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The 2013-2014 State Championships are officially underway; this is truly an exciting time of the year.

The NYSPHSAA has undergone change in a few areas as we continue to evaluate the progress of the association. Our state championship medals have been completely redesigned, along with the association's website. Attendees at this Fall's championships will see a greater emphasis on the promotion of the NYSPHSAA logo and brand.

I am hopeful you have an opportunity to attend one of the many State Championships over the course of the next month. I would like to wish all of the participants the best of luck and thank the coaches and coordinators for their dedicated efforts!

Robert J. Zayas

NYSPHSAA Executive Director

## 10-SECOND RULE WAIVED FOR MODIFIED GIRLS BASKETBALL:



On October 24, 2013, the NYSPHSAA Executive Committee approved a waiver of the newly implemented NCAA women's basketball 10-second rule for **MODIFIED** girls basketball for the 2013-2014 season.

This waiver was granted for modified girls basketball to allow the sections an opportunity to review the rule and its implications at the modified level. The 10-second rule will be used in girls basketball at the high school level beginning with the 2013-2014 season.

# **LACROSSE BALL RULE CHANGE:**

Please be aware that all lacrosse balls for the 2014 girls' and boys' seasons should include the labeling that says "Meets NOCSAE Standard." If the balls have this labeling, the game may be played; if the balls do not include this labeling, the game must be delayed until balls are available with the labeling.

This is a new rule mandated in the interest of safety by the NFHS and US Lacrosse; there was a one year implementation period.



### **FALL CHAMPIONSHIP TWC BROADCASTS:**



The NYSPHSAA has announced the following Fall State Championships will be broadcast on the Time Warner Cable Sports Channel during the month of November: Girls Tennis Singles and Doubles, Boys Soccer Finals, Football Semifinals (East & West), and the Football Finals.

### **NAIA 5 STAR LEADERSHIP PROGRAM:**



The National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) and the NYSPHSAA have partnered to provide member schools the opportunity to participate in the NAIA 5 Star Leadership Program. Schools that complete all 5 stars of the program will receive a banner highlighting the accomplishment, completely funded by the NAIA. For more information, please contact Todd Nelson, NYSPHSAA Assistant Director at tnelson@nysphsaa.org

## **MAXPREPS (ROSTERS AND PHOTOS):**



For all team sports, schools will be required to post their team photo and roster on MaxPreps in order for it to be published in the State Championship program. Schools must have the access code we provided during the Athletic Director Workshops; if your school has misplaced this code, or has any

questions regarding the MaxPreps system, please contact Joe Agostinelli (NYSPHSAA Media Content Coordinator at 518.690.0771 or jagostinelli@nysphsaa.org).

For individual sports, each Section sport coordinator will be responsible to ensuring individual sport rosters and photos are provided to the NYSPHSAA for inclusion in the State Championship program.

### **SANCTIONING:**

A reminder to all schools that if one of your teams is traveling out of the New York state, "notice of entry" must be completed by going to the NYSPHSAA website. Schools can check the status of any interstate contest by clicking on the sanctioning under the AD and Coaches tab.

A bordering state sanctioning form must be completed when hosting an event involving a school from a bordering state including Canada. For single games a school's only responsibility is to ensure the school they are participating against is a member school or an approved school of their respective state association. For any questions or clarifications please contact Todd Nelson in the association office at 518.690.0071.



#### STAY IN THE GAME:

The NYSPHSAA would like to encourage schools to hang their "Stay In The Game" banners to promote the recently implemented program. As a reminder the program will recognize any member school district that has zero disqualifications for all teams at all levels during the entire school year. Once schools are successful, they will receive a decal of the year in which they accomplished the goal. All schools reaching the goal will be acknowledged at the summer meeting.



# **SCHOLAR/ATHLETE PROGRAM:**



Friday, May 16, 2014 - SPRING.

This marks the 23rd year of the NYSPHSAA Scholar/Athlete Program. This program continues to grow leaps and bounds with more teams, schools and student-athletes being recognized each year. So that all of your students and teams receive the recognition that they deserve, it is imperative that schools file by: Friday, December 6, 2013 – FALL, Friday, February 28, 2014 – WINTER,

When teams receive a Scholar/Athlete Team Award for the academic school year they are then eligible for the NYSPHSAA School of Distinction Award. To receive this award NYSPHSAA must receive all applications by June 30, 2014.

### **BATTLE OF THE FANS:**



The NYSPHSAA will work with member schools to collect short videos for consideration. NYSPHSAA is looking for fans that have fun and interesting ways to promote positive sportsmanship during interscholastic athletic events. The NYSPHSAA will recognize one school as the NYSPHSAA "Battle of the Fans" State Champion from videos submitted by our member schools as to why they should win "Battle of the Fans." Be sure to visit NYSPHSAA.org for more information about this exciting program.

The Michigan High School Athletic Association hosted this program for the past two years with great success. Information and criteria about the program was shared with the schools at the mandatory AD workshops this Fall. To view examples of videos submitted in the state of Michigan, please visit www.mhsaa.org and look for Battle of the Fans. There are excellent videos on this website to demonstrate the type of videos NYSPHSAA is looking to have submitted by our member schools.

## **LOOKING AHEAD:**

**November 2-4** Girls Tennis Championships (Tri-City Tennis Center- Latham, NY)

November 9Cross Country Championships (Queensbury High School)November 15Boys Volleyball Championships (Glens Falls Civic Center)November 16-17Girls Volleyball Championships (Glens Falls Civic Center)

November 16-17 Girls Soccer Championships (Cortland, NY)

November 16-17 Boys Soccer Championships (Middletown, NY)

**November 16-17** Field Hockey Championships (Cicero-North Syracuse High School)

November 22 Football East Semifinals (Dietz Stadium)

November 22 Football West Semifinals (Sahlen's Stadium)

November 29 & Dec. 1 Football Championships (Carrier Dome)

## **QUOTE TO REMEMBER:**



"Little things make the big things happen."

- John Wooden