



**Athletic Council Meeting  
March 24, 2021  
Minutes**

**HIGHLIGHTS**

- 3.1 **CARRIED:** January 20, 2021 Athletic Council meeting minutes
- 4.1 **CARRIED:** Fall 2020 (now Fall Season 2 / 2021) Independent Team Status for Eden Girls Volleyball and City Honors Girls Volleyball
- 4.4 **CARRIED:** Section VI Executive Director as NYSPHSAA Proxy
- 5.1 **CARRIED:** Combining of Schools applications, numbers (1) through (44)
- 5.2 **CARRIED:** Demerge Tennis B/G MEC, Research Lab (both now stand-alone teams)
- 6.3.1 **CARRIED:** Treasurer's Report (Appendix B)
- 6.7 **CARRIED:** Remove the 4 action items under Male/Female Rep. as review is needed by member leagues in advance of a vote.
- 6.13.1 **CARRIED:** Jeff Roth (Wilson CSD) as Male Representative for the July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2026 term. \*The incumbent will shadow current Male Representative J. Graczyk during the last year of his term (July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022) and assume the role beginning July 1, 2022.
- 10.3 **CARRIED:** Fall 2021 pre-season reports

**ATTENDANCE (Voting Members - \*) Absent Alternate Present**

<b>Executive Committee</b>		<b>Committee Chairpersons</b>		<b>Guests</b>
President*	Brett Banker	Chemical Awareness	John Grzymala	Robert Zayas
President-Elect*	Maureen Donahue	Extended Eligibility	Mark DiFilippo	Joe Altieri
Superintendents' Rep.*	Jeff Rabey	Finance	Steve Penhollow	Todd Nelson
Principals' Rep.*	Al Gens	Male Modified	<b>Matt Librock</b>	Marc LaMorticella
Male Rep.*	Jim Graczyk	Female Modified	Julie Arnold	Pat Burke
Female Rep.*	Marisa Fallacaro-Dougherty	Nominations	Maureen Donahue	Casey Kacz (Cross Training)
Past President	Adam Stoltman	NYSAAA	Jeff Roth	
Executive Director	Mark DiFilippo	Policy Handbook	Marisa Fallacaro-Dougherty	
Treasurer	Don Scholla	Safety	Brian Wild	
		Sectional Intersectional	Mark DiFilippo	
		Sportsmanship	Doug Ames/Jim Graczyk	
		Transfer	Mark DiFilippo	
		Veterans	Jim Trampert	
		Hall of Fame	<b>Jim Dunnigan</b>	
		Combining of Schools	Jeff Rabey	

<b>League</b>	<b>Representative</b>	<b>Alternate</b>
<b>BUFFALO</b>		
Superintendents Rep./AD*	Cecelie Owens	TBD - New Associate Supt. for Strategic Alignment and Innovation
Principals' Rep.*	Carlos Alvarez	Jody Covington, Performing Arts
Female Rep.*	Michael House	Syble Smith (McKinley, Head Volleyball & Swim Coach)
Male Rep.*	Steve McDuffie	David Kelly (Olmsted, Head Golf, Swim & Tennis Coach)

**CHAUTAQUA CATTARAUGUS ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION (CCAA)**

Superintendents' Rep.*	Steve Penhollow, Falconer	TBA
Principals' Rep.*	Jason Halpainy, Randolph	TBA
Female Rep.*	Carol Zirkle, Fredonia	Kevin Salisbury, Southwestern
Male Rep.*	<b>Rick DeKay, Retired</b>	<b>Kevin Salisbury, Southwestern</b>

**ERIE COUNTY INTERSCHOLASTIC CONFERENCE (ECIC)**

Superintendents' Rep.*	<b>Sean Croft, Starpoint</b>	Jeff Rabey, Depew
Principals' Rep.*	<b>Tim Wiles, Cleveland Hill</b>	Steve Smith, Alden
Female Rep.*	Vinny Dell'Oso, Starpoint	Daryl Besant, Lake Shore
Male Rep.*	Dave Hack, Orchard Park	Rich Gray, Frontier

**NIAGARA FRONTIER LEAGUE (NFL)**

Superintendents' Rep.*	Paul Casseri, Lew-Port	Dan Ljiljanich, Niagara Wheatfield
Principals' Rep.*	<b>Chris Ginestre, Franklin Middle</b>	<b>Mike Lauria</b>
Female Rep.*	Jon Roth, Grand Island	Lindsay Bergman, CSAT
Male Rep.*	Todd Sukdolak, Lockport	Lindsay Bergman, CSAT

**NIAGARA ORLEANS LEAGUE (NO)**

Superintendents' Rep.*	<b>Jacob Reimer, Barker</b>	Mark Kruzynski, Medina
Principals' Rep.*	Dan Bedette, Newfane	Steve Dimitroff, Akron
Female Rep.*	Jeff Roth, Wilson	Adam Krenning, Albion
Male Rep.*	John Grzymala, Roy-Hart	Eric Valley, Medina

**SUPERINTENDENT REPRESENTATION (BOCES)**

Erie 1 BOCES*	Jon MacSwan, Cleveland Hill	TBA
Erie 2 BOCES*	Mike Ginestre, Sherman	TBA
ON BOCES*	Michelle Bradley, Lockport	TBA
CA BOCES*	<b>Robert Breidenstein, Salamanca</b>	TBA



**Athletic Council Meeting**  
**March 24, 2021**  
**Minutes**

**1.0 CALL TO ORDER** (Brett Banker)

Commenced: 11:38am

1.1 Pledge of Allegiance

**2.0 INTRODUCTIONS & AWARD PRESENTATIONS** (Brett Banker)

2.1 Luncheon Sponsor – Cross Training Athletics (Casey Kacz)

**3.0 MINUTES** (Brett Banker)

3.1 ***Motion to approve the January 20, 2021 Athletic Council meeting minutes***

**CARRIED**

**Owens/House**

**4.0 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT** (Mark DiFilippo)

4.1 ***Motion to approve the Fall 2020 (now Fall Season 2 / 2021) Independent Team Status for Eden Girls Volleyball and City Honors Girls Volleyball***

**CARRIED**

**Ginestre/Lauria**

Per Section 170, Independent Status, of the Section VI Policy Manual, *a school must request approval of a team's independent status from the Athletic Council on an annual basis.* Approval of independent status must be approved at the league level prior to requesting approval at the Section level.

The council was asked to remind their respective leagues that Fall 2021 independent status teams must be acted on at the May 2021 athletic council meeting. The Section office must be notified of an independent status team by May 4.

4.2 Friends and Neighbors

On March 10, 2021, Northern Chautauqua Catholic School (NCCS), knowingly played 6th graders against Fredonia's modified boys basketball team. In addition, they played the same 6th graders against Dunkirk earlier in the week. In response, Robert Zayas, NYSPHSAA Executive Director, sent a letter to Luke Gullo, NCCS Athletic Director, indicating that their activities clearly violate New York State Education Department (NYSED) and NYSPHSAA regulations. Dr. Zayas further stressed that it is imperative Northern Chautauqua Catholic School immediately abide by all rules and regulations of NYSPHSAA and NYSED to avoid jeopardizing their NYSPHSAA Friend & Neighbor status.

NCCS status as a "friend and neighbor" of Section VI will be up for a 2-year approval at the May 2021 Athletic Council meeting.

4.3 Return to Interscholastic Sports Guidelines

The guidelines are posted on the NYSPHSAA website and are updated for fall 2 and spring season sports.

4.4 ***Motion to approve the Section VI Executive Director as NYSPHSAA Proxy***

**CARRIED**

**Graczyk/Rabey**

This morning, the Executive Committee decided to replace "Mark DiFilippo" with "Section VI Executive Director" as historically the Executive Director is approved and acts as proxy on behalf of Section VI at NYSPHSAA meetings.

#### 4.5 Fall 2 Spectators (R. Zayas)

The guidance states that indoor capacity limited to no more than 50% and no more than 2 spectators per player, not participant. A participant could be categorized as a coach, asst coach etc. Outdoor capacity is absent from the guidelines. The guidance is what is permitted, but ultimately it is up to the school district, which has the authority to be more restrictive.

#### 4.6 Cheer, Track & Wrestling Sectional Events

##### Cheerleading

- 4 host sites (Lockport, Amherst, Iroquois, West Seneca West) are secured for sectional events. Competition will be based on BEDS classification this year. Only 1 team will be allowed in each building at a time. The cheerleading coaches voted and approved to eliminate stunting from the rubric and the score card. This Does not mean that participants cannot stunt, it is just not a requirement to score.

##### Wrestling

- All counties except Erie, which has yet to respond, are in support of moving forward with the sport of Wrestling for the spring 2021 season. The start date is scheduled for May 3<sup>rd</sup>.

##### Wrestling and Track

- Culminating event – both sports are interested in conducting a class and individual tournaments, which is what was done in the past. For this to occur, multiple sites, 6 to 8 schools, are needed to host. M. DiFilippo was directed to ask the Track and Wrestling chairpersons to generate multiple plans, of which the final decision will be made based upon the circumstances as the season approaches.

#### 4.7 Spring Sectionals

- M. DiFilippo will survey member schools regarding their graduation date and corresponding rain dates as sectionals are scheduled during the week of June 21<sup>st</sup> (graduation week).
- Regents exams are scheduled as follows: (all mornings) June 17<sup>th</sup> – ELA; June 22<sup>nd</sup> – Living Environment; June 23<sup>rd</sup> – Algebra; June 24<sup>th</sup> – Earth Science. Scheduling Track and Tennis sectionals at a 2pm or later start is possible on these dates.
- Baseball, Softball, and Girls Lacrosse plan to move forward with a top 8 format for the spring 2021 season.
- Since they do not play in a league, play within their classification, and have less than 8 teams in some classifications, Boys Lacrosse plans to use a 500 record for the spring 2021 season.

#### 4.8 Combining of Schools #7, #8, & #27

#7 – Maple Grove has been added to the already approved (2021 February Exec Comm) Westfield, Brocton, and Chautauqua Lake varsity and JV combined team. K. Stoldt, Football Chairman, is in support of the combination. With the addition of Maple Grove, the team is listed in Class B.

#8 – Was previously approved; the request is to add 7/8/9

#27 – The numbers were calculated after the Executive Committee meeting and resulted in a B classification.

#### 4.9 Recognition of Award Winners

The 2020 Chapter 6 NYSAAA award recipients along with the NFHS Section VI Coaches Award recipients are tentatively scheduled for recognition at the May 2021 Athletic Council meeting.

### 5.0 COMMUNICATIONS (Mark DiFilippo)

#### 5.1 *Motion to approve of Combining of Schools applications, numbers (1) through (44)*

**CARRIED**

**Rabey/Sukdolak**

##### 2020 FALL 2

1. Volleyball G, **MEC**, Bennett, Research Lab, Alt Ed, V, 753 A

##### 2021 SPRING

2. Baseball **MST**, East Community & Pathways, V, 828 A
3. Lax G **Salamanca**, Randolph, V, 299D
4. Softball **MST**, East Community & Pathways, V, 829 A
5. Track B/G **East Community**, Pathways, V, 448 D2

6. Track B/G **Emerson**, Buffalo Culinary Arts, V, 495 D2

## 2021 FALL

7. **PENDING APPLICATION** approved Feb 2021 Exec Football, **Chaut. Lake**, Westfield, Brocton, - adding Maple Grove, V, JV, 608B
8. Football, **Falconer**, Cassadaga Valley, V ADD 7/8/9, 330 C
9. Cheer, **Bennett**, MEC, East, Riverside, MST, Research L, Olmsted, Alt 131, Pathways, V, 2003
10. Cheer, **Burgard**, Performing Arts, V, 543
11. Cheer, **East Aurora**, Holland, V, 563
12. Cheer, **Hutch Tech**, Emerson, Bflo Culinary, City Honors, DaVinci, Laf, IPrep, V, 3001
13. Cross Country BG, **Bennett**, Alt Academy, V, 296 C
14. Cross Country BG, **Buffalo Culinary**, Emerson, V, 436C
15. Cross Country BG, **East Community**, Pathways, V, 434 C
16. Cross Country BG, **Falconer**, Cassadaga Valley, V, 7/8/9, 351 B
17. Cross Country BG, **Franklinville**, Ellicottville, V, 7/8, 168 D
18. Cross Country BG, **Medina**, Lyndonville, V, 363 C
19. Cross Country BG, **Panama**, Clymer, Sherman, V, 7/8/9, 147 D
20. Cross Country BG, **Pioneer**, Holland, V, 559 B
21. Golf B, **East Aurora**, Holland, V, 563
22. Soccer B, **Burgard**, Bflo Performing Arts, V, 746 A
23. Soccer B, **Cassadaga Valley**, Falconer, V, JV, 7/8/9, 351 B
24. Soccer B, **East Community**, Pathways, V, 448 B
25. Soccer B, **Medina**, Lyndonville, V, 378 B
26. Soccer B, **Salamanca**, Cattaraugus Little Valley, V, 343 B
27. Soccer B, **Tapestry**, Health Science, V, 395 B
28. Soccer BG, **Bennett**, Alt Acad, V, 305 B
29. Soccer BG, **Emerson**, Bflo Culinary Arts, V, 608 A
30. Soccer BG, **Pine Valley**, Gowanda, V, 275 B
31. Soccer G, **Falconer**, Cassadaga Valley, V, 7/8/9, 351 B
32. Soccer G, **MEC**, Research Lab, V, 372 B
33. Soccer G, **Performing Arts**, Riverside, V, 437 B
34. Swim G, **Frewsburg**, Falconer, V, 349
35. Swim G, **Gowanda**, Pine Valley, V, 7/8/9, 288
36. Swim G, **Panama**, Maple Grove, Clymer, V, 234
37. Swim G, **Olean**, Portville, Franklinville, V, 630
38. Tennis G, **Olean**, Portville, V, 578
39. Volleyball B, **East Aurora**, Holland, V, JV, 563 D2
40. Volleyball B, **Eden**, North Collins, V & JV, 7/8, 363 D2
41. Volleyball B, **Holland**, East Aurora, 7/8/9th, 563 D2
42. Volleyball G, **Bennett**, Alt Acad, V, 296 C
43. Volleyball G, **Buffalo Culinary**, Emerson, V, 436 B
44. Volleyball G, **East Community**, Pathways, V, 434 B

### 5.2 Motion to demerge Tennis B/G **MEC**, Research Lab (both now stand-alone teams)

**CARRIED**

**McDuffie/MacSwan**

## 6.0 STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

### 6.1 Combining of Schools Committee (Jeff Rabey)

*Nothing to report*

### 6.2 Charter Schools Classification Committee (Jeff Rabey)

*Nothing to report*

6.3 Finance Committee (Don Scholla)

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

**CARRIED**

**Penhollow/Salisbury**

6.4 Sectional/Intersectional Committee (Mark DiFilippo)

*Nothing to report*

6.5 Safety (Brian Wild)

*Nothing to report*

6.6 Modified Report (Matt Librock & Julie Arnold)

The Section VI Modified Committee met this morning where Input from each of the leagues representatives this morning. J. Arnold is scheduled to attend the state meeting this Friday, March 26.

6.7 State Executive Committee /Central Committee

a) Superintendent (Jeff Rabey)

*Nothing to report*

b) Principal (Al Gens)

*Nothing to report*

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

The following actions items are to provide J. Graczyk, Male Representative, and M. Fallacaro-Dougherty, Female Representative, direction on how to vote at the May 2021 NYSPHSAA Executive Committee meeting. (Appendix B)

1) Handbook Committee- Annually Report Combining of Teams to NYSPHSAA Staff

**ACTION ITEM:** Direct J. Graczyk, Male Representative, and M. Fallacaro-Dougherty, Female Representative, to support changing #2, under "Combining of Teams" to "Section approval must be reported annually to the NYSPHSAA Staff."

2) Handbook Committee - Annually Report Senior All-Star Contests to NYSPHSAA Staff

**ACTION ITEM:** Direct J. Graczyk, Male Representative, and M. Fallacaro-Dougherty, Female Representative, to support changing letter a, under "Senior All-Star Contest" to "These contests must be approved first by the Section in which the contest is to be held and reported annually to the NYSPHSAA Staff".

3) Modify State Sport Coordinator Selection Process

**ACTION ITEM:** Direct J. Graczyk, Male Representative, and M. Fallacaro-Dougherty, Female Representative, to support modifying the selection process for State Sport Coordinator.

4) Private Schools within Public School District Boundaries

**ACTION ITEM:** Direct J. Graczyk, Male Representative, and M. Fallacaro-Dougherty, Female Representative, to support eliminating "or a private school within that district's boundaries" from the NYSPHSAA Transfer Rule.

**Motion to remove the 4 action items under Male/Female Rep. as review is needed by member leagues in advance of a vote.**

**CARRIED**

**Arnold/MacSwan**

The following item was approved at the February 2021 NYSPHSAA Executive Committee meeting (Appendix C):

•Baseball-Eliminate NYSPHSAA P/DH Rule; Utilize NFHS P/DH Rule  
Eliminate the NYSPHSAA Pitcher/Designated Hitter Rule (#11 ) and utilize the NFHS Player/Designated Hitter Rule.

## 6.8 Extended Eligibility (Mark DiFilippo)

*Nothing to report*

## 6.9 Chemical Awareness (John Grzymala)

### 6.9.1 March 5<sup>th</sup> NYSPHSAA Student Leadership Conference

### 6.9.2 SACC Applications

- Deadline – May 10<sup>th</sup>
- Open Position – Section VI Male Rep. (2yrs/Junior); applications on NYSPHSAA website or contact J. Grzymala

### 6.9.3 NEW NYSPHSAA Scholar-Athlete Deadline Dates (Winter 2021, Fall Season II 2021, Spring 2021)

## 6.10 Transfer/Foreign Student (Mark DiFilippo)

### 6.10.1 Reports were emailed to the Executive Committee

### 6.10.2 Appeal

The Executive Committee upheld the decision to deny a student-athlete eligibility.

### 6.10.3 Violation

The Executive Committee made a decision regarding a recent violation, which stemmed from a subsequent discovery of an illegitimate transfer.

## 6.11 Sportsmanship (Jim Graczyk & Doug Ames)

### 6.11.1 Sportsmanship Promotion Survey

The deadline to submit is Monday, April 12, 2021.

<http://nysphsaa.org/ADs-Coaches/Submit-Information-Online/Sportsmanship-Promotion-Survey>

### 6.11.2 Coaches Nominations

Council members were asked to remind their respective leagues to submit their 2021 coaches award nominations.

## 6.11 Veterans (Jim Trampert)

### 6.11.1 Veterans Dinner & Optional Golf Outing Update

## 6.12 Mixed Competition (Al Gens)

*Further information will be provided when available.*

## 6.13 Nominations (Maureen Donahue)

### 6.13.1 ***Motion to approve of Jeff Roth (Wilson CSD) as Male Representative for the July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2026 term. \*The incumbent will shadow current Male Representative J. Graczyk during the last year of his term (July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022) and assume the role beginning July 1, 2022.***

**CARRIED**

**Jon Roth/Dan Bedette**

## 6.14 Corporate Partner (Mark DiFilippo)

### 6.14.1 Spalding Contract Extension

The Spalding contract was extended for another 3 years. The council was asked to remind their respective leagues that the Spalding ball must be used for basketball semi-finals and finals.

### 6.14.2 NFHS Network

The council was reminded that the NFHS has the right to broadcast sectional events. Member schools are not permitted to broadcast without obtaining permission from the NFHS first.

### 6.14.3 Pandemic Consequences

Some corporate partners expressed concerns about Section VI not being able to fulfill their portion of their sponsorship agreement (programs, announcements during games, etc.). M. DiFilippo is addressing the situation by finding alternate ways of advertising Section VI's sponsors (Executive Director Monthly report, etc.)

### 6.15 Hall of Fame (Jim Dunnigan)

2021 Nominations are due the Section VI office by May 12, 2021.

### 6.16 Unified Sports (Doug Ames)

#### 6.16.1 Status of the Current Unified Bowling Season

- Unified Bowling final matches are scheduled for March 24 and March 25.
- Participation numbers are up this year, 482, compared to a little over 300 last year.
- All 22 schools currently participating in the culminating event are eligible to receive awards.

#### 6.16.2 Unified Basketball

- 30 member schools are scheduled to participate in the 2021 season. Each school will be scheduled for 5 or 6 games.
- May 3<sup>rd</sup> - start date with the option to start on May 10.
- 6 practices are required for eligibility to scrimmage on May 18; contests start May 20; playoffs begin June 9<sup>th</sup>; higher seed to host.

#### 6.16.3 NYS Unified Sports State Meeting Review

Participation numbers are down and being attributed to the circumstances surrounding covid. It's anticipated that teams will return in the future.

## 7.0 SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

### 7.1 All WNY Scholar Athlete (Jeff Roth)

#### 7.1.1 Winter Athletes - Open until 4/11/2021

### 7.2 Charter Schools (Mark DiFilippo)

#### 7.2.1 Classifications

M. DiFilippo recommended a review of charter school classifications for the future as concern was expressed over equitability. For example, Health Sciences was classified as AA for 2021. However, they did not have an opportunity to win AA points or seeding.

## 8.0 STATE & SECTION SPORT COMMITTEE REPORTS

### 8.1 NYSPHSAA Boys & Girls Soccer Committee Meeting, February 12, 2021 (Appendix C)

## 9.0 GUEST REPORTS

### 9.1 NYSPHSAA Report (Robert Zayas)

- Athletic Director workshops are tentatively scheduled for in-person. Section VI is scheduled for August 18, 2021.
- NYSPHSAA is planning to host all 2021-2022 state championships.
- As a result of concerns expressed by Section IX and Section III, an outlaw committee has been created to review the classifications of schools. Discussions of the committee include the current process to determine the classifications and investigate the process of other states in determining classifications. J. Graczyk is the Section VI representative on this Ad Hoc committee.



## 9.2 NYSAA Report (Jeff Roth)

B. Banker and P. Burke were thanked for their work on the very successful 2021 NYSAAA virtual conference.

## 10.0 SPORTS REPORTS

### 10.1 2021 Football Alignments

- The Executive Committee and the Football Committee reserves the right to adjust alignments per the results of the fall 2 season.
- The original proposed football alignments were based on the BEDS. This morning, a revised proposal wherein alignments were generated by location, north and south, was emailed to both the Executive Committee and Athletic Council. The alignments proposal is included in the Football pre-season report, which will be voted on as part of 10.3. Thus, approval of the fall 2021 pre-season reports is approval of the fall 2021 football alignments.

### 10.2 Fall 2021 Sectional Dates

The fall 2021 sectional dates are including in the pre-season reports, which will be voted on as part of 10.3. Thus, approval of the fall 2021 pre-season reports is also approval of fall 2021 sectional dates.

### 10.3 **Motion to approve the Fall 2021 pre-season reports** (Appendix D)

**CARRIED**

**Alvarez/Hack** 1 Opposed (Jon Roth)

## 11.0 OLD BUSINESS

### 11.1 Diversity Committee

The first Diversity Ad Hoc Committee meeting was held March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2021 via WebEx. A proposal by Chisolm Educational Consulting Services was submitted to the committee. Updates will be provided as they become available.

## 12.0 NEW BUSINESS

*Nothing to report*

## 13.0 GOOD OF THE ADJOURNMENT

### 13.1 **Motion to adjourn**

**CARRIED**

**Bradley/Dell'Oso**

Respectfully Submitted,



Beth Fadeley  
Recording Secretary

APPENDIX A  
Section VI NYSPHSAA, Inc.

**Treasurer's Report**

As of March 17, 2021

Mar 17, 21

**ASSETS**

**Current Assets**

**Checking/Savings**

1050 - Arbiter Pay	54,057.60
1030 - Bank of America Checking	95,121.62
1040 - Bank of America Money Market	105,938.42
1043 - Northwest Savings Bank	418,230.58

<b>Total Checking/Savings</b>	<u>673,348.22</u>
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<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<u>673,348.22</u>
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<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<u><u>673,348.22</u></u>
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<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	0.00
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<b>Boys Ice Hockey Fees</b>	<b>162,000</b>	-156000
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<b>Girls Ice Hockey Fees</b>	<b>44,000</b>	-38500
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<b>Indoor Track Fees</b>	<b>100,000</b>	-50000
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<b>Dedicated Funds for States</b>	<del>150,000</del>	
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<b>FUND BALANCE</b>	<b>428,848.22</b>	(244,500)
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# New York State Public High School Athletic Association

Executive Committee Meeting – February 3, 2021

## Handbook Committee – Annually Report Combining of Teams to NYSPHSAA Staff

- Action Item
- Discussion Item
- Informational Item

**Presenter:**  
Handbook Committee

**Proposal:**  
Consideration of approval to change #2, under “Combining of Teams” to “Section approval must be reported annually to the NYSPHSAA Inc. Staff.”

### COMBINING OF TEAMS:

The joining together of students from two or more-member schools in the same district or proximity to form a single team shall be permitted subject to the following conditions:

1. Permission must be obtained from their league and section on an annual basis.
2. Section approval must be reported to the NYSPHSAA, Inc., Executive Committee. NOTE: If a combined school team goes beyond sectional level competition their boys and girls grade 9-11 enrollment shall be combined, using the below criteria, for state level competition.

**Effective Start Date:**  
July 2021

**Rationale:**  
The Combining of Teams is currently reported to the Executive/Central Committees at each meeting. An annual report would allow for the information to be reported in a consistent, organized manner to allow for data manipulation and analysis.

**Proposal Originated:**  
Handbook Committee Meeting on January 8, 2021.

**Budgetary Impact:**  
None

**Notes:**  
None

**Attachments:**  
None

# New York State Public High School Athletic Association



Executive Committee Meeting – February 3, 2021

## Handbook Committee – Annually Report Senior All-Star Contests to NYSPHSAA Staff

- Action Item  
 Discussion Item  
 Informational Item

**Presenter:**  
Handbook Committee

**Proposal:**  
Consideration of approval to change letter a, under “Senior All-Star Contest” to “These contests must be approved first by the Section in which the contest is to be held and *reported annually to the NYSPHSAA Inc. Staff.*”

### 27. SENIOR ALL-STAR CONTEST:

A senior all-star contest shall be any athletic contest for which admission is charged or donations accepted in which one or more of the competing teams is composed of one or more players who during the school year was a member of the high school team in the same sport, and whose participation in the senior all-star contest is based on outstanding performance as a member of the high school team.

- a. The only senior all-star contests approved by the NYSPHSAA, Inc., are those approved by a section. These contests must be approved first by the Section in which the contest is to be held and reported to the Executive Committee.

**Effective Start Date:**  
July 2021

**Rationale:**  
The Senior All-Star Contests are currently reported to the Executive/Central Committees at each meeting. An annual report would allow for the information to be reported in a consistent, organized manner to allow for data manipulation and analysis.

**Proposal Originated:**  
Handbook Committee Meeting on January 8, 2021.

**Budgetary Impact:**  
Budgetary Impact

**Notes:**  
None

**Attachments:**  
None

DATE REVISED: January 8, 2021

# New York State Public High School Athletic Association



Executive Committee Meeting – February 3, 2021

## Modify State Sport Coordinator Selection Process

- Action Item
- Discussion Item
- Informational Item

**Presenter:**

Joe Altieri, NYSPHSAA Assistant Director

**Proposal:**

Consider approval to modify the selection process for State Sport Coordinators. The process would entail the creation of a Sport Coordinator Appointment Committee, consisting of the NYSPHSAA Executive Director, two staff members, an officer, and a committee representative selected by the state committee. The appointment committee would then recommend an individual to the Central Committee for a five-year term. The following timeline will be followed:

- May 1<sup>st</sup> Current Coordinator Announces Intent to Seek Re-Appointment
- June 1<sup>st</sup> All letters of interest and resumes due
- June 15<sup>th</sup> Review of letters & resumes by Sport Coordinator Appointment Committee; Interviews conducted if necessary
- July 1<sup>st</sup> Recommended candidate submitted for Central Committee packet
- Late July Central Committee approves Sport Coordinator for five-year term

**Effective:**

July 2021

**Rationale:**

It is necessary to approve coordinators for each sport when a five-year term expires. The current process is the state committee nominates any individual they choose, which may include the current coordinator. Members of the committee may nominate any individual (on or off the state committee). There are no qualifications required nor is a resume required to be submitted. Committee votes are tallied then the selection is forwarded to the Central Committee without any outside input. Frequently, numerous state committee members do not submit votes during the process. Effective leadership, communication and style are a necessity when working with the NYSPHSAA staff, state committee, coaches, and athletes around the state.

**Proposal Originated:**

NYSPHSAA Office/Central Committee in July 2020

**Budgetary Impact:**

None

**Notes:**

The process of Sport Coordinator appointments was brought up by Section I during Section Concerns at the July Central Committee meeting.

DATE REVISED: January 13, 2021

# New York State Public High School Athletic Association



Executive Committee Meeting – February 3, 2021

## Private Schools within Public School District Boundaries

- Action Item
- Discussion Item
- Informational Item

**Presenter:**

Section V Executive Committee Representatives

**Proposal:**

Consideration of approval to eliminate “or a private school within that district’s boundaries” from the NYSPHSAA Transfer Rule. See below.

31.b. A student who transfers without a corresponding change in residence of his/her parents (or other persons with whom the student has resided for at least six months prior) is ineligible to participate at the varsity level in any interscholastic athletic contest in a particular sport for a period of one (1) year if as a 9-12 student participated in that sport during the one (1) year period immediately preceding his/her transfer. A student’s period of ineligibility begins with the date of registration at the student’s new school. (May 2020) NOTE: Students in grades 7-10, shall be eligible to participate at the sub-varsity level and practice at all levels, while students in grades 11-12 shall be limited to practice (all levels) only. (July 2019). At no time during the one-year period of ineligibility at the varsity level should a student participate in a scrimmage or be an exhibition participant at the varsity level.

Students who transfer from any school to the public-school district of the residence of his/her parents (or other persons whom the student has resided for at least six months) ~~or a private school within that district’s boundaries~~ shall receive a waiver from the Transfer Rule. Such a transfer without penalty will only be permitted once in a high school career. Schools must submit the required transfer form to the Section office. Athletes are not permitted to practice before the form has been submitted. Athletes are not permitted to compete without approval. NOTE: A student in a foreign exchange program listed by CSIET has a one-year waiver of the Transfer Rule. If such a student elects to stay a second year he/she becomes a foreign student at the start of the school year with item (b) in effect.

**Effective Start Date:**

2021-2022 School Year

**Rationale:**

The verbiage creates an unfair advantage for the private school of transfer and public schools without a private school within their boundaries. All other transfers from a public school district to a private school are subject to the transfer rule in any sport a student participated in for one (1) year. As a result of the current language, students can transfer to a private school within their district’s boundaries for athletic purposes for no penalty. This only impacts districts with private school within their boundary and it should be consistent across the state regardless of the location of the private school.

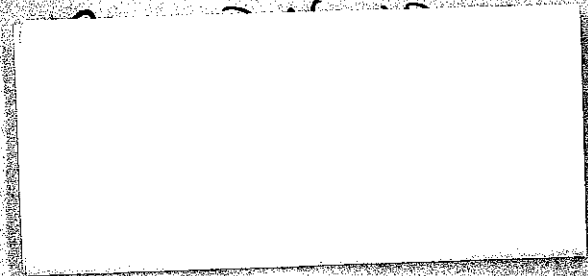
# New York State Public High School Athletic Association



Executive Committee Meeting – February 3, 2021

## BASEBALL – ELIMINATE NYSPHSAA P/DH RULE; UTILIZE NFHS P/DH RULE

- Action Item
- Discussion Item
- Informational Item



**Presenter:**  
Al Roy, NYSPHSAA Baseball State Coordinator

**Proposal:**  
The NYSPHSAA Baseball Committee seeks approval to eliminate the NYSPHSAA Pitcher/Designated Hitter Rule (#11 in NYSPHSAA Handbook) and utilize the NFHS Player/Designated Hitter Rule.

**Effective Start Date:**  
March 2021

**Rationale:**  
This proposal will eliminate the more restrictive NYSPHSAA Pitcher/Designated Hitter Rule, adopted in January 2019, and allow teams to use a more flexible NFHS Rule which was written following the 2019 season. The NFHS Rule allows the pitcher to play any other defensive position whereas the NYSPHSAA Rule does not allow that.

**Proposal Originated:**  
NYSPHSAA Baseball Committee on June 8, 2018. The NYSPHSAA P/DH Rule was approved in January 2019 and adopted for the 2019 season. The NFHS Rule was written after the 2019 season.

**Budgetary Impact:**  
None

**Notes:**  
The NYSPHSAA Baseball Committee voted 9-2 in favor of this proposal at its meeting on January 6, 2021.

**Attachments:**  
None



**NYSPHSAA Boys & Girls Soccer JOINT Committee**  
**February 12, 2021**  
**MEETING MINUTES**

**ATTENDEES:**

**NYSPHSAA Staff:** Dr. Robert Zayas, Joe Altieri, Todd Nelson, Kristen Jadin, Chris Joyce, Chris Watson,

**BOYS COMMITTEE:** Mike Andrew (State Coordinator), Mat Allen (1), Ernie Clapper (2), Bill Donald (3), Gary Pollock (5), Todd Marquardt (6), Rob McAuliffe (7), Al Freeman (8), Pete Ferguson (9), Tony Martelli (9), Bill Reed (10), Mike Huey (11) and Matt Wood (Modified Committee), Guests: Al Ellis and Lou Hanna

**GIRLS COMMITTEE:** Joe Vasile-Cozzo (State Coordinator/11), Tim Gavan (1), John Westbrook (1), Tom Husser (2), Peter Lautensack (3), Bill Stephanovsky (4), Jonathan Beardsley (5), Chris Durr (6), Tim Mulligan (7), Mike Bongino (8), Diane Wanser (9), Rose Bronchetti (10), German Lesmes (Officials), Machell Phelps (CRSC)

**1. Attendance & Introductions**

- Meeting called to order 10:05 am by Mike Andrew (Boys) and Joe Vasile-Cozzo (Girls)
- A moment of silence was observed for Ted Woods and Charlie Engle, former committee members

**2. NYSPHSAA Staff Reports**

Dr. Robert Zayas, Executive Director

- a. Update provided on NYSDOH, NYSPHSAA. Dr. Zayas stated on February 3<sup>rd</sup> the Association cancelled its spring 2021 state championships due to schools utilizing the month of June for additional interscholastic participation locally as well the travel concerns for schools.
- b. It was noted, if you hear of any erroneous information, please contact our office. We have a communication process with membership and we frequently hear from people who are misinformed.
- c. Dr. Zayas also told the group all sport committee meetings for 2021-22 will be video calls due to budgetary reasons.

Joe Altieri, Assistant Director

- a. Reported all 2020 Soccer Regional Rotations and State Tournament matchups will be advanced to 2021, approved by the NYSPHSAA Executive Committee.
- b. Both State Tournaments were granted a one-year extension for Middletown (Boys) and Cortland (Girls) due to COVID cancelling the 2020 tournaments. Boys will be in Middletown through 2024 and Girls will be in Cortland through 2023. Joe has begun working with Pete Ferguson (boys) and Machell Phelps (girls) to contract hotels for 2021 state tournaments. He pointed out there may be a need to increase room blocks if schools determine they want to put less than 3-4 in a room. It will be a determination as we draw closer to the fall season and hear from member schools/sections.
- c. Joe indicated sport considerations meetings were conducted in August for fall sports. The association will determine if sport guidelines will need updates for Fall 2021 and included in the Return to Interscholastic Athletics resource document.
- d. Joe noted NYSPHSAA Hall of Fame nominations are now being required to be submitted online at [www.nysphsaa.org](http://www.nysphsaa.org). A simple form was developed and an upload feature for photos, articles, etc. Nominations stay "alive" for three years.
- e. Minutes of the soccer meetings being complete within 10-14 days and reviewed by the office is a message being reinforced for all sport committees due to the important nature and time sensitive information being shared.

Todd Nelson, Assistant Director

- a. Todd reported on the classification vote by the Executive Committee on February 3<sup>rd</sup>. Todd will be sending each committee a preliminary report of the current classification cut-off



numbers based on the 2019-2020 participation survey and the 2021-2022 school enrollment numbers. Committee members are asked to review the report and send Todd any corrections (schools missing, schools that need to be dropped and merged teams). Todd will give a deadline to return the information.

- b. NYSPHSAA did approve a mandatory 2-minute mask break for the sport of soccer. The officials are required to stop the game the first dead ball after the 20-minute mark of each half. If the two coaches and the officials all agree to re-start the game before the full 2 minutes they can. Students are permitted to go to the bench to get their water bottles and return to the field.
- c. CP Sportswear (merchandiser) will not offer a hard copy program on site in 2021 due to many programs being unsold. A virtual (digital) program will be offered on the NYSPHSAA web site prior to the tournament. CP will offer a hard copy of the program for individuals to order on-line. The ordered programs will be updated with the results of the championship.

Kristen Jadin, Assistant Director

- a. Kristen indicated she will order and ship regional/state tournament awards this fall, and also ensure game balls get to regional sites and states
- b. Kristen will also compile each tournament's Championship Operations Packet as we move into the fall. The packet will include any new restrictions for the 2021 season.

Chris Joyce, Director of Marketing

- a. Chris explained the new partnership with Teall Properties Group (TPG) who will handle all sponsorships for the Association. TPG is similar to Leerfield and IMG, and works with many other state associations. Chris introduced Joe deGuzman who is the TPG sales representative in the NYSPHSAA Office.

Chris Watson, Director of Communication

- a. Chris discussed the importance of communications from the NYSPHSAA Office and accuracy of information. All communications must come from the NYSPHSAA office.
- b. Brackets/Regional Sites/Website Updates were mentioned as items due for an update on our web site.
- c. Chris indicated he is currently in the midst of updating records and state tournament history. Please take a moment to check records on our web site or submit updated records to our office.

Matt Wood, Modified Committee

- a. Answered questions without significant discussions or reports

General Discussion:

- a. Calendar, start dates, and required # of practices
- b. Uniform waivers were reviewed for JV and Modified

The joint committee meeting adjourned and each committee met separately.

## **NYSPHSAA Girls Soccer Committee** **February 12, 2021 - MEETING MINUTES**

1. **Committee Secretary** - Joe Vas nominated Chris Durr as the committee secretary. Approved unanimously. Joe Vas and Joe Altieri thanked Chris for serving the committee and stressed the importance of the minutes being done in a timely manner.
2. **2021 State Tournament Report** - Machell Phelps reported she is staying in touch with hotels and SUNY Cortland and said they are not allowing events until after May. She provided an update on Cortland athletic

facilities. Only a grass soccer field is available at this point. She does not anticipate any issues for next fall but said we may need to make adjustments as we draw closer. She also stated the Country Inn and Suites is now a Marriott Hotel

-Rose Bronchetti asked about the banquet and the need to have an alternative plan. Machell stated it will first be up to SUNY Cortland if a large gathering is allowed. Joe Altieri indicated its up to this committee if it wants to attempt to have a banquet or put it on hold for a year. It doesn't have to be decided now. Rose brought up the idea of a smaller banquet on Saturday night with just the Finals teams to consider. Concerns were brought up about having a plans in place for the State Tournament including developing a checklist of requirements and tasks. Joe Altieri suggested waiting until we go closer to fall when their may be new guidance from NYSDOH.

3. **Summer Meeting** – The committee agreed to schedule a meeting in August to begin planning for Fall and the State Tournament. Joe Vas will work with the NYSPHSAA Office and committee to schedule a video call.

## **NYSPHSAA Boys Soccer Committee** **February 12, 2021 - MEETING MINUTES**

1. **2021 State Tournament Report** –Pete and Tony provided a report. They noted hotels may be a problem as some schools are indicating that they will not allow more than two players to a room, due to the pandemic. We were reminded that our tournament must reflect the Orange County Dept. of Health protocols regarding the pandemic.
  - a. Reminder Twin Towers field now rotates between all classes. Class D will play their semi-final there in 2021.
  - b. Middletown will now host the 2021-22-23-24-25 tournament.
  - c. Rotations have been pushed ahead one year to include 2026
2. **NYS Soccer Hall of Fame Report and Honorees for 2021**
  - a. Reviewed the 2021 ceremony and discussed the third inductee for 2021
  - b. Three nominees for 2021:
    - Section V – Gary Pollock
    - Section III – Jeff Hammond
    - ???? (Mike Andrew has a possible candidate)
3. **Records** - Al Ellis asked that all please review records (to be sent by email)
4. **2021 Brackets and Rotations for 2021-2026** - Al and Mike will update and send to all
  - a. 2021 Start date is August 23<sup>rd</sup> (6 Practices prior to 1<sup>st</sup> game or scrimmage)
5. **Yellow/Red Card Report** – must be recorded in the individual Section offices
6. **Referees (Scott Reynolds absent)** - Thanks to Scott Reynolds as our Liaison to the referees.
  - a. Rotation of a bye now includes all sections (Section 11)
  - b. The selection of referees from your sections should be as a result of communication between the coordinator and the section office, ***not*** a local board's choice.
  - c. Fourth official on Sunday (proposal?)
7. **COY Report/Ron Woodruf** (absent) - Announced NFHS COY for NYSPHSAA boys soccer
  - a. **\*\*Ron Eden\*\*** from Brentwood Section XI
8. **All-State and COY Lou Hanner** – reviewed the process for this year as we will have an all-state team representing both the Fall and the “Fall II” seasons for New York State

## 9. Sectional Play and Concerns:

- I. Played all leagues and 12 game schedules in the Fall, wore masks, finals were televised
- II. Two leagues played in the Fall while 6 leagues will play in the Fall II season,
- III. Some schools played in the Fall while some will play in the Fall II season, some mask rule questions
- IV. Did not play in the Fall smaller schools and those with Grass fields may not play in Fall II as the fields could be damaged.
- V. All leagues played, some mask issues, 8 classification champions
- VI. All leagues played, some mask issues, 7 classification champions
- VII. Same as 5 and 6 only one game was cancelled
- VIII. Did not play in the fall, planning a 10-game schedule, looking to schedule regionally and with lighted fields
- IX. Did not play in the fall, will not have a post season  
Played in the Fall, no hurdles, disinfecting the ball on all out of bounds
- X. Did not play in the fall, March start, moving forward

**Adjournment 12:30pm**

***Minutes as of 2/23/2021***

APPENDIX D



**2021 PRE-SEASON REPORT  
BOYS SOCCER  
Chairperson: Todd Marquardt**

**Committee members (voting\*)**

**Chairman:** Todd Marquardt (Lindbergh Elem.-Kenmore) tmarquardt@ktufsd.org  
874-8410 (s) 873-6543 (h) 903-5875 (c) Fax: 874-8570  
98 Deerhurst Park Blvd, Kenmore, NY 14217

**Buffalo:** Dave Kreger\* (International Prep) Dkregere@buffaloschools.org (c) 713-3240  
**CCAA East:** J.J. McIntosh (Portville) dmcintosh@portvillecsd.org (c) 244-8199  
**CCAA West:** Jim Charles\* (Olean) jcharles@olean.wnyric.org (c) 378-7505  
**CCAA Central:** Jay Walters (North Collins) jwalters@northcollinscsd.org (c) 939-0742  
**ECIC I:** Mike Silverstein\* (Clarence) msilverstein@claranceschools.org (c) 573-7674  
**ECIC II:** Tony Schiappa (Hamburg) schiappa10@hotmail.com (c) 604-8300  
**ECIC III:** Kevin Beale (East Aurora) kbeale@buffaloschools.org (c) 491-8274  
**ECIC IV:** J.J. Gabor (Tonawanda) jgabor@buffaloschools.org (c) 812-7842  
**NFL:** Frank Butcher\* (Grand Island) frankbutcher@grandislandschool.org (c) 465-8080  
**NO:** Steve Luksch\* (Medina-Lyndon) sluksch@medina.csd.org (c) 531-8768  
**At-Large:** Jim Clauss jclauss@roadrunner.com (c) 479-7879

**All-Star Selections WNYHSSCA All-WNY** Kevin Beale & Mike Silverstein (above)  
**All-Star Selections NSCAA All- American** Kevin Beale (above)

**Committee meeting date(s)**

Mid May.....Mid July.....Seeding Mtg Oct 16

**Classification Breakdown**

AA: 965+ A: 500-964 B: 270-499 C: 150-269 D: 1-149

**Recommendations for next season & proposed dates**

Dates/Times/Locations will be TBD along with discussion C Durr and the girls schedule

<b>SOCCER BOYS Sportchair Todd Marquardt (c) 903-5875 <a href="http://www.arbitersports.com">www.arbitersports.com</a></b>			
Seeding meeting			
Pre-Quarters	AA, A1, A2		
Pre-Quarters	B1, B2, C		
Quarters	AA, A1, A2		
Quarters	B1, B2, C		
Semifinals	A1 & A2		
	B1 & B2		
	D		
	C		

	AA		
Finals	B1 & B2		
	A1 & A2		
	C & D		
	AA		
State Qualifier	A & B		
Regionals	AA, A, B, C,D		
States			

**Changes in Policy/Practice for the upcoming season**

TBD.....based on the direction from the state re: changes due to covid-19

**Rule Changes for 2021**

**Soccer Rules Changes - 2021-22**

By NFHS on February 16, 2021 [soccer](#)

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**4-2-10 NEW:** Head coverings worn for religious reasons shall not be made of abrasive or hard materials; and must fit securely.

**Rationale:** This rule addition will allow student-athletes to express their religious beliefs through the wearing of headwear without the approval from the state.

**4-2-11 NEW ARTICLE:** In addition to the above permitted uses, state associations (or designee) may on an individual basis permit a player to participate while wearing a head covering for medical or cosmetic reasons if it is required by a licensed physician. A physician’s statement is required before the state association can approve a covering which is not abrasive, hard or dangerous to any other player and which is attached in such a way it is highly unlikely that it will come off during play.

**Other Pertinent Data**

**Soccer Points of Emphasis - 2021-22**

By NFHS on February 21, 2021 [soccer](#)

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**Properly Worn Uniforms and Marked Fields.** It is important that games are played on fields marked in a consistent manner, and players wear uniforms according to NFHS rules. If a field is improperly marked and/or if a team wears an illegal uniform the referee shall contact the state association, who will work with school administrators to make appropriate changes. In addition, during pregame communication with school administration, game officials are also encouraged to communicate these corrective actions directly to administrators.

**Reckless and Serious Foul Play.** Soccer is a contact sport and as such officials must be prepared to effectively manage the flow and intensity of the game. Understanding the differences between fair and hard play and a foul that

is either Reckless or Serious is important to ensuring fair play and the safety of the players. Reckless play is defined as “a player has acted with disregard of the danger to, or consequences for, the opponent. A player who displays reckless play shall be cautioned.” Serious Foul Play is defined as “any play in which the player commits one of the offenses punishable with a direct free kick and uses disproportionate and unnecessary force against an opponent while playing for the ball.” It is critical that officials recognize the differences between the two and the corresponding penalty. Although officials cannot eliminate a player from engaging in reckless or serious foul play, there are Preventive mechanics that can be used to control this type of play from occurring during the match by:

- Addressing fair play and good sportsmanship during the pregame meeting with the coaches and captains. Let them know your expectations for competitive and fair play.
- Talk to the players and captains during the match. When the intensity of play increases and fouls become more prevalent remind the players of your expectations. Control the temperature of play by warning, whistle and when necessary cards.
- Deal with reckless or serious foul play immediately. Be sure to let the players and coaches know that you will not tolerate that level of play during the match. When warranted use cards to address these behaviors.
- Use of Headsets. Officials who have used headsets in communicate between and among the crew have found this to be an effective tool in helping to control play and deal immediately with unsporting and dangerous play.

**High School Athletics is Education-Based.** High school athletics are education-based, and for this reason some mechanics of our game are intentionally different from other levels of soccer. Playing sports and participating in interscholastic activities is a privilege that students earn by maintaining academic standards and good conduct in and outside the classrooms.

As an extension of the classroom, the goal of education-based athletics, in addition to core academic subjects learned in the classroom, is that students experience additional educational opportunities through their participation in sports. Beyond the specific skills of a sport, these individuals have the opportunity to learn important principles that can guide them the rest of their lives. Learning the life skills of sportsmanship, playing by the rules, teamwork and perseverance will pay huge dividends throughout these students’ lives. Certainly, improving skills and winning games is a part of the overall goal, but the quest to win games, events, and championships cannot come at the expense of providing these educational opportunities.

The required pregame meeting is a time for officials to communicate expectations to both head coaches and captains. This meeting for both head coaches and captains should cover pertinent rules, sportsmanship, the coin toss, and legally equipped players. This meeting is a purposeful start to an education-based interscholastic match.

**Sportsmanship:** Interscholastic athletic programs must promote good character, enhance the integrity of education, and foster civility in society. Student-athletes, coaches and all others associated with interscholastic athletic programs, as well as those who attend interscholastic athletic events, should adhere to the fundamental values of honesty, integrity, respect, caring, cooperation, trustworthiness, leadership, tolerance, and personal responsibility.

The message of good sportsmanship should be addressed by school administration with their students, coaches, parents, and spectators alike, which includes a message which prohibits taunting and the use of profanity during games. Coaches and officials should model good sportsmanship during the pregame, game, and post-game. A short but firm statement by the official outlining the action that will be taken for unsporting conduct would be appropriate. Check with your state association. They may have provided a statement for use by officials in the pre-game meeting.

**Professional Responsibilities for Officials.** Officials are an integral part of education-based athletics and for this reason it is important that officials conduct themselves in a professional manner that upholds the dignity of this vital role. For this reason, an official shall prepare themselves both physically and mentally, shall dress neatly and appropriately, shall master both the rules of the game and the mechanics necessary to enforce the rules, shall exercise impartial authority in a firm and controlled manner and shall stay up to date with game management and health and safety requirements. Additionally, officials shall uphold the honor and dignity of the profession in all interactions with student-athletes, coaches, school administrators and spectators alike.

It is important that officials take steps to educate themselves with the NFHS Officials Code of Ethics in the soccer rules book as well as their state association's officials' handbooks.

Respectfully submitted 2/24/2021  
Todd Marquardt, Section VI Boys Soccer Sportchair

**SECTION VI PRE-SEASON REPORT  
GIRLS SOCCER 2021  
Chairperson: Chris Durr  
March 2021**

**Committee members (voting\*)**

**Section Chairperson:**

**Chris Durr\*** Williamsville East H – 741-4710

**Assistant Chairperson:**

**Joanna Fildes** Amherst Central ..... C – 908-9550 H – 836-2627

**Consultants:**

**Steve Sabo** Meadow Elementary (N.T.)..... H – 228-7362

**Jeff Petherick** Lancaster HS ..... S – 686-3837 H – 684-7745

**ECIC Joanna Fildes\*** (see above)

**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 Dave Bowman\*** Conner Middle (Grand Island).... S – 773-8830

**NO Chelsea Johannsen\*** Newfane Central..... C – 628-8159

**German Lesmes** Southern Tier Officials Representative ..... C – 785-7087 H – 672-8653

**Bill Sciolino** Buffalo Officials Representative..... C – 912-1200

**Committee meeting date(s)** March 2nd (Zoom meeting)

**Classification Breakdown**

Proposed Classes 2020: AA, A-1, A-2, B-1, B-2, C, D

**Changes in Policy/Practice for the upcoming season**

Scheduled our Pre-Season Coaches Meeting for August 24th at 8pm via Zoom

Questions re which Sectionals tourney we are going to have. (regular or 2020 model)

Tie Breaker model for top 8 teams in each class

Committee unanimously decided on the following procedure

1<sup>st</sup> – Overall Winning percentage (overall)

2<sup>nd</sup> – fewest goals conceded in league games (GGA average)

3<sup>rd</sup> – fewest goals conceded in overall games (GGA average)

**Rule Changes for 2021**

No major rules changes - minor edits

**Other Pertinent Data**



Section VI "Pink the Field" Event is scheduled for October. This will be the 11th year.

Looking for nominations for the NYS Girls soccer HOF

\*\* - Pre-Season Meeting Minutes attached

**Season Dates**

First Practice -----	8/23	First Game-----	8/30
First Scrimmage-----	8/30	Last Scheduled League Game	10/14
Seeding Meeting-----	10/16		

**Post Season Information**

See attached

Respectfully submitted 3/3/2021  
Chris Durr Section VI Sportchair Girls Soccer

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

**SECTION VI PRE-SEASON REPORT  
BOYS VOLLEYBALL 2021  
Chairperson: Walt Stefani  
March 1, 2021**

**Committee members (voting\*)**

Chairperson - **Walt Stefani\***

(C) 903-5389 [waltstefani@verizon.net](mailto:waltstefani@verizon.net)

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

**At Large Representatives:**

<b>Ricky Albano</b>	ECIC I	Orchard Park	(S) 209-6243
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**League Chairpersons**

Robert Pierce – ECIC

Bill Schultz– NFL

**Committee meeting date(s)**

\*\* Pre-Season Meeting - August @ ECIC Fall Meetings - (Host Robert Pierce ECIC REP) Site TBA

\*\* E.C.I.C./N.F.L. 2021 League play ends Tues. Oct. 26, 2021

\*\* Post-Season All WNY/All Star Meeting – WSE HS TBA

**Classification Breakdown**

2020 Season - cut-off #'s - Div 1: 950+, Div 2: 0-949 **or by new numbers if classifications change**

First possible practice date: August 23, 2021

Number of team/individual practices required to compete: 6

**Post Season Information**

<b>VOLLEYBALL BOYS Sportchair Walt Stefani (c) 903-5389</b>		<a href="http://www.arbitersports.com">www.arbitersports.com</a>
Start of Season	Mon. Aug. 23, 2021	Practices can begin (follow scrimmage/contest regulations)
Seeding Meeting	Weds. Oct. 27, 2021	By phone 6:30 pm
Qualifiers (if needed)	Thurs. Oct. 28, 2021	Higher Seed 6:00 pm
Pre-Quarters	Fri. Oct. 29, 2021	Higher Seed 6:00 pm
Quarterfinals	Tues. Nov. 2, 2021	Higher Seed 6:00 pm
Semi-finals – Div. 1	Fri. Nov. 5, 2021	Lackawanna HS – 5:30 pm and 7:30
Semi-finals – Div. 2 A & B	Sat. Nov. 6, 2021	Lackawanna HS – D2A: 2:30 & 6:30 pm, D2B: 4:30 & 8:30 pm
Finals – D2A, & D2B	Tues. Nov.9, 2021	Lackawanna HS – D2A 5:30 pm, D2B 7:30 pm
Champ. Playoff D2A/2B	Thurs. Nov. 11, 2021	Lackawanna HS – D2A Champ (vs) D2B Champ 5:30 pm
Finals – D1	Thurs. Nov. 11, 2021	Lackawanna HS – D1 7:30 pm
NYS Regionals	Sat. Nov. 13, 2021	Section 6 – Lackawanna HS – D1 3:00 pm and D2 1:00 pm
<a href="#">NYS Championship</a>	Sat. Nov. 20, 2021	Albany Capital Center, Albany, NY

**Other Pertinent Data**

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

**Classification break at 950 – If all remains consistent: This may change if Class Numbers change**

**Division 1:**

1. Niagara Falls	1629
2. Lancaster	1292
3. Clarence	1076
4. Williamsville North	1029
5. Orchard Park	1026
6. Frontier	978
7. Lockport	957

**Division 2A: (Will adjust if schools combine)**

1. Hutch Tech	888
2. Niagara Wheatfield	860
3. West Seneca West	855
4. Hamburg	822
5. Kenmore West	762
6. North Tonawanda	744
7. Sweet Home	743
8. Williamsville East	734
9. McKinley	726
10. Grand Island	723
11. Kenmore East	690
12. Starpoint	686

**Division 2B: (Will adjust if schools combine)**

1. Williamsville South	677
2. Amherst	641
3. West Seneca East	573
4. East Aurora/Holland	563
5. Iroquois	548
6. Cheektowaga	531
7. Maryvale	482
8. Lake Shore	453
9. City Honors	447
10. Eden/North Collins	363
11. Lafayette	266

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

**Budget 2021:**

To be provided by Section VI Treasurer, Don Scholla

Respectfully submitted 3/11/2021  
Walt Stefani, Section VI Boys Volleyball Sportchair

**PRE-SEASON REPORT  
GIRLS VOLLEYBALL 2020  
Chairperson: Debby Schrufer  
March 2021**

**Committee members (voting\*)**

Chairperson	Debby Schrufer*	Big Tree Elementary	(W) 926-1740 ext. 4185 (C) 445-8521
Co-Chair	Susan Pernick		C) 316-5028
	Buffalo	Deborah Matos*	City Honors (w) 816-3900 (C) 316-4839
CCAA	Dave Burgstahler*	North Collins	(C) 479-6649
ECIC	Debby Schrufer*		(see above)
NFL	Brandi Cochran*	Niagara Wheatfield	C) 860-0957
NO	Tim Lincoln*	Medina	585-764-6336

**Committee meeting date(s):**

June 2021

First possible practice: August 23, 2021

Number of team/individual practices required to compete: 6

**Recommendations for next season & proposed dates/sites**

<b>VOLLEYBALL GIRLS Sportchair Debby Schrufer (w) 926-1740 x4185 <a href="http://www.arbitersports.com">www.arbitersports.com</a></b>		
Last league game	Friday October 22	
Seeding Meeting	Saturday October 23	Frontier HS 10:30 AM
Qualifiers (if needed)	Monday October 25	Higher Seed 6:00 pm
Pre Quarter-finals:	Wednesday October 27	Higher Seed 6:00 pm
Quarter finals	Friday October 29	Higher Seed 6:00 pm
Semi-Finals	Monday November 1	Higher Seed 6:00 PM
Finals B1, B2	Wednesday November 3	Sites TBA and Times TBA
Finals C1,C2	Thursday November 4	Site TBA and Times TBA
Friday AA/A/D Finals	Friday November 5	Site TBA and Times TBA
B/C Finals	Monday November 8	Site TBA and Times TBA
B/C Sub Regional	Wednesday November 10	Site TBA and Times TBA Section 3 @ 6
Far West Regionals	Saturday November 13	Section 5 Hosts

NYSPHSAA Championships November 20-21 Section 2 Hosting Glens Falls

Respectfully submitted 3/1//2021

Debby Schrufer, Section VI Girls Volleyball Chair



**SECTION VI PRE-SEASON REPORT  
SECTION VI FOOTBALL 2021  
Chairperson: Ken Stoldt**

**Committee members (voting\*)**

Chairman-Ken Stoldt\* (Akron)

Co- Chairman - Jay Sirianni

**Division Chairmen:**

AA – Bob Casler*, Len Jankiewicz*	-Retired
A 1- Mike McFadden*	Hamburg
A 2- Al Cavagnaro	Starpoint
B 1 – Scott Zipp*	Cheektowaga
B 2- Doug Ames	Retired
C North - Eric Valley	Medina
C Central-Rob Valevti	Springville
C South - Jay Sirianni*	Southwestern
D - Chris Payne*	Panama
Scott Green Greenough	Forestville
Buffalo -Mike House	Buffalo

**Committee meeting dates:** TBA

**Classification Breakdown**

2020-21 cut-off #'s AA: 1025+, A: 630-1024, B: 397-629 C: 261-396, D: 0-260

**Sectional Alignments:** (see attached)

**Post Season Information**

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

<b>FOOTBALL Chairs Ken Stoldt (w) 542-5040 x4137</b>		
Seeding Meeting	Oct. 24	Hamburg HS 9:00 am
Week # 8 Playoffs	Fri.-Sat. Oct. 29,30	Home school
Semifinals:	Fri.-Sat. Nov 5,6	Divisional Champion's home site
Finals Bowl games:	Thurs. Nov 4	Higher seed
Finals:	Fri. Nov.12 Sat Nov 13	New Era Field, Classes & Times TBA New Era Field Classes & Times TBA
Regionals:	Fri. Nov. 19 Sat Nov. 20	@ Section V, Classes & Times TBA @ Section V, Classes & Times TBA
State Western Semifinals:	Fri. Nov. 26 Sat. Nov. 27	CNS HS, (3)Classes & Times TBA CNS HS, (3) Classes & Times TBA
State Finals:	Fri. Dec 3 Sat Dec 4	Carrier Dome, Syracuse Carrier Dome, Syracuse

### **Changes in Policy/Practice for the upcoming season**

Representation Rule: Teams will now be able to allow a player to participate both the JV & Varsity game in any given week and only have it count as 1 contest. Stipulation is that the player may only participate in a maximum of 10 plays in one of the contests, and there must be Two (2) nights rest between contests.

NFHS RULE CHANGES 2021 (Attached)

BLOCKING BELOW THE WAIST IN FREE-BLOCKING ZONE ADDRESSED IN HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL RULES (Attached)

**1-5-4, 1-5-5, 3-5-10e (NEW) 3-6-2, 9-9:** Improperly equipped player shall be replaced for at least one down.

**Rationale:** Prior to the game, the head coach is responsible for verifying that the players are legally equipped and will not use illegal equipment. The penalty for a player who is not properly equipped has changed from a distance penalty against the team to removal of that player for at least one down. The penalty provisions for any use of illegal equipment remain unchanged and result in an unsportsmanlike conduct foul charged to the head coach.

**2-32-16a:** Defenseless player provisions for passer clarified.

**Rationale:** The committee clarified that defenseless player provisions do not apply to a passer until a legal forward pass is thrown. The passer continues to be a defenseless player until the pass ends or the passer moves to participate in the play.

**6-1-3b PENALTY, 6-1-4 PENALTY:** Signal change for free kick infractions.

**Rationale:** The signal for free kick infractions, other than encroachment of the neutral zone, has been changed from signal 18 to signal 19.

**6-1-9b (NEW), 6-1-9b PENALTY (NEW), 10-4-2 NOTE (NEW), 10-5-1j (NEW):** New penalty option adopted for fouls by kicking team.

**Rationale:** In an effort to reduce re-kicks, further minimize risk and ensure that appropriate penalties are in place for all fouls, the committee has added an option for fouls committed by the kicking team during free and scrimmage kicks. The change would allow the receiving team all of the previous options as well as accepting the distance penalty at the end of the down.

**SIX-PLAYER FOOTBALL (RULE 3):** Length of time between periods revised.

**Rationale:** The timing rule between periods and intermission for six player football has been standardized to match the current NFHS 8-, 9- and 11-player football rules.

**Other Pertinent Data**

Respectfully submitted 2/18/21  
Ken Stoldt, Jay Sirianni  
Section VI Football Chairmen



## 2021 Section VI Football Divisional Alignments

*Tentative based upon review of combined teams from the Fall 2 Season*

### AA

Hutch Tech/BPS  
Bennett/BPS  
Niagara Falls  
Lancaster  
Clarence  
Williamsville North  
Orchard Park

### A North

Lockport (957)  
Niagara-Wheatfield (860)  
Kenmore West (762)  
North Tonawanda (744)  
Sweet Home (743)  
McKinley (726)  
Grand Island (723)  
Kenmore East (690)  
Starpoint (686)

### A South

Jamestown (1002)  
Frontier (978)  
West Seneca West (855)  
Hamburg (822)  
South Park (797)  
Williamsville East (754)  
Williamsville South (677)  
Amherst (641)

### B North

West Seneca East  
Burgard/Buf. Arts  
Cheektowaga  
Lew-Port  
WNYMCS/HS  
Albion  
Maryvale

### B South

Chaut. Lake/West/Broc  
Olean  
Dunkirk  
Lake Shore  
East Aurora  
Pioneer  
Iroquois

### C North

Tonawanda  
Newfane  
Medina  
Akron  
Wilson  
Cleveland Hill

### C Central

Lackawanna  
Depew  
Springville/WV  
Alden  
Eden/North Collins  
JFK

### C South

Fredonia  
CV-Falconer  
Southwestern  
Allegany-Limestone  
Salamanca  
Gowanda/PV

### D

Portville  
Silver Creek/Forest  
Catt LV  
Randolph  
Franklinville/Ellicottville  
Clymer/Sherman/Panama

\*Updated 3/23/21

# Football Rules Changes - 2021

By NFHS on February 10, 2021

**football**

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## Action in the Free-Blocking Zone [2-17-2c (NEW), 2-17-4]

Blocking below the waist now requires the block to begin immediately following the snap.

## 2021 EDITORIAL CHANGES

2-10-1, 9-4-4 PENALTY, SIX-PLAYER RULES DIFFERENCES – RULE 2 and 7, APPENDIX, INDEX

## 2021 POINTS OF EMPHASIS

1. Sportsmanship
2. Intentional Grounding
3. Ineligible Downfield and Line of Scrimmage Formation

# Blocking Below the Waist in Free-Blocking Zone Addressed in High School Football Rules

By NFHS on February 05, 2021

[\*nfhs news\*](#)

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The rule regarding blocking below the waist in the free-blocking zone in high school football has been revised for the upcoming 2021 season.

This rule change was recommended by the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) Football Rules Committee at its January 10-12 meeting, which was held virtually this year. This change to the 2021 NFHS Football Rules Book was subsequently approved by the NFHS Board of Directors.

As a result of numerous interpretations of current language regarding blocking below the waist in the free-blocking zone, the committee approved another condition in Rule 2-17-2 that must be met for a legal block below the waist in the free-blocking zone, which is a rectangular area extending laterally 4 yards either side of the spot of the snap and 3 yards behind each line of scrimmage.

The new requirement (2-17-2c) is that the block must be an immediate, initial action following the snap. Under the current rule, an offensive lineman can delay and then block below the waist if the ball is still in the zone. In the committee's ongoing quest to minimize risk in high school football, the change was approved to require the block to be immediate.

"This change makes it easier for game officials to judge the legality of blocks below the waist and minimizes risk of injury for participants," said Bob Colgate, NFHS director of sports and sports medicine and liaison to the Football Rules Committee. "This change lets game officials observe the block and make a call without having to determine where the ball is and what formation the offense lined up in."

Blocking in the back continues to be legal in the free-blocking zone by offensive linemen who are on the line of scrimmage and in the zone at the snap, against defensive players who are in the zone at the snap and the contact is in the zone.

The committee noted there has been no criticism of the current rules governing blocks in the back as they are delayed blocks by nature, above the waist and considered to be a safe and necessary legal block.

"I believe this rule change will help make the interpretation of blocking below the waist consistent across the country starting next football season," said Richard McWhirter, chair of the NFHS Football Rules Committee and assistant executive director of the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association.

The Football Rules Committee is composed of one representative from each of the NFHS member state associations that use NFHS playing rules, along with representatives from the NFHS Coaches Association,

NFHS Officials Association and NFHS Sports Medicine Advisory Committee.

A complete listing of the football rules changes will be available on the NFHS website at [www.nfhs.org](http://www.nfhs.org). Click on “Activities & Sports” at the top of the home page and select “Football.”

According to the most recent NFHS High School Athletics Participation Survey, 11-player football is the most popular high school sport for boys with 1,006,013 participants in 14,247 schools nationwide. In addition, there were 31,221 boys who participated in 6-, 8- and 9-player football, along with 2,604 girls in all four versions of the game for a grand total of 1,039,828.

**SECTION VI PRE-SEASON REPORT  
FIELD HOCKEY 2021  
Chairperson: Judith Coleman- Otto**

**Committee members (voting\*):**

Judith Coleman- Otto\*, Section VI Sport Chairperson

ECIC Representative: Peter Tonsoline\* & Dawn Kauderer-Kromer

NO League Representatives: Ryan Car Barry\* Jeff Costello Barker

**Section Coordinator-** Judith Coleman- Otto\*, **Barker retired**

(C) 716-812-3078 jotto1952@gmail.com

**ECIC Chairperson** Pete Tonsoline\* Iroquois S-652-3000 x7116 H-681-8153

		Date	Site and Times
		All times and venues for the Fall 2021 Season are TBA due to COVID dates are approximate	
Seeding Meeting		Thursday October 21 2021	
Pre-Quarters	B	Friday, October 22, 2021	Higher Seed times TBA
Quarter-finals	BCA	Monday, October 26, 2021	Higher Seed times TBA
Semi-finals	BCA	Thursday October 28, 2021	T B A
Finals:		Wednesday, Nov. 3, 2021	Venue and time TBA
Regionals at Section V			TBA
States:		November 13 and 14, 2021	At Centereach High school Long Island

**Classification Breakdown:** Remains the same.

**Number of Schools Participating:** 23

Respectfully submitted, 3/1/2021

Judith Coleman-Otto, Section VI Field Hockey Chair



**PRE-SEASON REPORT  
GIRLS GYMNASTICS 2021  
Chairperson: Joe Buscaglia  
March 2021**

**Committee members (voting\*)**

The Girls Gymnastics Committee consists of one representative from each of the 11 participating schools. Each representative has one vote.

**Chairperson:** Joe Buscaglia  
(C) 228-0340 (W) 210-2386 (H) 636-0618  
[jbuscaglia@starpointcsd.org](mailto:jbuscaglia@starpointcsd.org)

**Coach:** Williamsville East High School  
**Teacher:** Starpoint High School

**Division 1 Chair:** Chris Watson  
(C) 308-4814  
[cwatson@ktufsc.org](mailto:cwatson@ktufsc.org)

**Coach:** Kenmore East/West High School

**Division 2 Chair:** Kathy Nardini  
(C) 984-9847  
[knardini@labellapc.com](mailto:knardini@labellapc.com)

**Coach:** Williamsville South High School

**Committee meeting date(s)**

August 2021 & November 2021

**Recommendations for next season & proposed dates**

PROPOSED DATES 2021

<b>GYMNASTICS GIRLS Sportchair Joe Buscaglia (c) 228-0340</b>		<a href="http://www.arbitersports.com">www.arbitersports.com</a>
Sectionals:	November 5, 2021	Williamsville South or Frontier High School ?
States:	March 4-5, 2022	Kenmore West High School – Section 6 Buffalo, NY

**Number of Schools Participating/Divisional Alignments -**

11 Schools in the following 2 divisions.

Division I: Chris Watson

Clarence  
Frontier  
Hamburg  
Lancaster  
Orchard Park  
Williamsville East

Division II: Kathy Nardini

Kenmore  
Maryvale  
Sweet Home  
Williamsville North  
Williamsville South

**Changes in Policy/Practice for the upcoming season**

- None

**Rule Changes for 2021**

- None

**Other Pertinent Data**

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

Respectfully submitted 03/01/21

Joe Buscaglia

Section VI Girls Gymnastics Sportchair

**SECTION VI PRE-SEASON REPORT  
GIRLS SWIMMING 2021  
Chairperson: Doug Cassidy  
March 1, 2021**

**Committee members (voting\*)**

**Sport Chair: Doug Cassidy**

C: 716-796-3327

[coachcassidy03@aol.com](mailto:coachcassidy03@aol.com)

**Committee Members (membership on the Committee may change by August):**

CCAA: Dan Brown, Olean..... C:307-2495.....[dbrown@oleanschools.org](mailto:dbrown@oleanschools.org)  
 ECIC: Zach Healy, Maryvale..... C: 440-5614.....[healyzach@yahoo.com](mailto:healyzach@yahoo.com)  
 NFL: Nate Bourke Ken East ..... C: 672-9876.....[nbourke@ktufsd.org](mailto:nbourke@ktufsd.org)  
 At Large: Joe Zwierzchowski Will North.....C: 392-8620.....[thatjoeyZ@gmail.com](mailto:thatjoeyZ@gmail.com)  
 At Large: Bruce Johnson\*, Frewsburg S:569-7022 ..... C:640-0971 .....[bjohn1547@aol.com](mailto:bjohn1547@aol.com)  
 Meet Manager: Paul Cary Clarence.....C 481-1245.....[pcary@me.com](mailto:pcary@me.com)

**Recommendations for next season & proposed dates/sites\***

<b>SWIMMING GIRLS Sportchair Doug Cassidy (c) 1</b>		<a href="http://www.arbitersports.com">www.arbitersports.com</a>
Class Championships Swim and Diving at member school or schools and ECC	Wed-Fri Oct 27-29th	Swim Prelims Wed 10/27 member schools Diving all rounds Thurs 10/28 member schools Swim Finals Fri 10/29 member schools
Sectional Diving Championship	Thursday Nov 4	Maryvale_ 3:30 Warm up 5:00 PM Start. (tentative)
Sectional State Qualifier	Friday Nov 5	ECC or University at Buffalo 5 pm warm-up 6 pm start (tentative)
States:	Nov. 18-20	Ithaca College

**Committee meeting date(s) via ZOOM** Saturday May 29, 2021 Saturday, August 21, 2021

**Classification Breakdown** To be determined by the Sectional office.\* Please do not figure schools into the classification breakdown that do not have swimming programs or that swim only during the winter (boys) season (Niagara-Oleans).

**Sectional 6 Classification Championship Meets / State Qualifier Meet** The new format for championships piloted in 2019 (prelim/final format for Class and Timed Final for the Sectional State qualifier) seemed to work well and received generally positive feedback. Assuming Covid restrictions are lifted by August 2021, the girls committee recommends the adoption of following the boys' protocols used in the 2019-20 winter season: Class prelims and finals at member schools with eight lanes, and a timed final Sectional meet at a College/University (ECC or UB). The later practice start date (August 24<sup>th</sup>) may create difficulties in finding time and sites for championships, but will be determined after our spring Committee meeting in May.

**State Qualifying Times for 2021:** Next Page

**Rule Changes for 2021:** Not available at this time.



**Other Pertinent Data/recommendations:**

1. The State committee voted in May 2017 for the host of the State Championships. Ithaca College will remain the host of the Girls championships through and including 2020. Since no State Championship was held in 2020 due to the pandemic, Ithaca will remain the site for the 2021 Championship. A note of intent was left with the Hotel Ithaca for lodging for 2021. Both the accommodations and meal plan were superior in 2019.
2. **The Committee recommendation continues to recommend the mandatory use of on-line reporting of all results by member schools. The Committee tech resource, Paul Cary, has been instrumental in coordinating with Swim Cloud, our new online reporting and roster management software. Paul Cary’s effort both during the girls and boys seasons has been monumental! It is the recommendation of the committee that a stipend be budgeted for Section Swimming Software Specialist, to compensate Mr. Cary for the MANY HOURS of work he puts in to allow our teams and competitions to run smoothly.**
3. As mentioned above the lodging accommodations at the Hotel Ithaca in 2019 were exceptional and with Section 6 approval, we would like to use them again in 2021.

Respectfully submitted Date: March 1, 2021  
Doug Cassidy, Section VI Girls Swimming Sportchair

**NYS PHSAA  
QUALIFYING STANDARDS FOR  
GIRLS’ SWIMMING & DIVING**

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

Total # of girls in Sect 6 participating in the sport in 2019.....1048\*  
Total # of Sect 6 girls participating in the  
2019 NYSPHSAA Championships.....45 (4.3%)

\* Based upon team totals entered by coaches on the [section6swim.com](http://section6swim.com) website.

**PRE-SEASON REPORT  
SECTION VI GIRLS TENNIS 2021  
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](mailto:kjanese@nwcsd.org)

<b>GIRLS</b>	<b>Chairperson</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Home</b>	<b>Work</b>	<b>E-Mail</b>
CCAA	Jamie Sposato*	Frewsburg	569-6157	569-7000	jsposato@frews.wnyric.org
ECIC	Paul Biddle	Amherst	440-6781	362-3000	pbiddle@amherstschools.org
NFL	John Lemar	Ohio Elementary	510-5098	807-3800 ext 7146	jlemar@ntschoos.org

**Committee meeting date(s)**

Seeding meeting Sunday, October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

Each league chair meets with his/her coaches during their individual meeting. Committee meetings are not held prior to the sectional tournament unless something comes up that requires discussion.

**Classification Breakdown**

According to the 2021-2022 BEDS, we have 21 Division 1 schools and 19 Division 2 schools

Division 1 (600+) 21 Schools	Division 2 (<599) 19 Schools
CCAA (2) Jamestown Olean/Portville	CCAA (7) Fredonia, Southwestern, Salamanca, Falconer, Frewsburg, Chautauqua Lake, and Maple Grove
ECIC (12) Lancaster, Clarence, Will North, Orchard Park, Frontier, West Seneca West, Hamburg, Sweet Home, Will East, Starpoint, Will South, & Amherst	ECIC (11) West Seneca East, 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

**Post Season Information**

<b>TENNIS GIRLS Sportchair Kristin Janese (C) 716-471-5537</b>		
Individual Sectionals Seeding Meeting:	Sun. Oct. 10 10:00AM	Zoe Restaurant 5711 Transit Rd. E. Amherst 639-4550 10:00am (OR Zoom)
Team Sectionals:	Sept 25th, Sept 28th, & Oct 2nd	Multiple Locations
Individual Sectionals:	Fri.-Sat. Oct. 15-16, 2021	Lakewood Family YMCA Friday is 12PM start and Saturday is 3PM start
Regionals:	Saturday Oct. 23 <sup>rd</sup>	TBD – I believe this is predetermined by the State
Individual States:	Thursday, October 28th – Saturday, Oct. 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2021	Sportime Tennis Schenectady, Schenectady, NY
Team States:	Saturday Nov. 6 <sup>th</sup> , 2021	TBD – Out for Bid

### **Team Sectional Championship\*\*NEW**

In order to determine both a small and large school Section 6 Team Championship winner we will use a 3-day tournament.

DATES: Sept 25<sup>th</sup>, Sept. 28<sup>th</sup> and Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup>. The first round will take 21 teams down to 8. Round 2 is the quarterfinals and Round 3 will be the semis and the finals. The overall winners of both divisions will play in the Regional Championship on Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup> for a chance to qualify for the new State Team Championship that begins in the 2021 season. More details are attached at the end of this document.

### **Changes in Policy/Practice for the upcoming season**

Since approval in 2019, there will be an additional 15 participants sent to the State Tournament each year drawn from a rotation of sections in order to fill the byes for the doubles and singles draws. For the 2021 Tournament, Section 6 will be sending an additional singles player based on the 9-year rotation. Therefore, the format of the Section 6 tournament would remain the same, however more players would qualify. We will send the top 4 singles players and the top 3 doubles teams.

Addition of Team Sectionals, Regionals and a State Team Championship.

This year's Individual State Tournament will be held from Thursday-Saturday instead of Saturday-Monday.

### **Rule Changes for 2021-2022:**

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

### **Other Pertinent Data**

- 1 All Coaches in Section VI will continue to be required to maintain accurate match results online on the given website.
- 2 In addition to uploading a current roster to the score reporting website, coaches will be encouraged to upload the same roster to the UTR website and claim their team. 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. Our score reporting site already works with UTR for players that have entered the system (mostly players who compete outside of HS Tennis). It will be extremely beneficial for us to help with seeding for the Team Tournaments. This is being encouraged throughout the entire state.
- 3 We will hold our Section 6 tournament in the Southtowns on October 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Lakewood Family YMCA has committed to hosting the event and has agreed to the proposed tentative start times. They have agreed to all 5 courts on Friday and 4 courts on Saturday.
- 4 The Individual State tournament will be held Thursday October 28<sup>th</sup> to Saturday October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021, at Sporttime in Schenectady, NY. I have already secured a block of 11 rooms at the host hotel, The Desmond (soon to be Crowne Plaza), Schenectady for 2 nights beginning Wed. Oct 27<sup>th</sup> and checking out on Friday October 29<sup>th</sup>. For 2020, the State has secured this host hotel at a rate of \$130/night which includes 4 breakfast tickets per room for both days. I am awaiting information to make sure that this hasn't changed for 2021.
- 5 The transportation/meal/hotel policy has worked out very well for years now and I would again recommend continuing with this policy for next year.
- 6 The State committee seeding meeting at the State Tournament will be held on Wednesday October 27<sup>th</sup>.

Respectfully submitted 2/23/21

Kristin Janese, Section VI Girls Tennis Sportchair

## **NYSPHSAA Girls Tennis** **Section VI Team Championships**

### **CHANGES**

- The NYSPHSAA Championship for both girls' and boys' tennis has changed from an "individual" to "individual/team" sport designation.
- NYSPHSAA has adopted a Team State Championship for girl's and boy's tennis in addition to the individual championship effective for the girls beginning with the 2021 season and for the boys for the 2022 season.
- Section VI has approved and will hold a Team Championship for both Division I (enrollment of 600+) and Division 2 (enrollment of 599 and below)
- 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. The score for a forfeit will be 8-0 for Day 1 and 6-0, 6-0 for Days 2 and 3.
  - Division 2 - 3 singles and 2 doubles (7 players just like our regular season)

Timeline (subject to change):

Sept 18th: Deadline for match record to be used for sectional seeding/grouping.

Saturday Sept. 25th: **Round 1** of the Sectional Team Tournament (Pod of 3 teams and playing 2 - 8 game pro sets) held at a school TBD

Tuesday Sept. 28th: **Quarterfinal** round of Team Sectionals with home team being the higher seed.

Saturday Oct. 2nd: **Semis and Finals** of Team Sectionals to be held at a neutral location TBD.

October 8th-9th (Week 14): **League Championships** (this is a week earlier than normal)

October 10th: Seeding Meeting for Section VI Committee

October 15th-16th (Week 15): **Sectionals** (this is a week earlier than normal)

Sat. October 23rd (Week 16): **Team Regional Finals**

October 28-30 (Week 17): **Individual State Championship** (Sportime, Schenectady)

Nov. 6th (Week 18): **Team State Championships - Semis and Finals** (Location TBD)

According to the 2021-2022 BEDS, we have 21 Division 1 schools and 19 Division 2 schools

Division 1 (600+) 21 Schools	Division 2 (<599) 19 Schools
CCAA (2) Jamestown Olean/Portville	CCAA (7) Fredonia, Southwestern, Salamanca, Falconer, Frewsburg, Chautauqua Lake, and Maple Grove
ECIC (12) Lancaster, Clarence, Will North, Orchard Park, Frontier, West Seneca West, Hamburg, Sweet Home, Will East, Starpoint, Will South, & Amherst	ECIC (11) West Seneca East, 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
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**Team Sectionals**

**Day 1 - Saturday September 25th:** (21 Teams for Division 1 and 19 Teams for Division 2)

Consists of 7 pods of 3 teams each (Division 2 will have 2 pods with only 2 teams in it).

The 3 team pod will be determined by the Section VI committee based on; team record up until Sept. 18th, 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.

Once a site is determined (Division 1 must be at a site with 8 courts), a schedule of time will be made available. The 3 teams in the pod will play an 8 game pro set against each other in a round robin format to determine the 1 team from that pod that will advance to the quarter finals. Division 1 will play 3 singles/4 doubles, and Division 2 will use 3 singles/2 doubles. The team that advances will have beaten both other teams head to head. Should there happen to be a tie, we will follow the USTA 2020 league tiebreak rules. The tiebreaker will be:

1. Most total individual match wins
2. Fewest number of games lost
3. Winner of head-to-head matches
4. Coin toss

**Day 2 - Tuesday September 28th: Quarterfinals** (7 Teams for both Division 1 and Division 2)

The top seeded team (committee decides based on above criteria) will earn a bye for the quarterfinal round. The other 3 matches will play head to head at the higher seeded team on Tuesday, September 28th. This will be a regular scoring, best 2 out of 3 set match using the format listed above.

**Day 3 - Saturday October 2nd: Semi and Finals** (4 Teams for both leading to 1 champion for each division).

A neutral site will be determined for both Division 1 and Division 2. A location with 8 courts is a must. Once a site is determined, a schedule of time will be made available. Both semi finals matches will be played followed by the Section Championship match. Format will be 2 out of 3 sets, regular scoring. Division 1 will use 3 singles/4 doubles and Division 2 will use 3 singles/2 doubles. The winners of both divisions will advance to the Regional Finals on October 23rd.

**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.**

This is brand new for Section VI, although many other sections across New York and across the country have been competing in a team championship for years. I hope for a smooth running tournament, but expect to iron out any hiccups over the next couple of seasons. Flexibility is needed amongst the leagues.

Looking forward to including more players in the championship events and gaining experience across the section.

Kristin Janese  
Section VI Chairperson



**CROSS COUNTRY  
2021 PRE-SEASON REPORT  
CHAIRS: BOYS – KEN HANS, GIRLS – Pete Szymanski**

**Committee members (voting\*)**

<b>Section VI Chairpersons</b>		<b>School</b>	<b>Cell</b>
Boys	Ken Hans .....	.....	208-6433
Girls	Pete Szymanski .....		480-2333

<b>Boys League Representatives</b>		<b>School</b>	<b>Cell</b>
ECIC	*Pete Szymanski, JFK .....		480-2333
Buffalo	*Jason Longo, Hutch Tech .....		308-6654
NFL	*Tim Willett, Lockport.....		998-7200
NO	*Paul Dersarkissian, Barker.....	795-3201x5229	860-7147
CCAA	*Tim O'Donnell, Gowanda .....		270-7685

<b>Girls League Representatives</b>		<b>School</b>	<b>Cell</b>
ECIC	*Walt McLaughlin, E. Aurora .....	687-2505 .....	289-1990
Buffalo	*Debbie Grine, da Vinci		861-4374
NFL	*Israel Martinez, Niagara Falls .....	278-5800	628-0664
NO	*Paul Dersarkissian, Barker.....	795-3201x5229	860-7147
CCAA	*Kathy Stamets, All/Lime .....	375-6606	498-8615
At Large	Stephen Matteson, Maple Grove.....		397-1312

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

**Classification Breakdown**

4 classes→A: 830+, B: 446-829, C: 240-445, D: 0-239 (New classifications have been proposed. Currently, they are scheduled to be implemented in 2022, but there is discussion of bringing them online for 2021.)

**Post Season Information - 2020**

<b>Cross Country Boys Sportschair : Ken Hans (c) 208-6433 Girls Chair : Pete Szymanski (c) 480-2333</b>		
Sectionals	Sat, Sun 11/14 and 15	Bemus Point Golf Club
	Girls	B1-10:30 am, B2-12:30 pm, C1-2:30 pm C2 – 10:30 am, D 12:30 pm, A 2:30 pm
	Boys	B1-11:15 pm, B2-1:15 pm, A-2:00 pm, C1-3:15 pm C2 – 11:15 am, D 1:15 pm, A 3:15 pm
States:	na	

NYS Federation Meet	na	
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### **2021 Season Information**

Sectionals:	Fri. Nov. 5	Knox Farms
	Boys	C-10:00 am, D- 10:30 am, A- 1:00 pm, B- 1:30 pm
	Girls	C-11:00 pm, D- 11:35 pm, A- 2:00 pm, B- 2:35 pm
States:	Sat. Nov. 13	Chenango Valley State Park (Section 4)
NYS Federation Meet	Sat. Nov. 20	Bowdoin Park, Wappingers Falls (Section 1)

<b>BOYS Class</b>	<b>Boys Team School Winner</b>	<b>Section 6 Individual Winner</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Section 6 First Finisher in NYSPHSAA Meet</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Place in State Meet</b>	<b>Section 6 School Finish</b>
A	Clarence	Zack Winnicki (11)	Lancaster	na			
B1	Amherst	Jack Lenz (12)	Amherst	na			
B2	East Aurora	Justin Pavan (12)	Lewport				
C1	Alden	Kyle Urban(11)	Alden	na			
C2	Allegany-Limestone	Ryan Wisniewski (12)	Allegany-Limestone				
D	Barker	Lukas Baer (11)	Maple Grove	na			

<b>GIRLS</b>	<b>Girls Team School Winner</b>	<b>Section 6 Individual Winner</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Section 6 First Finisher in NYSPHSAA Meet</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Place in State Meet</b>	<b>Section 6 School Finish</b>
A	Clarence	Noel Barlette (9)	Orchard Park	na			
B1	Amherst	Kayla Scmidt (12)	Williamsville South	na			
B2	East Aurora	Emilia O'Leary (8)	East Aurora				
C1	Newfane	Kylie Bowman(9)	Newfane	na			
C2	Falconer	Angelina Napoleon (10)	Allegany-Limestone				
D	Maple Grove	Acacia Barber (12)	Frewsburg	na			

**Changes in Policy/Practice for the upcoming season**

None.

**Rule Changes for 2019-2020**

None.

**Other Pertinent Data**

- The sectional course will be available for inspection only on Friday November 5<sup>th</sup> starting at 9:00 am. Only varsity teams will be participating.
- State Meet to be held at Chenango Valley State Park on November 13.
- Sectional awards ceremonies will be broken up into class ceremonies following each of the races 3, 4, 7, 8. Committee members will be responsible for running each of the five award ceremonies.

Respectfully submitted 2/18/2021,  
Ken Hans, Section VI Boys Cross Country Chairman  
Pete Szymanski, Section VI Girls Cross Country Chairman