



ATHLETIC COUNCIL MINUTES

May 15, 2024

HIGHLIGHTS

- 1.1 **CARRIED:** amend the agenda; to remove item 4.4 letter (d) because East Aurora no longer plans to schedule independent; edit letter (e) of 4.4 from Girls Soccer to Girls Volleyball; to remove 5.1 #23 because BPS is reviewing the combination; and to remove 5.1 #72 because it is repeated
- 3.1 **CARRIED:** March 20, 2024 Section VI Athletic Council meeting minutes
- 4.1 **OPPOSED:** Clarence for participate in Division 1 Boys Ice Hockey for the 24-25 school year.
- 4.4 **CARRIED:** Independent Status for the following schools
- 5.1 **CARRIED:** Combining of Schools Applications
- 5.2 **CARRIED:** Senior All Star Applications
- 6.3.1 **CARRIED:** Treasurer's report
- 6.4.1 **CARRIED:** Move Boys and Girls Soccer Semifinals to the higher seed
- 6.14.1 **CARRIED:** C. Alvarez as Principals' Representative, term July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2028
- 6.14.2 **CARRIED:** Brett Banker as President-Elect, term July 2024 – June 2026
- 6.14.3 **CARRIED:** Jacob Reimer (Barker) as Boys Golf Chairperson Vacancy (fulfill the current term, through June 30, 2025)
- 6.14.4 **CARRIED:** Fall Sports Chairs Terms Expiration June 30, 2024, new term July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2027
incumbent renewals: N. Bourke (Girls Swim Co-Chair), P. Cary (Girls Swim Co-Chair), J. Longo (Boys Cross Country), W. McLaughlin (Girls Cross Country), J. Sirianni (Football), K. Stoldt (Football Assistant), J. Buscaglia (Girls Gymnastics), T. Marquardt (Boys Soccer), C. Durr (Girls Soccer), J. Fildes (Girls Soccer Assistant), K. Janese (Girls Tennis), W. Stefani (Boys Volleyball), D. Schruefer (Girls Volleyball), J. Costello (Girls Field Hockey), and J. Otto (Asst. Girls Field Hockey Chair)
- 10.1 **CARRIED:** Approval of Fall 2024 pre-season reports: Boys Soccer (with the exception of the non-player personnel proposal), Girls Soccer, Boys Volleyball (with the exception of the tiebreaker proposal), Girls Volleyball, Cross Country, Football, Girls Field Hockey, Girls Swimming (with the exception of the Girls Swimming combined teams percentage proposal), Girls Tennis, Girls Gymnastics

ATHLETIC COUNCIL MINUTES

1.0 CALL TO ORDER (M. Donahue)

1.1 Pledge of allegiance

Motion to amend the agenda; to remove item 4.4 letter (d) because East Aurora no longer plans to schedule independent; edit letter (e) of 4.4 from Girls Soccer to Girls Volleyball; to remove 5.1 #23 because BPS is reviewing the combination; and to remove 5.1 #72 because it is repeated

CARRIED

Zirkle/McDuffie

2.0 Presentations & Awards

2.1 Lunch Sponsor – Cross Training Athletics (Mike Masters)

2.2 Mental Health Presentation (J. Grzymala & J. Iwankow)

Jayda Perry (Sr SAAC Rep) Olmstead & Jack Johnson (Jr. SAAC Rep) Kenmore West

2.3 Leadership Conference Presentation (J. Grzymala & J. Iwankow)

Aly Gleason - Frontier

Evan Poeller - Roy-Hart

Peyton May - Roy-Hart

Megan Cassidy- East Aurora

2.4 Student-Athlete Essay Award Winners

a) Abigail Freatman (Wilson)

b) Benjamin Dickinson (Newfane)

2.5 NYSAAA Awards (Jeff Roth)

a. Judith Ann Knight, Positive Change Award - **Jim Graczyk**, ECIC

b. Liam Frawley, Emerging Athletic Administrator Award - **Mariah LaSpina**, Albion

c. Community Service Award - **Preston Teague**, Buffalo Bills

d. Judith A. Martens Secretarial Award of Excellence - **Kim Glauser**, Lancaster

e. Distinguished Service Award - **Dan Finucane**, Niagara Frontier League & Section VI

f. Athletic Administrator - **Aubrey Lloyd**, BPS

3.0 MINUTES (M. Donahue)

3.1 ***Motion to approve the March 20, 2024 Section VI Athletic Council meeting minutes***

CARRIED

Fallacaro-Dougherty/Lilleck

4.0 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT (M. DiFilippo)

4.1 ***Motion to approve for Clarence for participate in Division 1 Boys Ice Hockey for the 24-25 school year.***

OPPOSED; 4 yes votes, 1 abstain

Taylor/Fallacaro-Dougherty

Per the Section VI Constitution, Article 12 Classification, 12.3 3 Schools must compete within their sectional classification numbers for all sports except Ice Hockey. In the sport of Ice Hockey, teams may move up from the small school division to the large school division. The Ice Hockey exemption will be reevaluated annually.

Concern continues about the contradiction of equity, inclusion, and opportunity, and competition and how they don't always align. In this case, specifically, there is a rule just for Boys Ice Hockey.

The history of the move to change this constitutional item was reviewed. At the May 2023 athletic council meeting, the motion to remove this exception to the constitution was carried. However, per article 10 of the constitution, after an approval of an amendment to the constitution by the athletic council, each member school district must then submit a ballot vote. The results of the ballot vote did not meet the 2/3 minimum to initiate the constitutional change.

BELOW IS THE EXCERPT FROM THE MAY 2023 ATHLETIC COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Motion to remove the exception for Boys Ice Hockey within 12.3 of Article 12 Classification of the Section VI Constitution.

*CARRIED 18 in favor, 8 opposed
Jeff Roth/House*

12.3 Schools must compete within their sectional classification numbers for all sports ~~except Ice Hockey. In the sport of Ice Hockey, teams may move up from the small school division to the large school division. The Ice Hockey exemption will be re-evaluated annually.~~

The Sectional/Intersectional Committee thought it was important to be consistent and equitable across all sports. It's also thought that with the implementation of the 6 classes that more schools would inquire about moving classifications.

With the approval of this action item and because this is a Constitutional item, a post card ballot will be sent to all school districts. Athletic directors, principals, and superintendents are expected to sign their ballot. A 2/3 vote in favor will enact the removal of the exception to 12.3 of Article 12.

Subsequent results of the post card ballot.

9 districts did not submit a vote

8 districts abstained

For the change to occur, 38 votes in favor were needed. There were only 32 votes in favor and 25 Against, which does not meet the 2/3rd minimum vote to initiate the change. Therefore, the constitution will remain unchanged, and Ice Hockey will continue to have the ability to request to play up a classification.

Per the current constitution, this motion must be voted on. Moving forward, the Constitution/Bylaws/Policy Manual Ad Hoc Committee is charged with reexamining this constitutional item.

4.2 Mandatory AD Workshop – Wednesday, August 21, 2024

This date was changed to August 21 to accommodate the football start date. A venue with classroom style seating is being sought.

4.3 The Football start date for the fall is Monday, August 19. All levels of football may begin on this date. All other fall sports may begin the following Monday, August 26

4.4 ***Motion to approve Independent Status for the following schools:***

CARRIED

Lilleck/Taylor

- a. Cassadaga Valley independent status in the sport of Girls Tennis for fall 2024,
- b. City Honors independent status in the sport of Girls Volleyball for fall 2024, Softball for Spring 2025
- c. CSAT in the sport of Girls Soccer for fall 2024, Baseball and softball for spring 2024
- d. ~~East Aurora in the sport of varsity Boys Soccer for fall 2024 (Removed)~~
- e. Global Concepts in the sport of varsity Girls Volleyball for fall 2024
- f. Lackawanna in the sport of varsity Girls Soccer for fall 2024
- g. Niagara Falls in the sport of Boys Basketball for winter 24-25,
- h. West Seneca West in the sport of varsity Boys Basketball for winter 24-25

5.0 **COMMUNICATIONS** (M. DiFilippo)

5.1 ***Motion to approve Combining of Schools applications, numbers (1) through (18)***

CARRIED

Ljiljanich/Zirkle

Fall Sports

1. Cheer GameDay, Existing, East Aurora, Holland, V, 460, C
2. Cheer GameDay, Existing, West Seneca West, West Seneca East, 7/8 ONLY, 1122, A
3. Cross Country BG, New ADD V, West Seneca West, West Seneca East, V, 7/8, 1429, A
4. Field Hockey, Existing, West Seneca West, West Seneca East, V, 7/8/9, 1122, A
5. Golf B, Existing, West Seneca West, West Seneca East, V, 1429, A

6. Gym G, Existing, Williamsville East, Sweet Home, V, 1476, one div
7. Gym G, Existing, Williamsville South, Amherst, V, 1272, one div
8. Soccer B, New, Silver Creek, Forestville, V, 789, 266, B
9. Soccer B, Existing, West Seneca West, West Seneca East, V, JV & 7/8, 1429, AAA
10. Soccer G, New, Tapestry, BASCS, V, 642, A
11. Soccer G, New ADD Var, West Seneca West, West Seneca East, V, JV, 1429, AAA
12. Swim G, Existing, East Aurora, Holland, V, 476
13. Swim G, New, Fredonia, Dunkirk, Forestville, Pine Valley ADD Cass Valley, V 1148 pending CCAA approval
14. Swim G, Existing, Olean, Portville, V, 539
15. Swim G, Existing, West Seneca West, West Seneca East, V, 1429
16. Tennis G, Existing, West Seneca West, West Seneca East, V, 1429, D1
17. Volleyball B, Existing, Cheektowaga, JFK, V, JV, 789, 631, D2
18. Volleyball G, New, Middle Early College, LJ Bennett, V, JV, 444, B

Winter Sports

19. Basketball B, New, East, Pathways, V, 298, B
20. Basketball B, New, Performing Arts, Leo DaVinci, V, JV, 567, A
21. Basketball B/G, New, Culinary Arts, Emerson, V, JV, 672, AA
22. Basketball B/G, New, I-Prep, Lafayette, V, JV, 817, AA
23. Basketball B/G, New, LJ Bennett, Alternative Ed, V, JV, 351, B (Removed)
24. Basketball B/G, New, MEC, Research Lab, V, JV, 304, B
25. Bowl BG, Existing, Allegheny-Limestone, Olean, Portville, V, 663, D1
26. Bowl BG, Existing, Clymer, Sherman, V, 130, D2
27. Bowl BG, New, Culinary Arts, Emerson, V, 477, D2
28. Bowl BG, Existing, Hinsdale, Cuba-Rush, Friendship, V, 243, D2
29. Bowl BG, Existing, Kenmore East, Kenmore West, V, JV, 1442, D1
30. Bowl G, Existing, West Seneca West, West Seneca East, V, 1429, D1
31. Bowl Unified BG, Existing, West Seneca West, West Seneca East, V, 1429
32. Cheer Competitive, Existing, East Aurora, Holland, V, 460, C
33. Hockey B, Existing, Iroquois, Alden, V, 669, D2
34. Hockey B, Existing, Lockport, Niagara Falls, V, 2691, D1
35. Hockey B, Existing, Sweet Home, North Tonawanda & Depew, V, 1360, D1
36. Hockey G, Existing, Frontier, Orchard Park, Lake Shore & Franklinville, V, 2681
37. Hockey G, Existing, Kenmore East, Kenmore West, Grand Island, Lockport, V, 3151
38. Hockey G, Existing, Lancaster, Alden, Depew & Iroquois, V, 2445
39. Hockey G, Existing, Starpoint, Niagara-Wheatfield, Lewiston-Porter, V, 1993
40. Hockey G, Existing, West Seneca West, West Seneca East, Hamburg, Eden, Holland, V, 2579
41. Indoor Track B/G, Existing, Allegheny-Limestone, Olean, Portville, V, 663
42. Indoor Track B/G, Existing, Dunkirk, Silver Creek, Forestville, V, 617
43. Indoor Track B/G, Existing, Falconer, Randolph, Frewsburg, Maple Grove, V, JV, Fresh, 771
44. Indoor Track B/G, New, F LOImsted, City Honors, Burgard, MST, East./ Perf Arts, V, 2047
45. Indoor Track B/G, Existing, Holland, East Aurora, V, 476
46. Indoor Track B/G, New, Hutch Tech, South Park, Emerson, Cul Arts, V, 2173
47. Indoor Track B/G, New, McKinley, LJBennett, MEC, Research Lab, V, 1523
48. Indoor Track B/G, New, Riverside, I-Prep, Lafayette, LDVinci, V, 1333
49. Rifle, Existing, Kenmore East, Kenmore West, V, JV, 1442
50. Swim B, Existing, Dunkirk, Silver Creek, Forestville, V, 673
51. Swim B, Existing, East Aurora, Holland, V, 476
52. Swim B, Existing, Frewsburg, Southwestern, Jamestown, Falconer, V, 1828
53. Swim B, New, Hutch Tech, Cul Arts, Emerson, IPrep, V, 2071
54. Swim B, Existing, Kenmore East, Kenmore West, V, JV, 1442
55. Swim B, New, LJ Bennett, MEC, Research Lab, V, 476
56. Swim B, New, McKinley, East, V, 934
57. Swim B, Existing, Panama, Clymer, Sherman, V, 195
58. Swim B, New, Perform Arts, LD Vinci, V, 399
59. Swim B, New, Olean, Allegheny-Limestone, Franklinville, Portville, V, 1035
60. Swim B, Existing, West Seneca West, West Seneca East, V, 1429
61. Swim BG, Existing, Roy-Hart, Barker, V, 365
62. Wrestling B, New, Franklinville, Hinsdale, West Valley, V, JV, 78, 208, D2
63. Wrestling B, Existing, Gowanda, Pine Valley, V, 789, 265, D2
64. Wrestling B, Existing, Kenmore East, Kenmore West, V, JV, 1442, D1
65. Wrestling B, Existing, Portville, Cuba-Rushford, V, 316, D2

66. Wrestling B, Existing, Roy-Hart, Barker, V, 365, D2
67. Wrestling B, Existing, West Seneca West, West Seneca East, Depew, V, 7/8/9, 1839, D1
68. Wrestling B/G, Existing, Chautauqua Lake, Panama, Clymer, Westfield, V, 789, 535, D2 Boys
69. Wrestling B/G, Existing, East Aurora, Holland, V, JV 476 D2 Boys, Girls 560
70. Wrestling B/G, Existing, Fredonia, Forestville, Silver Creek, V, 494, D2 Boys, Girls 657
71. Wrestling B/G, Existing, Lafayette, All other BPS Schools, V, JV, 7539, D1 Boys
- ~~72. Wrestling B/G, Existing, Kenmore East, Kenmore West, V, JV, 1442, D1 Boys (Removed)~~

5.2 Motion to approve Senior All Star applications. Letters (a) and (b)

CARRIED

Lilleck/Zirkle

- a) BPS Senior Baseball All Star Contest, 5/29/24 at Sahlen's Field
- b) BPS Senior Softball All Star Contest, 5/28/24 at Canisius College

6.0 STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

6.1 Combining of Schools Committee (J. Sortisio)

6.1.1 Boys & Girls Swim and Indoor Track – 100% of BEDS Combined Teams Proposal

The combining of schools committee is tasked with reviewing and making recommendation on a proposal to use 100% of the BEDS numbers beginning with the 24-25 school year. This only affects the class meets in these sports. There are no NYSPHSAA team championships, team championships are just at the sectional level.

6.2 Charter Schools Classification Committee (J. Sortisio)

Nothing to report

6.3 Finance Committee (S. Penhollow)

6.3.1 Motion to approve the Treasurer's report (Appendix A)

CARRIED

Lilleck/Taylor

6.4 Sectional/Intersectional (M. DiFilippo)

6.4.1 Motion to approve moving Boys and Girls Soccer Semifinals to the higher seed

CARRIED

Ljiljanich/Kelly

6.5 Safety (M. McKenna) Appendix G

- My Lightning Tracker has been approved by NYSPHSAA. It has a 15-mile radius.
- Anyone Can Save a Life mandate - implementation August 2024.
- NYSPHSAA Wrestling Committee recommended early weight certification date. the rationale is due to the use of 1.5% weight loss descent plan. Some wrestlers are being negatively impacted by the current timeline.
- Section 5 raised concern about Boys Lacrosse officials properly calling the one arm swing check at the modified level to minimize the risk of student-athletes due to change in this rule.

6.6 Modified Committee (L. Bergman, M. Librock)

6.6.1 Rolling agenda

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1X_iVIWi-nmrYKJ5C3laJsbgWXMoZuray1XyZb79uuto/edit

6.7 State Executive Committee/Central Committee

a) Superintendent (J. Sortisio)

Nothing to report

b) Principal (C. Alvarez)

Nothing to report

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

The following discussion items are actions items for the June 12, 2024 Athletic Council zoom meeting to provide direction to M. Fallacaro-Dougherty and J. Roth on how to vote at the NYSPHSAA July 2024 meeting (Appendix B)

6.7.1 Ticket Prices

6.7.2 Handbook – Forfeit Exception for Football

6.7.3 NYSPHSAA Transfer Form for Waivers and Exceptions

6.7.4 Cheerleading: Fall Start Date

6.7.5 Cheerleading: Update Required Coaching Course

6.7.6 Girls Team Tennis: Establish New Regional Rotation for 2024-2028 Using Guiding Principles

6.7.7 Boys Soccer: Establish New Regional Rotation for 2024-2028 Using Guiding Principles

6.7.8 Girls Soccer: Establish New Regional Rotation for 2024-2028 Using Guiding Principles

6.7.9 Field Hockey: Establish New Regional Rotation for 2024-2028 Using Guiding Principles

6.7.10 Girls Volleyball: Establish New Regional Rotation for 2024-2028 Using Guiding Principles

6.7.11 Girls Volleyball: Revise State Tournament Format Back to Pool Play

6.7.12 Football: Establish New Regional Rotation for 2024-2029 Using Guiding Principles

6.7.13 Football: Move 8-Man Regional Championship to week #22 and conduct it at JMA Dome during 11-Man Finals; establish regional rotation

6.7.14 Football: Revision to NYSPHSAA Sportsmanship Penalty

6.7.15 Boys Wrestling: Early Weight Certification Date

6.7.16 Girls Wrestling: Automatic Qualifiers

6.7.17 Girls Wrestling: Representation Rule

*the girls would have to make a choice, post season, if they are going to participate with the boys or girls

6.7.18 Girls Wrestling: Waiver of the Maximum Number of Tournaments

6.7.19 Girls Wrestling: Waiver of the NFHS 1.5% Weight Loss Plan

6.7.20 Girls Wrestling: Adopting the USA Junior Rules

6.7.21 Boys Ice Hockey: Revision to Goalie Warm-up

6.7.22 Boys Ice Hockey: OT During Regulation Season

6.7.23 Boys/Girls Bowling: Split Composite Division into Division 1 & 2

6.7.24 Boys/Girls Bowling: Modify D1/D2 School Team Division to use 6-man format

*M. DiFilippo noted that 6.7.23 and 6.7.24, if passed will have budgetary implications, both on schools and sections. If either of both are approved, the number of participants would increase.

6.7.25 Outdoor Track & Field: Establish Classification Cut-Off Numbers for 2025

6.7.26 Unified Sports: Sports Offering/Rules Modifications

6.8 Extended Eligibility (M. DiFilippo)

Nothing to report

6.9 Chemical Awareness (J. Grzymala)

6.9.1 Applicants applying for 1 Female - Rising Junior within Section VI
(NYSPHSAA will be making selection for new member starting 2024-25 school year, 2-year term)

6.10 Transfer/Foreign Student (M. DiFilippo)

Reports provided to the Executive Committee

6.11 Sportsmanship (J. Graczyk, D. Ames)

6.11.1 Reminder - Coaches Sportsmanship Nominations

6.11.2 Sportsmanship report:

Final tally for Good Sports Promotion Survey

- 97 Schools / 90 submitted information with a 92% participation
- 100% from the following leagues / divisions: CCAA / NFL

6.12 Veterans (J. Trampert)

6.12.1 2024 Veteran Dinner

The 2024 Veteran Dinner is scheduled for Thursday, September 12th, 2024 at The Ridge restaurant on Orchard Park Road in West Seneca, NY. The council was asked to share with their respective leagues that any member who served on the athletic council in the past or retired athletic directors are eligible to attend.

Section VI was thanked for its sponsorship of the event.

6.13 Mixed Competition (C. Alvarez)

6.13.1 NYSED Mixed Competition Regulatory Amendments (Appendix C)

See agenda item 9.1

6.14 Nominations (D. Lilleck)

6.14.1 *Motion to approve of C. Alvarez as Principals' Representative, term July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2028*

CARRIED

Sortisio/McDuffie

6.14.2 *Motion to approve of Brett Banker as President-Elect, term July 2024 – June 2026*

CARRIED

Bergman/McDuffie

6.14.3 *Motion to approve of Jacob Reimer (Barker) as Boys Golf Chairperson Vacancy (fulfill the current term, through June 30, 2025)*

CARRIED

Ljiljanich/Reed

6.14.4 *Motion to approve Fall Sports Chairs Terms (Expiration June 30, 2024, new term July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2027 incumbent renewals): N. Bourke (Girls Swim Co-Chair), P. Cary (Girls Swim Co-Chair), J. Longo (Boys Cross Country), W. McLaughlin (Girls Cross Country), J. Sirianni (Football), K. Stoldt (Football Assistant), J. Buscaglia (Girls Gymnastics), T. Marquardt (Boys Soccer), C. Durr (Girls Soccer), J. Fildes (Girls Soccer Assistant), K. Janese (Girls Tennis), W. Stefani (Boys Volleyball), D. Schrufer (Girls Volleyball), J. Costello (Girls Field Hockey), and J. Otto (Asst. Girls Field Hockey Chair)*

CARRIED

Zirkle/Reynolds

6.15 Corporate Partners (M. DiFilippo)

Nothing to report

6.16 Hall of Fame (J. Dunnigan)

Today is the deadline for nominations for the December 2024 Hall of Fame ceremony.

6.17 Unified Sports (D. Ames)

- National Unified Champion Banner Schools
- Rebranding of Awards
- Fall - Unified Flag Football Discussion

The Buffalo Bills, Jets, Giants, NYSPHSAA and the Special Olympics are in discussions to begin a Flag Football pilot. The pilot is being offered to sections 3, 4, 5 and 6. It would be 5 on 5 with minimum of 10 on roster. The Buffalo Bills plan to provide seed money. At a minimum, 4 schools from each of the involved sections are required.

7.0 SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

7.1 All WNY Scholar Athlete (J. Roth)

Spring 2024 nominations are due no later than May 20, 2024.

8.0 STATE COMMITTEE REPORTS (informational only) Appendix D

8.1 Football, May 6, 2024

8.2 CAC, April 9, 2024

9.0 GUEST REPORTS

9.1 NYSPHSAA (R. Zayas)

NYSED Mixed Competition Regulatory Amendments (Appendix C)

The proposed amendments are trying to provide easier access for a student to gain entry onto a team that doesn't correspond with their biological gender. The regulation would benefit females who want to gain access to

an all-male team and a less restrictive pathway for a male to participate on an all-female team. The goal of the proposed amendments is to provide equity, but the concern then becomes an equal access issue.

1. R. Zayas cautioned that removing “significant adverse effect” from the current regulation would be problematic. Currently, the regulation states that a male cannot play on a female team if the school or section determine he will have a significant adverse effect. “Significant adverse effect” although broad in nature, provide schools/sections the ability to say the male student-athlete will displace a female student-athlete and/or present a safety concern.
2. If a school has a field hockey team and they don’t have a male equivalent team sport, then the school will be forced to post selection criteria for that team on the school’s website, which will only add criticism to the coach. Selection criteria would only be required to be posted, per the proposed amendments, if the school didn’t have a male equivalent team.
3. Proposed amendment to eliminate the athletic placement process. If approved, 7th and 8th graders could tryout for a high school team as long as they have parental consent.

Council members were encouraged to express their concerns, if any, during the 60 day public comment period, which will begin May 22, 2024.

At the September regents meeting, the proposed amendments will be up for a vote. If the proposed amendments are approved, mixed competition would be implemented for the 24-25 winter season, but the APP timeline is July 1, 2025.

R. Zayas is working on a memo to the NYSED Commissioner regarding these concerns as he continues to discuss them with NYSPHSAA membership.

- NYSPHSAA Schools Without Boundaries Ad Hoc Committee – Marisa Fallacaro-Dougherty
Adam Stoltman, NYSPHSAA 2nd Vice President, will be chairing this committee. The 1st meeting will be held in early fall. M. Fallacaro-Dougherty will represent Section VI.

9.2 NYSAAA Report (J. Roth)

Nothing to report

10.0 SPORTS REPORTS

- 10.1 ***Motion to approve of Fall 2024 pre-season reports: Boys Soccer (with the exception of the non-player personnel proposal), Girls Soccer, Boys Volleyball (with the exception of the tiebreaker proposal), Girls Volleyball, Cross Country, Football, Girls Field Hockey, Girls Swimming (with the exception of the Girls Swimming combined teams percentage proposal), Girls Tennis, Girls Gymnastics*** (Appendix E)
CARRIED
Wiles/Brown

11.0 OLD BUSINESS

- 11.1 Section VI CBPM Ad Hoc Committee Update (B. Banker)

The constitution was previously approved. The council will receive a copy of the proposed Bylaws along with the minutes from today’s meeting, which will be voted on at the June 12 athletic council Zoom meeting. The representatives from each league who served on this committee will form a standing Policy Manual Committee.

12.0 NEW BUSINESS

- 12.1 Foreign Exchange Student Concern (J. MacSwan) Appendix F

J. MacSwan reviewed the data in appendix F. Council members were asked to review this item with their respective leagues and be prepared to vote at the June 12 athletic council Zoom meeting. If approved, M. Fallacaro-Dougherty, Female Representative, and J. Roth, Male Representative would present this item at the NYSPHSAA July 2024 meeting as a sectional concern. Depending on how it is received at the state level, it may be sent to committee for recommendation for change of procedure.

13.0 **GOOD OF THE ORDER/ADJOURNMENT**

13.1 *Motion to adjourn*

CARRIED

McDuffie/Kruzynski

APPENDIX A
Section VI NYSPHSAA, Inc.

Treasurer's Report

As of May 9, 2024

May 9, 24

ASSETS

Current Assets

Checking/Savings

1043.1 · Northwest CD	308,285.34
1050 · Arbiter Pay	12,612.16
1030 · Bank of America Checking	254,853.49
1040 · Bank of America Money Market	26,002.57
1043 · Northwest Savings Bank	120,789.78

Total Checking/Savings	<u>722,543.34</u>
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Total Current Assets	<u>722,543.34</u>
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TOTAL ASSETS	<u>722,543.34</u>
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LIABILITIES & EQUITY	0.00
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	Dedicated Amounts	Approx expenses to date	
State Championships	\$ 210,000.00	\$ 111,907.00	
	\$ 210,000.00	<u>\$ 111,907.00</u>	\$ 98,093.00
Fund Balance	\$ 624,450.34		

APPENDIX B FEMALE & MALE VOTING ITEMS

New York State Public High School Athletic Association



Executive Committee Meeting – May 1, 2024

Ticket Prices

VOTE JULY

- ☐ Action Item
- ☒ Discussion Item
- ☐ Informational Item

Presenter:

Tim Mullins, NYSPHSAA Budget/Audit Committee Chair

Proposal:

Consider approval of a \$.50 increase in NYSPHSAA Championship Ticket Prices beginning in the 2024-25 school year.

Effective Start Date:

September 1, 2024

Rationale:

Due to rising championship expenses, NYSPHSAA is seeking ways to increase revenue.

Proposal Originated:

NYSPHSAA Budget/Audit Committee Meeting

Budgetary Impact:

Based on 100,000 attendees at NYSPHSAA Championships each year, there is an anticipated \$50,000 increase in revenue.

Notes:

The GoFan fee structure is \$1 plus 5% of the ticket price, so a \$10.50 ticket would carry a \$1.53 fee and the final price will be \$12.03 for all GoFan venues.

Those venues that do not permit the use of GoFan will continue to allow for cash sales, where the final ticket prices will be \$10.50 plus fees. Tickets for the JMA Wireless Dome and MVP Arena would be \$12.50 due to their current \$2 fee per ticket sold. Tickets sold through contractually obligated platforms such as Ticketmaster or SeatGeek will have additional fees added on, which is outside the control of NYSPHSAA.

Ticket prices were streamlined for NYSPHSAA to net \$10 per ticket in the 2021-2022 school year, with the approval of the all-digital ticketing platform.

Executive Committee Meeting – May 1, 2024

Handbook – Forfeit Exception for Football

- ☐ Action Item
☒ Discussion Item
☐ Informational Item

Vote July

Presenter:

Pat Pizzarelli, NYSPHSAA Handbook Committee Chair

Proposal:

Consider approval to add the following to the note for the Maximum Number of Contests in the NYSPHSAA Handbook, "Exception: In the sport of Football, when a team receives a forfeit win, the forfeit win will **not** count towards the maximum number of contests. The team who accepts the forfeit can reschedule a game that will count towards the maximum number of contests."

Effective Start Date:

Fall 2024

Rationale:

Many schools have lost out on homecoming games due to teams forfeiting. Additionally, two Section VI teams lost 25% of their season due to forfeits.

Proposal Originated:

Section VI Section Concern with support from the NYSPHSAA Handbook.

Budgetary Impact:

None.

Notes:

The team that receives the forfeit win has the opportunity to schedule another game. The Sections will determine how the games count towards league standings/seedings. The NYSPHSAA Football Committee supports this proposal.

Attachments:

None.

Executive Committee Meeting – May 1, 2024

NYSPHSAA Transfer Form for Waivers & Exemptions

- ☐ Action Item
☒ Discussion Item
☐ Informational Item

Vote July

Presenter:

Dr. Robert Zayas, NYSPHSAA Executive Director

Proposal:

Consider approval to require the use of the NYSPHSAA Transfer form for waivers and exemptions only.

Effective Start Date:

Immediate implementation upon approval

Rationale:

In the past, the NYSPHSAA Transfer Form was available for optional use by the Sections. It was not required. Sections asked the NYSPHSAA Transfer Committee to adapt the form to ensure Sections effectively address the concerns and circumstances of those involved and to align the form with the verbiage included in the NYSPHSAA Handbook.

Proposal Originated:

NYSPHSAA Transfer Committee

Budgetary Impact:

None at this time.

Notes:

The Transfer Committee would like the NYSPHSAA Staff to examine and explore potential ways to provide digital options for this form in the future.

Attachments:

NYSPHSAA Transfer Form

NYSPPHSAA TRANSFER NOTIFICATION

This form must be completed for all transfer students requesting a waiver or exemption



THE STUDENT CANNOT PARTICIPATE IN A CONTEST/SCRIMMAGE UNTIL APPROVED BY THE SECTION.

Please check one: (Required supporting documentation must be attached)

Waiver Request

Health & Safety: Appeals are considered for safety, mental health, personal relationships and other similar circumstances. Written documentation is required from Superintendent of Schools or High School Principal of the sending school indicating the specific circumstances which necessitated the transfer. Supporting documentation from a third party outside of the school may be submitted (ex. police report).

District of Residency: (No change of residence. School registration change only.) Student is returning to a school within the district boundaries of his/her residence.

Hardship: Each school shall have the opportunity to petition the section involved to approve transfer without penalty based on an undue hardship for the student. Educational Waivers will not be considered as an undue hardship.

Financial: Requires documented proof of a significant loss of income or a significant increase in expenses.

Exemption Request

Divorced/Legally Separated Parents: A student from divorced or legally separated parents who moves into a new school district with one of the aforementioned parents is exempt provided it occurs once every six months. The legal separation agreement must address custody, child support, spouses support and distribution of assets and be filed with the County Clerk or issued by a Judge.

Homeless: Student declared homeless by the Superintendent under McKinney-Vento Legislation [NYSED 100.2].

Other: Exemptions (six) as denoted in NYSPPHSAA Rule #31 (Transfer). Exemption: _____

Residency Change NYSPPHSAA transfer/residency policy states: Refer to By-Law & Eligibility Standards #31. (A residency is changed when one is abandoned and another one established through action and intent. Residency requires one's physical presence as an inhabitant and the intent to remain indefinitely. The mere renting of property within the District does not confer residency. **The Superintendent determines residency for enrollment, but this more restrictive requirement is needed for athletic eligibility per NYSPPHSAA regulations.**

By signing this document, I attest the information provided is accurate and correct; I have understanding the falsification of information could lead to ineligibility; the immediate family will be physically residing at the current address as inhabitants and intend to remain indefinitely; the student has transferred without inducement or recruitment.

Parent Signature: _____ Name (Print): _____ Date: ____-____-____

PART ONE

TO BE COMPLETED BY STUDENT'S RECEIVING SCHOOL

Receiving School: _____ Student's Name: _____

Date of Transfer: ____-____-____ Date of Birth: ____-____-____ Grade Level: _____ Date Entered 9th Grade: ____-____-____

Student/Family Previous Address: _____

Student/Family Present Address: _____

Parent's Names and Current Address(es)

(Parent I name & address): _____

(Parent II name & address): _____

Name of Sending School _____ Did student participate in athletics at sending school? Yes ____ No ____

The receiving school's administration is responsible for abiding by all NYSPPHSAA Eligibility standards.

Athletic Director's signature: _____ Date ____-____-____

Principle's signature: _____ Date ____-____-____

Superintendent's signature: _____ Date ____-____-____

**** DO NOT COMPLETE BELOW - SECTION USE ONLY ****

SECTION APPROVAL: _____ SECTION EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: _____

SECTION DENIAL: _____ DATE: ____-____-____

**TO BE COMPLETED BY SCHOOL STUDENT PREVIOUSLY ATTENDED
AND RETURNED TO STUDENT'S PRESENT SCHOOL**

Name of Student: _____ Date entered 9th grade ____-____-____

Did student repeat any grades? _____ If yes, which grade(s)? _____

Name of School(s) Attended Prior to Transfer _____

Date of entrance to this school _____ Date of withdrawal from this school ____-____-____

Student's address while attending the above school _____

With whom did student reside at this address (name)? _____

Relationship of this (these) person(s)? _____

PART THREE

**TRANSFER STUDENT SPORT HISTORY
(Please include all sports student participated)**

	YEAR	SPORT	LEVEL	SCHOOL
7 th Grade	_____	_____	V ____ JV ____ FR ____ MOD ____	_____
	_____	_____	V ____ JV ____ FR ____ MOD ____	_____
	_____	_____	V ____ JV ____ FR ____ MOD ____	_____
8 th Grade	_____	_____	V ____ JV ____ FR ____ MOD ____	_____
	_____	_____	V ____ JV ____ FR ____ MOD ____	_____
	_____	_____	V ____ JV ____ FR ____ MOD ____	_____
9 th Grade	_____	_____	V ____ JV ____ FR ____ MOD ____	_____
	_____	_____	V ____ JV ____ FR ____ MOD ____	_____
	_____	_____	V ____ JV ____ FR ____ MOD ____	_____
10 th Grade	_____	_____	V ____ JV ____ FR ____ MOD ____	_____
	_____	_____	V ____ JV ____ FR ____ MOD ____	_____
	_____	_____	V ____ JV ____ FR ____ MOD ____	_____
11 th Grade	_____	_____	V ____ JV ____ FR ____ MOD ____	_____
	_____	_____	V ____ JV ____ FR ____ MOD ____	_____
	_____	_____	V ____ JV ____ FR ____ MOD ____	_____
12 th Grade	_____	_____	V ____ JV ____ FR ____ MOD ____	_____
	_____	_____	V ____ JV ____ FR ____ MOD ____	_____
	_____	_____	V ____ JV ____ FR ____ MOD ____	_____

The undersigned has no knowledge the student named has transferred to his/her present school without inducement or recruitment.

Athletic Director's signature: _____

Date ____-____-____

Principle's signature: _____

Date ____-____-____

Superintendent's signature: _____

Date ____-____-____

revised: 4/2024

New York State Public High School Athletic Association



Executive Committee Meeting – May 1, 2024

Cheerleading: Fall Start Date

July Vote

- ☐ Action Item
- ☒ Discussion Item
- ☐ Informational Item

Presenter:

Jen Simmons, NYSPHSAA Cheerleading Coordinator

Proposal:

The NYSPHSAA Cheerleading Committee is recommending starting on the Wednesday of week number 7 to coincide with the football start date.

Effective Start Date:

Fall 2024

Rationale:

Starting on the Wednesday of week number 7 allows the team to hold a tryout and start to develop the skills necessary to prepare for the upcoming season. The development of the skills can be done in a way that progresses to help reduce risk to the student athletes. As most cheerleading teams do not have scrimmages this allows teams to prepare to attend clinics and camps held during late August and early September. These clinics and camps are very valuable in preparing a team for competition during the season.

Proposal Originated:

NYSPHSAA Cheerleading Committee

Budgetary Impact:

None

Notes:

In the past Cheerleading has traditional started the same time as the football teams.

Attachments:

None

Executive Committee Meeting – May 1, 2024

Cheerleading: Update Required Coaching Course

☐ Action Item
☒ Discussion Item
☐ Informational Item

Vote July

Presenter:

Jen Simmons, NYSPHSAA Cheerleading Coordinator

Proposal:

The NYSPHSAA Cheerleading Committee is recommending updating the additional required coaching course to reflect the replacement of the AACCA Safety course and the New NFHS Cheerleading Rules course.

Effective Start Date:

Fall 2024

Rationale:

The NYSPHSAA Executive Committee approved the requirement that the AACCA Safety course be added to the required courses Cheerleading coaches must take. This course was required every 4 years. The AACCA course has been replaced by the USA Cheer Safety Course offered on the NFHS website. A coach would be required to take this course once. The new course that is being recommended that coaches take yearly is the NFHS Cheerleading Rules course offered by USA Cheer, which is updated annually to cover the rules changes. This course will educate all coaches on the updated rules and skills that have been changed by the NFHS Spirit Rules Committee.

Proposal Originated:

NYSPHSAA Cheerleading Committee

Budgetary Impact:

The USA Cheer Safety Course costs \$85 (AACCA was \$75 every 4 years) to take and the Rules Changing course cost \$18 annually.

Notes:

None

Attachments:

None

New York State Public High School Athletic Association



Executive Committee Meeting – May 1, 2024

GIRLS TEAM TENNIS: Establish New Regional Rotation for 2024-28 **Using Guiding Principles**

Vote July

☐ Action Item
☒ Discussion Item
☐ Informational Item

Presenter:

Chris Horgan, NYSPHSAA Girls Team Tennis State Coordinator

Proposal:

The NYSPHSAA Girls Tennis Committee is seeking approval for a new regional rotation for 2024-28 using the guiding principles approved by the Executive Committee.

Effective Start Date:

Fall 2024

Rationale:

With the assistance of the NYSPHSAA Office, each team sport committee was charged with developing new regional rotations, following the approval of new guiding principles for regional rotations, to focus on equity.

Proposal Originated:

NYSPHSAA Girls Tennis Committee April 2024

Budgetary Impact:

None

Notes:

This NYSPHSAA State Committee voted 8-0 in favor of supporting this proposal.

Attachments:

See proposed regional rotation.

CAC Feedback:

Voted 10-0 to support this proposal at its April 9th meeting.

GIRLS TENNIS TEAM TOURNAMENT 2024-28 (Includes Guiding Principles)

as of April 2, 2024

New York State Public High School Athletic Association



Executive Committee Meeting – May 1, 2024

BOYS SOCCER: Establish New Regional Rotation for 2024-28 Using Guiding Principles

☐ Action Item
☒ Discussion Item
☐ Informational Item

VOTE July

Presenter:

Mike Andrew, NYSPHSAA Boys Soccer State Coordinator

Proposal:

The NYSPHSAA Boys Soccer Committee is seeking approval for a new regional rotation for 2024-28 using the guiding principles approved by the Executive Committee.

Effective Start Date:

Fall 2024

Rationale:

With the assistance of the NYSPHSAA Office, each team sport committee was charged with developing new regional rotations, following the approval of new guiding principles for regional rotations, to focus on equity.

Proposal Originated:

NYSPHSAA Boys Soccer Committee in March 2024

Budgetary Impact:

None

Notes:

This NYSPHSAA State Committee voted ~~6-5~~ *5-6 NOT IN FAVOR* in favor of supporting this proposal.

Attachments:

See proposed regional rotations

CAC Feedback:

Voted 8-2 in support of this proposal at its April 9th meeting.

Executive Committee Meeting – May 1, 2024

**GIRLS SOCCER: Establish New Regional Rotation for 2024-28
Using Guiding Principles**

☐ Action Item
☒ Discussion Item
☐ Informational Item

VOTE JULY

Presenter:

Joe Vas, NYSPHSAA Girls Soccer State Coordinator

Proposal:

The NYSPHSAA Girls Soccer Committee is seeking approval for a new regional rotation for 2024-28 using the guiding principles approved by the Executive Committee.

Effective Start Date:

Fall 2024

Rationale:

With the assistance of the NYSPHSAA Office, each team sport committee was charged with developing new regional rotations, following the approval of new guiding principles for regional rotations, to focus on equity.

Proposal Originated:

NYSPHSAA Girls Soccer Committee in March 2024

Budgetary Impact:

None

Notes:

This NYSPHSAA State Committee voted 10-1 (Section 1) in favor of supporting this proposal.

Attachments:

See proposed regional rotations

CAC Feedback:

Voted 8-2 in support of this proposal at its April 9th meeting.

READY FOR CACIEC

BOYS AND GIRLS SOCCER 2024-28 (includes GUIDING PRINCIPLES)

	2024		2025		2026		2027		2028	
	Sub Regional	Regional Final	Sub Regional	Regional Final	Sub Regional	Regional Final	Sub Regional	Regional Final	Sub Regional	Regional Final
Class AAA	4 @ 1	1/4 @ 9	8 @ 11	8/11 @ 1	5 @ 6	5/6 @ 3	2 @ 3	2/3 @ 4	4 @ 9	4/9 @ 1
		2 @ 3		9 @ 4		4 @ 9		9 @ 1		5 @ 6
		5 @ 6		6 @ 5		1 @ 2		6 @ 5		11 @ 8
		11 @ 8		3 @ 2		11 @ 8		8 @ 11		2 @ 3
Class AA	11 @ 8	11/8 @ 1	1 @ 4	1/4 @ 9	2 @ 3	2/3 @ 4	6 @ 5	6/5 @ 3	9 @ 4	9/4 @ 1
		4 @ 9		3 @ 2		9 @ 1		4 @ 9		5 @ 6
		5 @ 6		6 @ 5		5 @ 6		1 @ 2		11 @ 8
		2 @ 3		8 @ 11		11 @ 8		8 @ 11		3 @ 2
Class A	9 @ 1	9/1 @ 4		4 @ 9	9 @ 4	9/4 @ 2	4 @ 1	4/1 @ 9	11 @ 8	11/8 @ 9
		11 @ 8	8 @ 11	8/11 @ 1	11 @ 8	11/8 @ 1		8 @ 11		1 @ 4
		5 @ 6	6 @ 5	6/5 @ 3	5 @ 6	5/6 @ 3	3 @ 7	6 @ 5		5 @ 6
	10 @ 3	approved 4-5							7 @ 10	approved 4-5
Class B	7 @ 2	10/3 @ 2/7	10 @ 7	10/7 @ 2		7 @ 10	2 @ 10	3/7 @ 2/10	2 @ 3	2/3 @ 7/10
	9 @ 1	9/1 @ 4		4 @ 9	9 @ 4	9/4 @ 2	4 @ 1	4/1 @ 9	11 @ 8	11/8 @ 9
		11 @ 8	8 @ 11	8/11 @ 1	11 @ 8	11/8 @ 1		8 @ 11		1 @ 4
		5 @ 6	6 @ 5	6/5 @ 3	5 @ 6	5/6 @ 3	3 @ 7	6 @ 5		5 @ 6
Class C	10 @ 3	approved 4-5							7 @ 10	approved 4-5
	7 @ 2	10/3 @ 2/7	10 @ 7	10/7 @ 2		7 @ 10	2 @ 10	3/7 @ 2/10	2 @ 3	2/3 @ 7/10
	11 @ 8**	11/8** @ 1/9	8 @ 11	9/1 @ 8/11**	11 @ 8**	11/8** @ 1/9	8 @ 11	9/1 @ 8/11**	11 @ 8**	11/8** @ 1/9
	1 @ 9		9 @ 1		1 @ 9		9 @ 1		1 @ 9	
Class D	7 @ 10	2 @ 7/10		10 @ 7		7 @ 10	10 @ 7	7/10 @ 2		7 @ 10
		3 @ 4	4 @ 3	4/3 @ 2	2 @ 3	2/3 @ 4		4 @ 3	4 @ 2	2/4 @ 3
		5 @ 6		6 @ 5		5 @ 6		6 @ 5		5 @ 6
									8 @ 11 (only if both)	
Class D	11 @ 2**	11/2 @ 9	11 @ 9**	11/9 @ 2	2 @ 11**	2/11 @ 9	9 @ 11**	9/11 @ 2	11 @ 2**	11/2 @ 9
		10 @ 7		7 @ 10		10 @ 7		7 @ 10		10 @ 7
		3 @ 4		4 @ 3		3 @ 4		4 @ 3		3 @ 4
		5 @ 6		6 @ 5		5 @ 6		6 @ 5		5 @ 6

as of April 5, 2024

Executive Committee Meeting – May 1, 2024

**FIELD HOCKEY: Establish New Regional Rotation for 2024-28
Using Guiding Principles**

☐ Action Item
☒ Discussion Item
☐ Informational Item

VOTE JULY

Presenter:

Bev Hooper, NYSPHSAA Field Hockey State Coordinator

Proposal:

The NYSPHSAA Field Hockey Committee is seeking approval for a new regional rotation for 2024-28 using the guiding principles approved by the Executive Committee.

Effective Start Date:

Fall 2024

Rationale:

With the assistance of the NYSPHSAA Office, each team sport committee was charged with developing new regional rotations, following the approval of new guiding principles for regional rotations, to focus on equity.

Proposal Originated:

NYSPHSAA Field Hockey Committee April 2024

Budgetary Impact:

None

Notes:

This NYSPHSAA State Committee voted 7-1 (Section 1 opposed, Section 2 absent) in favor of supporting this proposal.

Attachments:

See proposed regional rotations

CAC Feedback:

Voted 9-1 in support of this proposal at its April 9th meeting.

2024		2025		2026		2027		2028	
Sub Regional	Regional Final	Sub Regional	Regional Final	Sub Regional	Regional Final	Sub Regional	Regional Final	Sub Regional	Regional Final
6 v 3 in Sect 5	6/3 @ 5 Class C: Regional Final is 3 @ 6 11 @ 8 9 @ 1 2 @ 4 Class B: Atl 11 @ 1	4 @ 9	4/9 @ 1 8 @ 11 3 @ 2 5 @ 6 Class C: Atl 4 @ 6	6 @ 5	6/5 @ 3 11 @ 8 4 @ 2 1 @ 9 Class C Atl 1 @ 6 Class B: Atl 6 @ 1	8 @ 11	8/11 @ 1 9 @ 4 2 @ 3 5 @ 6 Class C Atl 2 v 6 @ 5 Class B: Atl 8 @ 4	1 @ 2	1/2 @ 3 11 @ 8 6 @ 5 4 @ 9 Class C Atl 9 @ 6 Class B: Atl 3 @ 9
* If Section 5 has a Class C team, the At Large team for that year advances to the next year.									
* If Section 9 has a Class B team, the At Large team for that year advances to the next year.									
Committee Vote:									
7-1 (Section 1 opposed) in favor on March 25, 2024 (Section 2 absent)									
Concerns:									
* Section 1 is opposed to their section playing different opponents during term									
* Numerous sections concerned about Long Island Championships being a required matchup in sub or reg final. Not written in principles.									
as of March 25, 2024									

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL: Establish New Regional Rotation for 2024-28
Using Guiding Principles

☐ Action Item
☒ Discussion Item
☐ Informational Item

VOTE July

Presenter:

Peggy Seese, NYSPHSAA Girls Volleyball State Coordinator

Proposal:

The NYSPHSAA Girls Volleyball Committee is seeking approval for a new regional rotation for 2024-28 using the guiding principles approved by the Executive Committee.

Effective Start Date:

Fall 2024

Rationale:

With the assistance of the NYSPHSAA Office, each team sport committee was charged with developing new regional rotations, following the approval of new guiding principles for regional rotations, to focus on equity.

Proposal Originated:

NYSPHSAA Girls Volleyball Committee March 2024

Budgetary Impact:

None

Notes:

This NYSPHSAA State Committee voted 10-0 (Section 2 absent) in favor of supporting this proposal.

Attachments:

See proposed regional rotations

CAC Feedback:

Voted 9-1 in support of this proposal at its April 9th meeting.

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL 2024-28 (DRAFT OF NEW ROTATION USING GUIDING PRINCIPLES)

[illegible]

Executive Committee Meeting – May 1, 2024

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL: Revise State Tournament Format Back to Pool Play

- ☐ Action Item
☒ Discussion Item
☐ Informational Item

VOTE July

Presenter:

Peggy Seese, NYSPHSAA Girls Volleyball State Coordinator

Proposal:

The NYSPHSAA Girls Volleyball State Committee is seeking approval to revert back to a pool play format for the 2024 State Tournament.

Effective Start Date:

Fall 2024

Rationale:

Pool play guarantees that each team will play six (6) sets of volleyball (competing against all teams in their class) over an extended period of time, whereas bracket play only guarantees a minimum of 3 sets against one team) which can sometimes be completed in as little as 45 minutes. Student-athletes work tirelessly their entire career with dreams of making it to the NYSPHSAA Final Four. Teams across the state are accustomed to pool play during regular season multi-team tournaments. The pool play format will provide student-athletes a more memorable experience rewarding the hard work and dedication that they have endured to make it to the final four. While pool play and bracket play both have their flaws in determining the two state finalist teams, our committee feels that pool play will ultimately lead to the top two teams in the state facing off in the final match.

Once the committee experienced the length of time it took for six classes playing bracketed play, the initial concern for the length of time it took to add another team to pool play was no longer a concern.

Proposal Originated:

NYSPHSAA Girls Volleyball Committee on March 19, 2024.

Budgetary Impact:

There is minimal or no budgetary impact with this format.

Notes:

The Girls Volleyball State Committee supported this proposal with a 7-4 vote.

CAC Feedback:

Voted 8-2 to support this proposal.

New York State Public High School Athletic Association



Executive Committee Meeting – May 1, 2024

FOOTBALL: Establish New Regional Rotation for 2024-29 Using Guiding Principles

VOTE JULY

- ☐ Action Item
- ☒ Discussion Item
- ☐ Informational Item

Presenter:

Gary Vanderzee, NYSPHSAA Football State Coordinator

Proposal:

The NYSPHSAA Football Committee is seeking approval for a new regional rotation for 2024-29 using the guiding principles approved by the Executive Committee.

Effective Start Date:

Fall 2024

Rationale:

With the assistance of the NYSPHSAA Office, each team sport committee was charged with developing new regional rotations, following the approval of new guiding principles for regional rotations, to focus on equity.

Proposal Originated:

NYSPHSAA Football Committee March 2024

Budgetary Impact:

None

Notes:

This NYSPHSAA Football State Committee voted 9-0 in favor of supporting this proposal.

Attachments:

See proposed regional rotations

CAC Feedback:

Voted 10-1 in support of this proposal at its April 9th meeting.

FINAL - READY FOR CAC/EC

FOOTBALL 2024-29 (Includes Guiding Principles: voted by football committee 8-0 on 3/8/24)

as of March 8, 2024

9-0 in favor

None

Executive Committee Meeting – May 1, 2024

FOOTBALL – MOVE 8-MAN REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP TO WEEK #22 AND CONDUCT IT AT JMA DOME DURING 11-MAN FINALS; ESTABLISH REGIONAL ROTATION

☐ Action Item
☒ Discussion Item
☐ Informational Item

VOTE JULY

Presenter:

Gary Vanderzee, NYSPHSAA Football State Coordinator

Proposal:

The NYSPHSAA Football State Committee is seeking approval to move the 8-man regional championship to week #22 and conduct it at the JMA Dome during the 11-man finals. The **attached** regional rotation for 2024-26 is part of this proposal.

Effective Start Date:

Fall 2024

Rationale:

Due to the growth of 8-man football and seeking an additional week to play postseason, the committee would like to play the 8-man championship prior to the first 11-man final or immediately following the last 11-man final on the weekend of week #22. The committee also believes moving the regional final to the Dome creates an equitable situation with 11-man football where both can share the same venue.

The regional rotation being proposed meets the recently established Guiding Principles of Regional Rotations addressing equity in hosting and traveling to regionals.

Proposal Originated:

NYSPHSAA Football State Committee on December 20, 2023. The State Committee formed a sub-committee and voted 6-2 (plus 1 abstention) to present this to the State Committee. The state committee supported this proposal by an 8-0 vote.

Budgetary Impact:

In the West Semifinal, since officials, awards, travel, and some facility fees are already rolled into expenses and revenues are accounted for, there won't be any change to the financials. For the East Semifinals, however, an additional game will increase costs, potentially by approximately \$3,000. Anticipated revenue would be \$3,000 based on 300 fans for the additional game, resulting in a net profit/loss of \$0. An additional game at the JMA Wireless Dome will incur an extra \$13,400 in expenses due to facility, staffing, security, etc. However, with anticipated ticket sales of approximately 300 fans generating \$3,000, this would offset some of the costs, resulting in a net loss of approximately \$11,400 for the one additional game.

Attachments:

Proposed regional rotation for 2024-26

CAC Feedback:

Voted 9-1 to DEFEAT this proposal. *

DATE REVISED: April 11, 2024

Football: Revision to NYSPHSAA Sportsmanship Penalty

☐ Action Item
☒ Discussion Item
☐ Informational Item

Note July

Presenter:

Gary Vanderzee, Football Chairmen

Proposal:

The NYSPHSAA Football Committee is recommending revising the NYSPHSAA Sportsmanship Penalty for the sport of football. Any player disqualified by a sport official for unsportsmanlike behavior or flagrant foul will be ineligible for the next two consecutive halves.

Effective Start Date:

2024-2025 school year

Rationale:

Currently, a student-athlete could be disqualified on the first play of a game and would have to sit out that entire game and the following game. This could equate to 25% of their season, based on an 8-game schedule. This is not equal, compared to all other NYS high school team sports. All other sport teams that have 16 or 20 games would only sit out 12.5% or 10% of their season. This rule will make it 12.5% for an 8-game schedule and 10% for a 10-game schedule. More than 75% of all football playing schools only participate in 8 games. This would mirror what the penalty is for a disqualification for targeting currently in the NYSPHSAA handbook.

Proposal Originated:

The NYSPHSAA Football Committee

Budgetary Impact:

None

Notes:

The NYSPHSAA Sportsmanship Committee supported this proposal.

Attachments:

See example

New York State Public High School Athletic Association



Executive Committee Meeting – May 1, 2024

Boys Wrestling: Early Weight Certification Date

☐ Action Item
☒ Discussion Item
☐ Informational Item

Vote July

Presenter:

Marty Sherman, Boys Wrestling Chairmen

Proposal:

The Boys Wrestling Committee is recommending allowing Sections to have an early weight Certification date starting no earlier than the Monday of week #17. **Schools would be required to register any wrestlers participating in the early certification date by the Saturday of week #15.**

Effective Start Date:

2024-2025 school year

Rationale:

NYSPHSAA has approved the 1.5% weight loss descent plan for all wrestlers competing in the boys season as of the 2023-2024 season. The weight loss descent plan locks wrestlers into a specific weight based on their certification weight at the beginning of the season. The descent plan is based on a student losing a maximum of 1.5% of their body weight each season. Unfortunately, some wrestlers were not able to compete for a majority of their season because their descent plan did not allow them to get to an eligible weight based on the certification at the beginning of the year. Other wrestlers were not eligible for a desired weight because their plan maxed out right above a particular weight class. If a Section was allowed to have an earlier certification date, then some wrestlers would be able to get certified and then start their weight descent plan 6 weeks prior to the season therefore maximizing their participation. If an earlier start date was allowed this would mean that the Section consultants would have to organize their staffs on two different time periods to certify the wrestlers prior to the season starting. There is also no guarantee that a wrestler will follow the descent plan and be at the desired weight class at the beginning of the season.

Proposal Originated:

The Boys Wrestling Committee

Budgetary Impact:

There may be an increase cost to the Section but in theory the same amount of wrestlers is being certified before the season.

Notes:

Wrestling Consultants voted 3-5 against this proposal. The Safety Committee voted 10-1 in favor. **The Boys Wrestling Committee revised the proposal based on the feedback from the Wrestling Consultants and the Safety Committee.**

DATE REVISED: 4/3/24

Executive Committee Meeting – May 1, 2024

Girls Wrestling – Automatic Qualifiers

☐ Action Item
☒ Discussion Item
☐ Informational Item

Vote July

Presenter:

Ryan Palmer, Girls Wrestling Chairmen

Proposal:

The NYSPHSAA Girls Wrestling Committee is recommending using an Automatic Qualifier System to complete the 16 person brackets for the 2025 Girls Wrestling Championship.

Effective Start Date:

2025 State Championship

Rationale:

The committee discussed two options to complete the 16-person bracket for the 2025 Championship. Most of the committee decided that using a system like the boy's current system was the best way to ensure the champion of each Section was in the tournament and that the top wrestlers from around the state completed the rest of the bracket. The committee also discussed a regional format, but this concept was not supported by a majority of the committee.

Proposal Originated:

NYSPHSAAA Girls Wrestling Committee

Budgetary Impact:

None

Notes:

The committee voted 9-2 in support of this proposal. Section 4 and 5 voted against the proposal.

Attachments:

None

New York State Public High School Athletic Association



Executive Committee Meeting – May 1, 2024

Girls Wrestling – Representation Rule

VOTE JULY

- ☐ Action Item
- ☒ Discussion Item
- ☐ Informational Item

Presenter:

Ryan Palmer, Girls Wrestling Chairmen

Proposal:

The NYSPHSAA Girls Wrestling Committee is recommending amending the current Representation Regulation for Girls Wrestling in the following manner.

NOTE: For individual, individual/ team sports, when a school district does not have a team designated for each singular gender, the Section Executive Director may grant a waiver of the Representation Standard for Sectional Competition when a student has met the qualification for participation in the current school year's NYSPHSAA Championship event. *In the sport of Girls Wrestling, if a school does have a team for both genders the female wrestlers may choose to compete in either the boys post season or the girls post season but not both.*

Effective Start Date:

2024 – 2025 Season

Rationale:

The sport of girls wrestling continues to grow across NYS. Some schools are reluctant to start a girl's teams for a variety of reasons because girls are allowed to compete on the boy's team and still be eligible to compete in the girls post season. Data from across the country and shown that many more girls will wrestle if the school offers a girl only team. Until the sport grows to wear female wrestlers can practice and compete against other girls there is still a need for some wrestlers to compete and practice on boys' teams. The committee feels this recommendation will encourage schools to offer a girl's team and still accommodate female wrestlers that have been wrestling on boys teams for many years.

Proposal Originated:

NYSPHSAAA Girls Wrestling Committee

Budgetary Impact:

None

Notes:

The committee voted 10-0 in support of this proposal.

Girls Wrestling – Waiver of the Maximum Number of Tournaments

☐ Action Item
☒ Discussion Item
☐ Informational Item

VOTE JULY

Presenter:

Ryan Palmer, Girls Wrestling Chairmen

Proposal:

The NYSPHSAA Girls Wrestling Committee is recommending continuing the waiver of the limitation of 6 tournaments during the regular season. The waiver is for girl only tournaments.

Effective Start Date:

2024 – 2025 Season

Rationale:

Currently there are not enough complete teams in the Sections to justify having dual meets during the regular season. The waiver allows girls to participate in as many competitions without going over the maximum number of contests allowed during the regular season.

Proposal Originated:

NYSPHSAAA Girls Wrestling Committee

Budgetary Impact:

None

Notes:

The committee voted 10-0 in support of this proposal.

Attachments: None

New York State Public High School Athletic Association



Executive Committee Meeting – May 1, 2024

Girls Wrestling – Waiver of the NFHS 1.5% Weight Loss Plan

☐ Action Item
☒ Discussion Item
☐ Informational Item

Vote July

Presenter:

Ryan Palmer, Girls Wrestling Chairmen

Proposal:

The NYSPHSAA Girls Wrestling Committee is recommending waiving the NFHS 1.5% weight loss plan.

Effective Start Date:

2024 – 2025 Season

Rationale:

The Girls Wrestling Committee believes that there are other biological factors that effect girls weights as opposed to boys and this rule could have a negative impact on a female wrestler.

Proposal Originated:

NYSPHSAAA Girls Wrestling Committee

Budgetary Impact:

None

Notes:

The committee voted 10-0 in support of this proposal.

Attachments: None

Should Receive Safety Comm Approval

Executive Committee Meeting – May 1, 2024

Girls Wrestling – Adopting the USA Junior Rules

☐ Action Item
☒ Discussion Item
☐ Informational Item

VOTE JULY

Presenter:

Ryan Palmer, Girls Wrestling Chairmen

Proposal:

The NYSPHSAA Girls Wrestling Committee is recommending adopting the Juniors rules in the USA Wrestling Rulebook.

Effective Start Date:

2024 – 2025 Season

Rationale:

The Girls Wrestling Committee recommended and the NYSPHSAA Executive Committee approved using the USA Wrestling Rulebook for Freestyle wrestling. The juniors section of the rulebook is most appropriate for the HS level competition.

Proposal Originated:

NYSPHSAAA Girls Wrestling Committee

Budgetary Impact:

None

Notes:

The committee voted 9-1 in support of this proposal. Section 1 voted against the proposal.

Attachments: None

New York State Public High School Athletic Association



Executive Committee Meeting – May 1, 2024

Boys Ice Hockey: Revision to Goalie Warm-Up

- ☐ Action Item
- ☒ Discussion Item
- ☐ Informational Item

Vote July

Presenter:

Scott Stuart, Boys Ice Hockey Chairmen

Proposal:

The NYSPHSAA Boys Ice Hockey Committee is recommending removing the language in the NYSPHSAA handbook under 14.10 #10 which states, **"If, in the judgement of the official, he feels that a goaltender's warm-up has been made to give his team a stoppage of play or rest period, the official may assess a minor penalty for delay of game."**

Effective Start Date:

2024-2025 season

Rationale:

The official has no way of determining what the intent of the coach was when making the substitution therefore this language is not enforced and puts the official in a no-win situation.

Proposal Originated:

The NYSPHSAA Boys Ice Hockey Committee

Budgetary Impact:

None

Notes:

None

Attachments:

None

Executive Committee Meeting – May 1, 2024

Boys Ice Hockey: OT During Regulation Season

- ☐ Action Item
☒ Discussion Item
☐ Informational Item

Vote July

Presenter:

Scott Stuart, Boys Ice Hockey Chairmen

Proposal:

The NYSPHSAA Boys Ice Hockey Committee is recommending revising the language in the NYSPHSAA Handbook under 14.08 #11 letter b to mirror the OT procedure used during the post season. This would only be used when a winner is necessary.

Effective Start Date:

2024-2025 season

Rationale:

The Committee feels that the same procedure that is used in the post season should be used during the regular season when a winner is necessary. This provides consistency for players, coaches, and officials.

Proposal Originated:

The NYSPHSAA Boys Ice Hockey Committee

Budgetary Impact:

None

Notes:

None

Attachments:

None

New York State Public High School Athletic Association



Executive Committee Meeting – May 1, 2024

BOYS/GIRLS BOWLING – Split Composite Division into Division 1 & Division 2

- ☐ Action Item
- ☒ 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 establish two divisions for its Composite Division—Division 1 and Division 2—for competition during the State Tournament.

Effective Start Date:

Winter (March) 2025

Rationale:

Splitting the existing composite division by the current division enrollment numbers creates equitable opportunity to qualify for the state championship. The composite division awards state champions for Individuals as well as section teams. With 17,253 varsity bowlers in NYS in 2022-24, bowling would still be within its 5-8% range, per Championship Philosophy.

Proposal Originated:

Section 5 shared at the committee meeting in March 2024.

Budgetary Impact:

This does not increase the length of the tournament as unused lanes in the bowling center will be assigned to Division 2 teams. Approximate cost to added lineage is expected to be \$3,000 for an addition 700-864 games. Anticipated attendance is 300-400 additional spectators, equivalent of \$3,000-\$4,000. To send additional teams, sections/schools will incur additional travel and lodging costs for student-athletes competing. NYSPHSAA must also book additional rooms to cover the second division lodging needs.

Notes:

The Boys and Girls Bowling State Committees supported this proposal with a 18-0 vote on March 9, 2024.

CAC Feedback

Voted 9-1 to support this proposal.

Executive Committee Meeting – May 1, 2024

BOYS/GIRLS BOWLING – Modify D1/D2 School Team Division to use 6-Man Format

☐ Action Item
☒ 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 modify the bowling format of the Division 1 and Division 2 school team events during the State Tournament to utilize a 6-man format.

Effective Start Date:

Winter (March) 2025

Rationale:

The existing format uses a 5-man format on a single pair of lanes (10 bowlers across 2 lanes). All five (5) scores currently count towards the team game total. While the 6-man format increases bowler participation with the additional competing player, the lowest individual score is dropped from the team total. The 6-man format also utilizes an additional pair of lanes (12 bowlers across 4 lanes) resulting in a more efficient tournament and better experience for student-athletes and fans instead of long days.

Proposal Originated:

Section V Coordinator shared this concept at the committee meeting in March 2024.

Budgetary Impact:

An additional 20 competing players over both Division 1 and 2 events will result in an increase of approximately \$500 in lineage cost for NYSPHSAA. With 20 additional players now guaranteed to compete, it may result in additional admissions to offset lineage cost.

Notes:

The Boys and Girls Bowling State Committees supported this proposal with a 16-2 vote on March 9, 2024.

Attachments:

None

CAC Feedback

Voted 10-0 in support of this proposal.

Executive Committee Meeting – May 1, 2024

OUTDOOR TRACK & FIELD: **Establish Classification Cut-Off Numbers for 2025**

- ☐ Action Item
☒ Discussion Item
☐ Informational Item

Vote July

Presenter:

Dan Doherty, Girls Track and Field Coordinator
Tom Wells, Boys Track and Field Coordinator

Proposal:

The NYSPHSAA Boys and Girls Outdoor Track and Field State Committee is recommending the following classification cut-off numbers starting in 2025.

Class A	800 and above	156 teams (24%)	8,066 athletes (39.76%)
Class B	799 to 400	168 teams (25.88%)	6,090 athletes (30%)
Class C	399 and below	325 teams (50%)	6,126 athletes (30.2%)

Effective Start Date:

Spring 2025

Rationale:

With the approval of a third division in the sport of Track and Field, it is necessary the State Committee establishes classification cut-off numbers for a new class. The committee feels most athletes competing in the sport of Track and Field are in the largest division therefore it has established 800 and above for the top division and split the lower two divisions creating equity and fairness.

Proposal Originated:

NYSPHSAA Track and Field Committee in 2024.

Budgetary Impact:

The establishment of new classification numbers does not yield a financial impact. The financial impact of adding a third division was explained in the original proposal.

Notes:

The NYSPHSAA Outdoor Track State Committee voted 17-5 in favor of supporting this proposal.

CAC Feedback:

Voted 10-0 in support of this proposal. Also identified potential issues with the use of "divisions" instead of classes" therefore track will be known to have three classes.

New York State Public High School Athletic Association



Executive Committee Meeting – May 1, 2024

Unified Sports: Sport Offering/Rules Modifications

☐ Action Item
☒ Discussion Item
☐ Informational Item

VOTE JULY

Presenter:

Todd Nelson, NYSPHSAA Assistant Director

Proposal:

The NYSPHSAA Unified Sport Committee is recommending the following sport offering/rules modifications.

Unified Soccer – Rules Modifications

Unified Tennis – Rules Modifications

Unified Bocce – Sport Offering/Rules Modifications

Effective Start Date:

Fall 2024

Rationale:

NYSPHSAA/SONY has been looking to offer a Fall sport to our Unified Sports program for several years. Some Sections have piloted programs in these sports and would like to have the sport/rule modifications officially adopted by NYSPHSAA to be placed in the handbook. Bocce would have to be approved as a NYSPHSAA Unified Sport. All of our sport offerings are administered through the local Section/Leagues.

Proposal Originated:

NYSPHSAA Unified Sport Committee

Budgetary Impact:

SONY has provided support to local schools through equipment and other needs but no direct grant funding. Schools would be funding the program if they decided to participate.

Notes:

None

Attachments:

Soccer Rule Modifications

Bocce Rule Modifications

Tennis Rule Modifications



THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT / THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK / ALBANY, NY 12234

TO: P-12 Education Committee

FROM: Angelique Johnson-Dingle *Angelique Johnson-Dingle*

SUBJECT: Proposed Amendment of Sections 135.1, 135.4, and 135.5 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education Relating to Mixed Competition and Extra Class Athletic Activities

DATE: April 25, 2024

AUTHORIZATION(S): *Don M. B. Bellotti*

SUMMARY

Issue for Discussion

Should the Board of Regents adopt the proposed amendment of sections 135.1, 135.4, and 135.5 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education relating to mixed competition and extra class athletics?

Reason for Consideration

Review of Policy.

Proposed Handling

The proposed amendment is presented to the P-12 Education Committee for discussion at the May 2024 Regents meeting. A copy of the proposed rule (Attachment A) is attached.

Procedural History

A Notice of Proposed Rule Making will be published in the State Register on May 22, 2024, for a 60-day public comment period. Supporting materials are available upon request to the Secretary of the Board of Regents.

Background Information

Girls have an equal right to participate in athletics. The State Education Department first addressed this issue 51 years ago when it adopted amendments to Commissioner's regulation §135.4. This amendment provides parameters for male and female students to participate on the same interschool athletic team under circumstances when a school

did not offer separate male and female teams. These parameters are sometimes referred to as “mixed competition.”

Current mixed competition requires female students to obtain the approval of a review panel before they may participate on a team with males in sports including football, basketball, and ice hockey. Federal regulations are even less generous, allowing school districts to prohibit girls from trying out for “contact sports”; *i.e.*, those sports that involve “bodily contact.”¹ This policy rests upon a protectionist rationale.

Courts, however, have been skeptical of “[t]he exclusion of girls to protect them from injury,” finding that exclusionary policies are arbitrary where schools only consider sex stereotypes “without any regard for the wide range of individual variants within each class.”²

In 2022, the Department learned that a female student who attended a nonpublic high school was subjected to multiple requirements to which male students were not subjected before being allowed to participate on the boy’s football team. The student was required to pass the Presidential Physical Fitness test, undergo a health examination that included the Tanner Sexuality Maturity Rating,³ submit a written statement of interest, and receive a determination of eligibility to play on the team after a panel evaluation. Some of these requirements were derived from Department guidance regarding mixed competition.

The Department thereafter reviewed its guidance and regulations regarding participation in extra class athletic activities and mixed competition. The Department convened a series of meetings of stakeholders to further inform the development of new regulations and guidance. Stakeholder groups included the New York State Public High School Athletic Association (NYSPHSAA), Office of Children and Family Services, Department of Health, Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (NYSAPHERD), Association of School Nurses, and the Athletic Administrators Association. The Department met with these groups, as well as several students and their family members, on five evenings in October 2023 to discuss the current regulations.

Most participants underscored the importance of considering the well-being and inclusivity of all students, particularly those from marginalized or underrepresented groups such as transgender students. Many questioned the relevance and appropriateness of the current fitness test requirements for mixed competition, as required tests measure types of fitness levels that may not be required for the desired sport (e.g., a mile run for

¹ 34 CFR 106.41 (b) (“where a recipient operates or sponsors a team in a particular sport for members of one sex but operates or sponsors no such team for members of the other sex, and athletic opportunities for members of that sex have previously been limited, members of the excluded sex must be allowed to try-out for the team offered unless the sport involved is a contact sport.” Contact sports “include boxing, wrestling, rugby, ice hockey, football, basketball and other sports the purpose or major activity of which involves bodily contact”).

² *Hoover v. Meiklejohn*, 430 F Supp 164,170 (D. Colo. 1977), citing *Carnes v. Tennessee Secondary Sch. Athletic Ass’n*, 415 F Supp 569 (E.D. Tenn. 1976); *see also Lantz v. Ambach*, 620 F Supp 663 (SD NY 1985).

³ The Tanner Sexual Maturity Rating is an objective classification system that healthcare providers use to track the development of secondary sex characteristics of children during puberty through examination of an individual’s genitals and breasts. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK470280/>

students who want to participate on the swim team). Almost unanimously, participants stated the requirement for a determination of eligibility to be made by an evaluation panel was unfair, subjective, and lacked transparency. Participants requested standardized decision-making processes across different schools and regions. Participants also raised concerns about maintaining fairness and equity, especially regarding whether male students should be allowed to participate on female teams.

Participants recommended that revised regulations:

- Modify language to promote clarity and inclusivity;
- Update outdated sport lists;
- Eliminate gender distinctions wherever possible;
- Redefine fitness evaluation criteria and impact assessment;
- Replace the review panel procedure with a more straightforward and equitable system;
- Provide clear guidelines when only one gender team is offered and allow members of the other gender to try out; and
- Provide a uniform team selection process for all athletes.

Proposed Amendment:

Based upon the review of the law and research and with guidance from stakeholders and affected students, the Department proposes the following amendment of Part 135 of the Commissioner's regulations. The Department is committed to providing athletes of all genders equal opportunities to play and participate in extra class athletic activities, as athletics are a vital part of any student's education. This includes promoting equality between separate male and female athletic programs and encouraging mixed gender teams. The Department believes this is an important step in ensuring equality.

The proposed amendments also require that where a school employs a selection process for student athletes to participate on a team, eligibility for participation should be determined during the try-out process, where school staff can determine whether student athletes have sufficient sport-related skills, motor development, knowledge of the sport, motivation, cognitive and social development to be on a particular team.

Terminology

The proposed rule employs gender neutral and gender inclusive language throughout. Additionally, the proposed rule updates outdated terminology used to reference students with disabilities.

Definitions

The proposed amendment defines the term “extra class athletic activities” and deletes the definitions of “mixed competition” and “physiological maturity.”

Health Examinations

The proposed amendment:

- Clarifies that documentation from a licensed health professional, consistent with their scope of practice, is sufficient to determine which areas of the physical education program in which a student with activity limitations can participate.
- It clarifies, and codifies in one section, the requirements for health examination before tryouts begin, ensuring that students provide proof of health examination and clearance to participate in extra class athletic activities. The proposed rule also indicates when an additional health history must be provided in accordance with the Dominick Murray Sudden Cardiac Arrest Act.
- It clarifies that health care providers must assess a student athlete’s overall physical fitness and readiness to participate while ensuring that the irrelevant and intrusive Tanner Rating of secondary sex characteristics is not utilized for student athletes who wish to be considered under the Athletic Placement Process.
- It permits the district’s director of school health services (a.k.a. medical director), after consultation with a student’s health care provider, to preclude a student with a severe health condition from participation in extra class athletic activities for health and safety reasons.

Requirements for Participation

Beginning July 1, 2025, the proposed amendment clarifies the Athletic Placement Process for those districts that choose to allow students in grades 7 and 8 to play up to high school level teams or students in grades 9-12 to move down to play at the modified level. These changes ensure that:

- student athletes participate safely at an appropriate level of competition;
- the process includes informed consent of the parent or person in parental relation; and
- that the student successfully demonstrates sufficient personal and social responsibility, sport-specific skill development, knowledge of the game, and physical fitness to be eligible during team selection.

The proposed rule provides that requirements to participate on a team must be the same for all genders for any interschool athletic competition, intramural or extramural extra class athletic activity in any sport, including a sport where there may be a heightened risk for a student athlete's safety.

Equal Opportunity to Participate in Extra Class Activities

- The proposed amendment requires school districts to provide equal opportunity to students to participate in extra class athletic activities, either on separate teams or on the same team, as follows:
 - By providing separate extra class athletic activities for students of different genders. This is not intended to prevent schools from providing opportunities for students of different genders to play together on the same team; or
 - Where a school does not provide sufficient opportunity for students of different genders to participate on separate teams, schools must permit a student of a different gender to participate in the team selection process. The expectations for personal and social responsibility, health, physical fitness, and sport-specific skill development and knowledge of the game requirements must be the same for students of all genders.
- The proposed amendment requires that criteria for determining whether students will be selected to participate on the team shall be the same for all students who wish to participate, regardless of student-identified gender, and shall be publicly posted on the website of every school district or nonpublic school or school system which elects to be governed by these provisions.
- The proposed amendment requires that if no selection process is employed for participation in a particular extra class athletic activity, all students must be permitted to participate equally, regardless of self-identified gender.
- The proposed amendment clarifies that a person aggrieved by the selection process for participation in interschool competition or the decision that a student cannot participate in such competition may appeal to the Commissioner in accordance with Education Law § 310.

Tanner Scale Evaluation and Risk

The Department proposes elimination of the use of the Tanner Sexual Maturity Rating because, while it has been used as a vehicle to assess risk, there are less intrusive and more accurate ways to do so. The Athletic Placement Process for Interscholastic Programs (APP) is a program for evaluating students who wish to participate in sports at higher or lower levels. The intent of the APP is to provide a protocol for those districts that choose to allow students in grades 7 and 8 to try out for high school level teams (Freshman, Junior Varsity, or Varsity), sometimes referred to as "playing up"; or for students in grades 9-12 to move down, playing at the modified level; allowing students seeking to participate safely at the appropriate level of competition based upon physical and emotional readiness and athletic ability rather than age and grade alone.

One part of this process has been to have a student's health care provider or the district's director of school health services (a.k.a., medical director), conduct a health examination that also determines the developmental age or maturity level of the student using the Tanner Sexual Maturity Rating. While Tanner staging conducted by a licensed healthcare provider indicates an approximation of physical development, it is not intended to be used as a means to assess a student's potential for injury related to playing with older or younger students, as it is currently being used in New York State.

Current regulations also require that students with disabilities who wish to participate in inclusive interschool athletic competition undergo the Tanner Sexual Maturity Rating Scale.

The Department recommends elimination of the Tanner Scale, which is intrusive and demeaning. Instead, the Department recommends that schools use research-based⁴ factors that affect the likelihood that a student would be more susceptible to injury, including:

- age;
- kinematics/biomechanics (movement of the body);
- body composition (% fat, bone, and muscle in the body);
- previous injury;
- grade of competition;
- training load (hours per week);
- position played;
- competition or practice;
- strength;
- player experience;
- checking, tackling, body contact; and
- environmental factors.

Other considerations that can impact injury risk are:

- emotional development;
- student's interest in sports (is the child ready and interested);

⁴ Factors Associated With Sports Injuries in Adolescents Who Play Team Sports at a Nonelite Level: A Scoping Review. *Journal of Orthopaedic and Sports Physical Therapy*. 2023
<https://www.jospt.org/doi/10.2519/josptopen.2023.0006>

- education and awareness about safety precautions and potential injury;
- availability and appropriateness of sports safety gear/equipment;
- playing environment: well-lit and appropriate for the sport;
- proper physical conditioning of players’;
- knowing and enforcing safety rules’;
- ensuring players are and remain hydrated; and
- taking breaks to prevent overuse injuries.⁵

Related Regents Items

Not applicable.

Recommendation

Not applicable.

Timetable for Implementation

It is anticipated that the proposed amendment will be presented for permanent adoption at the September 2024 Regents meeting, after publication of the proposed amendment in the State Register and expiration of the 60-day public comment period required under the State Administrative Procedure Act. If adopted at the September meeting, the proposed amendment will become effective on September 25, 2024

⁵ Johns Hopkins Medicine, “Sports Safety for Children,” <https://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/health/wellness-and-prevention/sports-safety-for-children> (last accessed Apr. 12, 2024).

AMENDMENT TO THE REGULATIONS OF THE COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION

Pursuant to sections 207, 803, and 3201-a of the Education Law.

1. Section 135.1 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education is amended to read as follows:

Section 135.1. Definitions

Definitions as used in this Part:

(a) ...

(b)

(c) ...

(d) ...

(e) *Adaptive physical education* means a specially designed program of developmental activities, games, sports and rhythms suited to the interests, capacities and [limitations] abilities of [pupils] students with [handicapping conditions] disabilities who may not safely or successfully engage in unrestricted participation in the activities of the regular physical education program.

(f) ...

(g) ...

(h) *Extra class [periods in physical education] athletic activities* mean those sessions organized for instruction, [and] practice, and/or competition in skills, attitudes and knowledge through participation in individual, group, and team activities organized on an intramural, extramural, interschool athletic or inclusive athletic basis to supplement regular physical education class instruction.

(i) *Extramural activities* mean those games or other events which involve the participation of [pupils] students from two or more school districts and which are conducted as play-days or sports days at the end of the intramural season.

(j) ...

(k) ...

(l) ...

(m) *Intramural activities* mean those activities conducted within one school district involving only those [pupils] students enrolled in such school district and which are organized to serve the entire enrollment.

(n) ...

(o) ...

(p) [*Mixed competition* means the combination of male and female pupils participating on the same interschool athletic teams.

(q) [*Organized practice* means a session of [an athletic squad or group] a team organized for interschool athletics for the purpose of providing instruction and practice in physical conditioning activities, skills, team play, and game strategy, under the supervision of a qualified school official.

[(r)] (q) *Physical fitness activities* mean those physical activities which are designed to develop endurance, strength, and agility and to fit the individual so that [he] the student can perform the task repeatedly without undue fatigue and with a reserve capacity to meet unexpected stresses and hazards.

[(s) *Physiological maturity* means a stage of maturation identified by the school physician in determining an appropriate level of interschool athletic competition in accordance with standards established by the commissioner.]

[(t)] (r) *Recreation* means the program which is organized to include types of activities such as arts and crafts, athletics, dramatics, music, rhythms, sports, swimming, and water safety provided at the discretion of school district authorities under the supervision of qualified personnel and designed to provide for the worthy use of leisure by individuals and groups.

[(u)] (s) *Sports day* means a day when [pupils] students from two or more schools meet and engage in a variety of competitive sports events.

[(v)] (t) *Section* means an organization of schools within a specified geographic area which holds membership in an athletic association, and is established for the purpose of administering athletic programs for the member schools and leagues within such area.

[(w)] (u) *Inclusive athletic activities* mean those activities which provide competition between representatives of two or more schools and which combine students with and without disabilities on teams for the purpose of interscholastic play and which ensure proportional representation of students with and without disabilities.

2. Section 135.4 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education is amended to read as follows:

Section 135.4 Physical education

(a) School district plans. It shall be the duty of trustees and boards of education to develop and implement school district plans to provide physical education experiences for all [pupils] students as provided in this section. Such current plans shall be kept on file in the school district office and shall be filed with the Division of Physical Education, Fitness, Health, Nutrition and Safety Services. All school districts shall comply with the provisions of this section by August 1, 1982. However, the requirement for submission of a plan shall become effective by January 1, 1983. A school district

may conduct an instructional physical education program which differs from, but is equivalent to, the required program of instruction set forth in paragraph (2) of subdivision (c) of this section, with the approval of the commissioner. An equivalent program may be implemented only after approval from the Division of Physical Education, Fitness, Health, Nutrition and Safety Services. A request for approval to conduct an equivalent instructional physical education program shall be filed with the Division of Physical Education, Fitness, Health, Nutrition and Safety Services, and shall include the:

(1) ...

(2) ...

(3) ...

(4) ...

(b) Nonpublic schools. Similar courses of instruction shall be prescribed and maintained in private schools in the State, and all [pupils] students in grades kindergarten through 12 shall attend such courses. If such courses are not established and maintained in any private school, instruction in such school shall not be deemed to be substantially equivalent to instruction given to children of like ages in the public school or schools of the city or district in which the child resides.

(c) Program plans. School district plans shall include the following:

(1) Curriculum.

(i) The curriculum shall be designed to:

(a) ...

(b) ...

(c) ...

(d) ...

(e) ...

(f) ...

(g) ...

(h) provide opportunities for the exercise of [pupil] student initiative, leadership and responsibility; and

(i) ...

(ii) ...

(iii) There shall be opportunity provided for participation in appropriate [extra-class] extra class athletic activities.

(iv) There shall be activities adapted to meet the needs of [pupils] students who are temporarily or permanently unable to participate in the regular program of physical education. Adaptive physical education programs shall be taught by a certified physical education teacher.

(v) There shall be continuous evaluation of the instructional program and assessment of individual [pupil] student needs and progress. Appropriate cumulative records shall be maintained which cover the essential features of the physical education program for each [pupil] student, and when a [pupil] student transfers to another school, such records shall be transferred with the student's transcript.

(2) Required instruction.

(i) Elementary instructional program--grades K through 6. [Pupils] Students in grades K-6 shall participate in the physical education program as follows:

(a) all [pupils] students in grades K-3 shall participate in the physical education program on a daily basis. All [pupils] students in grades 4-6 shall participate in the physical education program not less than three times each week. The minimum time

devoted to such programs (K-6) shall be at least 120 minutes in each calendar week, exclusive of any time that may be required for dressing and showering;

(b) notwithstanding the provisions of clause (a) of this subparagraph, [pupils] students in grades 5-6 who are in a middle school shall participate in the physical education program a minimum of three periods per calendar week during one semester of each school year and two periods during the other semester, or a comparable time each semester if the school is organized in other patterns; or

(c) ...

(ii) Secondary instructional program--grades 7 through 12. All secondary [pupils] students shall have the opportunity for regular physical education, but not less than three times per week in one semester and two times per week in the other semester, taught by a certified physical education teacher, and all such [pupils] students shall participate in the physical education program either:

(a) ...

(b) ...

(c) for [pupils] students in grades 10 through 12 only, a comparable time each semester in [extra class] interschool athletics programs for those [pupils] students who have demonstrated acceptable levels of physical fitness, physical skills, and knowledge of physical education activities; or

(d) for [pupils] students in grades 10 through 12 only, a comparable time each semester in out-of-school activities approved by the physical education staff and the school administration; or

(e) ...

(3) Attendance.

(i) All [pupils] students shall attend and participate in the physical education program as approved in the school plan for physical education and as indicated by physicians' examinations and other tests approved by the Commissioner of Education. [Individual medical certificates of limitations] For students with activity limitations, documentation from a licensed health professional, consistent with their scope of practice, must indicate the area of the program in which the [pupil] student may participate.

(ii) School district plans shall indicate through the sequential curriculum the steps to be taken to insure that each [pupil] student meets the requirement for participation in a physical education program which complies with the provisions of this section. School districts may award local diploma credit for the required program, and may also submit plans for elective units in physical education for additional credit.

(4) Personnel.

(i) ...

(ii) ...

(iii) Each school district operating a high school shall employ a director of physical education who shall have certification in physical education and administrative and supervisory service. Such director shall provide leadership and supervision for the class instruction[, intramural activities, and interschool athletic competition] and extra class athletic activities in the total physical education program. Where there are extenuating circumstances, a member of the physical education staff may be designated for such responsibilities, upon approval of the commissioner. School districts may share the services of a director of physical education.

(5) ...

(6) Administrative procedures.

- (i) School district plans for the physical education program shall include information on the following administrative procedures:
- (a) ...
 - (b) appropriate examinations and tests to be employed by school authorities in determining [pupil] student needs and progress in physical fitness, knowledge and skills;
 - (c) ...
 - (d) ...
 - (e) ...
 - (f) ...
 - (g) ...
 - (h) policies and procedures for the conduct of [extra class] extra class athletic activities [programs].

(ii) ...

(7) Basic code for [extra class] extra class athletic activities. Athletic participation in all schools shall be planned so as to conform to the following:

- (i) General provisions. It shall be the duty of trustees and boards of education:
- (a) ...
 - (b) ...
 - (c) ...
 - (d) to determine the need for an athletic trainer and to permit individuals to serve as athletic trainers for interschool athletic teams, intramural teams or physical education classes only in accordance with the following:

- (1) ...
- (2) Scope of duties and responsibilities. The practice of the profession of athletic training shall be as defined in Education Law, section 8352. Consistent with Education

Law, section 8352, the services provided by an athletic trainer shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

(i) ...

(ii) ...

(iii) reconditioning to minimize the risk of re-injury and to return the athlete to activity as soon as possible, excluding the reconditioning of neurologic injuries, conditions or disease[.];

(iv) ...

(v) ...

(vi) risk management and injury prevention, including:

(A) assisting in the arrangement of pre-participation health examinations;

(B) ...

(C) ...

(D) ...

(E) ...

(F) ...

(G) ...

(vii) ...

(viii) ...

(ix) ...

(x) ...

(xi) ...

(e) to give primary consideration to the well-being of individual [boys and girls] students in the conduct of games and sports;

(f) ...

(g) ...

(h) to equalize insofar as possible the [powers] abilities of opponents in individual and group athletic competition;

(i) to [provide adequate health examination before participation in strenuous activity and periodically throughout the season as necessary, and to permit no to participate in such activity without the approval of the school medical officer] ensure students provide proof of health examination before participation in extra class athletic activities as follows:

(A) a health certificate pursuant to Education Law §903; or

(B) a health appraisal pursuant to Education Law §904.

(ii) For interschool athletics, such health examinations shall be valid for 12 months through the last day of the month the exam was conducted in. Provided however, if the examination was conducted more than 30 days before the start of the season, the student must submit a health history to the school in accordance with standards established by the commissioner. Provided further, if the 12-month period for the health examination expires during an interschool or inclusive athletic season, which includes try outs for that season, or during the scheduled time frame for intramural or extramurals, participants may complete the season or scheduled time frame so long as a health history was submitted not more than 30 days prior to the season for interschool or inclusive athletics, or once during the school year before the student participates in intramural or extramural activities.

(iii) Pursuant to sections 136.5(d) and 136.9(d) of this Subchapter, the director of school health services must approve the resumption of participation of students who are believed to have sustained a mild traumatic brain injury or display signs or symptoms of pending or increased risk of sudden cardiac arrest.

(iv) After consulting with a student's health care provider, the director of school health services may determine that the student may not participate in extra class athletic activities if the student has a severe health condition such that participation would be detrimental to the student's health and safety;

(j) to maintain an equitable division of facilities, budget, equipment, scheduling, and personnel [between boys and girls] opportunities provided for students of different genders;

(k) ...

(l) ...

(m) ...

(n) ...

(o) ...

(p) to provide opportunity for instruction, practice and/or competition for [pupils] students in grades four through six in [extra class programs which shall be basically] intramural and extramural activities;

(q) to provide opportunity for instruction and practice for [pupils] students in grades 7 through 12 in [extra class athletic activities which are] intramural and extramural activities and approved interschool competition;

(r) to limit athletic activities conducted by the school to appropriate competition and practice between [pupils] students in grades 7 through 12[, except that a post-graduate pupil may participate in intramural activities];

(s) to provide the same general degree of opportunity for participation in extra class athletic activities to [both males and females] students, regardless of gender.

(ii) Provisions for interschool athletic activities for [pupils] students in grades 7 through 12. It shall be the duty of the trustees and boards of education to conduct

interschool athletic competition for grades 7 through 12 in accordance with the following:

(a) Interschool athletic competition for [pupils] students in junior high school grades seven, eight and nine. Such competition shall be conducted in accordance with the following: Seventh and eighth grade teams may participate only with teams of like grade groups, with the following exceptions:

(1) ...

(2) ...

(3) ...

(4)

(i) [A] (A) Prior to July 1, 2025, board of education may permit pupils in grades no lower than seventh to compete on any senior high school team, or permit senior high school pupils to compete on any teams in grades no lower than seventh, provided the pupils are placed at levels of competition appropriate to their physiological maturity, physical fitness and skills in relationship to other pupils on those teams in accordance with standards established by the commissioner.

(B) Beginning July 1, 2025, a board of education may permit students in grades no lower than seventh to compete on any senior high school interschool athletic team, or permit senior high school students to compete on any teams in grades no lower than seventh, provided the parent or person in parental relation has submitted an informed consent in accordance with standards established by the commissioner and the student successfully demonstrates sufficient personal and social responsibility, sport-specific skill development, knowledge of the game, and physical fitness to be eligible during team selection. Criteria for determining whether students will be selected to participate in the team shall be the same for all students who qualify to tryout, regardless of

student-identified gender, and publicly posted on the website of every school district or nonpublic school or school system which elects to be governed by this clause in accordance with standards established by the commissioner.

(ii) Nothing in this subclause shall prohibit a bona fide seventh or eighth grade student, as defined by section 135.1(g) of this Part, who is regularly enrolled in a public school district organized for [pupils] students in kindergarten through eighth grade that contracts with a neighboring school district or districts on a tuition basis for the education of its high school students pursuant to Education Law sections 2040 and 2045 and section 174.4 of this Title, from seeking to participate in a high school team, in accordance with the standards described in item (i) of this subclause, provided that the boards of education of the sending school district (as such term is defined in section 174.4(a)(1) of this Title) and the receiving school district(s) (as such term is defined in section 174.4(a)(2) of this Title) adopt a resolution to permit such participation. In the case of seventh and eighth grade students attending a public school district organized for [pupils] students in kindergarten through eighth grade that contracts with more than one neighboring school district for the education of its high school students, any such seventh or eighth grade student who participates in high school athletics pursuant to this subclause may select only one high school in which to compete during their seventh and eighth grade participation; if, following participation in a high school team during seventh and/or eighth grade, such student chooses to attend a different high school with which the student's kindergarten through eighth grade school district contracts for the education of its high school students, such student shall be ineligible to participate in any interscholastic athletic contest in a particular sport for a period of one year.

(b) Interscholastic athletic competition and inclusive athletic activities for [pupils] students in senior high school grades 9, 10, 11 and 12. Inter-high school athletic

competition and inclusive athletic activities shall be limited to competition between high school teams, composed of [pupils] students in grades 9 to 12 inclusive, except as otherwise provided in subclause (a)(4) of this subparagraph for interschool athletic competition. Such activities shall be conducted in accordance with the following:

(1) Duration of competition. A [pupil] student shall be eligible for senior high school athletic competition in a sport during each of four consecutive seasons of such sport commencing with the [pupil's] student's entry into the ninth grade and prior to graduation, except that otherwise eligible students graduating at the end of the spring semester may continue to participate in athletics until the conclusion of the spring interscholastic athletic season, or except as otherwise provided in this subclause, or except as authorized by a waiver granted under clause (d) of this subparagraph to a student with a disability, or as authorized for participation in inclusive athletic activities pursuant to clause (e) of this paragraph. If a board of education has adopted a policy, pursuant to subclause (a)(4) of this subparagraph, to permit [pupils] students in the seventh and eighth grades to compete in senior high school athletic competition, such [pupils] students shall be eligible for competition during five consecutive seasons of a sport commencing with the [pupil's] student's entry into the eighth grade, or six consecutive seasons of a sport commencing with the pupil's entry into the seventh grade. A [pupil] student enters competition in a given year when the [pupil] student is a member of the team in the sport involved, and that team has completed at least one contest. A [pupil] student shall be eligible for interschool competition in grades 9, 10, 11 and 12 until the last day of the school year in which he or she attains the age of 19, except as otherwise provided in subclause (a)(4) or clause (d) of this subparagraph, or in this subclause. The eligibility for competition of a [pupil] student who has not attained

the age of 19 years prior to July 1st may be extended under the following circumstances.

(i) If sufficient evidence is presented by the chief school officer to the section to show that the [pupil's] student's failure to enter competition during one or more seasons of a sport was caused by illness, accident, documented social/emotional condition, or documented social/emotional circumstances beyond the control of the [pupil] student, such [pupil's] student's eligibility shall be extended accordingly in that sport. In order to be deemed sufficient, the evidence must demonstrate that:

(A) the [pupil's] student's failure to enter competition during one or more seasons of a sport was caused by illness, accident, documented social/emotional condition or documented social/emotional circumstances beyond the control of the [pupil] student;

(B) as a direct result of such circumstances the [pupil] student is required to attend school for one or more additional semesters in order to graduate; and

(C) such participation would not have a significant adverse effect upon the opportunity of other [pupils] students to participate successfully in interschool competition in the sport. However, nothing herein shall be construed to extend a student's eligibility beyond the age of 19, except as provided in clause (ii)(d) of this subparagraph.

(ii) If the chief school officer demonstrates to the satisfaction of the section that the [pupil's] student's failure to enter competition during one or more seasons of a sport is caused by such [pupil's] student's enrollment in a national or international student exchange program or foreign study program, that as a result of such enrollment the [pupil] student will be required to attend school for one or more additional semesters in order to graduate, and that the [pupil] student did not enter competition in any sport

while enrolled in such program, such [pupil's] student's eligibility shall be extended accordingly in such sport.

(iii) If the section declines to extend the [pupil's] student's eligibility in accordance with this subclause, the section shall provide written notice of such determination to the chief school officer, with a copy to the [pupil's] student's parent, guardian or person in parental relation. Such notice shall include, as applicable: information regarding the athletic association's internal appeal process, including the name of the individual and address to which such appeal is to be directed; or a statement that the determination may be appealed to the Commissioner of Education, in accordance with Education Law section 310, within 30 days of the date of such determination and shall include the name and address of the section official upon whom such appeal shall be served. If the athletic association hears and denies an appeal, written notice of the determination shall be provided to the chief school officer, with a copy to the [pupil's] student's parent, guardian or person in parental relation. Such notice shall include a statement that the determination may be appealed to the Commissioner of Education, in accordance with Education Law, section 310, within 30 days of the date of such determination and shall include the name and address of the athletic association official upon whom such appeal shall be served.

(2) Registration. A [pupil] student shall be eligible for interschool competition or inclusive athletic activities in a sport during a semester, provided that [he or she] the student is a bona fide student, enrolled during the first 15 school days of such semester, is registered in the equivalent of three regular courses, is meeting the physical education requirement, has not graduated from high school, except that otherwise eligible students graduating at the end of the spring semester may continue to participate in athletics until the conclusion of the spring interscholastic athletic season

and has been in regular attendance 80 percent of the school time, bona fide absence caused by personal illness excepted. Nothing in this clause shall be construed to preclude a chief school officer, athletic association, league or section from duly considering a request for an accommodation on behalf of an otherwise qualified student with a disability who is not registered in the equivalent of three regular courses as a result of [his or her] their individualized education program under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act or education plan approved under section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 or the Americans with Disabilities Act.

(3) Sports standards. Interschool athletic programs shall be planned so as to provide opportunities for [pupils] students to participate in a sufficient variety of types of sports. Inclusive athletic activities shall be planned so as to provide proportional representation of students with and without disabilities and meaningful participation. Sports standards, such as number of contests, length of seasons, time between contests, required practice days, etc., for all interschool sports shall conform to guidelines established by the Commissioner of Education.

(c) [Male and female pupils on interschool athletic teams and inclusive athletic activities] Equal opportunity to participate in extra class athletic activities.

(1) Equal opportunity to participate in extra class athletic activities [interschool competition and inclusive athletic activities], either on separate teams or [mixed competition] on the same team, shall be provided to [male and female] students, except as hereinafter provided. In schools that do not provide separate [competition] extra class athletic activities for [male and female] students of different genders in a specific [sport] activity, no student shall be excluded from such [competition solely by reason of sex] activity, except in accordance with the provisions of [subclauses (2) and (4)]

subclause (3) of this clause. [For the purposes of this clause, baseball and softball shall be considered to constitute a single sport.]

(2) [In the sports of baseball, basketball, boxing, field hockey, football, ice hockey, lacrosse, rugby, soccer, softball, speedball, team handball, power volleyball where the height of the net is set at less than eight feet, and wrestling, the fitness of a given student to participate in mixed competition shall be determined by a review panel consisting of the school physician, a physical education teacher designated by the principal of the school, and if requested by the parents of the pupil, a physician selected by such parents. Such panel shall make its determination by majority vote of the members, and in accordance with standards and criteria issued by the department.

(3) Where a school provides separate [competition] extra class athletic activities for [male and female pupils in] students of different genders, [interschool athletic competition or inclusive athletic activities in a specific sport, the superintendent of schools, or in the case of a nonpublic school or school system which elects to be governed by this clause, the chief executive officer of the school or school system, may permit a female or females to participate on a team organized for males. However, where separate competition is provided, males may not participate on teams organized for females] students shall participate in the separate extra class athletic activities provided for the student's identified gender. This requirement does not prevent schools from providing opportunities for students of different genders to play together on the same team.

[(4)](3) Where a school does not provide [separate competition for male and female pupils] separate opportunity for students of different genders in the same extra class athletic activities, [interschool athletic competition or inclusive athletic activities in a specific sport] the superintendent of schools, or in the case of a nonpublic school or

school system which elects to be governed by this clause, the chief executive officer of the school or school system[, or the section may decline to permit a male or males to participate on a team organized for females upon a finding that such participation would have a significant adverse effect upon the opportunity of females to participate successfully in interschool competition or interschool athletic activities in that sport] shall ensure that students of a different gender are able to participate fully in the team selection process, if applicable, and that expectations for personal and social responsibility, sport-specific skill development, knowledge of the game, and physical fitness are the same for all students, regardless of gender. If a school develops criteria for determining whether students will be selected to participate on the team, these criteria shall be the same for all students who wish to participate, regardless of student-identified gender, and shall be publicly posted on the website of every school district or nonpublic school or school system which elects to be governed by this clause. If there is no selection process employed for participation in a particular extra class athletic activity, all students shall be permitted to participate equally, regardless of identified gender.

(4) A person aggrieved by the selection process employed for participation in interschool competition or a decision that a student cannot participate in interschool competition based on such selection process may appeal to the Commissioner in accordance with Education Law § 310.

(d) Waiver from the age requirement and four-year limitation for interschool athletic competition for students with disabilities in senior high school grades 9, 10, 11, and 12. For purposes of this clause, the term non-contact sport shall include swimming and diving, golf, track and field, cross country, rifle, bowling, gymnastics, skiing and archery, and any other such non-contact sport deemed appropriate by the

Commissioner. A student with a disability, as defined in section 4401 of the Education Law, who has not yet graduated from high school, except that otherwise eligible students graduating at the end of the spring semester may continue to participate in athletics until the conclusion of the spring interscholastic athletic season, may be eligible to participate in a senior high school noncontact athletic competition under the following limited conditions:

(1) such student must apply for and be granted a waiver to the age requirement and four-year limitation prescribed in subclause (b)(1) of this subparagraph. A waiver shall only be granted upon a determination by the superintendent of schools or chief executive officer of the school or school system, as applicable, that the given student meets the following criteria:

(i) such student has not graduated from high school as a result of [his or her] the student's disability delaying [his or her] the student's education for one year or more;

(ii) such student is otherwise qualified to compete in the athletic competition for which [he or she] the student is applying for a waiver and the student must have been selected for such competition in the past;

(iii) such student [has undergone a physical evaluation by the school physician, which shall include an assessment of the student's level of physical development and maturity, and the school physician has determined that the student's participation in such competition will not present a safety or health concern for such student] successfully demonstrates sufficient personal and social responsibility, sport-specific skill development, knowledge of the game, and physical fitness to be eligible during team selection; and

(iv) ...

(2) ...

(e) Exemption from the age requirement and four-year limitation for inclusive athletic activities. A student who is enrolled in grades 9 through 12 and has not yet graduated from high school, except that otherwise eligible students graduating at the end of the spring semester may continue to participate in athletics until the conclusion of the spring interscholastic athletic season, may be eligible to participate in inclusive athletic activities under the following limited conditions:

(1) such student may be granted an exemption to the age requirement and four-year limitation prescribed in subclause (b)(1) of this subparagraph. An exemption shall only be granted upon a determination by the superintendent of schools or chief executive officer of the school or school system, as applicable, that the given student meets the following criteria:

(i) ...

(ii) such student is otherwise qualified to compete in the inclusive athletic activities for which [he or she] the student is applying for an exemption; and

(iii) such student [has undergone a physical evaluation by the director of school health services which shall include an assessment of the student's level of physical development and maturity, and the director of school health services has determined that the student's participation in such activities will not present a safety or health concern for such student] successfully demonstrates sufficient personal and social responsibility, sport-specific skill development, knowledge of the game, and physical fitness to be eligible during team selection; and

(2) ...

3. Subdivision (a) of section 135.5 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education is amended to read as follow:

(a) Coaches of extra class [periods in physical education] athletic activities, as defined in section 135.1(h) of this Part, shall meet the requirements of this section.



CHAMPIONSHIP ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes – Tuesday, April 9, 2024

CAC Members Attending: Greg Ransom (Chair), Mike Andrew (Team Sports), Jamie Harter (Ind. Sports), Deb Ferry (At-Large), Josh Harrica (At-Large), Eileen Troy (At-Large), Mark Ward (At-Large), Susan Reid (At-Large), Kathy Hoyt (Executive Director), Adam Stoltman (Superintendent), ABSENT with notice: Carlos Cotto (At-Large)

Staff/Officers Attending: Joe Altieri (CAC Liaison/Assistant Director), Todd Nelson (Assistant Director), Kristen Jadin (Assistant Director), Chris Joyce (Director of Marketing/Foundation), Lexi Swatt (Director of Sports Information); Tim Mullins (Vice President), Adam Stoltman (2nd Vice President), Joe Baez (Intern). Absent with notice: Russell Bartlett (President), Julie Bergman (Immediate Vice President).

Coordinators Attending: Tom Wells (Outdoor Track), Peggy Seese (Girls Volleyball), Eileen Shultis (Bowling), Gary Vanderzee (Football), Mike Andrew (Boys Soccer), Joe Vaz (Girls Soccer), Bev Hooper (Field Hockey), Ryan Palmer (Girls Wrestling), Chris Horgan (Girls Tennis)

Call to Order by Chair Greg Ransom at 1:07 pm. He asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the January 10, 2024 meeting. **MOTION by Deb. SECOND by Jamie. CARRIED 10-0.**

Greg offered Joe opening announcements. Joe wished colleague Todd Nelson a Happy Birthday and introduced intern Joe Baez. He also stated although every committee works hard on their proposals, he wanted to make a point, in conjunction with the office, the fall sport committees put in many hours of work on and off zoom calls to get their regional rotations to meet as many guiding principles as they could. He thanked them for that.

PROPOSALS

(These items will be presented as discussion or action at the next Executive 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.

Outdoor Track 3rd Division Classification – Girls Coordinator Tom Wells explained the proposal. Kathy asked if they will be called divisions or classes. Tom stated they will be divisions. Kathy indicated the trickle down effect with combined teams, etc. Greg asked the rationale of the breakdown (25%, 25%, 50%). Tom responded Division 1 is 40% of the individuals in NYS, Division 2 is 30% and Division 3 is 30% based on the NYSPHSAA participation survey. Todd noted traditionally with two divisions, D1 was 30% and D2 was 70% so the logic was to break down the 70% into D2 and D3. Mark asked if track looked at size of teams in our state. Tom said yes and agreed size may make a difference but there's about 6,000 athletes in D2 and D3 and 8,000 in D1 so they believe it's equitable.

During the CAC-only discussion, Greg asked if they will review this every year. Todd said no they are a variation sport. Mike asked if they can run a three-division meet in two days. Todd noted that question was answered in the original proposal and they can do it in two days. Joe stated they are also looking at other options to

shorten the meet. Greg asked if the most athletes are in the bottom class. Todd clarified the most teams are in the bottom class, not athletes. The athletes are spread out in three classes. Deb commended the track committee for diving deep into how many athletes within those teams exist then figuring out the number.

MOTION by Mike A. to support the proposal. SECOND by Josh. CARRIED 10-0.

Boys/Girls Bowling Modify D1 & D2 to a Six-Person Format – Coordinator Eileen Shultis explained the proposal. Eileen clarified this is not an additional cost to schools/sections. The extra competitors are already on the bench at the state tournament. Now they would all compete. Joe confirmed travel and lodging for schools/sections will be removed from the proposal.

MOTION by Jamie to support the proposal. SECOND by Deb. CARRIED 10-0.

Boys/Girls Bowling Split Composite Division into Two Divisions – Coordinator Eileen Shultis explained the proposal. Greg asked if they are within the 5-8% of participation of the Championship Philosophy. Eileen stated yes. Joe reported there are over 17,000 varsity boys and girls bowling participants in bowling in NYS.

During CAC-only discussion, Greg asked if the office had a concern about costs. Joe stated anytime there is an increase in costs there is a concern however, this proposal is anticipated to cover costs with the additional admissions coming through the door.

MOTION by Kathy to support the proposal. SECOND by Mike A. CARRIED 9-1.

Girls Wrestling Section Qualifier – Assistant Director Todd Nelson explained the proposal. Greg asked if the format has been established. Todd indicated the details of the plan have not been determined yet and will be at the next girls wrestling meeting. Greg stated he's comfortable with the concept but wants the CAC to review it at their next meeting. Kathy noted Sections IV and V voted no because they wanted a regional tournament format.

MOTION by Josh to support the proposal. SECOND by Susan. During discussion, Josh rescinded his motion and Susan rescinded her second. It was agreed to table this until the June CAC meeting when the details of the format are determined by the girls wrestling committee.

Girls Volleyball Revert Back to Pool Play for States– Coordinator Peggy Seese explained the proposal. No questions or concerns were raised.

During CAC-only discussion, Todd clarified their reasoning for pool play and also noted the committee was most comfortable with this. Deb stated coaching philosophy within this committee may be a factor in their struggles on deciding what they want to do.

MOTION by Josh to support the proposal. SECOND by Jamie. CARRIED 8-2.

Football 8-Man Regional Date and Site Revision – Coordinator Gary Vanderzee explained the proposal. No questions/concerns were raised.

During CAC-only discussion, Adam inquired about finances and the estimated loss or expense. Joe clarified we're adding \$13,400 in expenses for an extra game at the Dome and anticipating \$3,000 in admissions revenue to create an \$11,4000 net loss. Todd stated the reason for this proposal coming forward was due to the growth of football; 8-man needed an extra week to fit in the games. Deb had a concern about the

significant cost for one game. Adam asked if its equitable to allow a regional game at this type of venue while Kathy inquired if Flag Football and other regional sports will be seeking a larger venue someday as well. Todd stated the backup would be to schedule the game outside if it wasn't at the Dome. Greg indicated he will report to Executive Committee that CAC is opposed because it's not a state championship and other regional sports do not play at venues like this in addition the finances and the schedule. Eileen said 8-man was created to keep schools involved in football and indicated we do invitational events to promote other sports.

MOTION by Josh to support the proposal. SECOND by Jamie. DEFEATED 9-1.

REGIONAL ROTATION with Guiding Principles - FOOTBALL– Coordinator Gary Vanderzee explained the proposal. No questions/concerns were raised.

MOTION by Adam to support the proposal. SECOND by Deb. CARRIED 10-0.

REGIONAL ROTATION with Guiding Principles – GIRLS VOLLEYBALL– Coordinator Peggy Seese explained the proposal. No questions/concerns were raised.

MOTION by Mike A. to support the proposal. SECOND by Adam. CARRIED 9-1.

REGIONAL ROTATION with Guiding Principles – FIELD HOCKEY – Coordinator Bev Hooper explained the proposal. No questions/concerns were raised.

MOTION by Kathy to support the proposal. SECOND by Deb CARRIED 9-1.

REGIONAL ROTATION with Guiding Principles – GIRLS TENNIS TEAM – Coordinator Chris Horgan explained the proposal. He also stated, at one point his committee discussed the idea of all sections sending their champion to the state tournament and being seeded before competition, which would help with equity. No questions/concerns were raised.

MOTION by Mike A. to support the proposal. SECOND by Jamie. CARRIED 10-0.

REGIONAL ROTATION with Guiding Principles – GIRLS SOCCER – Coordinator Joe Vaz explained the proposal. No questions/concerns were raised.

MOTION by Adam to support the proposal. SECOND by Mark. CARRIED 8-2.

REGIONAL ROTATION with Guiding Principles – BOYS SOCCER – Coordinator Mike Andrew explained the proposal. No questions/concerns were raised.

MOTION by Mike A to support the proposal. SECOND by Deb. CARRIED 8-2.

Kathy asked about the 9-2 girls vote and 6-5 boys vote to recommend these rotations. Mike indicated his committee was not pleased with the process more than the outcome. They felt rushed, they wanted a shorter term, different matchups, etc. Kathy reported her section received information last Monday and did in fact feel rushed in the process. Mike responded that the girls committee did not have an issue with the timeline to review and recommend the rotation.

Susan applauded all the committees for looking at regional rotations however she noted certain sections were still given opportunities to consistently play each other in the new regional rotations. Joe respectfully stated the priority was to create equity in sub-regionals and that was accomplished in every fall rotation. Because of that, other areas of the regional rotations were impacted and following the guiding principles.

REVISED PROPOSALS OR STATUS UPDATES

Boys/Girls Bowling At Large for Pacer Team Proposal – Assistant Director Joe Altieri provided a status update on this proposal which was **recommended by the CAC with a 9-1 vote at the January 10th meeting**. He explained there were concerns from the Executive Committee in May so he asked the Bowling Committees to re-consider that a minimum of 10 teams in a section be eligible for the at-large berth. The committee convened, discussed and reaffirmed their vote to go forward with the original proposal. Greg stated he does not object to the at-large berth but is not in favor of eliminating sections to be eligible for it. Josh agreed and stated this at the February 1st meeting. Susan cited the similarities of other sports like football allowing all sections the opportunity to be included.

FOR REVIEW/INPUT/CHAMPIONSHIP SITE SELECTIONS:

Boys Soccer 2025-27 – Assistant Director Joe Altieri explained the two bids submitted by Middletown High School (Section IX) and Hudson Valley CC/LaSalle Institute (Section 2). He indicated both staff and state committee agreed on Middletown as the recommendation. Both Joe and Mike Andrew reported both bids were outstanding which made it a difficult decision. **CAC expressed no concerns with the recommendations.**

Gymnastics 2025-26 RE-BID – Assistant Director Joe Altieri explained this was a re-bid and Clarence HS in Section VI (2025) and Whitesboro HS in Section III (2026) were the only two sites to submit a bid for just two years. He indicated both staff and state committee agreed on the join bid for 2025 and 2026. **CAC expressed no concerns with the recommendations.**

INFORMATIONAL:

Boys & Girls Swimming/Diving Standards for 2024-25 – Joe explained due to both sports staying within 5-8% participation rate, per Championship Philosophy Committee, the standards will remain the same.

2023-28 Championship Dates & Sites – Joe noted the updated championship documents in the packet noting the championship recommendations above. He pointed out the changes to boys tennis this spring (Fri, Sat, Sun) and girls tennis in the fall (Mon, Tue, Weds).

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION by Josh SECOND by Deb. CARRIED 10-0. The meeting adjourned at 2:47 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by NYSPHSAA liaison Joe Altieri; reviewed/approved on 4/12/2024 by CAC Chair, CAC members and the NYSPHSAA Executive Director prior to distribution.

Next Meeting:	Tuesday, June 18, 2024 @ 10:00 am
2024-25 Meetings (Tentative)	Wednesday, October 9, 2024 @ 10:00 am Thursday, January 16, 2025 @ 10:00 am Wednesday, April 16, 2025 @ 10:00 am Wednesday, June 18, 2025 @ 10:00 am



NYSPHSAA Cheerleading

Cheerleading Committee Meeting Report

April 22, 2024 – 9:30 am – 10:30 am.

Attendees

Todd Nelson – Assistant Director

Jen Simmons – State Coordinator

Section 1 – Alice Ganger

Section 2 – Rhianna Johnson

Section 3 – Tiffany Rutledge & Stephanie Moretti

Section 4 – Andrea Guccia

Section 5 –

Section 6 – Justina Grudzinski

Section 7 – Vicki Nephew

Section 8 – Jennifer Keane

Section 9 – Patty Archiere

Section 10 –

Section 11-

I. NYSPHSAA Report/Updates

- None at this time

II. Committee Business

-Jen reviewed the status of the two proposals that were discussed at the Committee meeting in March at the State Competition. Both Proposals submitted to NYSPHSAA for consideration

1. Proposal on Coaching certification remove ACCA (no Longer exists every four years) to USA Cheer Safety course for the first time and then yearly USA Cheer updates
2. Earlier Start date-to Wednesday prior

Competitive Competition Feedback for Clarifications

1. The Sub-committee of Cheer Coordinators met with Madhia to discuss clarifications she recommended based off the State Championship and questions that came up.

The following were the two items recommended for clarifications for judges and coaches:

Drivers- look at moving transitional skills to “other” category on progression sheet- we can still define Tosses and Single base, as they are the only skills listed in “other” that can be used as a Variety driver. This has no impact to PACE as Pace is the sequence as a whole and is not based on skills independently. Transitional skills alone do not get points for the Driver, only if they lead into or out of something else.

Future discussion of a Way to identify and reward use of single based skills potentially as an added driver for COED teams

Pyramid

Clearly define Pyramid. Allow any skill performed in pyramid section to count in pyramid section. Define pyramid to begin once skills are in a position to be in place to connect (work on that wording). Still working on this clarification

Cheer

Work on adding the extra video into the rotation demonstrating the types of Cheer, and how to score and maximize points with either style

2. The clarifications will be sent out for all to review before finalized

- **Trainings Game Day/Competitive Cheer**

- 1. Discussions about trainings came from the floor

- A. Get video trainings out earlier this year, to give more time to review

- B. Meet with the Judges Education committee to bridge gap and to explore other ideas to help with understanding the scoresheet

- C. Have Q & A's on specific topics throughout the season to focus on topic, instead of just wide open, may be more effective

- D. Get questions with answers in a email to be answered, (like in the past) and posted for all to review

- E. A request for the possibility for some in person trainings offered, even by Sections

- **Jen and Rhianna discussed the Albany Venue tour they did for this coming Fall for Game Day.**

- **Meeting Adjourned**

NYSPHSAA FOOTBALL COMMITTEE MEETING
MONDAY MAY 6, 2024, 10:00am
MINUTES

1. Attendance: NYSPHSAA Office- Todd Nelson, Joe Altieri, Kristen Jadin; NYS FB Chairman- Gary Vanderzee, Asst. Chairman-Ken Stoldt; Section 1- Michael Cring; Section 2- Sean Colfer; Section 3- Bob Campese, Keith Kempney; Section 4-absent; Section 5- Scott Barker; Section 6- Ken Stoldt; Section 7- Pat Keleher; Section 8-Matt McLees; Section 9 Tom Cassata, Jason Semo, Section 10- Matt Tessmer; Section 11-Tim Horan; NYSHSFCA- Paul Sealy; Modified-Steve Nolan; Officials- Ric Hamblin, Tim Arden, Patrick English
2. Staff Reports: Nothing to report.
3. Proposal Updates:
 - a) Early Start Date: The start date for football will be Monday of week 7 which is August 19th. This is for the 2024 season only. This was approved in May 2024 by the Executive Committee.
 - b) Combine Practice Guidelines: Teams will now be able to participate in 11 on 11 drills for a maximum of 10 plays. Approved at the May Executive Meeting.
 - c) 6th Official: The use of the alternate official to be used on the field as a 6th official for NYS Semi finals and championships was approved as a permanent fixture at the May 2024 Executive Meeting.
 - d) Ejection Penalty: This was a discussion item in May and will be voted on at the July 2024 meetings.

- e) Forfeit/Max Contests: This was a discussion item at the May Executive meetings and will be voted on at the July 2024 meetings.
4. 8 Man Football: Todd Nelson informed the committee that the CAC was not in favor of hosting the 8 man regional championship at the Dome along with the 11 man championships. Rationale centered cost, and concern over playing a regional final at a championship venue. A final decision will be made at the summer meetings. The committee is looking at renting an indoor venue, or playing the game outdoors during the same weekend, possibly in Section 4.
 5. NYSHSFCA: Paul Sealy reminded the committee that the 7 on 7 tournaments will be held at SUNY Cortland on Friday July 12 (Girls) and Saturday July 13th (boys). There are still openings for the girls Tournament.
 6. Officials: Tim Arden noted the annual meeting for the officials will be scheduled for June. Tim also informed the committee that recruitment has gone well thus far.
 7. Round Table: Keith Kempney (Section 3) has asked Section reps to send him their classification numbers in preparation for our June Meeting.

NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY JUNE 11th @ 10:00 am.

Respectfully submitted by,
Gary Vanderzee
NYS FB Chairman
Ken Stoldt
NYS FB Asst. Chairman

APPENDIX E



2024 PRE-SEASON REPORT BOYS SOCCER Chairperson: Todd Marquardt

Committee members (voting*)

Chairman:	Todd Marquardt	Todd.Marquardt10@gmail.com	
	716-873-6543 (h)	716-903-5875 (c)	
	98 Deerhurst Park Blvd, Kenmore, NY 14217		
Buffalo:	Dominic Massaro* (Riverside)	Dmassaro@buffaloschools.org	(c) 628-1085
CCAA East:	J.J. McIntosh (Portville)	dmcintosh@portvillecsd.org	(c) 244-8199
CCAA West:	Jon Luce (Allegany-Limestone)	jluce@alcsny.org	(c) 307-3660
CCAA Central	Jay Walters (North Collins)	jwalters@northcollinscsd.org	(c) 939-0742
ECIC I:	Brian DeGlopper* (W Seneca)	bdeglopper@wscschools.org	(c) 982-9287
ECIC II:	Tony Schiappa (Will. East)	schiappa10@hotmail.com	(c) 604-8300
ECIC III:	Trevor Lawler (Will. South)	Trlawler17@gmail.com	(c) 480-4887
ECIC IV:	Kevin Beale (East Aurora)	kbeale66@gmail.com	(c) 491-8274
ECIC V:	J.J. Gabor (Tonawanda)	igabor@buffaloschools.org	(c) 812-7842
NFL:		(c)	
NO:	Steve Luksch* (Medina-Lyndon)	sluksch@medina.csd.org	(c) 531-8768

All-Star Selections WNYHSSCA All-WNY Kevin Beale (above)

All-Star Selections NSCAA All- American Kevin Beale (above)

Committee meeting date(s)

Mid Feb.....Mid June.....Seeding Mtg Oct 19

Classification Breakdown

AAA: 1090+ AA: 711-1089 A: 412-710 B: 249-411 C: 138-248 D: 1-137

Recommendations for next season & proposed dates

The boys soccer committee would like to move towards neutral site for Finals only

Action Item for approval at May 15, 2024 Athletic Council Meeting.

The boys soccer committee would like to participate in the 2 year pilot of splitting classes after the opt out date (10-16-24)

Approved March 20, 2024 Athletic Council

Motion to implement a split classifications after opt-out pilot for 2 years, 24-25 and 25-26, in the sports of Boys Soccer and Girls Soccer

CARRIED

Fallacaro-Dougherty/Salisbury

Maximum of 5 non player personnel allowed in the bench area during contest. Will be listed in the handbook * The S/I Committee (April 10 meeting) felt further discussion is required. Therefore, this proposal is excused from the request for approval of this report at the May 2024 athletic council meeting.

Regionals will be hosted by Section V

The following is the proposed Dates/Times/Locations for the 2024 sectional play. A more detailed schedule will follow discussions with Chris Durr and the girls schedule to avoid conflicts.

All host schools (higher seed) will dictate start time and location for all pre-quarters, quarters & semi's

SOCCER BOYS Sportchair Todd Marquardt (c) 903-5875 www.arbitersports.com			
Seeding meeting 10-19			
Pre-Quarters	B1, B2, C	Higher Seed	10-22
Pre-Quarters	A1, A2, AA	Higher Seed	10-23
Quarters	B1, B2, C	Higher Seed	10-24
Quarters	A1,A2,AA & AAA	Higher Seed	10-25
Semifinals	B1, B2	Higher Seed	10-28
	A1, A2	Higher Seed	10-29
	AA, C	Higher Seed	10-30
	AAA	Higher Seed	10-31
Finals	B1 & B2	TBA	11-1
	AAA, AA, A1 & A2	TBA	11-2
	C & D	TBA	11-4
State Qualifier	A & B	TBA	11-5
Regionals	TBA	TBA	11/8 – 11/9 (Section V)
States		TBA	11/15 – 11/17 (Section IX)

Changes in Policy/Practice for the upcoming season

Boys soccer will enter 2nd year of pilot a 4,5,6 power point system for all classifications during league games for the 2024 season.

A 6th classification (AAA) will continue for the 2024 season

Rule Changes for 2021

The 2024-25 NHFS boys soccer rules have not yet been posted

Respectfully submitted 2/20/2024

Todd Marquardt, Section VI Boys Soccer Sport Chair

SECTION VI PRE-SEASON REPORT
GIRLS SOCCER 2023
Chairperson: Chris Durr
March 2023

Committee members (voting*)

Section Chairperson:

Chris Durr*	Williamsville East **Retired	H – 316-3892
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Assistant Chairperson:

Joanna Fildes	Amherst Central	C – 908-9550
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Consultants:

Steve Sabo	Meadow Elementary (N.T.)	H – 228-7362
ECIC Joanna Fildes*	(see above)	
ECIC Mike Graffeo	Orchard Park	C – 359-1665
CCAA Dale MacArthur*	Allegany-Limestone HS	H – 372-5447
CCAA Kevin Rice	Silver Creek	C – 560-3479
BFLO Jason Milne*	City Honors	C- 698-9571
NFL Hannah Sicarunzo*	North Tonawanda	C - 417-8592
	Dave Bowman	C – 829-9422
NO Maggie Orbaker*	Albion	C – 585-590-1557

German Lesmes	Southern Tier Officials Representative	C – 785-7087
Bill Sciolino	Buffalo Officials Representative	C – 912-1200

Committee meeting date(s) February 10th (Zoom meeting)

Classification Breakdown

(All are estimated until combined approval)

AAA - 3, AA - 15, A - 19, B - 20, C - 16, D - 4

Changes in Policy/Practice for the upcoming season

Recommendation to hold the section meeting first, and then the individual league meetings. (some leagues were finished with their meetings early)

Committee is ready to implement the seeding pilot that Girls and Boys Basketball implemented – see minutes

Rule Changes for 2024

No major rules changes - minor edits

Other Pertinent Data

Committee discussed keeping semifinals at Neutral sites

Positives:

1. can complete semis in all classes in three nights using Will North or Will East.
2. more officials to choose from (3 person) based on availability
3. Great atmosphere for girls soccer (4 games at one facility)
4. sites and times are fixed so schools know where they are going to play
5. section can charge admission
6. no conflicts with home facility
7. officials fees and supervision paid by the section.

concerns of playing semis at home sites

1. grass fields
2. early start times (2 or 2:30 if school doesn't have lights)
3. travel time to opponent (same as quarterfinals)
4. game times (who decides when teams play and what is the deadline for notifying Section chair for official assignments)
5. if higher seeds lose in quarterfinals, a very quick turnaround for a team that is now hosting vs traveling
6. smaller fields
7. availability of officials for earlier times
8. more requests for game time and date changes based on home school conflicts.
9. conflicts with home site (FB, Boys soccer, and FH teams games and practices)
10. admission fees would be difficult as some facilities
11. schools would pay for officials and supervision

Section VI "Pink the Field" Event is scheduled for October. This will be the 15th year.

Season Dates

First Practice - 8/26

First Game - 9/2

First Scrimmage - 9/2

Last Regularly Scheduled League Game - 10/17

Seeding Meeting - 10/19

Post Season Information

See attached minutes

Respectfully submitted 3/5./24

Chris Durr Section VI Sport chair Girls Soccer

SECTION VI GIRLS' SOCCER

2024 Sectional Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
October	14	15	16	17 Last Scheduled League game Cut-Off Date	18	19 Seeding Meeting
20	21	22 <u>Pre- ¼</u> 3:30 or 6 pm at Higher seed AA, A1, A2	23 <u>Pre- ¼</u> 3:30 or 6 pm at Higher seed B1, B2, C	24 <u>Quarters</u> 3:30 or 6 pm at Higher seed AA, A1, A2	25 <u>Quarters</u> 3:30 or 6 pm at Higher seed B1, B2, C	26 <u>Quarters</u> 11 am at Higher seed AAA (if needed)
27	28 <u>Semis</u> D at TBA 5:30 & 7:30 A1 & A2 at TBA 5:30 & 7:30	29 <u>Semis</u> C at TBA 5:30 & 7:30 AA at TBA	30 <u>Semis</u> AAA at TBA 5:30 B1 & B2 at TBA 5:30 & 7:30	31	1 <u>Finals</u> A1, A2 at TBA 5:15 & 7:30	2 <u>Finals</u> AAA, AA, B1, B2 at TBA 11, 1:15, 3:30, 5:45 C & D at Dunkirk 11 & 1:15
3	4 <u>Finals</u> AAA at TBA 6:00	5 <u>Crossover</u> <u>Finals</u> (if necessary) A & B at TBA 5 & 7	6	7	8 <u>REGIONALS</u> @ Section 6 AAA, AA 5 & 7:30	9 <u>REGIONALS</u> @ Section 6 A, B, C, D 11, 1:30, 4, 6:30
10	11	12	13	14	15	16 STATES @ Cortland (Section 3)
17 STATES @ Cortland (Section 3)						

**PRE-SEASON REPORT
GIRLS VOLLEYBALL 2024
Chairperson: Debby Schruefer
March 2024**

Committee members (voting*)

Chairperson Debby Schruefer*	(C) 445-8521	dschruefer23@gmail.com
Co-Chair Susan Pernick	(C) 316-5028	spernick24@gmail.com
Buffalo Deborah Matos* City Honors Britni Trapasso Hutch Tech	(w) 816-3900 (C) 316-4839 716-864-5723	dmatos@buffaloschools.org
CCAA Dave Burgstahler* North Collins Tammy Hoosier (Panama) Kelly Unverdorben (Portville)	(C) 479-6649 716-640-2994 716-378-0833	dburgstahler@northcollins.org
ECIC Becky Edwards (Lancaster) 1 Becky Edwards (Lancaster) 2 TBD 3 Denae Hickson (Cheektowaga) 4 Jen Breier (Holland)	(C) 716-864-4996 (C) (716) 432-4136 (C) (716) 308-2782	bedwards@lancasterschools.org dhickson@ccsd-k12.org
NFL Brandi Cochran* (Niagara Wheatfield)	(W) 716-807-0957	bcochran@nwcsd.org
NO Alexis Damon (Newfane)	(C) 716-545-1381	adamon@newfanecentralschools.org

Committee meeting date(s):

June 2024

Recommendations for next season & proposed dates/sites

VOLLEYBALL GIRLS Sportchair Debby Schruefer © 716-445-8521 www.arbitersports.com

*** 2024 Proposed Post Season Schedule Seeding Meeting October 22**

<u>Event</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location & Time</u>
Last league game	October 21	
Qualifiers	October 23	Higher Seed 6:00 PM
Pre-qualifiers	October 25	Higher Seed 6:00 PM
Quarterfinals	October 28	Higher Seed 6:00 PM
Semifinals	October 30	Higher Seed 6:00 PM
Finals B1, B2	November 1	TBD B2:6:00 PM B1 8:00PM
Finals C1, C2	November 1	TBD C2 6:00 PM C1 8:00 PM
Finals D1, D2	November 4	TBD D1: 6:00 PM D2: 8:00PM
Finals AA, A	November 4	TBD A: 6:00 PM AA 8:00 PM
Finals B	November 5	TBD B: 8:00 PM
Finals AAA	November 5	TBD: AAA: 6:00 PM
Finals C, D	November 6	TBD: C: 6:00 PM D: 8:00 PM
Far West Regionals	November 8	TBD: AAA. AA. A Section 6 host
Far West Regionals	November 9	TBD: B, C, D Section 6 host

State Championships

November 22-24, 2023

Cool Insuring Arena Section 2

Respectfully submitted 2/29/2024

Debby Schrufer, Section VI Girls Volleyball Chair

SECTION VI PRE-SEASON REPORT

BOYS VOLLEYBALL 2024

Chairperson: Walt Stefani

February 22, 2024

Committee members (voting*)

Chairperson - **Walt Stefani***

(C) 903-5389 waltstefani@verizon.net

Name	League	School	Phone	
Bill Schultz *	NFL	Grand Island	(H) *****	(S) 773-8820
Jason Stang *	ECIC I	Lancaster	(H) 341-4795	(S) 686-3270
Tom Knab *	ECIC II	Wmsv. South	(H) 834-1500	(S) 689-7051
Robert Pierce *	ECIC III	Eden	(H) 648-8815	(S) 992-3607

At Large Representatives:

Ricky Albano	ECIC I	Orchard Park	(S) 209-6243
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League Chairpersons

Robert Pierce - ECIC

Luke Hogdsons - NFL

Committee meeting date(s)

** Pre-Season Meeting - August @ ECIC Fall Meetings - Site TBA

** Post-Season All WNY/All Star Meeting – 11-18-2024 Site TBA

Classification Breakdown

2023 Season - cut-off #'s - Div 1: 900+, Div 2: 0-900 or by new numbers if classifications change

2024 Season Information – I am assuming Kenmore West will want to Host again.....

VOLLEYBALL BOYS Sportchair Walt Stefani (c) 903-5389 www.arbitersports.com		
Start of Season	Mon. Aug. 19, 2024	Practices can begin (follow scrimmage/contest regulations)
Regular season ends	Tues. Oct. 22, 2024	Power points need to be calculated/tabulated for seeding
Seeding Meeting	Weds. Oct. 23, 2024	By phone 6:30 pm
Qualifiers (if needed)	Thurs. Oct. 24, 2024	Higher Seed 6:00 pm
Pre-Quarters	Fri. Oct. 25, 2024	Higher Seed 6:00 pm
Quarterfinals	Weds. Oct. 30, 2024	Higher Seed 6:00 pm
Semi-finals – Div. 1	Fri. Nov. 1, 2024	Higher Seed 6:00 pm
Semi-finals – Div. 2 A & B	Sat. Nov. 2, 2024	Higher Seed 2:00pm
Finals – D2A, & D2B	Tues. Nov. 5, 2024	Kenmore West HS D2A 5:30pm - D2B 7:30pm
Champ. Playoff D2A/2B	Thurs. Nov. 7, 2024	Kenmore West HS D2A/D2B 5:30pm - D1 7:30pm
Finals – D1	Thurs. Nov. 7, 2024	Kenmore West HS D1 7:30 pm
NYS Regionals	Sat. Nov. 9, 2024	Kenmore West D1 3:00 pm – D2 1:00pm
NYS Championship	Sat. Nov. 16, 2024	Albany Capital Center, Albany, NY Times TBA

Other Pertinent Data

** Spaulding **Boys TF-VB5** red, white, and blue ball for Sectional/State Competition

** Need to have 20 of each per team → Blue and Red Patches and Certificates

** Champion Shirts should be 3XL and 17L per Championship Team

**** Please Inform on the outcome of this Re-submitted Proposal:*******

Boys Volleyball Committee Proposals for the 2023 season:

1.) Proposal to Change Power Point Tie Breakers for WNY Boys Vball

Rational for the change was to eliminate a tie by a coin toss. Remove Divisional wins as a tie breaker because of the differing number of teams in divisions.

We would like to propose ties in Power Points for seeding be as follows in Section VI...

1. Head-to-head in the division
2. Set percentage head-to-head in division
3. Set percentage in division
4. Point percentage in division
5. Coin flip

“Sectional Intersectional voted to table this item until the February 2023 meeting.”

We would like to re-submit this proposal to break ties for Section VI Sectionals as we feel this would be a better way to break ties for positioning in the playoffs than a simple coin toss.

***In consideration of the current discussions regarding tiebreakers, the Boys Volleyball tiebreaker proposal is excused from the request for approval of this report at the May 15, 2024 athletic council meeting. (Sectional Intersectional Committee April 10, 2024)**

Classification break at 900 (Division I: 901+, Division II: 0-900 5/19)

Division 1:

1. Niagara Falls	1608
2. Kenmore West/KE	791/696
3. Lancaster	1187
4. Lockport	1083
5. Orchard Park	1052
6. Frontier	1035
7. Williamsville North	930
8. Hutch Tech	914

Division 2A: (Will adjust if schools combine or added)

1. Clarence	897
2. West Seneca West	815
3. Niagara Wheatfield	798
4. Sweet Home	780
5. North Tonawanda	750
6. Starpoint	737
7. Hamburg	725
8. Williamsville East	696
9. Grand Island	666

10. Amherst	654
11. Grand Island	626

Division 2B: (Will adjust if schools combine or added)

1. Will South	618
2. West Seneca East	614
3. East Aurora/Holland	393/167
4. Cheektowaga	516
5. Lake Shore	503
6. Iroquois	491
7. Eden/North Collins	258/125
8. City Honors	459
9. Maryvale	446
10. Tapestry	264
11. Olmstead	***

Please CHECK that all Division 2 teams are represented – Thank You!

Budget 2024:

To be provided by Section VI Treasurer, Don Scholla

Respectfully submitted

Walt Stefani, Section VI



2/22/2024

Boys Volleyball Sportchair



CROSS COUNTRY 2024 PRE-SEASON REPORT

Sport Chairs: BOYS – Jason Longo/Walt McLaughlin, GIRLS – Pete Szymanski

Committee members (voting*)

Section VI Chairpersons		School	Cell
Boys	Jason Longo	Will South	308-6654
	Walt McLaughlin	East Aurora	829-9282
Girls	Pete Szymanski.....		480-2333

Boys League Representatives		School	Cell
ECIC	*Pete Szymanski,	West Seneca West ..	480-2333
Buffalo	*Andrew Grine	Hutch Tech	877-9737
NFL	*Tim Willett,	Lockport	998-7200
NO	*Paul Dersarkissian,	Barker	860-7147
CCAA	*Tim O'Donnell,	Gowanda	270-7685

Girls League Representatives		School	Cell
ECIC	*Walt McLaughlin,	East Aurora	829-9282
Buffalo	*Christine Piscopo	Riverside	480-5976
NFL	*Tim Willett	Lockport	998-7200
NO	*Mike Heitzenrater	Newfane.....	860-7147
CCAA	*Kathy Stamets, All/Lime	375-6606	498-8615
At Large	Sean Ode	Randolph	499-2995

Committee meeting date(s) Specific dates to be announced.

Classification Breakdown

4 classes: A: 815+, B: 450 - 814, C: 255 - 449, D: 0-254

2023 Season Information

Sectionals:	Fri. Nov. 1	Knox Park, East Aurora
	Boys	TBD: 10:00 am, 10:30 am, 11:00 pm, 11:30 pm
	Girls	TBD: 12:00 pm, 12:30 pm, 1:00 pm, 1:30 pm
States:	Sat. Nov. 9	Queensbury HS (Section 2)
NYS Federation Meet	Sat. Nov. 16	Bowdoin Park, Wappingers Falls (Section 1)

Changes in Policy/Practice for the upcoming season

Rule Changes for 2024-2025

Other Pertinent Data

- The sectional course will be available for inspection only on Friday, November 1st starting at 9:00 am. Only varsity teams will be participating.
- The State Meet to be held at Queensbury High School on November 9.
- Sectional awards ceremonies will be broken up into class ceremonies following each of the races: 5, 6, 7, 8. Committee members will be needed to help run their specific award ceremonies.

Respectfully submitted 3/1/2024,
 Jason Longo/Walt McLaughlin Section VI Boys Cross Country Chairmen
 Pete Szymanski, Section VI Girls Cross Country Chairman



SECTION VI PRE-SEASON REPORT SECTION VI FOOTBALL 2024

Chairperson: Jay Sirianni
Assistant Chairpersons: Ken Stoldt

Committee members

Chairman-Jay Sirianni (Southwestern)

Assistant Chairman – Ken Stoldt (Retired)

Division Chairmen:

AA – Don Bass	Niagara Falls
Tom Langworthy	Jamestown
A1 – Ron Luders	Williamsville North
A2 – Al Cavagnaro	Starpoint
B1 – Joe Licata	Williamsville South
B2 – Doug Ames	Retired
B3 - Glenn Graham	Cleveland Hill
C North - Eric Valley	Medina
C South – Scott Greenough	Forestville
D - Chris Payne*	Panama
Buffalo - Pat Ricci	Buffalo
At-Large – Adam Erickson	Williamsville South

Committee meeting dates: TBA

Classification Breakdown

AA – 1025 and up
A – 665-1024
B – 385-664
C – 261-384
D – 260 and down

Sectional Alignments: (see attached)

First Day of Practice: Saturday August 24, 2024 (possible start date Wed 8/21 pending state approval)

Preseason Meeting: Tuesday August 13, 2024 6:00 pm – In person/Virtual

Post Season Information

At this time I would suggest keeping the same weekends reserved.

FOOTBALL

Seeding Meeting	Oct. 27	Virtual Meeting
Week # 9 Playoffs	11/1 – 11/2	Home school
Semifinals:	11/8 – 11/9	Divisional Champion's home site or Higher Seed
Finals Bowl games:	Thurs. Nov 6	Higher seed
Finals:	11/15 – 11/16	Highmark Stadium Classes & Times TBA
Regionals:	11/22 – 11/23	Section V Hosts, Classes & Times TBA
State Western Semifinals:	11/29 – 11/30	@ Cicero-North Syracuse
State Finals:	12/6 – 12/8	JMA Wireless Dome, Syracuse

Changes in Policy/Practice for the upcoming season

TBD at State Meetings end of March

Rule Changes/Points of Emphasis for 2023 -

TBD

Football Rules Changes – 2023

TBD

Other Pertinent Data – Schedule to be released soon.

Respectfully submitted 3/1/24
Jay Sirianni, Ken Stoldt
Section VI Football Chairmen

2024 Alignments

AA (1025 +)

Niagara Falls - 1608
Lancaster - 1187
Jamestown - 1104
Lockport - 1083
Orchard Park - 1052
Bennett
Hutch Tech

A (665-1024)

A1

Frontier - 992
Will North - 930
Clarence - 897
McKinley - 822
West Seneca West - 815
Niagara Wheatfield – 798

A2

Kenmore West - 791
Sweet Home - 780
North Tonawanda - 750
Starpoint - 737
Hamburg - 725
Will East - 696

B (385-664)

B1

Amherst - 654
Kenmore East - 651
HS/Global Concepts - 636
Grand Island - 626
Will South - 618
West Seneca East - 614

B2

South Park – 587
Cheektowaga - 516
Lake Shore - 503
Iroquois – 491
Pioneer - 482
East Aurora/Holland - 459

B3

Dunkirk – 458
Lackawanna - 458
Lew-Port - 458
Maryvale - 446
Albion - 435
Olean - 423
Depew - 410
Springville - 393

C (384-261)

C North

Tonawanda - 377
Alden – 357
WNY-Martime/Tapestry 350
Roy-Hart/Barker - 349
Medina - 330
Akron - 317
Newfane - 317
Cleveland Hill - 290

C South

Falconer/CV/MG – 356
Portville/CR/Hin - 333
Fredonia - 332
Southwestern - 309
Eden/NC - 308
Chaut Lake/W/B - 306
Silver Creek/Forest – 266
Salamanca - 264

D (260-0)

Gowanda/PV - 255
Wilson - 240
Randolph - 209
Catt-LV - 198
Franklinville/EV - 187
CSP - 178

8 Man

Allegany-Limestone
Frewsburg

JFK –JV only
Burgard – JV only

SECTION VI PRE-SEASON REPORT GIRLS SWIMMING & DIVING March 1, 2024

Committee members (voting*)

Sport Chair:

Chairperson

c: (716) 672-9876

Nathan Bourke
nbourke@ktufsd.org

Kenmore-Tonawanda

Assistant Chairperson & Tech Integrator

c: (716) 481-1245

Paul Cary
pcary@me.com

Clarence

Committee Members:

BPS:	Ann Doleski*	Bennett	c: (716) 310-4783	adoleski@buffaloschools.org
CCAA:	Dan Brown*	Olean	c: (716) 307-2495	dbrown@oleanschools.org
	Todd Conklin	Southwestern	c: (716) 640-3930	toconklin@swcsk12.org
ECIC:	Liz Osucha*	Alden	c: (315) 657-6649	eosucha@aldenschools.org
NFL:	James Stypa*	Niagara Falls	c: (716) 417-6106	jstypa@nfschools.net
At Large:	Cindy Cranston	South Park	c: (716) 912-7496	ccranston@buffaloschools.org
At Large:	Troy Lubanski	Starpoint	C: (585) 943-4063	troylubanski@gmail.com

The current committee is a balance of individuals from each league. At large members not only represent their leagues (ECIC, the largest league, and BPS a league where we strive to have stronger representation,) but also are coaches who split their time with USA Swimming and Diving.

Recommendations for next season & proposed dates/sites*

Post League Championship Format	Circa Oct 29-Nov 9	Location/s TBD
State Championship	Nov. 22-23	Webster Aquatic Center, Webster, NY

Committee meeting date(s) via ZOOM May and August 2024

Classification Breakdown The Committee recommends that schools are assigned to three divisions based on BEDS. 100% of the BEDS numbers will be used for the 24.25 school year for combined teams since swimming is technically a one classification sport. This will have very minimal impact on classification organization.

The S/I Committee will review this proposal for all 3 sports (Girls Swim, Boys Swim, Indoor Track) with their respective leagues before making recommendation. This proposal is excused from the request for approval of this report at the May 15, 2024 athletic council meeting. (Sectional Intersectional April 10, 2024)

The Committee also recognizes that BEDS numbers do not always correlate to a team's strength and performance. Therefore, utilizing crossover meet opportunities again this fall, based on 2023 results, will help to strengthen competition and build programs.

*Thursday September 5, Friday September 6, or Saturday September 7 is the first opportunity.

*Thursday October 3, Friday October 4, or Saturday October 5 is the second opportunity.

*Coaches would communicate with each other and set up meets with opposing schools, if they chose.

*League schedules should be structured to keep the dates above available for cross-over opportunities.

Sectional 6 Classification Championship Meets / State Qualifier Meet The format used for Class championships hosted by member schools as a three-day format (swim prelims, diving, swim finals) worked well in the 2022 and 2023 seasons.. A timed final state qualifier meet held at a college facility, recognizing the fastest swimmer/top diver within the section. Both the boys and girls committees continue to evaluate this format, based on data reports available through swimcloud to determine if we are giving athletes the best opportunity to be the most successful.

State Qualifying Times for 2024: The May 2024 state committee meeting will review qualification times based on 2021, 2022, and 2023 data. The current time standards are below.

**NYSPHSAA
QUALIFYING STANDARDS FOR
GIRLS' SWIMMING & DIVING**

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>STANDARD</u>
200 Medley Relay	1:52.35
200 Freestyle	1:57.24
200 Individual Medley	2:12.84
50 Freestyle	24.84
Diving (11 dive)	440.00
100 Butterfly	1:00.02
100 Freestyle	54.36
500 Freestyle	5:14.65
200 Freestyle Relay	1:41.69
100 Backstroke	1:00.42
100 Breaststroke	1:08.60
400 Freestyle Relay	3:42.73

Rule Changes for 2024: None available at this time.

Other Pertinent Data/recommendations:

1. The State Championships will be held in Webster again this year. The Hilton Garden Inn will again host the Section VI team. The location used last year (2022 and 2023) worked well with the ability to have large section meals on site. This site has been contracted again for 2024.
2. The Girls and Boys Swim Committees continue to recommend mandatory online reporting of all results by member schools via [swimcloud](https://swimcloud.com). All of NYS now uses this site.
3. The NYSPHAA Committee meeting on May 10 will address concerns of the length of the 2023 state championship meet and the RFP's for the 2025/2026/2027 State Championship. Section VI is planning to submit an RFP.
4. The Section VI girls swim/dive committee will discuss cut times for Class Championships at its May meeting.

Respectfully submitted Date: March 1, 2024
Nathan Bourke



Field Hockey 2024 Pre-Season Report

Committee members(voting*)

Judith Coleman-Otto Section Six Sport Chairperson

ECIC Representatives: Pete Tonsoline* and Dawn Kauderer

NO League Representatives: Rob Mucha* and Amber Flint Cleaveland

Section 6 Coordinator Judith Coleman-Otto* Cell 716-812-3078 Jotto1952@gmail.com

Proposed 2024 Season Post Season			
<u>Event</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location & Time</u>
Last league game		10/25/24	
Seeding Meeting		10/26/24	
Pre-Quarters	B	10/28/24	Home school higher seed
Quarterfinals	BCA	10/30/24	Home school higher seed
Semi-finals	BCA	11/1/24	Home school higher seed
Finals:	BCA	11/4/24	TBA
Regionals:		at Section V	TBA

Classifications : Holland -East Aurora is moving up to the B Classification

Respectfully submitted

Date March 1,2024

Judith Coleman-Otto
Section VI Field Hockey Sportchair

PRE-SEASON REPORT SECTION VI GIRLS TENNIS 2024
Chairperson: Kristin Janese

Committee members (voting*)

Girls Chairperson **Kristin Janese*** Edward Town Middle School (Niagara Wheatfield) 215-3167(S) 471-5537(C) 215-3160(Fax) kjanese@nwcsd.org

GIRLS	Chairperson	School	Home	Work	E-Mail
CCAA	Jamie Sposato	Frewsburg	569-6157	569-7000	jsposato@frewsburgcsd.org
ECIC	Paul Biddle	Amherst	440-6781	362-3000	pbiddle@amherstschools.org
NFL	John Lemar	Ohio Elementary	510-5098	807-3800 ext 7146	jlemar@ntschoosls.org
BUFFALO	Christopher Meszaros	Olmsted	510-4991	816-4330	cmmeszaros@buffaloschools.org

Committee meeting date(s)

Seeding meeting for Team Sectionals, Saturday September 21st, 2024 (Virtual) 10am
 Seeding meeting Individual Sectionals, Sunday, October 13th, 2024 @10am Zoe Restaurant on Transit Rd.
 Each league chair meets with his/her coaches during their individual pre-season meeting. Committee meetings are not held prior to the sectional tournament unless something comes up that requires discussion.

Classification Breakdown (Not necessarily accurate - will update as needed)

According to the 2022-2023 BEDS, we have 25 Division 1 schools and 24 Division 2 schools

Division 1 (600+) 25 Schools	Division 2 (<599) 24 Schools
CCAA (2) Jamestown Olean	CCAA (7) Fredonia, Southwestern, Salamanca, Falconer, Frewsburg, Chautauqua Lake, and Maple Grove
ECIC (13) Lancaster, Clarence, Will North, Orchard Park, Frontier, West Seneca West, West Seneca East, Hamburg, Sweet Home, Will East, Starpoint, Will South, & Amherst	ECIC (10) Iroquois, Cheektowaga, East Aurora, Maryvale, Lakeshore, Depew, Springville, Tonawanda, Alden, Eden
NFL (7) Niagara Falls, Lockport, Niagara Wheatfield, Ken West, North Tonawanda, Grand Island, Ken East	NFL (1) Lew-port
BUFFALO (3) Hutch Tech /Emerson/Culinary Arts, Burgard /McKinley, DaVinci /South Park	BUFFALO (6) City Honors , MST /East, I-prep /Lafayette/Riverside, LBJ Bennett /Middle Early College, Olmsted, Research Lab

Post Season Information

TENNIS GIRLS Sportchair Kristin Janese (C) 716-471-5537		
Individual Sectionals Seeding Meeting:	Sun. Oct. 13th 10:00AM	Zoe Restaurant 5711 Transit Rd. E. Amherst 639-4550 10:00am
Team Sectionals:	Saturday Sept 28th & Tuesday October 8th	Saturday (Quarters and Semis) Tuesday (Finals) Locations TBD Preferable locations with 8 courts
Individual Sectionals:	Fri.-Sat. Oct. 18-19, 2024	Lakewood YMCA Friday is 12PM start and Saturday is 3PM start
Regionals:		@ Section 6 Location and times to be announced
Individual States:	Monday October 28th - Wednesday October 30th 2024	USTA National Tennis Center Flushing, NY Travel Day/Seeding Meeting - Sunday October 27th
Team States:	Friday Nov. 8th, 2024	USTA National Tennis Center Flushing, NY
Team OPT OUT Deadline	Sept. 13th	Email needs to be sent to both the league chairperson and sectional chairperson

Team Sectional Championship - Year 3

Of Special Note:

1. We continue to have the lowest % of teams participating in Team Sectionals across the State. (15 in 2023)
 2. Teams need to make sure that they have scheduled enough matches for players to be eligible. They need to have played 6 matches in order to be eligible for sectional play.
 3. We will again use a top 8 format for each division because of low participation with teams from each league being represented fairly. The committee would like some flexibility in case more or less teams choose to participate.
 4. Clarification of practice/line-up rules will again be made prior to the tournament.
- In the Section VI Team Championship tournament, we will use the following format to match the format at the state level.
 - Division 1 - 3 singles and 4 doubles (11 players) If you do not have enough players to field all positions, you will forfeit at that position.
 - **Division 2 - 2 singles and 3 doubles (8 players)** *Format is part of a 2-year pilot that will be used for 2024 and 2025. *****

Team Sectionals

Day 1 - Saturday September 28th: Quarterfinals and Semifinals

8 Team Bracket - Single elimination Draw

This will be a regular scoring, best 2 out of 3 set matches.

Seeds will be based on team record up until Sept. 20th, BEDS, perceived strength according to chairpersons, and may consist of UTR, past performances, or other information available at that time. The goal is to have a fair and equitable tournament for all teams in order to send our strongest team to Regionals.

Once a site is determined (Division 1 must be at a site with 8 courts if at all possible), a schedule of time will be made available.

Day 2 - Tuesday October 8th: Finals

This will be a regular scoring, best 2 out of 3 set match using the format listed above.

The winners will advance to Regionals vs. Section V during the week of October 21st.

In case of rain, we will use the next available day to get the matches in. In some cases, we may need to use a Sunday, or more sites/multiple days.

Sectional Championship matches will take precedence over league matches.

Changes in Policy/Practice for the upcoming season

For the Individual Sectionals each league will send reps as follows:

ECIC (7), NFL (3), CCAA (3), Buffalo (3). If Buffalo again does not send a full field, the next highest seeded players amongst the CCAA, NFL and ECIC (as agreed upon by the committee) will fill in the brackets.

The Executive Committee approved a 2 singles/3 doubles format for Division 2 NYSPHSAA Team Championships as a two-year pilot which will be used in the 2024 and 2025 girls' team championships. Therefore, in the postseason - we will use that same format for Division 2 Team Sectional Tournament as well as the Section VI vs Section V regional match.

For the 2024 NYSPHSAA Individual Tournament, Section 6 will send 3 singles qualifiers and 4 doubles teams.

NYSPHSAA has received an offer by Diadem for a five-year agreement to provide all the tennis balls for the state tournaments (individual & team) and sectional level tournaments. These tennis balls are USTA and ITF approved for tournament play. This is not a done deal.

Rule Changes for 2024-2025:

We will follow the most up-to-date safety information and protocols (if any) regarding Covid-19.

Other Pertinent Data

1. A joint proposal for boys and girls tennis was approved which states that all NYSPHSAA tennis players are **required** to claim their profile in the Universal Tennis Rating (UTR) system prior to the season. Coaches/schools are also required to claim their teams and update their rosters. This provides NYSPHSAA and member sections a comprehensive system to properly seed its tournaments..
2. Coaches will be **required** to report scores using the UTR website as our official score reporting site. This is free and step by step instructions will be given. The UTR is the most important number when it comes to seeding players at the State level and for many sections, at the section level as well.
3. We will hold our Section 6 individual tournament at the Lakewood YMCA. The club has already committed to hosting the event and has agreed to the proposed tentative start times. They have agreed to 5 courts on Friday and 4 courts on Saturday.
4. Section VI will be hosting the Section VI vs. Section V Regional matches this year on the week of **October 21st and a location to be determined as well as times.**
5. The Individual State tournament will be held **Monday October 28th to Wednesday October 30th**, at the **USTA National Tennis Center in Flushing, NY**. I am awaiting more info to confirm on a block of 10 rooms

at a host hotel.

6. The transportation/meal/hotel policy has worked out very well for years now and I would again recommend continuing with this policy.
7. The State committee seeding meeting at the State Tournament will be held on **Sunday October 27th**.

Respectfully submitted 2/26/2024

Kristin Janese, Section VI Girls Tennis Sportchair



**PRE-SEASON REPORT
GIRLS GYMNASTICS 2024
Chairperson: Joe Buscaglia
March 2024**

Committee members (voting*)

The Girls Gymnastics Committee consists of one representative from each of the 9 participating schools. Each representative has one vote.

Chairperson: Joe Buscaglia
(C) 716-228-0340 (W) 716-210-2386
jbuscaglia@starpointcsd.org

Coach: Williamsville East High School
Teacher: Starpoint High School

Division 1 Chair: Chris Watson
(C) 716-308-4814
cwatson@ktufsc.org

Teacher: Kenmore East/West High School

Division 2 Chair: Kathy Nardini
(C) 716-984-9847
knardini1055@gmail.com

Coach: Williamsville South High School

Committee meeting date(s)

August 2024 & November 2024

Recommendations for next season & proposed dates

PROPOSED DATES 2024

GYMNASTICS GIRLS Sportchair Joe Buscaglia (c) 228-0340 www.arbitersports.com			
Sectionals:	November 1, 2024	Lancaster HS 5pm	
States:	Feb. 28 – March 1, 2025	TBD	

Number of Schools Participating/Divisional Alignments -

9 Schools in the following 2 divisions.

Division I: Chris Watson

Frontier/Lake Shore

Hamburg

Lancaster

Orchard Park

Williamsville East

Division II: Kathy Nardini

Clarence

Maryvale

Williamsville North

Williamsville South/Amherst

Changes in Policy/Practice for the upcoming season

- **Sectional Championship Qualifying:**
Decrease the number of sectional qualifiers from top 50 to top 45. The top 45 scorers from each event will qualify for Sectionals.

Rule Changes for 2024

- None

Other Pertinent Data

- Judging: Chris Bagneschi- President of Judging Association and Assignor
(C) 716-622-8649 bagsie21@yahoo.com

Respectfully submitted 03/01/24

Joe Buscaglia

Section VI Girls Gymnastics Sportchair

APPENDIX F

Exchange Students

We request a review of the NYSPHSAA regulation regarding foreign exchange students. Alden had a student mired in a ruling on this last fall. The student had participated in a very recreation-level soccer program in her home country. She was staying with a district employee (who has hosted foreign exchange students in the past multiple times). Because of her connection with this teacher and NYSPHAA regulations, she was originally barred from competing at the JV level of soccer.

We believe that, at the lower levels of interscholastic sports (such as modified and JV) in which sectional or state titles are not awarded, school records are not kept, and scholarships are not earned, there was no reason why this young person with very limited recreational experience in the sport should have been restricted originally.

Again, Alden believes that the situations should be viewed on a case-by-case basis, with competitive advantages considered.