



## **ERIE COUNTY INTERSCHOLASTIC CONFERENCE**

355 Harlem Road • Building C, • West Seneca, NY 14224

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### **Agenda 9/15/20**

#### **Athletic Council**

##### **Roll Call:**

Absent: Doug Beetow, Dan Reiford

##### **President's Report:**

**Kiel Illg**

Kiel welcomed everyone back and introduced the Executive Committee. Welcomed newest members to the Executive Committee, Sean Croft (Superintendent Starpoint) and Tim Wiles (HS Principal Cleve Hill).

##### **Office Report**

**Mark DiFilippo**

Mark Presented the final spending summary for 2019-20 and the Treasurer's Report for July/August. We ended the year in good financial shape and used almost \$17,000 less of our Fund Balance than anticipated. He will provide a preliminary budget at the November meeting for 2021-22.

Fall schedules are completed and in the Arbiter. Games are scheduled on Columbus Days and Saturdays. Please note that beginning Oct 12<sup>th</sup> teams are permitted to go 7 Days in a row, but NOT before that date.

Winter schedules have not been touched and the office will work on those once fall gets going.

Field Hockey – At the pre-season meeting they mentioned that 2 adults needed to be at the table for all games. This is NOT the case. The 2 people DO NOT NEED TO BE ADULTS. Section VI is also asking for a waiver for only 1 person. More info will be provided by the Section office.

The ECIC will again pay for the NYSAAA dues. Please re-register or new ADs register online at [NYSAAA.org](http://NYSAAA.org) and let Mark know when you do that.

Dual sport Participation – The ECIC does allow for a student to participate in 2 sports per season. However, directors must fill out and send to Mark the dual sport form. Please note that the new Fall 2 season in March (Football/Volleyball/Cheer) is considered a separate season.

##### **Athletic Directors Report**

**Vinny Dell'Oso**

Vinny mentioned the AD's met twice during the summer months with hopes to stay ahead of the Covid situation and try to plan for the fall Return, but unfortunately did not have a lot of answers in July and August. The directors will continue to meet monthly and work together to get through this tough time together.

##### **Activity Board**

**Marisa Fallacaro-Dougherty**

Status of Fall ECIC Championships

Golf – Motion was made to move the ECIC golf championship to the spring. Fallacaro-Dougherty (Dell'Oso). Denied 13-11-4 Mark will work with Nate Leary Golf Chair to make sure all NYSDOH guidelines are met for a championship on 10/19. Site TBD

Tennis – will be held Oct 16/17 @ Miller Tennis. Spectators will not be allowed. Mark will work with Tennis chair Paul Biddle to assure NYSDOH guidelines are met.

Cross Country – Alden and East Aurora can not host as previously anticipated. No championship will be held unless a site or two can be determined by the October Directors meeting. Still concern as to how to split the numbers.

Swimming- At this point, there will be no ECIC Girls Swim Championship. Some discussion of possibly holding a virtual ECIC Championship. More discussion to follow in October in terms of logistics for that.

Cheerleading – There will be no Fall ECIC Cheer competition.

Fall modified sports -

### Old Business

Fall sports start date 9/21 – Soccer, Cross Country, Golf, Girls Tennis, Field Hockey, Girls Swimming

Please share with your coaches. Links were sent to AD's

ECIC Golf Coaches meeting via webex 9/15 3:45 PM

Modified coaches meetings all via webex

Field Hockey 9/16 6:00 PM

B & G Soccer 9/17 5:00 PM

Cross Country 9/17 7:00 PM

### New Business

**Action Item – Niagara Wheatfield would like to participate in modified B&G Soccer and Cross country this fall.**

Return to Athletics discussions -

Swimming

rt specific concerns/protocols

Soccer

Field Hockey

Cross Country -

Golf

Tennis

League vs Section vs School mandates/procedures

Spectator management/supervision

Screening protocols

Transportation issues

Other concerns that need to be addressed

Section VI/NYSPHSAA

Marisa Fallacaro-Dougherty

Vinny Dell'Oso/Dave Hack

Provide direction on the following Section VI/NYSPHSAA Action Items

1. *Approval of the recommendation of the Section VI Charter School and Boys' Basketball Committees to place Health Sciences Charter School Boys Basketball in Class AA for the 2020-2021 Winter Season*
2. *To support to Tennis Team Championship Proposal* **Appendix A**
3. *To support to utilize NCAA Rule for two libero system in Boys Volleyball* **Appendix B**
4. *To support Girls and Boys Volleyball waiver.* **Appendix C**
5. *To support Gymnastics values in uneven bars* **Appendix D**
6. *To support permanently adopting the 2018 pilot scoring format for the NYSPHSAA Competitive Cheerleading Championships* **Appendix E**
7. *To support modifications to the State Scoresheet for Competitive Cheerleading* **Appendix F**
  
8. *To support Game Day Cheer Regional Competitions in the fall Of 2021* **Appendix G**
9. *To support approving sites to host Boys Ice Hockey regional contests* **Appendix H**
10. *To support 2-year wrestling pilot program for At-Large bids* **Appendix I**

## **Good of the Order**

Next Athletic Council Meeting November 10

## **Appendix A**

### **BOYS AND GIRLS TENNIS– ADOPT A TEAM STATE CHAMPIONSHIP**

**Proposal:** The NYSPHSAA Boys and Girls Tennis State Committees seek approval to adopt the NYSPHSAA Girls and Boys Tennis State Team Championship in addition to the state (individual) championship format already in place. The team championship shall consist of NYSPHSAA Section Teams to compete in two separate regional division championships, Division I (school enrollment of 600 and above) and Division II (school enrollment of 599 and below). Regional champions shall qualify for the NYSPHSAA Tennis State Team Championship scheduled as a one-day championship.

*The current championship format of the NYSPHSAA Boys and Girls Tennis State Championships consists of 96 individuals who are NYSPHSAA Section participants, from NYSPHSAA member schools only, who place 1st-3rd in singles or doubles including a rotation of additional participants filling the byes. This represents approximately 1.6% and 1.5% participation for girls and boys in the championship event, falling short of the minimum participation standard of 5%.*

**Effective Start Date:** (Fall 2021-Girls/Spring 2022-Boys) The NYSPHSAA Girls and Boys Tennis State Team Championships shall be scheduled one week following the individual state championship using the 7-year calendar (week # 17 and week # 48, respectively). The proposed schedule is as follows: Girls: Team Regional Finals-Sat. of Week #16; Team Semis & Finals-Sat. of Week #18; \*Individual Championships-Week #17 Boys: Team Regional Finals-Sat. of Week #47; Team Semis & Finals-Sat. of Week #49; \*Individual Championships-Week #48

**Rationale:** Establishing a NYSPHSAA Tennis State Team Championship, and keeping the individual championship, will provide equity among NYSPHSAA sports because it will increase opportunities for tennis athletes. There are more than 12,000 athletes who participate in high school tennis in NYS each year. As research shows, when linked to participation in HS sports, increased opportunities provide academic success, less discipline problems, better school attendance, and increased college scholarships with the team experience. The proposed championship would increase that experience to 4.3% for girls and 4.1% for boys teams, and would more closely meet the 5% participation standard.

The proposed team format will greatly increase the participation rates at both the state championship and sectional level, and will be more equitable in providing the same opportunities to NYSPHSAA tennis student athletes as those afforded to other NYSPHSAA student-athletes. Currently, 35 states (out of 41 surveyed) across the country county have traditional team championships with 4 of those states counting points of the individuals participating, not using a true team format.

**DATE REVISED: June 6, 2020**

**Proposal Originated:** NYSPHSAA Boys & Girls Tennis Committee joint meeting on December 9, 2019. A sub-committee was formed in April 2019 and met numerous times before both state committees met to review and vote on the proposal.

**Budget Impact:** To better understand the budgetary impact of this proposal, the current state championship expenses are described below in addition to the proposed expenses for the team state championship.

**Current Budget-NYSPHSAA Girls and Boys Individual Tennis Championships:** -NYSPHSAA currently budgets championship items for 96 athletes at each of the NYSPHSAA Girls and Boys Individual Tennis Championship. Items include 96 certificates; badges & lanyards for participants, coaches, section coordinators, officials and tournament staff; 24 medal awards (1st - 8th place for Girls) and 15 medal awards (1st – 4th place for Boys and 1st place for Boys Consolation Singles and Doubles); 3 champion shirts each for Girls and Boys singles and doubles champions; sportsmanship shirts (9-Girls, 10-Boys); officiating fees; sport coordinator expenses; venue fees; tennis balls. –

NYSPHSAA Sections currently budget for sectional medals/awards for individual competition, sectional team competition (determined by section), section sport coordinator expenses for sectional and state competition, officiating at sectional events, and venue fees for sectional competition, if any. -NYSPHSAA High Schools currently budget for regular & post season expenses of athletes and coaches which includes uniforms, equipment, league, section and state event transportation, lodging (currently \$119.00/night per person), meals, if needed for the 3-day state championship event.

**Proposed Budget-(NYSPHSAA Girls and Boys Tennis Team Championships):** -The proposed Team Championship for Girls and Boys Tennis, scheduled separately, will have a budgetary impact for NYSPHSAA. NYSPHSAA will be required to budget for a final four Tennis Team Championship. Sections shall be authorized a maximum of 15 participants in Division I and 12 participants in Division 2 per team. Budget items in a 2-division championship: 108 certificates, badges & lanyards; additional badges & lanyards for coaches, section coordinators, officials, and other tournament staff, 54 total medal awards (1st – 2nd place), 27 champion shirts (1st place only), 2 champion boards/brackets, 8 sportsmanship shirts (1 athlete per semi-finalist team), 8 plaques (champions, finalists, semi-finalists), officiating fees, sport coordinator expenses, venue fees, tennis balls. –

NYSPHSAA Sections will have a budgetary impact for: Sectional medals/awards for teams which qualify for regional competition (as determined by section), sport coordinator expenses for sectional, regional and state competition, officiating at sectional events, sectional/regional venue fees (determined by section).

NYSPHSAA high schools will have a budgetary impact for teams qualifying to compete in Sectional, Regional or State Team Championship contests. This budget may include: team transportation expenses for intersectional, regional and state contests, expenses for meals and team lodging traveling to the state venue for a one-day championship (lodging is approximately \$119.00/night per person). Regions with more than two sections will be scheduled for more than one regional contest which would be scheduled during the week.

**Attachments/Notes** Girls and Boys Tennis have requested a change in their designation from “individual” sport to “individual/team” sport to the Championship Philosophy Committee.

**Qualifiers & Format of Team Championship:** Each section will qualify two teams, Division I (enrollment of 600 and above) and Division II (enrollment of 599 and below). Division I and Division II champions from each section shall advance to the regional championship. Regional champions shall compete in their division at the state championship. All Sectional team participants are expected to submit a Commitment to Compete document in order to compete. Each girls Division 1 regional and state team contest shall consist of 11 participants using a line of 3 singles/4 doubles. Each girls Division 2 regional and state team contest shall consist of 7 participants using a lineup of 3 singles/2 doubles. Each boys Division 1 regional and state team contest shall consist of 10 participants using 4 singles/3 doubles. Each boys Division 2 regional and state team contest shall consist of 7 participants using 3 singles/2 doubles. All lineups are based on ethical rules (no stacking) and USTA Regulations. Schools competing at the state team championship must submit their rosters and all results of Sectional and Regional contests to the State Coordinator before the semifinals.

**Regional/Final Four Team Competition and Schedules:** Regional and State competition schedules and contests will be determined by the NYSPHSAA Tennis Committees.

For girls, Week #17 will continue to be designated for the NYSPHSAA Girls Tennis State (Individual) Championship. The Saturday of Week #18 shall be designated for the NYSPHSAA Girls Tennis Team State Semis & Finals. The Saturday of Week #16 shall be designated for the NYSPHSAA Girls Team Regional Finals.

For boys, Week #48 will continue to be designated for the NYSPHSAA Boys Tennis State (Individual) Championship. The Saturday of Week #49 shall be designated for the NYSPHSAA Boys Tennis Team State Semis & Finals. The Saturday of Week #47 shall be designated for the NYSPHSAA Boys Tennis Team Regional Finals.

All Regional and State contests will be supervised by NYSPHSAA Sectional Committee member(s) and USTA officials. Changes may be necessary in case of inclement weather.

Proposed Regions for 2021-2022: North Sections: II, III, VII\*, (X\*\*) South Sections: VIII, XI West Sections: V, VI East Sections: I, IV, IX

Traditional Sub-Regional Rotations for Semi-Finals may be used as in other sports as Section X\*\* does not participate in Girls/Boys Tennis while Section VII\*\* does not participate in Girls Tennis. Committee will set up the rotations.

Venues: Regional and Final Four venues for the NYSPHSAA Girls and Boys Tennis Team State Championships will be determined by the NYSPHSAA Girls and Boys Tennis Sectional Committees, respectively. The Final Four of the NYSPHSAA Girls and Boys Tennis State Team Championships will be completed in two rounds for Girls and Boys Divisions 1 and 2. For Division 1, there will be a total of 42 matches in 6 contests. For Division 2, there will be a total of 30 matches in 6 contests. Semi-final round winners will advance to the finals. Rest periods for singles and doubles matches will be followed according to USTA Regulations when multiple matches are scheduled on the same day.

**Scoring:** Regular Scoring (best 2 of 3 tie-break sets and 12-pt tie-break at 6-6 in any set) shall be used for each contest. The Tournament Committee may opt to use modified scoring (ex. best 2 of 3 tie-break sets and 12-pt tie-break at 6-6 with a 10-pt tie-break in lieu of a 3rd set), due to inclement weather. Contest winners shall be teams accumulating a minimum of 3 of the 5 matches. Order of play shall be 1st, 2nd and 3rd singles, etc. followed by 1st and 2nd doubles, etc.

**Awards:** Certificates for Regionals, Semi-Finalists and Finals will be distributed. Championship t-shirts and 1st Place medals will be awarded to team champions in each division and 2nd place medals will be awarded to the finalists. Team plaques will be awarded to team champions, finalists and semi-finalists in each division. Sportsmanship shirts will be awarded to one athlete from each Regional Championship Team. NYSPHSAA will also provide State Championship Final Four Bracket Boards and Champion boards to the winners.

**Equipment:** Tennis balls will be provided by NYSPHSAA for the Final Four Tennis State Team Championship in each division.

**Staff/Officials:** NYSPHSAA Staff and USTA officials will be on site at the Final Four State Tennis Team Championship to oversee and officiate the event.

## Appendix B

BOYS VOLLEYBALL – Allow the use of 2 Libero Players

**Proposal:** The NYSPHSAA Boys Volleyball Committee is seeking approval to add a NYSPHSAA rule to the handbook under 23.08 to allow teams to use 2 liberos during a match with the following stipulations:

1. The team must designate at the beginning of the match if they are using 2 liberos. The team can only use those two designated players as liberos for the entire match. Teams will follow the NCAA rules when using one libero.
2. Only one libero can serve during the set.
3. Only one libero may be on the court at any time.
4. The libero may be designated as a captain.
5. The replacement player may replace and be replaced by either libero.
6. The acting libero can only be replaced by the player whom he replaced (for that position) or by the second libero.
7. If one libero cannot continue to play due to injury or illness the team will play the rest of the match with one libero. If the remaining libero cannot continue to play due to injury or illness the libero may be replaced.
8. If one libero is disqualified due to unsportsmanlike behavior the team will continue the set without the use of any liberos. The second libero may be used in the subsequent sets.

**Effective Start Date:** Fall 2020 season

**Rationale:** The use of two liberos is a modification in NCAA Men's Volleyball and by USA Volleyball. The use of two liberos allows the opportunity for more players to participate during the match.

**Proposal Originated:** NYSPHSAA Boys Volleyball Committee in May 2020

**Budgetary Impact:** None

**Notes:** The Boys Volleyball Committee voted unanimously in favor of this recommendation

## Appendix C

GIRLS & BOYS VOLLEYBALL – Requesting Rule 9.2.4.3 to be Waived

**Proposal:** The Girls and Boys Volleyball Committees are seeking approval for Rule 9.2.4.3 to be waived. The current rule in the NCAA rules book (pg. 36) reads: The players then proceed in a counterclockwise direction along the sideline and directly to their new bench areas. Team members off the court change team benches immediately. The requested change would read: The players on the court will proceed to their current bench, collect their belongings and then proceed to their new bench areas immediately. Team members off the court change team benches immediately.

**Effective Start Date:** Fall 2020 season

**Rationale:** To allow the players to bring their own water bottles and other personal belongings to their new bench. Currently the players on the bench gather all players' items prior to changing courts. The players on the court are (currently) required to proceed to their new bench immediately.

**Proposal Originated:** NYSPHSAA Girls and Boys Volleyball Committee and Sally Wise (Official) May 2020

**Budgetary Impact:** None

**Notes:** The Girls and Boys Volleyball Committee voted unanimously in favor of this proposal during their committee video calls in May 2020

## Appendix D

### GIRLS GYMNASTICS – Adjust Value Parts for Uneven Bars

**Proposal:** The NYSPHSAA Girls Gymnastics Committee is seeking approval to add additional value parts for the Uneven Bars to the current NYSPHSAA Technical Handbook.

1. Pull over mount
2. Under Swing dismount off low bar
3. Swing ½ Turn dismount off high bar

**Effective Start Date:** Winter 2020-21 season

**Rationale:** The committee would like these value parts added to the Technical Handbook (official rulebook) so that the beginner gymnast can receive credit for additional value parts on the uneven bars. These skills are currently being performed with no value part credit.

**Proposal Originated:** NYSPHSAA Girls Gymnastics Committee on May 8, 2020



**Budgetary Impact:** None

**Notes:** The Girls Gymnastics Committee voted unanimously in favor of this recommendation

## Appendix E

COMPETITIVE CHEERLEADING – Make permanent the pilot for a structure, training and scoring of the NYSPHSAA State Championship

**Proposal:** The NYSPHSAA Cheer Committee is seeking approval to permanently adopt the 2018 pilot that established a structure, training and scoring format for the NYSPHSAA State Championship.

**Effective Start Date:** 2020-2021 season

**Rationale:** The two-year pilot proved to be successful and has helped the sport of Cheerleading progress in the right direction. This pilot provided a structure and a functioning format for the sport moving forward. It detailed format, training and scoring for the NYSPHSAA Championship in addition to providing the committee the use of Varsity Cheer as a consultant to help navigate the ever-changing rules of the Sport. Another benefit was a consistent set of trainings for both coaches and judges in the approved scoresheets used at the State competition. Extending the pilot would allow us to continue to work in an structured environment and use our Varsity Cheer consultants for additional trainings and advice on this sport. Continuation of the pilot would also allow the Committee to work on the second portion of the pilot of Game Day Cheer in an organized fashion.

**Proposal Originated:** NYSPHSAA Cheer Committee in May 2018 and was discussed to adopt the pilot permanently at the May 2020 video meeting.

**Budgetary Impact:** No change comparing the two pilot years. Currently, the budgetary impact is the continued support of the trainings which is split between all Sections. The training cost is minimal and Sections have been budgeting for that fee for the last several years.

**Notes:** The NYSPHSAA Cheer Committee voted unanimously in favor of this proposal at its May 2020 video call. There were no concerns from the CAC.

**Attachments:** Original proposal attached

## Appendix F

### COMPETITIVE CHEERLEADING – Modify Scoring Areas on the State Scoresheet

**Proposal:** The NYSPHSAA Cheer Committee is seeking approval to make slight modifications to the scoring areas of the State Scoresheet. The total points will not change however some are allocated to different areas.

**Effective Start Date:** 2020-2021 season

**Rationale:** Two areas have been a concern and problematic from both the coaches and judges standpoint. This feedback was evaluated and addressed by simply making two slight adjustments to the scoresheet. The adjustments address jumps, which were an issue the past two years. The adjustments also address the amount of points for the cheer portion of the routine. The concern was that the cheer portion was too high and a style preference could eliminate a team if scored on the extreme. The points removed from these two areas were then placed on execution. This resulted in two positive benefits; safety surrounding stunting and proper progression of skills being highlighted; and programs would not have to have super-elite skills in order to score well.

**Proposal Originated:** Based on feedback from coaches and judges, the NYSPHSAA Cheer Committee discussed this at the May 2020 video meeting. The original proposal was a joint effort of all Sectional Cheerleading Representatives. The subcommittee of the Cheerleading Committee has been collecting feedback over the last two seasons concerning the original work. The sub-committee met with Varsity Cheer consultants, reviewed the current scoresheet, and addressed the two main areas of concern noted. The changes were presented to the entire Cheerleading Committee and subsequently supported.

**Budgetary Impact:** None

**Notes:** The NYSPHSAA Cheer Committee voted unanimously in favor of this proposal at its May 2020 video call. There are were no concerns from the CAC.

**Attachments:** Original and Modified proposal attached

## Appendix G

### CHEERLEADING – Plan Game Day Cheer for Fall 2021

**Proposal:** The NYSPHSAA Cheer Committee is seeking approval to implement Game Day Cheer in the fall of 2021 held during week #17 on the NYSPHSAA calendar (originally proposed to implement in fall 2020).

**Effective Start Date:** Fall 2021

**Rationale:** Initially, Game Day Cheer was going to be introduced at the state level in the fall of 2020. There would be regional competitions in the East and West, similar to how Competitive Cheerleading was originally introduced at the state level. Currently, Sections have the ability to run Game Day competitions on their own. However, due to the impact of COVID-19 and the uncertainty of fall sports, the committee felt it would be best if we waited another year to introduce a state progression. This would also allow for more training of coaches and judges in this area as well as provide time for programs to determine what this fall will look like.

**Proposal Originated:** NYSPHSAA Cheer Committee discussed this initially in May 2019 and was hopeful to implement in Fall 2020. But determined at the May 2020 video meeting it was necessary to delay implementation.

**Budgetary Impact:** None

**Notes:** The NYSPHSAA Cheer Committee voted unanimously in favor of this proposal at its May 2020 video call. There were no concerns from CAC.

## Appendix H

### BOYS ICE HOCKEY – COMMITTEE ANNUALLY APPROVE REGIONAL

**Proposal:** The NYSPHSAA Boys Ice Hockey State Committee is seeking approval to be permitted to annually approve sites to host regional contests each year. The list of proposed regional sites would be generated by the Boys Ice Hockey Committee and presented to the Executive Committee every October (following their September committee meeting) for approval.

**Effective Start Date:** 2020-2021 season Rationale: Over the past several years there has been concerns and issues raised about the selection of regional sites. Among the issues are the size of venues not being large enough to hold spectators and venues lacking key amenities necessary for hosting a regional contest that the committee feels are critical in hosting regionals. Schools from the host section would prefer to play in their home arena or rink, which is permitted for regional contests. Section Coordinators have discussed numerous specifications that are necessary and acceptable to host. Each coordinator plans to provide a list of arenas and rinks that would be suitable to host a regional contest within their section, then the committee would discuss it.

**Proposal Originated:** Boys Ice Hockey Committee April 2020. The committee voted unanimously in favor of this proposal.

**Budgetary Impact:** It may increase rental cost to a Section if they cannot use a host school site

## Appendix I

WRESTLING – Implement Automatic Qualifier Procedure for State Tournament

**Proposal:** The NYSPHSAA Wrestling Committee is seeking approval of a two-year pilot program to change from the current At-Large Procedure for the NYSPHSAA Championship to an Automatic Qualifying Procedure (see attached document). Effective Start Date: 2020-2021 Season

**Rationale:** The current At-Large procedure used to complete the brackets is very cumbersome and time consuming. The process is based on student athletes obtaining championship points so that they can be invited to participate in the Wrestling Championship, if they did not win their Sectional Championship. The points are obtained by win-loss record, past Sectional and State place finishes, whom they beat during the season and where they finished during the current Sectional Championship. The current system creates an atmosphere where wrestlers tend to “chase” points and avoid matches that may hurt them at the end of the season. The Sectional Coordinators are responsible for collecting and submitting all of this information for the wrestlers in their Sections. The Automatic Qualifier would eliminate the point system and award invitation in the State Championship based on the outcome of the Sectional Championship. Each Section would send their Section Champion to the State Tournament (no change). The rest of the bracket would be filled by the 2nd and 3rd place finishers in the Section Championship.

**Proposal Originated:** NYSPHSAA Wrestling Committee April 2020

**Budgetary Impact:** If the “13 weight class” proposal is approved in July, this proposal would increase the number of students participating in the State Championship to 6.3%. Currently, the participation rate is 5.3%. If the “13 weight class” proposal is not approved in July, the Wrestling Committee has a similar proposal for using the Automatic Qualifier based on 15 weight classes. The NYSPHSAA Wrestling Committee voted 9-1-1 to move forward with this recommendation.

Attachments: See the attached Automatic Qualifier Procedure “Additional Information”

Notes: See CAC Meeting Report for discussion

WRESTLING – Implement Automatic Qualifier Procedure for State Tournament ADDITIONAL INFORMATION – Page 1 of 2

**Purpose:** The Automatic Qualifier Procedure is used to fill-in the bracket at the Wrestling State Championship Tournament.

**Eligible Wrestlers:** Only wrestlers that finish 1st, 2nd, or 3rd, in their Sectional Championship are eligible to be invited to the State Wrestling Championship.

**Section Champions:** All Sections will have the right to send a representative in each division to the State Championship as per the NYSPHSAA Philosophy.

**Section Qualifiers:** Sections will be ranked in order based on Power Points. The top two Sections in each division will be able to invite the 2nd and 3rd place finisher to the State Championship. The next 5 Sections will be able to invite their 2nd place finisher to the State Championship. The remaining Sections will only bring their Sections Champion or replacement to the State Championship.

**Ranking of Sections:** Sections will be ranked based on their Power Points earned over the past three State Championships. Power Points are based on the points accumulated at the State Championship by the Section Champion. By using the Section Champion this ensures that all Sections have an equal opportunity to earn Power Points. The three-year average is also used to get a more consistent total from the Section.

**Replacement of Wrestlers:** A wrestler must take 1st, 2nd, or 3rd place in their Sectional Tournament to be eligible to qualify for the state tournament (including qualifying for any replacements). Sections that qualify three wrestlers may not send a replacement wrestler (as no 4th place sectional finishers are permitted). Sections that qualify two wrestlers may send their 3rd place finisher if either of their 1st or 2nd place finishers scratch. Sections that qualify one wrestler may replace their wrestler with the either their 2nd or 3rd place finisher. Anytime a section cannot send a wrestler they shall be replaced, by weight class, on a rotating basis with the next available section on the points chart. No replacements may be made after noon on Wednesday.

**Deadline for Entries:** Each Section will submit their entries into the tournament by noon on the Wednesday prior to the NYSPHSAA seeding meeting. No replacements will be allowed after the deadline.