

Championship Philosophy Committee Report  
Section VI Athletic Council Meeting  
May 19, 2010  
Patrick M. Burke, Section VI Representative

**Purpose**

- To review and if needed revise the current philosophy and guidelines of the NYSPHSAA Championship events.

**Committee Make-Up**

- 1 representative from each Section--athletic administrators, principals, supt.
- Pat Pizzarelli-NYSPHSAA President
- Mark Ward-NYSPHSAA, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President
- Dick McGuire-NYSPHSAA, Past President
- Doug Kenyon-Section 2, Committee Chair
- Karen Lopez-Section 7, Committee Chair
- NYSPHSAA Staff-VanErk, Stulmaker, Nelson, Altieri

**Committee Meeting Dates**

- 10/15/09, 1/14/10, 3/1/10, 3/23/10, 4/27/10

**Committee Supports**

1. Quality vs Quantity

- NYSPHSAA will sponsor Championships that represent excellence achieved in each sport.
- The percentage of opportunities for athletes to compete in NYSPHSAA Championships should fall within a designated range of 5% to 8% for all sports.
- Percentages will be calculated using the number of athletes participating in the sport and the number of competitors in the championship event.

2. Representation

- Each Section would be permitted to qualify a minimum of one representative for all NYSPHSAA Championship events.
- In designated sports additional At-Large competitors will be selected to complete the tournament structure.

3. At-Large Competitors

- For designated individual sports, a cap will be established to limit the number of At-Large competitors participating in championship events.
- The At-Large competitors will be the top state-wide performers that have met the minimum qualifying standard recommended by the Sport Committee and approved by the Executive/Central Committee.

4. Qualifying Process

- A uniform process will be established to bring state-wide consistency across all sections for the purpose of qualifying athletes for NYSPHSAA Championship events.

5. Gender Equity

- Every effort should be made to provide for equitable participation opportunities in NYSPHSAA Championships when the sport is similar or the same. (Example: soccer, baseball/softball and track and field)

6. Championship Categories

- Team Sport Championships - competition between intact school teams.
- Individual Sport Championships - competition between individuals representing their section.
- Combination Team/Individual Sport Championships-competition consisting of both school teams and individuals representing their section.

7. Classes and Divisions

- A formula will be used to identify the maximum number of championships classes or divisions allowed. The formula will be based on the number of varsity programs sponsored by NYSPHSAA member schools in a sport.

## Major Changes

A. Team Sport

- No Changes

Currently applies to volleyball, basketball, soccer, lacrosse, field hockey, softball, football, baseball and ice hockey.

Number of Varsity Programs	Number of Allowable Championships Classes or Divisions
24-100	1
101-200	2
201-300	3
301-400	4
401-above	5

B. Team/Individual Sports

Currently applies to Cross Country, Skiing, Bowling and Rifle.

Number of Varsity Programs	Number of Allowable Championships Classes or Divisions
24-200	1
201-425	2
426-500	3
501-above	4

1. Cross Country

- Maximum of 7 competitors per school team per class
- Maximum of 5 individual competitors per Section per class

AFFECT: A reduction of 1 class (5 classes to 4 classes)

2. Skiing

- Maximum of 8 competitors for Alpine Skiing per Section
- Maximum of 8 competitors for Nordic Skiing per Section

AFFECT: A reduction of 4 competitors in Alpine and 4 competitors in Nordic.

**C. Individual Sports**

Currently applies to Swimming and Diving, Tennis, Wrestling, Gymnastics and Indoor Track and Field, Outdoor Track and Field and Golf.

Number of Varsity Programs	Number of Allowable Championships Classes or Divisions
24-300	1
301-above	2

1. Outdoor Track and Field

Two Division Sport

- Maximum of 20 competitors per event per division
- Maximum of 16 relay teams per event per division

AFFECT: Caps the number of competitors and permits the best athletes in the State to participate.

2. Swimming and Diving

One Division Sport

- Maximum of 32 competitors per event
- Maximum of 24 relay teams per event
- Maximum of 24 competitors in diving

AFFECT: Caps the number of competitors and permits the best swimmers in the State to participate.

3. Indoor Track and Field

One Division Sport

- Maximum of 30 competitors per event
- Maximum of 16 relay teams per event

AFFECT: Allows a slight increase in participation and permits the best competitors in the State to participate.

## **Recommendations**

Result in the following:

- Quality vs Quantity - participation opportunity range of 5%-8%
- Permits one representative per Section
- Caps participation in all tournaments
- At Large Competitors - top state-wide performers
- Reduces participation in Cross Country and Skiing to conform with the percentage of opportunity
- Creates state-wide consistency for qualifying athletes for NYSPHSAA tournaments

## **Next Steps**

Feedback from Executive Committee

- Will summarize for committee members

Feedback from Sport Coordinators

- Staff will direct the effort

Inform Member Schools

- Back to the Sections-discussion and input
- Sport Committees-discussion and input

August Meeting

- Discussion and input

December Meeting

- Vote on Championship Philosophy for implementation in the 2011-2012 school year