by: Eric Hartmann
        ii. Seconded by: Frank Fronhofer
        iii. Voting:

Section	"Yes" Vote	"No" Vote	Abstain	Absent
1	☑	☐	☐	☐

2	☑	☐	☐	☐
3	☐	☑	☐	☐
4	☐	☐	☐	☑
5	☑	☐	☐	☐
6	☑	☐	☐	☐
7	☑	☐	☐	☐
8	☐	☐	☐	☑
9	☑	☐	☐	☐
10	☐	☐	☐	☑
11	☐	☐	☐	☑

	Total "Yes"	Total "No"	Total "Abstain"	Total "Absent"
Vote Tally	6	1	0	4
Vote Results	☑ Pass	☐ Fail		

Meeting Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:20pm on March 26, 2026. The meeting will resume on Monday April 20, 2026 to complete the agenda.

Upcoming Meetings

- Monday 4/20/2026 @ 10am
- Wednesday 8/19/2026 Summer Meeting @ 10am
- Thursday 10/22/2026 Fall Meeting @ 10am
- Thursday 1/7/2027 Winter Meeting @ 10am
- Thursday 3/25/2027 Spring Meeting @ 10am

- Action Item: Motion to Approve
  - Motion Made by:
  - Seconded by:
  - Voting:

Section	“Yes” Vote	“No” Vote	Abstain	Absent
1	☐	☐	☐	☐
2	☐	☐	☐	☐
3	☐	☐	☐	☐
4	☐	☐	☐	☐
5	☐	☐	☐	☐
6	☐	☐	☐	☐
7	☐	☐	☐	☐
8	☐	☐	☐	☐
9	☐	☐	☐	☐
10	☐	☐	☐	☐
11	☐	☐	☐	☐

	Total “Yes”	Total “No”	Total “Abstain”	Total “Absent”
Vote Tally	0	0	0	0
Vote Results	☐ Pass	☐ Fail		

NYSPHSAA GIRLS FLAG FOOTBALL Committee Meeting
MONDAY - May 4 @ 10:45 am

https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87863442760?pwd=BIXDqJ95HTGx9ejLuSW8a7ovsFaeIB.1

MEETING MINUTES

1. Welcome, Introductions & Announcements from State Coordinators
Attendance:

Section 1 - Bill Pilla - ABS
Section 2 - Leigh stevens
Section 3 - April Wertheim
Section 4 - Mike Ford
Section 5 - Jen Lapinski
Section 6 - Marissa Dauria
Section 7 - Kristen Patnode
Section 8 - Gary Gregory
Section 9 - Elaine Schellberg
Section 10 - no rep, no flag
Section 11 - Phil Torregrosa

2. New Committee Members and Directory Updates

- **Flag Directory - State Please review for your section**
- **Please review and email any errors to Jen and Marissa ASAP or as they occur.**

3. NYSPHSAA Staff Reports

Dr. Robert Zayas, Executive Director
Joe Altieri, Assistant Director
- **Intro Natalia Gibbons - welcome!**
- **Declaration date 1st or 2nd week of October for Spring 2027, provide feedback on issues or concerns. Please provide solutions as well.**

Todd Nelson, Assistant Director
- Recommendation for 2027 cut off, will be discussed today
- Looking at meeting schedule, September business meeting, make any recommendations/changes, to get in time for October and approved in February
- Matt Lapinski is modified coordinator, will make recommendations in the Fall meeting, 2027 season will have modified rules in the NYSPHSAA handbook to use. Sections can be more restrictive if they choose. Please share current rules for modified with Matt at matthew.lapinski@greececsd.org

Kristen Jadin, Assistant Director
- Working on an operation packet with Jen and Marissa, this will be on sport page by end of week, early next week.

Chris Joyce
- Reminder about grant applications, encourage to apply

4. Officials Report/ Rules Review

Officials Rep- Tim Arden

NOTES from Section VI:
Hi Patrick,

John and I spoke today and we have a question regarding illegal flags. If an entire team has illegal flags -- what steps should be taken at the game by officials? Thank you.

I think it is relevant to identify why the flags are illegal.

If it is due to the flags having some sort of writing on them, but they otherwise meet the specifications of 1-5-1f, then the game should be played and the officials should report the flag violation to the Section. The school should apply for a waiver from NYSPHSAA.

Similarly, if a flag is unaltered from manufacturer specs, but doesn't meet the NFHS specifications (particularly if it is very close to them), the game should be played and the officials should report it the the Section.

We want to play the game. Because we know a waiver can be granted for this type of scenario, the referee can resolve the legality per the authority to do so granted in 1-5-4. We realize not all schools have the same funding and recognize situations where a game can still be played fairly.

If it is due the flags being altered from manufacturer specs and not meeting the minimum dimensions of 1-5-1f, and the flags cannot be replaced prior to the game, then unfortunately, I think it would have to be a forfeit. Playing with non-compliant flags is unfair to the compliant team.

5. 2026 NYSPHSAA State Tournament Updates

Machell Phelps update

- Section Chairs - please have RSVP ready for meeting to State Tournament
  - 5 people available, follow up with Machell at machellphelps@yahoo.com for reservation.

6. Committee Business

a. BEDS cutoff for 2027

i. **NYSPHSAA Flag Footall Teams 2025-26**

1. **Please review and update with any new or removed teams by 5/5/26.**

b. Follow up from January Meeting - question about use of headsets, video assist with ipads**. Please bring feedback from your section for May meeting. In addition, bring feedback on use of cones as boundaries.**

Feedback on: Use of headsets, video assist with ipads.

Section 1
Section 2 - 2-3 using them, hudl exchange
Section 3 - 2-3 using them, hudl exchange
Section 4 - 1 school using it, left it up to each coach
Section 5 - no current teams using but no problem using it if available
Section 6 - no current teams using but no problem using it if available
Section 7 - no one uses it
Section 8 - a few teams using it, but stopped using it
Section 9 - two teams use it, film exchange
Section 10 - NA
Section 11 - 2-3 using them stopped it, hudl exchange

Feedback on use of cones as boundaries - Jen recommends checking with section

Section 1
Section 2
Section 3
Section 4

Section 5 - discouraged cone use
Section 6 - discouraged cone use
Section 7 - one school shared warranty issue with using chalk paint
Section 8 - not in favor of cones
Section 9 -
Section 10 - NA
Section 11

c. Section Concerns

Section 1 - absent
Section 2 - none, follow up - all teams use USA football flag
Section 3 - customized flag, solid flag with writing - would need a waiver, contact Todd with with photo of flag and short to request a waiver
Section 4 - officials not taking it as seriously - not being current with rules. Reminders from rules interpreter. Refresher about rules. Questions about sub regional and rotational - part of the approved regional rotational. Joe adds 3 different systems in 3 different years - 3 region rotation will begin again next year and eliminate ¾ sub regional
Section 5 - reminder about shorts with contrasting stripes on shorts - flag uniforms in NFHS rulebook should be followed by specs from NFHS. Solid shorts needed
Section 6 - Overtime during the regular season
Section 7 - Diving to gain yardage, concern with injuries
Section 8 - Diving to gain yardage, concern with injuries. Restricted at modified level, no diving permitted. Concern around intentionally tackling, holding etc when the flags cannot be grabbed. This results in a penalty - and no score. Would like to see a change. No legitimate play on the flag. Possibly something on the player who completed that? Should the score count?
Section 9 - limit warning calls by officials, feels diving is important, bull rushing becoming an issue as well.
Section 10 - NA
Section 11 - Overtime during the regular season is being used. Changed this slightly seemed to work out well – the official meeting highlighted professionalism and treating level at tackle football. The onside pilot is going well.

- **You can submit a waiver request for your section for flags with writing on them. This should be to Todd.**
- **Please get pictures of belts of Sectional champions**
- **REMINDER FROM TODD - All section champions need to submit team pictures and rosters.**
- **Reminder: Have any concerns for discussion and potential waivers prepared for the JUNE meeting.**

Flag Football

Declaration - October 17, 2025

Sections	A (1018 - Up)	B (1017 - 601)	C (600 - below)
1	11	15	10
2	9	5	4
3	5	4	5
4	3	5	9
5	5	15	19
6	9	12	14
7	0	0	11
8	12	11	4
9	6	4	8
10	0	0	0
11	18	13	7
Total Sections	9 (7/10)	9 (7/10)	10 (10)

* **YELLOW** denotes Sections with 4 or more teams in the classification

AT-LARGE ROTATION (4 or more participating teams)

YEAR	A	B	C
2026	1	2	↓
2027	2	3	6
2028	3	4	7
2029	5	5	8
2030	6	6	9
2031	8	8	11
2032	9	9	1
2033	11	11	2
2034	1	1	3
2035	2	2	4

* **Note:** Random assignment was used to start at-large rotation

	Part of At-Large Rotation
	At-Large needed
↓	At-Large not needed; shift to next yr.

	Regional Final
	Regional Final Host

Spring 2026 Regional Rotations

9 (7/10) — 2026

A	Sub-Regional	Regional Final
Region 1	6 @ 5	1 AL/4 @ 6/5
	1 AL @ 4	
Region 2		2 @ 3
Region 3		1 @ 9
		11 @ 8

9 (7/10) — 2026

B	Sub-Regional	Regional Final
Region 1	6 @ 5	2 AL/4 @ 6/5
	2 AL @ 4	
Region 2		2 @ 3
Region 3		1 @ 9
		11 @ 8

10 (10) — 2026

C	Sub-Regional	Regional Final
Region 1	6 @ 5	3/4 @ 6/5
	3 @ 4	
Region 2		2 @ 7
Region 3		1 @ 9
		11 @ 8

8. Old/New Business

a. Committee Meeting Reports

- 4.14.26 - DEI Report
- 4.8.26 Sportsmanship Report
- 2026-CAC Minutes April 15.pdf
- 4.24.26 - Schools Without Boundaries Report

9. Next Meeting Date - *Tentative*

- ***ADDED: 6/15/26 - 10:45 am***
- ***9/29/26 - 10:30am***
- ***1/12/27 - 10:30am***
- ***5/4/27 - 10:30 am***

Adjournment

Minutes respectfully submitted by Marissa Dauria

NYSPHSAA FOOTBALL
STATE COMMITTEE MEETING
MONDAY, MAY 4, 2026 @ 1:00 pm

MEETING MINUTES

ATTENDANCE: Todd Nelson, Joe Altieri, Kristin Jadin, Natalia Gibbons-NYSPHSAA Staff; Gary Vanderzee-Chairman; Ken Stoldt-Asst. Chairman; Steve Luciana, Mike Cring-Section 1; Sean Colfer-Section 2; Jeff Paske, Matt Hafele-Section 4; Ty Winter-Section 5; Ken Stoldt-Section 6; Pat Keleher-Section 7; Jason Semo-Section 9; Tim Horan-Section 11; Ric Hamblin, Tim Arden-NYS Officials; Steve Nolan-Modified; Paul Sealy-NYSHSFCA

NYSPHSAA STAFF REPORTS: Joe Altieri introduced Natalia Gibbons to the Football committee. Natalia will be taking over for Lexi Swatt as the Operations Coordinator.

8 MAN FOOTBALL: Sean Colfer asked about the possibility of roster limits. Chairman were asked to discuss within their own sections as to whether or not they believe a roster limit is needed and if so, what the eligible number should be. Jeff Paske suggested having 8 Man teams submit rosters with the grades of students to get a better idea of the overall team composition to help decide on whether or not sections should consider roster limits.

CLASSIFICATIONS: The proposed numbers which were recommended by the committee For 2027-28 will be voted on in July at the state level.

2026 SEASON CONCERNS: None reported

OFFICIALS: Ric Hamblin discussed some concerns regarding assigning for the state Semifinals and finals. The are concerns particularly on the East side with Not having enough officials if one or more sections has 4-5 teams advance. He has proposed moving two chapters from the West to the East to help alleviate This problem. Gary Vanderzee made the following motion: Two officials chapters from Section 4, the Southern Tier, and the Tri Valley Chapters will move from the West to the East. Motioned seconded by Pat Keleher. (Section 7). Motion passed 9-0.

MODIFIED: Steve Nolan informed the committee that there has been discussion at the prior Modified meeting to modify the current modified rules to conform more to the JV and Varsity rules. There is a group currently working on that task. More updates to come later.

NYSHSFCA: Paul Sealy reminded the group that the girls flag tournament will be held on July 10th. The boys 7 on 7 tournament will be held on July 11th along with a big man Competition. All will take place at SUNY Cortland. Sign up online asap.

ROUND TABLE: None

NEXT MEETING: MONDAY AUGUST 10th, 1:00PM

Respectfully submitted by,
Gary Vanderzee, NYSPHSAA FB Chairman
Ken Stoldt, Asst. Chairman **5/4/26**

NYSPHSAA GIRLS WRESTLING Committee Meeting
MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, April 20, 2026 @10:00am

Meeting Link

1. **Welcome, Introductions & Announcements –** Ryan Palmer (State Coordinator)
   a. Meeting Called to Order at:

Roll Call:

Present	Section	Coordinator(s)
	1	Jamie Block
	2	Frank Fronhofer
	2	Dianna Acors
	3	Rick Spicer
	4	Kristin Canedo
	4	Greg Lehr
	5	Andrea Gabel
	6	Tom Shifflet
	6	Brade Rowe
	7	Rob Witkiewicz
	8	Sean Severin
	9	Eric Hartmann
	10	Randy Morrison
	11	Martino Sottile
	State Coordinator	Ryan Palmer
	Asst. State Coordinator	Brandon MacWhinnie
	NYSWOA	Joe Alvarez, Tom Fauvell, Matt Smith
	~~USA W~~	~~Kevin Maxwell~~
	NYSWC	Marty Sherman
	NYSPHSAA	Todd Nelson, Joe Alteri, Chris Joyce, Kirsten Jadin, Robert Zayas

Committee Directory: Click Here

2. **NYSPHSAA Office Updates:**
    a. Nothing to report, thanks to the committee for an outstanding tournament and progress within girls wrestling.

3. **Departing / Incoming Section Coordinators?**
    a. Dianna Acors is joining the committee as Section 2 assistant.
    b. Reach out to Ryan if changes are coming.
    c. Joe Alvarez selected as NYSWOA coordinator.
    d. Section XI:

4. **Discussion Items**

	Discussion Topic	Priority Score
	The USA Wrestling dual meet tie breaker should be changed. Rule 7.13. It is currently possible to win a dual by forfeiting instead of getting pinned if that makes the score end tied. We should never reward not-wrestling. To simplify the example: Suppose both schools only have 2 wrestlers. School A pins School B at 94. At 100 School A knows their wrestler will get pinned. If that happens the match must go to further tie breakers. But instead if School A forfeits to school B at 100. The score ends 5-5, and School A wins because. 2. The team with the most victories (including forfeits) shall be declared the winner. 3. The team with the most victories by fall shall be declared the winner. In the NFHS rule book, all 6 point wins are valued the same in the tie-breaker criteria, so you can never win by forfeiting. Frank will get back to us with a side by side; (NFHS vs. USA Wrestling Rule Book). Will check NCAA rule book as well.	4.27
	Seeding procedure. Is there a ratio that does not allow an athlete to move up? Does 1-4 still move behind? Committee did not have an interest in pursuing this.	4.27
	With Girls only being able to compete against girls during the regular season for post-season eligibility. Should girls certify in the OPC in which they intend to compete? Need to contact Jeff Cuilty to add this. All girls will certify in Girls OPC with a cut-off date for transfers. Girls can compete against other girls at boys events as long as they are not scoring points (participating) as part of the boys team. Exhibitions between girls at events (pre-, post-dual meet, tournament) would be allowed.	4.18

	Revisit the seeding mechanics document. What do we need to add to it? Do we add a "Common Sense" component, requiring a ⅔ vote? Do we add a protected status? Committee would like to see common sense component added, noting that it is not required to be used.	4.18
	Add Weight Minimums to the rule book for 7th and 8th graders. Currently, it is only on the weigh-in sheets. Need to add to NYSPHSAA Handbook through approval process and added upon approval.	4.18
	Allocation Procedure Reviewed the current process. New weight class allocations averaged from the two surrounding weight classes.	4.09
	Start working on a State Dual Proposal. Target Date 2027-28? Will have 2026-2027 Dual Meet Championship: 3, 9, 6, 8, 4, 11, 5 Number of Varsity Programs — Number of Allowable Championship Classes or Divisions 24 -200 — 1 201 - 425 — 2 426 - 500 — 3 501 - 600 — 4 601 – above — 5 Currently 168 teams	3.82
	Merger discussion. Can criteria be developed in advance of us promoting a State Duals Championships, from the State Level Standing agenda item for continued discussion NYSPHSAA Committees currently discussing BEDS distributions. We are required to follow that direction.	3.73
	Remind coaches to make sure athletes names are spelled the same in Track from year to year so it doesn't generate a different USAW ID. Need to ensure all results are being tracked to the appropriate kid. If spellings are corrected, need to know so that we can combine results from past years.	3.73
	Allocations. We should discuss if there is a minimum PIN Rating AND/OR minimum Win % required to utilize an allocation. I think it is very fair to set a minimum PIN Rating of 1000 AND a minimum Win % of 50%. Now that we use NY only PIN Ratings, anything below 1000 is very weak. Need to discuss with Todd if the committee can limit representation based on competitive resume. Cannot implement a rule to preclude a section champion from entering	3.64

	the state championship, could implement for secondary allocations.	
	Cut off date for PINS info for postseason Interest in implementing a cutoff: 1, 9 Committee did not have an interest in pursuing this.	3.64
	Do we, should we, have an official rule about wearing Sectional Singlets at the NYSPHSAA Championship? Interest in implementing a singlet requirement: 1 Committee did not have an interest in pursuing this.	3.55
	Thurs. 2/26 AM timeline: Weighins, check out, etc.	3.55
	Getting rid of the PINS system for seeding. By the 26-27 season we will have had two full years of state placements, section placements and plenty of tournaments/opportunities for head-to-head and common opponent matches to correctly seed the state tournament. Interest in continuing to use PINS: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11 Committee did not have an interest in pursuing this.	3.45
	B-Brackets of tournaments. How do we have these NOT count towards Varsity Record, PINS? Would still count toward representation rule. Need two events with a Varsity and Junior Varsity event in Track. If not being run in Track, results need to be entered at appropriate levels (V or JV). Interest in designated b-brackets: 9 Committee did not have an interest in pursuing this. Ryan will develop a memo to all coaches.	3.36
	Allocations. We should discuss if we are supposed to do away with the allocation matrix that relies on the prior year's data and instead shift to something where every section is guaranteed 1 automatic qualifier (their section champ) and then all of the 2nd place section finishers are put on the board and "ordered" using the same exact seeding methodology we use for the bracket (returning placers, PIN, head-to-head, etc.). This is how we can achieve the "better quality" girls getting into the tournament without going to a regional format. Interest in pursuing: 6, 8, 11 Committee did not have an interest in pursuing this.	3.27

	Start the process to move to USA Bracketing when the contract is up. What does the partnership between USA Bracketing and NWCA look like for certification housing? Current contract goes through 2027-2028 season. NYSPHSAA office has concerns with USA Bracketing being able to deliver. Some states are switching to over, staff recommends seeing what happens with early adopters.	3.09
	Fall Sport? Instantly solves a core growth problem related to availability of coaches, officials, and wrestling rooms. Flag football model was very smart and has thrived because they opted for Spring rather than compete with Tackle Football during the same season. Interest in further discussion moving outside of winter (fall or spring): 1, 2, 6, 8, 11 Discussion will continue on this topic as a future agenda item. The last occurrence of this was membership driven, not committee-driven. Staff does not foresee interest from members in moving sport to the fall, however spring may be considered if good rationale is provided. Recommend approaching at the section level first. Action: each section representative connects with executive directors to understand the appetite from membership across the state.	2.64
	Recognition of "Journeymen Girls State Duals" as the "unofficial" state duals. Winning team to be recognized at the NYSPHSAA State Tournament prior to the finals, until an "official" state dual meet championship is formed. Interest in further discussing: None Committee did not have an interest in pursuing this.	1.91

5. **PIAA State Championships Review**
    a. PA has two boys divisions (AA and AAA) and a girls division, similar to NY. The tournament is run on six mats with mostly separate sessions for each division.
    b. Concern over three days of weigh ins: weigh ins can be staggered based on session start times.
    c. Concerns expressed around lodging, parking and transportation to/from hotels
    d. Potential for girls wrestling on Sunday - would need to know soon to accommodate arena needs
    e. Is there an opportunity to expand 16-person brackets? The rule of 5%-8% of eligible participants is driven by the championship committee and is currently being reviewed with no appetite to raise the ceiling of 8%.
    f. Support for the concept of a combined event.
    g. Can we fit 12 mats in the venue? It's possible; the head table would need to be constructed in the stands.
    h. Potential to run all three tournaments concurrently with designated mats for each division.

i. Pulse for 3-Day Integrated Tournament (can it be done in 2-days with more mats?):
    i. In Favor: Sections: 2,3,4,5,6,8

j.

Section Pulses - (All Sections will <u>NEED</u> to converse with coaches)
1 - Wrestle Thursday, finalists come back Saturday night. If Saturday is not an option, stick with Thursday. Break but run placing matches simultaneous
2 - Get more than ten mats, and run both tournaments (integrated) over two days. If not possible, move to Sunday. No Break on Thursday
3 - Same as Section 2. If not Section 2's suggestion, keep Thursday. Keep break, stand alone finals
4 - Same as Section 2. If not Section 2's suggestion, move to Sunday. Keep break, shorten break length, keep stand alone finals
5 - Same as Section 2. If not Section 2's suggestion, keep Thursday. Keep break, stand alone finals
6 - Move tournament to Sunday. Keep break, shorten break length, keep stand alone finals
7 - Stay with Thursday Tournament. Keep break, shorten break length, keep stand alone finals
8 - Move to a three day fully integrated. If not, run on Thursday. Keep break, shorten break length, keep stand alone finals
9 - Move the tournament to Sunday, would entertain a two-day merger. Keep break, keep stand alone finals
10 - Stay with Thursday Tournament. Keep break, shorten break length, keep stand alone finals
11 - Keep it on Thursday. Keep break, shorten break length, keep stand alone finals. Run placing round before the break.

6. PSAL?

a. Still awaiting final answer from PSAL for inclusion into the 2027 tournament.
b. Federation meeting April 15th to discuss.
c. Would only get one allocation per weight and are not counted in participation numbers.
    i. Could push the tournament to 17 per weight with inclusion of PSAL.
d. Would become part of the committee without voting rights.
e. Concerns: representation rule, mixed competition rule
f. Update (4/20/2026): PSAL may be interested, Dr. Zayas is meeting with them. Should have an answer in the near future. PSAL representatives would be in addition to the 16 NYSPHSAA participants.

7. 2025-2026 Seeding Mechanics vs. Placement Review vs. PINS

a. Placement / Allocations Comparisons & Calculations

Minutes: Respectfully Submitted March XX, 2026 by Ryan Palmer & Brandon MacWhinnie

b. Overall placements align fairly closely with seeds and PINS ratings
c. Discussed protected status for returning state champions (cannot be jumped by a third party wrestler)
d. Discussed past champions who missed the prior season
e. Seeding Committee will Discuss and bring back:
    i. Hartman
    ii. Spicer
    iii. Severin
    iv. Fronhofer

8. 2026-2027 Allocations

a. Frank Fronhofer - Allocations Procedures
b. Frank presented the allocation formula with updated numbers for the number of girls moving up a weight class utilizing a single year of data.

9. **Action Item(s) from "7. Discussion Items"**
    a. Action Item:
        i. Motion Made by:
        ii. Seconded by:
        iii. Voting:

Section	"Yes" Vote	"No" Vote	Abstain	Absent
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				

	Total "Yes"	Total "No"	Total "Abstain"	Total "Absent"
Vote Tally			0	0
Vote Results	Pass	Fail		

10. **Officials Update**
    a. Tom Fauvell Report Out
    b. Kevin Maxwell Report Out
        i. It is no longer forbidden to step on the opponent's foot.
        ii. The step out rule (under 1 pt actions) has been amended as follows:
            1. To avoid athletes intentionally going to their knees to avoid a stepout, in situations where the wrestlers start from a standing position and one or both athletes goes to a grounded/par terre position and the defensive wrestler goes out of bounds, it shall be considered as stepping out and the attacking wrestler shall be awarded 1 point. Once one athlete has gained control on the mat (i.e takedown or turn from grounded/par terre position) no points will be awarded for going out of bounds in this position therefore allowing for normal defense in these scenarios. (Article 38 UWW International Wrestling Rules, modified 2026)

11. **Schedule Review:**
    a. **Review of Schedule:** NYS Championships Seeding Important Dates:
        i. Tue 2/17/2026 8:00pm - Deadline to report unallocated qualifiers
        ii. Tue 2/17/2026 8:00pm - Each coordinator will provide the name and shirt size for the sportsmanship award representative.
        iii. Wed 2/18/2026 8:00pm - Deadline to Report Qualifiers
            1. Reporting State Qualifiers
                a. Bracket Information:
                    i. Seed (#)
                    ii. Name (First, Last)
                    iii. Grade Level (7th, 8th, Fr., So., Jr., Sr.)
                    iv. Season Record (W-L)
                    v. Team Name
                    vi. Section # (I, 2, III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, X, XI)
                b. PINS Rating - fill in USAWID# and the PINS rating will automatically populate
                c. Previous Years' State Place Finish
        iv. Thur 2/19/2026 9:00am - Criteria Verification Assignments Sent
            1. Coordinators will verify the section above them (11 verifies 1), email any issues to Ryan and section coordinator
        v. Fri 2/20/2026 6:00pm - Seeding Meeting
        vi. Sun 2/22/2026 9:00am - Seeding Appeals Meeting
        vii. Sun 2/22/2026 Final Seeds sent to NYSPHSAA Staff

    b. **NYS Championships Setup** - Wednesday February 25, 2026
        i. 12:00 pm Joe, Ryan, Todd, Chris meet at arena for walk through
        ii. 12-4:00pm Coordinators can retrieve their allotted credentials
        iii. 2:00 pm In-Body scales arrival (coordinate with Brad Hamer)
        iv. 2:00 pm Arrival of Merchandiser, other vendors (tables needed)
        v. 2:00 pm NYSPHSAA and MVP Arena Security meeting
        vi. 3:00 pm Clock delivery & Set Up (Jeff Howard)
        vii. 4:00 pm Girls Practices (until 7:00 pm)
            1. **Cannot enter the arena to practice before this time,** coordinators can pick up credentials at this time
        viii. 5:00 pm Girls State Committee Meeting at MVP Arena. Sportsmanship award shirts provided to Coordinators

    c. **Review of Schedule:** NYS Championships - Thursday February 26, 2026
        i. 7:30am-8:45am Volunteers report to Media Table entrance for credentials
        ii. 7:30-8:30 am Girls Weigh-Ins
            1. Section coordinators are in charge of their own weigh-ins and scale
        iii. 8:00 am Box Office Opens; Arrival of sponsors/vendors
        iv. 8:00 am Media Table Opens
        v. 8:15 am Gates Open
        vi. 9:00 am Opening Ceremonies/Parade of Sections/Sportsmanship/Anthem
        vii. 9:30 am Preliminaries
        viii. 10:45 am Quarterfinals followed by wrestlebacks
        ix. 1:00 pm Semifinals/Consolation Quarterfinals
        x. 1:30 pm Consolation Semifinals
            ARENA CLEARED EXCEPT CREDENTIALLED PEOPLE
        xi. 2:00 pm Center Girls Finals Mat & Begin Boys Practices (2hr Requested)
        xii. 2:00 pm Lunch for volunteers, staff, committee in Exhibition Hall (run until 2 pm)

xiii.	2:00 pm	Delivery of officials/trainers boxed lunches to officials locker room
xiv.	4:00 pm	End Boys Practice
xv.	4:30 pm	Boys State Committee Meeting
xvi.	4:15 pm	Open doors for Girls Consolation Finals/Finals
xvii.	5:00 pm	Awards Recognition (NWCA/Officials)
xviii.	5:05 pm	Girls Finals Ceremonies
xix.	5:15 pm	Girls Consolation Finals 5th & 6th Place; Finals to follow
xx.	7:00 pm	Reception (site TBA) hosted by Brian Ackley, LOC, Danforth

12. Section Concerns:

a. Section I –
b. Section 2 – I want an announcer to announce the details of the good upcoming matches for the semi-finals, like the boys do for the quarters on.
c. Section III –
d. Section IV –
e. Section V –
f. Section VI –
g. Section VII –
h. Section VIII –
i. Section IX –
j. Section X –
k. Section XI –
l. Coordinator - Amend proposal to reflect NFHS 19% minimum.

Upcoming Meetings

- Wednesday 8/19/2026 Summer Meeting @ 10am
- Thursday 10/22/2026 Fall Meeting @ 10am
- Thursday 1/7/2027 Winter Meeting @ 10am
- Thursday 3/25/2027 Spring Meeting @ 10am

- Action Item: Motion to Approve a second certification for the girls season.
    - Motion Made by: Eric Hartmann
    - Seconded by: Rick Spicer
    - Voting:

Section	"Yes" Vote	"No" Vote	Abstain	Absent
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				

	Total "Yes"	Total "No"	Total "Abstain"	Total "Absent"
Vote Tally	6	2	1	2
Vote Results	Pass	Fail		