

**ORANGE COUNTY INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION  
ATHLETIC DIRECTORS WORKSHOP**



**Thursday, February 15, 2024 - 9:30 AM**

**Orange Ulster BOCES**

**Carl Onken Conference Center Room B/C**

**Internet Login: BOCESGuest**

**Password: Path2YourFuture!**

**AGENDA**

1. Approval of Minutes of Last Meeting Dated January 16, 2024
2. NYSPHSAA Meeting Report – Mr. Greg Ransom/Mr. Jim Osborne
3. OCIAA President’s Report – Mr. Mike Bellarosa
  - a. Section IX / NYSPHSAA Voting Items
4. OCIAA Athletic Coordinator’s Report – Mr. Christopher P. Mayo  
Items of Concern:
  - A. OCIAA Scholar Athlete Awards – June 6, 2024 @ Otterkill CC
  - B. Tyler Muise Award
  - C. Section IX Football – David Coates
  - D. Fall Schedules 2024 – Vote
  - E. Combining of Teams – Tim Bult
  - F. NYSAAA – Christian Hodge
5. Review of Ejection Policy and Protest Protocol
6. Old Business
7. New Business
8. Next Athletic Directors Workshop – Tuesday, March 19, 2024, at 9:30 am  
at Orange-Ulster BOCES Conference Room B/C  
  
Next Section IX Meeting – Tuesday, March 12, 2024 at 9:30 a.m. via Zoom
9. Adjourn



# Section IX Athletics

**Gregory Ransom, Executive Director**

NYS PHSAA Highlights  
Executive Committee Meeting

**Dr. Robert Zayas, Executive Director**

- **Anyone Can Save A Life – Starts in the Fall 2024**  
All Interscholastic Teams are required to complete the Program within the first two Weeks of the Season starting with the Fall 2024 Season.
- **Combining of Teams – The graduated scale increases the percentages for the two smallest Classifications from 30% to 40% & 40% to 50%. For clarification, the revised Graduated scale will apply to the two smallest classifications for a sport(i.e. Lacrosse C & D, Basketball Class C & D, Field Hockey Class B & C.**
- **Future Official Start Dates:**  
2024 Spring:  
Monday, March 11, 2024 (Week #37)  
2024- Fall:  
Saturday, August 24, 2024 (Week #7) Football  
Monday, August 26, 2024 (Week #8)  
2024-2025 – Winter:  
Monday, November 18, 2024(Week #20)  
2025 – Spring:  
Monday, March 17, 2025(Week #37)  
2025-Fall  
Saturday, August 23, 2025(Week #7) Football  
Monday, August 25, 2025(Week #8)  
2025-2026 – Winter  
Monday, November 17, 2025(Week #20)  
2026 – Spring  
Monday, March 16, 2026(Week #37)

**Joe Altieri, Assistant Director**

- 2023-2024 Championship Dates & Sites(attached)
- NYS PHSAA Championship 5 year calendar, Fall 2023 thru Spring 2028(attached)

**Todd Nelson, Assistant Director**

- **NFHS Coaches Award**  
Wrestling. Kevin Gallagher. NFHS – State - Minisink Valley  
Girls Basketball Adam Peek. NFHS – State – Millbrook  
Girls Tennis. Matt Greevey. NFHS – State – Cornwall

Kristen Jadin, Assistant Director

- Scholar Athlete, the Winter Scholar Athlete will open on Monday, January 29, 2024  
The deadline to submit is Monday, March 11, 2024
- Participation Survey, will be released in early April with a mid-May deadline
- NYSPHSAA Student Leadership Conference:  
Thursday, March 28, 2024 @ the Albany Hilton
- Sportsmanship Promotion survey will open in early February, the deadline to  
Submit is Monday, April 8, 2024
- Mental Health Awareness week is April 29 – May 6, 2024
- Student – Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC)  
Section IX is in need of 1(rising junior-male)

Information and Discussion Items are attached for review by the Section IX Athletic Council and the Leagues.



# Section IX Athletics

**Gregory Ransom, Executive Director**

## Items for Review by the Section IX Athletic Council

### Information Items:

- Structural Growth and Membership Dues
- NYSPHSAA Friend and Neighbor Fee

### Discussion Items to be Voted upon:

- Football – permanently continued use of the Standby Official at the SemiFinal and Final games as an on-field working Official
- Drone Policy – Law Enforcement
- Appeal Procedure – Protest Committees & use of Video
- Sportsmanship Rule – Clarification
- NYSPHSAA SAAC – Add SAAC student to ALL NYSPHSAA Standing Committees
- Spring Sports – Adopt earlier start date of Monday of Week #36 starting 2025
- Regional Rotation- Guiding Principles
- Hall of Fame Program – Revisions to Procedures
- Football – Request to start practice on Wednesday of Week #7
- Football- Modify the Combined Practice Requirements
- Girls Volleyball- Adopt a Three-Day Tournament for 2024
- Skiing- Waiver for a Permanent Representation Rule 6-3
- Girls/Boys Bowling- Permit use of Rotating At-Large Berths
- Girls/Boys Bowling- Allow Bowlers to compete in both Team & Composite Events 2025
- Girls Ice Hockey- Adopt New Regional Rotation for 2024
- Softball- Adopt NFHS Rules starting in 2025
- Boys Lacrosse- Classification Cut-Off Numbers for 2025
- Girls & Boys Tennis- Designate the National Tennis Center as Host of All NYSPHSAA Tennis Events

# New York State Public High School Athletic Association



Executive Committee Meeting – January 31, 2024

## Structural Growth & Membership Dues

- Action Item
- Discussion Item
- Informational Item

**Presenter:**

Dr. Robert Zayas, NYSPHSAA Executive Director

**Effective Start Date:**

2024-2025 School Year

**Details:**

The following increase of NYSPHSAA membership dues will be included within the NYSPHSAA Budget to be voted on at the May Executive Committee meeting.

**\$1050 + \$1/student over 300**

*This represents a \$50 increase of the base fee*

Additionally, the base fee of NYSPHSAA membership dues will increase \$50 annually beginning in the 2024-2025 school year. The Executive Committee expressed interest in incorporating structural growth of membership dues within the association's budget structure. Schools can now budget a \$50 annual increase. The \$50 annual increase will be included within the NYSPHSAA Budget, which will be voted on at the May Executive Committee meetings. A sample schedule increase is below. The increase will continue until the Budget/Audit Committee proposes a revision based upon membership feedback and input.

2024-2025

**\$1050 + \$1/student over 300**

2025-2026

**\$1100 + \$1/student over 300**

2026-2027

**\$1150 + \$1/student over 300**

2027-2028

**\$1200 + \$1/student over 300**

# New York State Public High School Athletic Association



*Executive Committee Meeting – January 31, 2024*

## NYSPHSAA Friend & Neighbor Fee

- Action Item
- Discussion Item
- Informational Item

**Presenter:**

Dr. Robert Zayas, NYSPHSAA Executive Director

**Effective Start Date:**

2024-2025 School year

**Details:**

The NYSPHSAA Friend & Neighbor fee will be \$500 annually beginning in the 2024-2025 school year. This item will be included within the NYSPHSAA Budget to be voted on at the May Executive Committee meeting.

# New York State Public High School Athletic Association



Executive Committee – January 31, 2024

## CHAMPIONSHIP ADVISORY COMMITTEE/FOOTBALL – Continue Use of Standby Official on the Field for Football State Semifinals and Finals

- Action Item
- Discussion Item
- Informational Item

**Presenter:**

Greg Ransom, CAC Chair

**Proposal:**

The NYSPHSAA Championship Advisory Committee is seeking approval, at the request of the Football Committee, to permanently continue using the standby official at the semifinal and final games as an on-field working official.

**Effective Start Date:**

Fall 2024

**Rationale:**

Prior to the pilot, five working on-field officials and one standby official were being used. The back judge is responsible to cover all down field plays with the line judges supporting them. Today's teams and athletes are producing more and more downfield plays. These downfield plays are becoming more difficult for a back judge to cover alone. The standby official is on the sidelines working with the chain crew and is used if an official is not able to continue due to an injury or illness. Continuing to allow the standby official to be a working on-field official then there could have two back judges on each side of the field which would provide greater coverage for downfield plays and allow the line judges to monitor the line of scrimmage area better.

**Proposal Originated:**

NYSPHSAA CAC following a discussion and recommendation by the Football Committee in December 2023.

**Budgetary Impact:**

Currently, the standby official is being paid ½ game fee to stand on the sidelines. If he was to become an on-field working official, he would receive a full game fee.

**Notes:**

None

**Attachments:**

None

**CAC Feedback:**

CAC voted 9-0 in support of this proposal.

DATE REVISED: January 12, 2024



2023-2024 NYSPHSAA  
Championship Dates & Sites



**Fall 2023**

Oct 26-28	Girls Tennis	*Sportime, Schenectady (2)
Nov 3	Girls Tennis Team	USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center (NYC)
Nov 5 (Sunday)	Gameday Cheer	Visions FCU Memorial Arena, Binghamton (IV)
Nov 11	B/G Cross Country	*Vernon-Verona-Sherrill HS (III)
Nov 10-12	Boys Soccer	*Middletown High School, Middletown (IX)
Nov 11-12	Girls Soccer	*SUNY Cortland, Homer HS, Tompkins Cortland CC (III)
Nov 11-12	Field Hockey	*Centereach High School (XI)
Nov 17-18	Girls Swimming/Diving	Webster Aquatic Center (V)
Nov 18	Boys Volleyball	Capital Center, Albany (2)
Nov 18	Federation Cross Country	Bowdoin Park, Wappingers Falls (1)
Nov 18-19	Girls Volleyball	Cool Insuring Arena, Glens Falls (2)
Nov 24-25	Football East Semifinals	Middletown High School, Middletown (IX)
Nov 24-25	Football West Semifinals	Cicero North Syracuse High School, Cicero (III)
Dec 2 & 3	Football Finals	JMA Wireless Dome, Syracuse (III)

**Winter 2024**

Jan 26	Girls Wrestling Invitational	SRC Arena at Onondaga CC, Syracuse, NY (III)
Jan 27	Wrestling Dual Meet	*SRC Arena at Onondaga CC, Syracuse, NY (III)
Feb 16-17	Girls Ice Hockey Regional	Nexus Center, Utica (III)
Feb 23-24	Boys Wrestling Individual	*MVP Arena (2)
Feb 26-27	B/G Skiing	Whiteface Mountain & Mount Van Hoevenburg (7)
March 1-2	Boys Swimming/Diving	*Ithaca College (IV)
March 2	Girls Gymnastics	Clarence High School, Buffalo (VI)
March 2	B/G Indoor Track/Field	Ocean Breeze Athletic Complex (NYC)
March 2	Cheerleading	Visions FCU Memorial Arena, Binghamton (IV)
March 8-10	B/G Bowling	*Strike N Spare Lanes, Syracuse (III)
March 9-10	Ice Hockey	LECOM Harborcenter, Buffalo (VI)
March 14-17	Girls Basketball	*Hudson Valley CC, Troy (2)
March 14-17	Boys Basketball	*Cool Insuring Arena, Glens Falls (2)

**Spring 2024**

May 31-June 2	Boys Tennis	USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center (NYC)
June 1-2	Flag Football	Cortland High School, Homer High School (3)
June 2-3	Girls Golf	The Edison Club, Rexford (2)
June 2-3	Boys Golf	*Mark Twain Golf Course, Elmira (IV)
June 5	Boys Lacrosse East Semis	*University at Albany, Albany (2)
June 5	Boys Lacrosse West Semis	*SUNY Cortland, Cortland (III)
June 7	Boys Tennis Team	USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center (NYC)
June 7-8	B/G Track & Field	*Cicero-North Syracuse High School, Cicero (III)
June 7-8	Baseball	Mirabito Stadium, Union Endicott HS, Binghamton Univ (VI)
June 7-8	Girls Lacrosse	SUNY Cortland, Cortland (III)
June 8	Boys Lacrosse Finals	*Hofstra University, Hempstead (VIII)
June 7-8	Softball	*Martha Avenue Recreational Park, Brookhaven (VIII)
June 9	Federation Golf Championships	Bethpage State Park Golf Course

\* Tournament was advanced one year due to COVID

Updated 12/20/2023



NYSPHSAA Championships - 5-YEAR CALENDAR - Fall 2023 thru Spring 2028

FALL		FALL 2023	FALL 2024	FALL 2025	FALL 2026	FALL 2027
Girls Tennis (Individual)	Date	October 26-28, 2023	October 31-November 2, 2024	October 30-November 1, 2025	October 29-31, 2026	October 28-30, 2027
	Site	**Sportime, Schenectady	Sportime, Schenectady	Sportime, Schenectady	Sportime, Schenectady	Sportime, Schenectady
Girls Tennis (Team)	Date	November 3, 2023	November 8, 2024	November 7, 2025	November 6, 2026	November 5, 2027
	Site	USTA National Tennis Center	Drumlins Tennis Club	Drumlins Tennis Club	Drumlins Tennis Club	Drumlins Tennis Club
Cheer (Game Day)	Date	SUNDAY, November 5, 2023	SUNDAY, November 10, 2024	SUNDAY, November 9, 2025	SUNDAY, November 8, 2026	SUNDAY, November 7, 2027
(state tourney in 2023)	Site	Visions Veterans Arena				
B/G Cross Country	Date	November 11, 2023	November 16, 2024	November 15, 2025	November 14, 2026	November 13, 2027
	Site	**Vernon Verona Sherrill HS	Queensbury High School	Letchworth State Park	Queensbury High School	Queensbury High School
Boys Soccer	Date	November 10-12, 2023	November 15-17, 2024	November 14-16, 2025	November 13-15, 2026	November 12-14, 2027
	Site	Middletown High School	**Middletown High School			
Girls Soccer	Date	November 11-12, 2023	November 16-17, 2024	November 15-16, 2025	November 14-15, 2026	November 13-14, 2027
	Site	**SUNY Cortland, TC3, Homer	Cortland	Cortland	Cortland	Cortland
Field Hockey	Date	November 11-12, 2023	November 16-17, 2024	November 15-16, 2025	November 14-15, 2026	November 13-14, 2027
	Site	**Centereach High School	Arlington High School	Arlington High School	Arlington High School	Arlington High School
Girls Swimming & Diving	Date	November 17-18, 2023	November 22-23, 2024	November 21-22, 2025	November 20-21, 2026	November 19-20, 2027
	Site	Webster Aquatic Center	Webster Aquatic Center			
Boys Volleyball	Date	November 18, 2023	November 23, 2024	November 22, 2025	November 21, 2026	November 20, 2027
	Site	Capital Center, Albany	Capital Center, Albany			
Girls Volleyball	Date	November 18-19, 2023	November 23-24, 2024	November 22-23, 2025	November 21-22, 2026	November 20-21, 2027
	Site	Cool Insuring Arena, Glens Falls	Cool Insuring Arena, Glens Falls			
Football EAST	Date	November 24-25, 2023	November 29-30, 2024	November 28-29, 2025	November 27-28, 2026	November 26-27, 2027
	Site	Middletown High School	Middletown High School	Middletown High School		
Football WEST	Date	November 24-25, 2023	November 29-30, 2024	November 28-29, 2025	November 27-28, 2026	November 26-27, 2027
(includes 8-man @ west site)	Site	Cicero North Syracuse HS	Vestal High School	Cicero North Syracuse HS		
Football FINALS	Date	December 2 & 3, 2023	December 6-8, 2024	December 5-7, 2025	December 4-6, 2026	December 3-5, 2027
	Site	JMA Wireless Dome	JMA Wireless Dome	JMA Wireless Dome		
WINTER		WINTER 2024	WINTER 2025	WINTER 2026	WINTER 2027	WINTER 2028
Wrestling Girls (Invitations)	Date	January 26, 2024	January 31, 2025	January 30, 2026	January 29, 2027	January 28, 2028
	Site	SRC Arena at Onondaga CC				
Wrestling Dual Meet	Date	January 27, 2024	February 1, 2025	January 31, 2026	January 30, 2027	January 29, 2028
	Site	**SRC Arena at Onondaga CC	SRC Arena at Onondaga CC	SRC Arena at Onondaga CC	SRC Arena at Onondaga CC	SRC Arena at Onondaga CC
Girls Ice Hockey Regional	Date	February 16-17, 2024	February 21-22, 2025	February 20-21, 2026	February 19-20, 2027	February 18-19, 2028
	Site	Nexus Center, Utica	Nexus Center, Utica	Nexus Center, Utica	Nexus Center, Utica	Nexus Center, Utica
Wrestling (Boys)	Date	February 23-24, 2024	February 28 - March 1, 2025	February 27-28, 2026	February 26-27, 2027	February 25-26, 2028
	Site	MVP Arena, Albany	MVP Arena, Albany			
B/G Skiing	Date	February 26-27, 2024	February 24-25, 2025	February 23-24, 2026	February 22-23, 2027	February 28-29, 2028
	Site	Whiteface/Mt. Vanhoevenberg	Gore Mountain/North Creek	Bristol Mtn/Harriet Hollister	Whiteface/Mt. Vanhoevenberg	
Boys Swimming & Diving	Date	March 1-2, 2024	March 7-8, 2025	March 6-7, 2026	March 5-6, 2027	March 4-5, 2028
	Site	**Ithaca College	Ithaca College	Ithaca College	Ithaca College	Ithaca College
Competitive Cheer	Date	March 2, 2024	March 8, 2025	March 7, 2026	March 6, 2027	March 4, 2028
	Site	Visions Veterans Mem Arena	Visions Veterans Mem Arena			
Girls Gymnastics	Date	March 2, 2024	March 1, 2025	February 28, 2026	February 27, 2027	March 4, 2028
	Site	Clarence HS (Kenmore withdrew)				
B/G Indoor Track	Date	March 2, 2024	March 8, 2025	March 7, 2026	March 6, 2027	March 4, 2028
	Site	Ocean Breeze Athletic Complex	Ocean Breeze Athletic Complex	Ocean Breeze Athletic Complex		
B/G Bowling	Date	March 8-10, 2024	March 14-16, 2025	March 13-15, 2026	March 12-14, 2027	March 10-12, 2028
	Site	**Strike N Spare Lanes	Strike N Spare Lanes	Strike N Spare Lanes	Strike N Spare Lanes	Strike N Spare Lanes
Ice Hockey	Date	March 9-10, 2024	March 15-16, 2025	March 14-15, 2026	March 13-14, 2027	March 11-12, 2028
	Site	LECOM Harborcenter	LECOM Harborcenter	LECOM Harborcenter	LECOM Harborcenter	LECOM Harborcenter
Girls Basketball	Date	March 14-17, 2024	March 20-23, 2025	March 19-22, 2026	March 18-21, 2027	March 16-19, 2028
	Site	**Hudson Valley CC	Hudson Valley CC	Hudson Valley CC	Hudson Valley CC	Hudson Valley CC
Boys Basketball	Date	March 14-17, 2024	March 20-23, 2025	March 19-22, 2026	March 18-21, 2027	March 18-21, 2028
	Site	**Cool Insuring Arena, G. Falls	Glens Falls or Binghamton	Glens Falls or Binghamton	Glens Falls or Binghamton	Glens Falls or Binghamton
SPRING		SPRING 2024	SPRING 2025	SPRING 2026	SPRING 2027	SPRING 2028
Boys Tennis (Individual)	Date	May 31 - June 2, 2024	June 6-8, 2025	June 5-7, 2026	June 4-6, 2027	June 2-4, 2028
	Site	USTA National Tennis Center				
Flag Football	Date	June 1-2, 2024	June 7-8, 2025	June 6-7, 2026	June 5, 2027	June 3, 2028
	Site	Cortland	Cortland	Cortland		
Boys Golf	Date	June 2-3, 2024	June 8-9, 2025	June 7-8, 2026	June 6-7, 2027	June 4-5, 2028
	Site	**Mark Twain Golf Course				
Girls Golf	Date	June 2-3, 2024	June 8-9, 2025	June 7-8, 2026	June 6-7, 2027	June 4-5, 2028
	Site	The Edison Club	Wild Wood Country Club	Wild Wood Country Club	Wild Wood Country Club	Wild Wood Country Club
Boys Lacrosse Semis EAST	Date	June 5, 2024	June 11, 2025	June 10, 2026	June 9, 2027	June 7, 2028
	Site	**UAlbany	Middletown High School	Middletown High School	Middletown High School	Middletown High School
Boys Lacrosse Semis WEST	Date	June 5, 2024	June 11, 2025	June 10, 2026	June 9, 2027	June 7, 2028
	Site	**SUNY Cortland	SUNY Cortland	SUNY Cortland	SUNY Cortland	SUNY Cortland
Boys Lacrosse FINALS	Date	June 8, 2024	June 14, 2025	June 13, 2026	June 12, 2027	June 11, 2028
	Site	**Hofstra University	Hofstra Univ or Hobart WS	Hofstra Univ or Hobart WS	Hofstra Univ or Hobart WS	Hofstra Univ or Hobart WS
Boys Tennis (Team)	Date	June 7, 2024	June 13, 2025	June 12, 2026	June 11, 2027	June 9, 2028
	Site	USTA National Tennis Center				
Girls Lacrosse	Date	June 7-8, 2024	June 13-14, 2025	June 12-13, 2026	June 11-12, 2027	June 9-10, 2028
	Site	**SUNY Cortland	SUNY Cortland	SUNY Cortland	SUNY Cortland	SUNY Cortland
B/G Outdoor Track	Date	June 7-8, 2024	June 13-14, 2025	June 12-13, 2026	June 11-12, 2027	June 9-10, 2028
	Site	**Cicero-North Syracuse	**Middletown High School			
Baseball	Date	June 7-8, 2024	June 13-14, 2025	June 12-13, 2026	June 11-12, 2027	June 9-10, 2028
	Site	Binghamton	Binghamton	Binghamton		
Softball	Date	June 7-8, 2024	June 13-14, 2025	June 12-13, 2026	June 11-12, 2027	June 9-10, 2028
	Site	**Martha Avenue Rec Park	Greenlight Networks GS Park	Greenlight Networks GS Park	Greenlight Networks GS Park	Greenlight Networks GS Park

1/4/2023

yellow box indicates RECOMMENDED and will be voted on at the next Executive/Central Committee meeting

\*\* due to COVID-19 canceling these events, an additional year was granted by the Venue & Executive Committee to host these events again

Drone Policy – Law Enforcement

- Action Item
- Discussion Item
- Informational Item

**Presenter:**

Dr. Robert Zayas, NYSPHSAA Executive Director

**Proposal:**

Consider revising the NYSPHSAA Drone Policy to address law enforcement. Proposed revisions:

*“The NYSPHSAA Executive Director has the authority to grant an exception to this policy to ~~law enforcement~~, public safety agencies, NYSPHSAA media partners, or other entities or individuals; **the use of drones by law enforcement agencies does not require approval from the NYSPHSAA Executive Director.** Any request for an exception to the policy must be submitted to the Executive Director at least a week prior to the event. The exception is limited to the specific event requested and requires the consent of the host venue.”*

**Effective Start Date:**

Fall 2024

**Rationale:**

Law enforcement agencies work cooperatively with school districts and should not require approval from NYSPHSAA to operate a drone during a high school interscholastic event.

**Proposal Originated:**

NYSPHSAA staff

**Budgetary Impact:**

None

**Notes:**

The NYSPHSAA Handbook Committee supports this proposal.

**Attachments:**

Revised Drone Policy



## New York State Public High School Athletic Association Drone Policy

The New York State Public High School Athletic Association prohibits the use or possession of unmanned aircraft or aerial systems (UAS), also known as drones, for any purpose by any person or entity at all scrimmages, regular season and post season events.

This prohibition applies to the area above and upon all spectator areas, fields of play, courts, arenas, stadiums, mats, gymnasiums, pools, practice facilities, parking areas and or other property being utilized for the purpose of the interscholastic activity.

If there is a report of UAS activity at an athletic event school, Section and/or State Association officials will, in consultation with the sports officials, suspend the play until such time as the UAS is removed from the area as defined above or the school, Section/ State and sports officials determine it is safe to proceed.

For purposes of this policy, a UAS is any unmanned airborne device or aircraft. The NYSPHSAA, Section and/or Member School reserves the right to refuse admission to anyone operating or attempting to operate a UAS or to request the immediate removal of any person using or attempting to use a UAS in violation of this policy.

The NYSPHSAA Executive Director has the authority to grant an exception to this policy to ~~law enforcement~~, public safety agencies, NYSPHSAA media partners, or other entities or individuals; the use of drones by law enforcement agencies does not require approval from the NYSPHSAA Executive Director. Any request for an exception to the policy must be submitted to the Executive Director at least a week prior to the event. The exception is limited to the specific event requested and requires the consent of the host venue.

Any use granted under this provision must comply with the applicable FAA regulations as well as any and all requirements set forth by NYSPHSAA. News media must have the necessary FAA authorization. Any individuals granted an exception would be required to sign a document acknowledging and agreeing to the terms of use and agreeing to hold the NYSPHSAA and its member schools harmless from damage to persons or property.

*\*Approved May 5, 2017 (Executive Committee)*

# New York State Public High School Athletic Association



Executive Committee Meeting – January 31, 2024

## Appeal Procedure – Protest Committees & Use of Video

- Action Item
- Discussion Item
- Informational Item

**Presenter:**

Dr. Robert Zayas, NYSPHSAA Executive Director

**Proposal:**

Consider revising the NYSPHSAA Appeal procedures to address when the committee meets and to clarify the use of video is not permissible. Proposed revisions:

*“All questions and/or protests as to game/meet rules or as to the conduct of the game or meet shall be heard and decided by the game/meet committee established by that Section or State Sport Championship Committee as the case may be prior to play continuing; and all such decisions shall be final with no right of appeal. In any case, video may not be used to overturn an official’s decision unless the rules clearly provide for the use of video (i.e., ice hockey, cheerleading, basketball, etc.).”*

**Effective Start Date:**

Fall 2024

**Rationale:**

NYSPHSAA addressed several situations this fall pertaining to protest committees. NYSPHSAA staff and Sections continue to answer questions pertaining to the use of video to overturn an official’s decision. The proposed revisions will help to clarify and emphasize the use of video is not permitted.

**Proposal Originated:**

NYSPHSAA staff

**Budgetary Impact:**

None

**Notes:**

The NYSPHSAA Handbook Committee supports this proposal.

**Attachments:**

None

# New York State Public High School Athletic Association



Executive Committee Meeting – January 31, 2024

## NYSPPHSAA SAAC – ADD NYSPPHSAA SAAC STUDENT TO ALL NYSPPHSAA STANDING COMMITTEES

- Action Item
- Discussion Item
- Informational Item

**Presenter:**

Jayda Perry, NYSPPHSAA SAAC Leader  
Aiden Pearl, NYSPPHSAA SAAC Leader

**Proposal:**

Consider approval to add a NYSPPHSAA SAAC member to all NYSPPHSAA Standing Committees (CAC, Philosophy, Budget/Audit, DEI, Handbook, Modified, Safety, Sportsmanship, SADC).

**Effective Start Date:**

Fall 2024

**Rationale:**

The NYSPPHSAA SAAC discussed different ways for the student perspective to be more prevalent in decision making process within NYSPPHSAA. After thorough discussion, the committee felt it was important to include the student perspective in the standing committee discussions. It will help students understand the processes and provide a perspective to the adults working on behalf of the student-athletes. Overall, the student perspective is crucial for adults making decisions, as it brings valuable insights, promotes inclusivity, and contributes to the creation of policies and practices that better serve the needs of the student-athlete population.

**Proposal Originated:**

NYSPPHSAA SAAC December 3, 2023 Meeting

**Budgetary Impact:**

None.

**Notes:**

The NYSPPHSAA SAAC student selection would be volunteer based. The student would serve in an Ex-Officio capacity to provide a student perspective (non-voting).

**Attachments:**

List any attachments

# New York State Public High School Athletic Association



Executive Committee Meeting – January 31, 2024

## Sportsmanship Rule – Clarification

- Action Item
- Discussion Item
- Informational Item

**Presenter:**

Dr. Robert Zayas, NYSPHSAA Executive Director

**Proposal:**

Consider revising the NYSPHSAA Sportsmanship rule to read:

*“Spectators and/or anyone involved in interscholastic athletics shall not be permitted to use vulgar/offensive or racially/culturally insensitive language or engage in any racially/culturally insensitive action. NYSPHSAA Sections may sanction, censure or place schools on probation that fail to address derogatory or inappropriate behavior deemed harmful to physical or mental well-being for those involved in interscholastic activities.”*

**Effective Start Date:**

Fall 2024

**Rationale:**

At the request of the NYSPHSAA DEI Committee, the NYSPHSAA Central Committee approved the addition of language to the NYSPHSAA Sportsmanship rule to address the use of vulgar/offensive or racially/culturally insensitive language or engage in any racially/culturally insensitive actions. For clarity, the rule should not only apply to “spectators” as it currently states.

**Proposal Originated:**

NYSPHSAA staff

**Budgetary Impact:**

None

**Notes:**

The NYSPHSAA Handbook Committee supports this proposal.

**Attachments:**

None

# New York State Public High School Athletic Association



*Executive Committee Meeting – January 31, 2024*

## **SPRING SPORTS – Adopt Earlier Start Date of Monday of Week #36 Starting in 2025**

- Action Item
- Discussion Item
- Informational Item

**Presenter:**

Spring Sport Coordinators & State Committees

**Proposal:**

The NYSPHSAA Spring Sport Coordinators/Committees are seeking approval to start the Monday of Week #36 beginning in 2025.

**Effective Start Date:**

Spring 2025

**Rationale:**

The boys/girls lacrosse and baseball (battery week) committees proposed earlier start dates at the October Executive Committee meeting and the proposals were defeated. It was recommended that all spring sports be canvassed to gauge their interest in a “combination” proposal to start week #36.

**Proposal Originated:**

NYSPHSAA Executive Committee in October 2023

**Budgetary Impact:**

None

**Notes:**

Each Sport Committee met to discuss and vote on this proposal. Results are below:

Baseball – In Favor (10-0)	Boys Lacrosse – In Favor (7-1)
Softball – In Favor (6-4)	Girls Lacrosse – In Favor (6-2)
Boys Golf – In Favor (7-2-1)	Outdoor Track – In Favor (6-4)
Girls Golf – Opposed (0-10)	Boys Tennis – Opposed (2-8)
Flag Football – Opposed (0-8)	

**Attachments:**

None

**CAC Feedback**

N/A

Date Revised: January 16, 2024

# New York State Public High School Athletic Association



*Executive Committee Meeting – January 31, 2024*

## Feedback:

### **IN FAVOR:**

**Baseball (10-0 in favor)** – Likes flexibility. Earlier start allows all sections the option and not hold back everyone. Possible minor conflicts with winter championships.

**Softball (6-4 in favor)** – Likes the flexibility of going earlier/Section can be more restrictive. Starting earlier means extra days allows more time to get in min # of practices.

**Boys Lacrosse (7-1 in favor)** – Allows flexibility. Can give schools extra practice time to play scrimmages/games earlier and condense season less.

**Girls Lacrosse (6-2 in favor)** – Many athletes don't pick up a stick until first practice; extra week will help those kids. Likes the flexibility of going earlier/Section can be more restrictive. Overlap of winter sports a concern. Managing gym/facility space a concern.

**Boys Golf (7-2-1 in favor)** – No concerns/comments.

**Outdoor Track (6-4 in favor)** – No concerns/comments.

### **OPPOSED:**

**Boys Tennis (2-8 opposed)** – Likes flexibility. Overlap of winter sports a concern. Concern of extending coach contracts/more time. Concern of competitive advantage for some sections with good weather.

**Girls Golf (0-10 opposed)** – Concern of competitive advantage for some sections with good weather. Golf unique. Outside only. Believes established start dates should be what we follow. Concern of extending coach contracts/more time.

**Flag Football (0-8 opposed)** – Believes established start dates should be what we follow. Following with girls lacrosse for sport standards stay aligned with start dates, stay with what we use now. Made a change a few years ago to push back fall sports which has trickled into other seasons. Weather is also an impact on the season start date for spring.



# New York State Public High School Athletic Association



*Executive Committee Meeting – January 31, 2024*

## Regional Rotations – Guiding Principles

- Action Item
- Discussion Item
- Informational Item

**Presenter:**

Tim Mullins, NYSPHSAA Vice President & Regional Rotation Ad Hoc Committee Chair

**Proposal:**

Consider approval of Guiding Principles for the development of Regional Rotations.

**Effective Start Date:**

Fall 2024

**Rationale:**

To address equity concerns related to Regional Rotations, the guiding principles will be used by NYSPHSAA Sport Committees to develop Regional Rotations. The NYSPHSAA staff will be responsible for ensuring the rotations are equitable before the Championship Advisory Committee (CAC) reviews.

**Proposal Originated:**

NYSPHSAA Ad Hoc Committee

**Budgetary Impact:**

None

**Notes:**

Several proposals were considered by the Ad Hoc Committee before supporting the Guiding Principles.

**Attachments:**

Guiding Principles



## NYSPHSAA Guiding Principles for Regional Rotations

1. No Section will play in a sub-regional classification for more than two consecutive years.
2. If there is a bye for sub-regionals, the “bye” will always host the regional game.
3. One Section will not host more than 75% of Regional games in a given year in a sport.
4. At-Large teams will have no travel restrictions.
5. The term of rotations should reflect equity for all sections; with a minimum of at least 6 years.
6. Mid-week travel should be limited/ minimized.
7. Contiguous sectional competition should be considered.
8. The number of participating teams in each Region should be considered.
9. If any of the above guiding principles cannot be met, the sport committee must provide rationale as to why.

### Process:

- 1) NYSPHSAA Sport Committee meets to develop regional rotation using established guiding principles.
  - 2) NYSPHSAA Staff examines regional rotation for equity and fairness.
    - 3) NYSPHSAA Championship Advisory Committee examines regional rotation and votes to recommend to NYSPHSAA Executive Committee.
      - 4) NYSPHSAA Executive Committee examines regional rotation provides approval or denial

### Note:

The current NYSPHSAA Championship Philosophy states:

**“NYSPHSAA CHAMPIONSHIP PHILOSOPHY:** “NYSPHSAA will sponsor Championships that represent excellence achieved in each sport. In the interest of equitable competition, minimal loss of academic time, financial impact and logistical concerns including, but not limited to, travel, lodging, meals and facilities for competition, the NYSPHSAA will sponsor one championship experience in a sport when six or more of its sections having four (4) or more of their member teams each sponsor that sport. Championships will be conducted according to established guidelines. All sports will be recognized by the NYSPHSAA as either a team sport or an individual sport, or a combination team/individual sport. Variations will be permitted in the NYSPHSAA classification system.”

DATE REVISED:

12/20/23

# New York State Public High School Athletic Association



*Executive Committee – January 31, 2024*

## **HALL OF FAME PROGRAM – Revisions to Policies and Operating Procedures**

- Action Item
- Discussion Item
- Informational Item

**Presenter:**

Joe Altieri, NYSPHSAA Assistant Director/Program Liaison

**Proposal:**

The NYSPHSAA Hall of Fame Committee is seeking approval of revisions to its Policies and Procedures document effective immediately.

**Effective Start Date:**

Immediately

**Rationale:**

NYSPHSAA and the HOF Screening Committee is tasked with periodically evaluating the HOF process to ensure it is efficient and up to date. The proposed revisions are items that need updates in the manual due to technology, shifting of dates and procedures that allow for better efficiency from the nomination to the selection process.

The HOF Committee last met in 2017 and made revisions then.

**Proposal Originated:**

NYSPHSAA Hall of Fame Committee meeting on December 14, 2023.

**Budgetary Impact:**

None

**Notes:**

Per the HOF Policies and Operating Procedures, all action of the Screening Committee is confidential (Article IV, Section 2e) therefore committee names will not be stated in the proposal or are in the meeting minutes.

**Attachments:**

See attached items proposing to be approved.

**CAC Feedback:**

N/A

# New York State Public High School Athletic Association



*Executive Committee Meeting – January 31, 2024*

## **FOOTBALL – Request to Start Practice on Wednesday of Week #7**

- Action Item  
 Discussion Item  
 Informational Item

### **Presenters:**

Scott Barker, NYSPHSAA Section V Football Coordinator  
Gary Vanderzee, NYSPHSAA Football State Coordinator

### **Proposal:**

The NYSPHSAA Football State Committee is seeking approval to allow NYSPHSAA member football programs to start football practice on Wednesday of Week #7 (currently football starts Saturday or Week #7).

### **Effective Start Date:**

August 2024

### **Rationale:**

The following points have been noted as reasons why the committee would like to move forward with this:

- Required 10 days of practice (football is the only fall sport that requires 10)
- Current start date does not allow flexibility or absence of a student-athlete before Game 1
- Current start date requires practices over entire Labor Day Weekend
- Fiscal strain for districts opening up schools over Labor Day
- This proposal builds in 2-day flexibility for eligibility
- Allows for safer progression of practice with a holiday weekend
- Accounts for possible missed practices/games over Jewish holiday

### **Proposal Originated:**

NYSPHSAA Football Committee at its December 2023 meeting.

### **Budgetary Impact:**

None

### **Notes:**

The NYSPHSAA Football State Committee voted 10-1 in favor of this proposal at its January 8, 2024 zoom meeting. This proposal makes it necessary for NYSPHSAA to seek approval from the New York State Education Department to extend beyond the NYSED 15-week limitation for Fall sports. Dr. Zayas will make this request.

### **Attachments:**

None

# New York State Public High School Athletic Association



*Executive Committee Meeting – January 31, 2024*

## **FOOTBALL – Modify the Combined Practice Requirements**

- Action Item
- Discussion Item
- Informational Item

### **Presenters:**

Gary Vanderzee, NYSPHSAA Football State Coordinator  
Ken Stoldt, NYSPHSAA Football Assistant State Coordinator

### **Proposal:**

The NYSPHSAA Football State Committee is seeking approval to modify its combined practice requirements. The request would be to add letter "F" to the guidelines to read:

F. 11-man football may conduct 11-on-11 drills for a maximum of 10 offensive and 10 defensive plays.

### **Effective Start Date:**

August 2024

### **Rationale:**

Teams are given an opportunity to practice game-like scenarios utilizing the full schematics of 11-on-11 football. This minimal participation provides a healthy progression to a full scrimmage or contest.

### **Proposal Originated:**

NYSPHSAA Football Committee at its January 8, 2024 Zoom meeting.

### **Budgetary Impact:**

None

### **Notes:**

The NYSPHSAA Football State Committee voted 10-1 in favor of this proposal at its January 8, 2024 zoom meeting.

### **Attachments:**

None

# New York State Public High School Athletic Association



*Executive Committee Meeting – January 31, 2024*

## **GIRLS VOLLEYBALL – Adopt a Three-Day Tournament Starting in 2024**

- Action Item
- Discussion Item
- Informational Item

**Presenter:**

Peggy Seese, NYSPHSAA Girls Volleyball Coordinator

**Proposal:**

The NYSPHSAA Girls Volleyball State Committee is seeking approval to adopt a three-day, bracketed tournament starting with the 2024 season.

**Effective Start Date:**

Fall 2024

**Rationale:**

The addition of a 6th class has greatly extended the day of semifinal competition. The 2023 tournament was bracket play and the doors opened at 7:00 am on a Saturday and finished at 11:15 pm. Even if pool play was conducted, the day would have been shortened some but not significantly.

**Proposal Originated:**

NYSPHSAA State Committee Meeting in November 2022, then again in March 2023. A possible three-day tournament schedule was further discussed during and after the 2023 tournament in November and it was agreed to go forward with the proposal for a three-day tournament. In March 2024, the committee meets for its annual meeting and will discuss a suitable schedule with the staff.

**Budgetary Impact:**

\$900 electric, \$200 garbage, \$300 personnel. Court and building rental would not be increased because NYSPHSAA is already occupying the building and has the court set up that Friday morning. With this proposal, some teams would now play Friday afternoon/evening but would not incur additional travel expenses. They would simply play a day earlier. Competition would start no earlier than 3:00 pm on Friday so teams can travel in the same day.

**Notes:**

The NYSPHSAA Girls Volleyball State Committee supported this proposal 10-0 during a January 5<sup>th</sup> Zoom call.

**Attachments:**

None

**CAC Feedback**

CAC voted 9-0 in support of this proposal.

Date Revised: January 12, 2024

# New York State Public High School Athletic Association



*Executive Committee – January 31, 2024*

## **SKIING – Waiver for A Permanent Representation Rule (6 to 3)**

- Action Item
- Discussion Item
- Informational Item

**Presenter:**

Dennis O'Brien, NYSPHSAA Alpine State Coordinator  
Bob Underwood, NYSPHSAA Nordic State Coordinator

**Proposal:**

The NYSPHSAA Skiing State Committee is seeking approval for a permanent waiver of the Representation Rule reducing the minimum number of races from six (6) to three (3). This would be for all sections participating in alpine or nordic skiing.

**Effective Start Date:**

Immediately

**Rationale:**

Due to the unpredictability of sufficient snow each season in NYS, the committee is requesting a lower number of races to accommodate those sections who cannot conduct more than three meets prior to the sectionals.

**Proposal Originated:**

NYSPHSAA Skiing State Committee meeting on December 13, 2024

**Budgetary Impact:**

None

**Notes:**

The NYSPHSAA Skiing State Committee voted 11-0 in favor of this proposal at its December 13, 2024 Zoom meeting.

**Attachments:**

None

**CAC Feedback:**

N/A

# New York State Public High School Athletic Association



*Executive Committee Meeting – January 31, 2024*

## **BOYS/GIRLS BOWLING – Permit Use of Rotating At-Large Berths To Eliminate Pacer Teams at State Tournament**

- Action Item
- Discussion Item
- Informational Item

**Presenter:**

Mike O’Connell, NYSPHSAA Boys Bowling Coordinator  
Eileen Shultis, NYSPHSAA Girls Bowling Coordinator

**Proposal:**

The NYSPHSAA Boys and Girls Bowling State Committee is seeking approval to permit the use of rotating at-large berths when a division (1,2 or composite) has an odd number of teams competing in the NYSPHSAA Bowling Championships. At-large berths would eliminate pacer teams at the State Tournament and be a part of the state tournament competition.

**Effective Start Date:**

Winter (March) 2025

**Rationale:**

Each year the host section is responsible for providing a different “pacer” team for each session due to the odd number of teams that are competing. This is done so teams are not bowling alone on a pair. Securing pacer teams requires the host section to recruit and get students out of school for Friday competition and ask them to volunteer Saturday and Sunday as well. It is a challenge to secure students all day for three days. Furthermore, this proposal would alleviate the management of the pacer teams during the tournament (lane assignments, hospitality, etc) and alleviate the concern of providing quality bowlers to pace with another teams.

It is proposed to establish a schedule which will specify which section will be awarded an at-large berth in each division of the NYSPHSAA Bowling Championships. The schedule will consist of sections who have ten (10) or more competing schools for each of the respective divisions.

**Proposal Originated:**

Section VI- Dan Kaplan at the NYSPHSAA Boys/Girls Bowling State Committee meeting on October 13, 2023.

**Budgetary Impact:**

There is no cost to NYSPHSAA as the lineage for the at-large teams would be the same as the pacer teams. There would be typical travel costs (lodging, transportation, meals) for rotating sections to send an additional team to the State Tournament.

**Notes:**

The Boys and Girls Bowling State Committees supported this proposal with a 16-0 vote at their October 13<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**CAC Feedback:**

CAC voted 8-1 in support of this proposal.

Date Revised: January 12, 2024



# New York State Public High School Athletic Association



*Executive Committee Meeting – January 31, 2024*

## **BOYS/GIRLS BOWLING – Allow Bowlers to Compete in Both Team and Composite Events Starting in 2025**

- Action Item
- Discussion Item
- Informational Item

**Presenter:**

Mike O’Connell, NYSPHSAA Boys Bowling Coordinator  
Eileen Shultis, NYSPHSAA Girls Bowling Coordinator

**Proposal:**

The NYSPHSAA Boys and Girls Bowling State Committee is seeking approval to allow bowlers to compete in both the team and composite state tournament events at section discretion. It is currently not permitted.

**Effective Start Date:**

Winter (March) 2025

**Rationale:**

The composite division was created to recognize the top bowlers from each section, but currently a bowler competing in the team event is ineligible to participate as an individual in the composite division. This proposal allows the best bowlers to be eligible to bowl in both the team and individual events at the state tournament at the discretion of the section.

In place of a High Series award in the composite division, this proposal would now allow a NYSPHSAA State Champion, Runner Up and 3<sup>rd</sup> place finisher to be awarded.

**Proposal Originated:**

Mark Foeder and Brian Usselman, Section V Bowling Coordinators

**Budgetary Impact:**

There is no cost to NYSPHSAA.

If a section chooses to send additional bowlers, typical travel costs (lodging, transportation, meals) will be incurred by the section.

**Notes:**

The Boys and Girls Bowling State Committees supported this proposal with a 16-0 vote at their October 13<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**CAC Feedback**

CAC voted 9-0 in support of this proposal.

# New York State Public High School Athletic Association



*Executive Committee Meeting – January 31, 2024*

## **GIRLS ICE HOCKEY – Adopt New Regional Rotation for 2024 Regional Quarterfinals**

- Action Item  
 Discussion Item  
 Informational Item

**Presenter:**

Carl Normandin, NYSPHSAA Girls Ice Hockey Coordinator

**Proposal:**

The NYSPHSAA Girls Ice Hockey State Committee is seeking approval to adopt a new Regional Rotation and At-Large plan for its 2024 regional quarterfinals due to Section V announcing their intentions to participate in October.

**Effective Start Date:**

Winter 2024

**Rationale:**

On October 18<sup>th</sup>, Section V informed the girls ice hockey committee and NYSPHSAA they would officially participate in girls ice hockey. This necessitated the committee to meet and develop a revised regional rotation and add an at-large rotation for its postseason playoffs. This sport culminates its season with a Regional Championship (a Final Four), and it is necessary to re-organize the round (quarterfinals) leading up to the final four to include Section V. Adding Section V also required the committee to establish an at-large rotation to fill the byes. See attached proposed brackets and at large rotation.

**Proposal Originated:**

NYSPHSAA State Committee Meeting in October/November/December

**Budgetary Impact:**

None

**Notes:**

The Girls Ice Hockey State Committee supported this proposal with a 7-0 vote at their Dec 6, 2023 meeting.

**Attachments:**

- An overview of how the committee has handled the inclusion of “new” teams/sections for postseason play.
- Proposed brackets and at large rotation

**CAC Feedback**

CAC voted 9-0 in support of this proposal.

Date Revised: January 16, 2024

# New York State Public High School Athletic Association



*Executive Committee Meeting – January 31, 2024*

## **SOFTBALL – Adopt NFHS Rules Starting in 2025 Season**

- Action Item
- Discussion Item
- Informational Item

**Presenter:**

Jim Wright, NYSPHSAA Softball Coordinator

**Proposal:**

The NYSPHSAA Softball State Committee is seeking approval to adopt NFHS Rules starting with the 2025 season.

**Effective Start Date:**

Spring 2025

**Rationale:**

**Proposal Originated:**

NYSPHSAA State Committee Meeting in December 2022

**Budgetary Impact:**

None

**Notes:**

The Softball State Committee supported this proposal with a 6-5 vote at their December 6, 2023 meeting.

**Attachments:**

None

**CAC Feedback**

Provided after January 10<sup>th</sup> meeting.

# New York State Public High School Athletic Association



Executive Committee Meeting – January 31, 2024

## Boys Lacrosse – Classification Cut-Off Numbers

- Action Item
- Discussion Item
- Informational Item

**Presenter:**

Jim Amen, NYSPHSAA Boys Lacrosse Coordinator

**Proposal:**

The Boys Lacrosse Committee is seeking approval to change the current classification cut-off numbers for the 2025 season. Below are the recommended changes.

<u>Class</u>	<u>Cut-off Numbers</u>	<u>Schools</u>
Class A	1036 and Up	81 schools
Class B	728 – 1035	81 schools
Class C	727 – 450	82 schools
Class D	449 and Down	82 schools

**Effective Start Date:**

Spring 2025

**Rationale:**

The Boys Lacrosse Committee believes that all classes should be divided as equally as possible. After reviewing the current cut-off numbers, the committee feels an adjustment should be made to equally divide the classes.

**Proposal Originated:**

Boys Lacrosse Committee Zoom meeting in November.

**Budgetary Impact:**

None

**Notes:**

The Boys Lacrosse State Committee voted 11-0 in favor of this proposal at its January 9, 2024 Zoom meeting.

**Attachments:**

None

**CAC Feedback:**

CAC voted 9-0 in support of this proposal.

# New York State Public High School Athletic Association



Executive Committee Meeting – January 31, 2024

## **BOYS & GIRLS TENNIS – DESIGNATE BILLIE JEAN KING NATIONAL TENNIS CENTER AS HOST OF ALL NYSPHSAA TENNIS EVENTS (TEAM, INDIVIDUAL) THROUGH 2028; ADJUST GIRLS INDIVIDUAL TOURNAMENT TO MON, TUE, WED OF WEEK #17**

- Action Item
- Discussion Item
- Informational Item

**Presenter:**

NYSPHSAA Staff  
Quan Huynh, NYSPHSAA Boys Tennis Coordinator  
Chris Horgan, NYSPHSAA Girls Tennis Coordinator

**Proposal:**

The NYSPHSAA Staff in addition to the Boys and Girls Tennis Committees are seeking approval to designate the Billie Jean King National Tennis Center as the host site for the NYSPHSAA Team and Individual State Tournaments (both genders) through spring 2028. With this change, it is also proposed to move the girls individual tournament to a Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday competition.

**Effective Start Date:**

Fall 2024

**Rationale:**

The boys team (since 2021) and individual (since 1990's) tournaments have been played at the BJK National Tennis Center while the girls have been playing at various clubs around the state. Its is perceived the Tennis Center is the best venue in the country and the boys get to experience this venue every year. With the challenge of weather and indoor availability of the Tennis Center in the Fall (on Saturdays), the girls tournaments are not able to play at this venue thus creating an inequity between boys and girls.

To eliminate the inequity, NYSPHSAA has met numerous times with management of the Tennis Center to explore court time on a Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday (remaining on Week #17) for the girls individual state tournament (currently on a Thursday, Friday, Saturday which is unavailable at the Tennis Center in November). The girls would also be able to continue to play on a Friday (remain on Week #18) for the team tournament at this facility.

It is proposed to enter into an agreement with the Tennis Center for both the team and individual tournaments for girls and boys starting in fall 2024 and going through spring 2028. We are currently already on the books for boys team and individual for the spring of 2024.

There would be no change in travel costs for schools nor would there be any additional missed school time using these days of the week.

**Proposal Originated:**

NYSPHSAA Staff December 2023

DATE REVISED: January 12, 2024

# New York State Public High School Athletic Association



*Executive Committee Meeting – January 31, 2024*

## **Budgetary Impact:**

The boys tournaments are both already at the BJK Nat Tennis Center so there is no revised financial impact for NYSPHSAA. For the girls team tournament, going to the Tennis Center would yield a savings compared to Drumlins. For the girls individual tournament, it is projected to spend \$12,000 going to the Tennis Center for three days indoors in November, which is a slight savings compared to Sportime, current tournament host. As previously stated, there is no financial impact for member schools. See comparison below.

2024 Girls Team - \$7,000 @ Drumlins, per bid  
2023 Girls Team - \$5,448 @ BJK Nat Tennis Ctr

2024 Girls Ind - \$13,000 @ Sportime  
\*2022 Girls Ind - \$12,000 @ Sportime  
*\*2022 used since 2023 was outdoors at a local park*

## **Notes:**

At the January 4, 2024 meeting of the staff and both tennis committees, the NYSPHSAA Staff recommended this proposal and the Boys Committee and Girls Committee each voted 9-0 in support of it.

## **Attachments:**

None

## **CAC Feedback:**

CAC voted 9-0 in support of this proposal.



LEARNING FOR LIFE

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**TO:** Athletic Directors  
**FROM:** Christopher P. Mayo, Interscholastic Athletic Coordinator  
**DATE:** February 1, 2024  
**RE:** OCIAA Senior Scholar-Athlete Award

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The Senior Scholar-Athlete Award is given to a girl and boy in each OCIAA/MHAL member school. The guidelines for selection are:

- A. Top 20% class ranking
- B. Participation in at least one varsity sport
- C. Above average athlete
- D. Outstanding Citizenship

The High School Principal, Director of Guidance, and the Athletic Director should be involved in the selection process. **The deadline for submissions is on or before Friday, April 19, 2024.**

A Google form will be emailed to you this month for you or your winner(s) to complete no later than April 19.

If you have any questions, please call me at 294-5799.

CPM/mo

## SECTION IX

### Unsportsmanlike Conduct Rule

Sportsmanship: The NYSPHSAA and Section IX recognizes and appreciates that the influence and responsibility of the school administration with regard to good sportsmanship extends to all levels of competition. However, it must also be seen that the NYSPHSAA AND Section IX has been vested with the responsibility to ensure that all contests under its jurisdiction are conducted satisfactorily. This standard applies to all regular season and post schedule play.

As of July 1, 2013, the Dignity for All Students Act (Dignity Act-Section 52.2, Part 80 and 57-4) is to provide all public-school students with an environment free from harassment, bullying (including cyber bullying) and discrimination, as well as to foster civility in public schools. The Dignity Act focuses on the prevention of discrimination behaviors, including harassment/bullying through the promotion of educational measures meant to positively impact school culture and climate, which includes the interscholastic programs.

Use of derogatory or racially explicit language; discriminatory harassment or bias conduct that creates a hostile environment that is disruptive to the educational environment. Spectators shall not be permitted to use vulgar/offensive or racially/culturally insensitive language or engage in any racially/culturally insensitive action. NYSPHSAA Sections may sanction, censure or place schools on probation that fail to address derogatory or inappropriate behavior deemed harmful to physical or mental well-being for those involved in interscholastic activities. (July 2023)

- I. **Coach (There is no appeal to a coach ejection. The official's decision is final). (Please refer to the NYSPHSAA Handbook – Sportsmanship; Standard 28):**
  1. Any coach excluded by a certified official from an interschool competition for unsportsmanlike conduct is ineligible to coach any interschool competition in that sport until after the next previously scheduled contest at the same level (e.g. junior varsity, varsity, etc.) has been completed. Disqualification from one season carries over to the next season of participation. **The coach may not be present at the game site** nor communicate in any manner during the contest with any person present at the site. **NOTE:** “Not being physically present at the site” means the disqualified coach is not to be present in the locker room, on the sidelines, in the stands or site area before, during or after the game/meet.

Any coach that does not serve the penalty for violating the Sportsmanship Standard will be ineligible to participate in the next two regularly scheduled contests. If the coach continues to not serve the penalty, the matter will be referred to the Section for further action. If the coach is involved in the NYSPHSAA play-offs, the matter will be referred to the Executive Director of the NYSPHSAA.

#### **Any coach:**

- A. Who receives a disqualification penalty in a sport shall not participate in the next regularly scheduled contest;
- B. Who receives a second disqualification penalty in the same sport in the same season shall not participate in the next two regularly scheduled contests;
- C. Who receives a third disqualification penalty in the same sport in the same season will not be allowed to participate for the rest of the season (regular season or post schedule play), the Section Athletic Council will assess the penalty carrying over into the next season of participation.



D. The Section IX Athletic Council will have the authority to extend the period of ineligibility in those cases where the actions of the individual that was disqualified from a contest or scrimmage are warranted. The period of ineligibility cannot exceed one year from the date of the disqualification.

2. A coach who strikes, shoves, kicks or makes other physical contact with the intent to do so to another person (e.g. official, another coach, player, fan) shall be expelled immediately and banned from further participation or coaching in all sports for one year from the date of the offense.
3. The coach that was ejected will notify his/her Athletic Director of the incident on the same day that it occurred. The Athletic Director will then contact the League Coordinator as the coach(s) will not be allowed to participate in the school's next scheduled game/games as above.

II. Player Ejections: **(There is no appeal to a player ejection. The official's decision is final).**

1. Any member of a squad ruled out of a contest for unsportsmanlike conduct (flagrant foul, two technical fouls in basketball, two yellow cards, red card, inappropriate language or taunting, fighting, etc.), the following action is **required** by the NYSPHSAA Regulations detailed in Standard #28:

- A. First Ejection – that player(s) cannot attend or participate in the next scheduled contest **in that sport**. If the season has ended the player(s) cannot attend or participate in the next scheduled contest in his/her next season of participation. **NOTE:** In the sport of football, a player who is disqualified for “targeting” (by a certified official) may not participate in the next two halves. **(May 2022)**
- B. Second Ejection – that player(s) cannot attend or participate in the next two scheduled contests **in that sport**. If the season has ended the player(s) cannot attend or participate in the next two scheduled contests in his/her next season of participation.
- C. Third Ejection – that player(s) cannot attend or participate in any remaining scheduled contests for the remainder of that sports season – including sectional, regional and state contests. If the season has ended the player(s) cannot attend or participate in the next three scheduled contests in his/her next season of participation.
- D. The Section IX Athletic Council will have the authority to extend the period of ineligibility in those cases where the actions of the individual that was disqualified from a contest or scrimmage are warranted. The period of ineligibility cannot exceed one year from the date of the disqualification.

**Please note: Disqualifications from one season will carry over to the next season of participation.**

2. Any member of the squad who strikes, shoves, kicks or makes other physical contact with the intent to do so to an official shall be expelled from the game immediately and banned from further participation in all sports for one year from the date of the offense. **NOTE:** “Member of the squad” includes player, manager, scorekeeper, timers, and statisticians.
  - A. Communication Responsibilities regarding ejections: The coach of the player(s) who was/were ejected will notify his/her Athletic Administrator by 12 noon the following day. The Athletic Administrator **must** report the ejection to their respective League Coordinator by 12 noon the following day.

3. **Misidentified Player:** Disqualification of a player may only be challenged on the basis of misidentification. The misidentification must be established by clear and concise evidence. The school shall identify the offending player who will serve the prescribed penalty. **(Dec. 2010)**

III. Official:

1. Unprofessional conduct on the part of official such as, but not limited to, taunting, baiting, use of profanity, shall be reported by a school administrator from the aggrieved school to the Section Executive Director. A request will be made to the appropriate sport officials' chapter to investigate the incident and to report their action to the Section in a timely manner.
2. The official who ejected the player(s) or coach shall notify the League Coordinator prior to 12:00 Noon the following day of the name(s) of the player(s) or the coach and the infraction(s). The League Coordinator shall notify the Athletic Director of the offending school.

**Spectator Policy at Athletic Contests:**

**1. Expectation Statement:** Officials, just like student athletes and coaches, are critical to interscholastic sports programs. Without officials, NYSPHSAA and its member schools would not be able to provide interscholastic sports in the manner that is desired and expected by student athletes, coaches, and parents. Spectators are expected to "Be Loud, Be Proud, and Be Positive." Negative comments and inappropriate behaviors by spectators are required to be addressed by all and any school supervisors and administrators, as a member of NYSPHSAA. Spectators may be prohibited from attending current and future interscholastic contests based on their behavior. (Oct. 2022)

**2. Spectator Regulation:** Any negative, inappropriate, derogatory comments or actions that draw the direct attention of a supervisor or school administrator by a spectator or group of spectators are required to be addressed by the host school, Sectional or NYSPHSAA representative in the following non-sequential order depending on the comments or behavior:

- First warning – Directing the spectator or group of spectators to refrain from any negative comments or actions.
- Second warning – A personal discussion with the spectators or group of spectators on the above NYSPHSAA expectations and reminding the spectators or group of spectators of the next step, removal of the game or event, will be utilized if the behavior continues.
- Removal from the contest – The spectator or group of spectators will be directed to leave the facility for the remainder of the game or event. If spectators or group of spectators refuse to leave the game or event, play will be stopped until they vacate the premise.

**Penalty for being removed from a game or event:**

Any spectator removed from a game or event **will have a minimum penalty of completing the NFHS Parent Credential course or a one game suspension before they are allowed to attend any interscholastic event.** Once the course is completed the spectator will provide a certificate of completion to the athletic department office. Schools are required to communicate with the offending spectator on the NYSPHSAA Sportsmanship Spectator Expectations.

- Depending on the severity of the behavior/comments or future disqualifications by the offending spectator NYSPHSAA and the Section may get directly involved in the situation. **(May 2023)**
- **NFHS Parent Credential Course Link:** <https://nfhslearn.com/courses/positive-sport-parenting>



**From the OCIAA Constitution:**

**ARTICLE XIII**  
**PROTEST PROCEDURE**

Protest of an athletic event is not condoned by the OCIAA. Sportsmanship, acceptance of decision, and judgment are integral parts of the learning process. However, on the rare occasion where the lack of fair play has been totally disregarded, the following procedure must be followed:

Section 1: Protest must be done on site prior to conclusion of athletic event and/or in accordance with the National Organization Rules approved by the New York State Public High School Athletic Association as specified within the current New York State Handbook.

Section 2: A written protest, signed by the Superintendent or in their absence by an official designee, must be submitted to the Athletic Coordinator and a copy to the sports Chairperson of the sport involved, postmarked or hand delivered within 72 hours of the occurrence of the protest.

Section 3: A hearing will be held before the Protest Committee within eight calendar days of the receipt of the written protest. The schools involved in the protest must be represented at the hearing. The Protest Committee will render a decision by majority vote.

Section 4: The Protest Committee shall consist of the President or his/her designee, the Sports Chairperson and members of the sports committee of the sport involved. No member of the Protest Committee shall be a member of the schools involved in the protest. The Athletic Coordinator shall be a non-voting member of this committee.

Section 5: Any appeal procedure shall follow the New York State Public High School Athletic Association Handbook.



Roscoe Central School District

LIVINGSTON MANOR  
CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

January 23, 2024

Section IX Athletics  
Gregory Ransom, Executive Director  
P.O. Box 656  
Goshen, NY 10924

Dear Mr. Ransom,

I'd like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. My name is John Evans and I am the shared Superintendent of the Livingston Manor and Roscoe Central School Districts. I write to you and the Section IX Executive Committee today on behalf of the Boards of Education of these districts with a unique request.

For over 20 years these two small rural schools have been combining athletics at one time or another in practically every sport offered by either school district. Over the last decade, multiple athletic programs have been combined each year at every level. During this time period a lack of consistency and uncertainty surrounding these combined athletic programs has contributed to inconsistent program success, game and entire season cancellations and an overall decline in student participation in athletics at both schools.

In an effort to better stabilize programs and to develop more comprehensive athletic offerings for the students of these two districts, the Livingston Manor and Roscoe Boards of Education are requesting special consideration be granted to our unique situation. At their respective December 2023 regularly scheduled Board of Education meetings both Boards unanimously passed resolutions respectfully requesting that Section IX consider policy changes or amendments/addendum be made to their current combining of teams policy and procedures that would allow the Livingston Manor and Roscoe CSDs to combine all athletic programs at the modified, junior varsity and varsity levels through a more permanent comprehensive sports merger. Official copies of the Board extracts of these resolutions are included with this correspondence. While we are seeking a permanent merger, we realize that such action would still require annual review and approval by Section IX per current NYSPHSAA policy and procedures. In an effort to provide additional background information and rationale for this request, I feel it is important for the executive committee to know that these two districts have conducted two different comprehensive full school district merger studies. The official recommendation at the conclusion of both of these studies was that the Livingston Manor and Roscoe school districts merge to create a new school district through centralization. On both

Roscoe Central School 6 Academy Street, Roscoe, NY 12776 607-498-4126  
Livingston Manor Central School 19 School Street, Livingston Manor, NY 12758 845-439-4400

occasions the idea of merger was put forth to the school communities for a vote and the communities voted against the complete school merger. The first study occurred in the early 1990s and the more recent study was completed in August of 2022 and the vote was defeated in both districts in October of 2022. While both school boards feel that a full school merger is in the best interests of students, they have been unable to move forward due to the lack of support from the voters in both communities.

Declining enrollment, shrinking class sizes and increasing financial challenges make it more and more difficult to offer the depth and breadth of educational and extracurricular opportunities these districts once offered independently. Both boards believe that working together through sharing across both schools can offer our students better opportunities.

According to the NYSED enrollment data for the 2000-01 school year, Livingston Manor's K-12 enrollment was 683 students and Roscoe's was 303. The current K-12 enrollment for the 2023-24 school year is 415 for Livingston Manor and 208 for Roscoe. In this time period Livingston Manor's enrollment dropped by 223 students and Roscoe dropped by 95 for a combined drop in total student enrollment in grades K-12 of 318 students. Included with this letter are copies of pages 13 & 14 of the official merger study document that was submitted to NYSED in August of 2022. These tables show the enrollment projections for both schools through 2028-29. As you can see by these charts, our declining enrollment is not expected to improve.

For the aforementioned reasons the Livingston Manor and Roscoe Central School Districts respectfully request that a permanent combining of teams for all sports at all levels of play be considered for approval by Section IX.

Thank you for your time and consideration regarding this matter. Should you have any questions or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me. I will make myself available at your convenience.

Educationally yours,

John Evans

Shared Superintendent for the Roscoe and Livingston Manor CSDs

# Livingston Manor Central School District

**John P. Evans, Superintendent**  
P.O. Box 947 ▪ 19 School Street  
Livingston Manor, NY 12758

BOARD OF EDUCATION  
James Buck, President  
Jason Gorr, Vice President  
Frank Adamse  
Nicole Park  
Jill Smith  
Marlyn Peters, District Clerk

January 4, 2024  
From the Regular Board Meeting of December 20, 2023  
E X T R A C T

## **Permanent Athletic Merger**

Be it resolved that the RCS & LMCS Boards of Education jointly feel that permanent athletic mergers in all sports at the modified, JV and Varsity levels are in the best interest of the students in both school communities. As such they have authorized their Superintendent to respectfully request that the OCIAA and Section IX athletic councils consider amendments to their current policies and procedures relating to the Combining of Teams to allow for permanent athletic mergers in all sports between these two independent school districts.

The Boards feel strongly that permanent athletic mergers would allow our two districts to more consistently offer age and ability level appropriate athletic programs to our students in a safer and more educationally appropriate manner. Thus allowing for the proper progression of our student athletes beginning at the modified level to junior varsity and ultimately the varsity level.

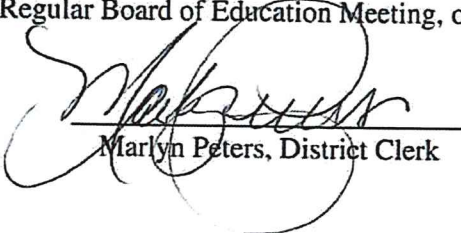
Motion made by: Jill Smith

Motion seconded by: Frank Adamse

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

I certify this is a true copy of the motion as it appears in the approved Minutes of the Regular Board of Education Meeting, of December 20, 2023.

  
Marlyn Peters, District Clerk



# ROSCOE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

6 ACADEMY STREET • P.O. BOX 429

ROSCOE, NEW YORK 12776

607-498-4126

FAX 607-498-6015

**JOHN EVANS**  
SUPERINTENDENT

**JANICE PHILLIPS**  
PRE-K-12 PRINCIPAL

**ROBIN FRANCISCO**  
PRE-K-12 ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

January 4, 2024

From the Regular Board of Education Meeting of December 19, 2023

## EXTRACT

### Permanent Athletic Merger

Be it resolved that the RCS & LMCS Boards of Education jointly feel that permanent athletic mergers in all sports at the modified, JV and Varsity levels are in the best interest of the students in both school communities. As such they have authorized their Superintendent to respectfully request that the OCIAA and Section IX athletic councils consider amendments to their current policies and procedures relating to the Combining of Teams to allow for permanent athletic mergers in all sports between these two independent school districts.

The Boards feel strongly that permanent athletic mergers would allow our two districts to more consistently offer age and ability level appropriate athletic programs to our students in a safer and more educationally appropriate manner. Thus allowing for the proper progression of our student athletes beginning a the modified level to junior varsity and ultimately the varsity level.

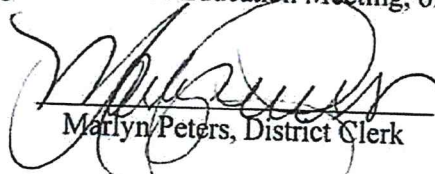
Motion made by: Joe Langan

Motion seconded by: Timothy Clark

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

I certify this is a true copy of the motion as it appears in the approved Minutes of the Regular Board of Education Meeting, of December 19, 2023.

  
Marilyn Peters, District Clerk



**Table 2.2  
Livingston Manor Enrollment History and Projections**

	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
Live Birth Data for incoming Kindergarten class	35	43	25	28	34	20	36	24	26	28	28	28	28
Grade K	29	35	26	38	25	29	28	35	24	26	28	28	28
Grade 1	26	30	35	29	37	22	29	28	35	24	26	28	28
Grade 2	30	24	27	39	30	40	22	29	28	36	24	26	28
Grade 3	37	26	23	26	38	31	38	21	28	27	34	23	25
Grade 4	33	35	24	26	22	39	30	37	21	27	26	33	22
Grade 5	27	32	38	22	27	22	39	30	37	21	27	26	34
Grade 6	40	28	29	35	24	31	22	40	31	38	21	28	27
Grade 7	35	35	29	33	35	27	32	23	41	32	40	22	29
Grade 8	42	38	33	29	32	37	27	32	23	42	32	40	22
Grade 9	23	43	36	33	27	33	37	27	32	23	41	32	39
Grade 10	27	28	43	30	32	26	33	36	27	32	23	41	32
Grade 11	30	21	28	44	31	35	26	32	36	26	31	23	40
Grade 12	37	30	21	25	37	30	33	24	30	34	25	30	21
Total Grades K-12	416	405	392	409	397	402	396	397	394	387	379	379	375
Total Grades K-6	222	210	202	215	203	214	209	221	204	198	186	191	190
Total Grades 7-12	194	195	190	194	194	188	187	176	190	189	192	187	184

NOTE: From 2025-26 to 2028-29 live births are the average of the previous five years. Consequently, from 2025-26 to 2028-29 the early grade enrollments are quite speculative.





**Table 2.3  
Roscoe Enrollment History and Projections**

	2016 -17	2017 -18	2018 -19	2019 -20	2020 -21	2021 -22	2022 -23	2023 -24	2024 -25	2025 -26	2026 -27	2027 -28	2028 -29
Live Birth Data for incoming Kindergarten class	14	16	10	13	15	12	12	10	12	12	12	12	12
Grade K	9	13	11	19	10	15	12	12	10	12	12	12	12
Grade 1	20	11	14	10	19	12	16	12	12	10	13	13	13
Grade 2	21	17	11	14	13	21	13	17	13	13	11	14	13
Grade 3	18	19	19	10	16	10	20	12	17	13	13	11	13
Grade 4	12	18	20	19	12	15	10	21	13	17	13	13	11
Grade 5	22	14	20	20	19	12	16	11	22	13	18	14	14
Grade 6	21	24	12	21	19	21	12	16	11	23	14	18	14
Grade 7	19	20	23	13	21	19	21	12	16	11	23	14	18
Grade 8	22	18	19	20	13	22	18	20	12	15	11	22	13
Grade 9	17	20	20	21	21	11	22	18	20	12	15	11	22
Grade 10	20	16	22	17	21	20	11	21	18	20	11	15	10
Grade 11	14	16	17	19	18	16	18	10	19	16	18	10	14
Grade 12	22	16	15	16	20	17	16	18	10	20	16	18	10
Total Grades K-12	237	222	223	219	222	211	205	201	193	195	187	183	178
Total Grades K-6	123	116	107	113	108	106	99	101	98	101	93	94	90
Total Grades 7-12	114	106	116	106	114	105	106	100	95	94	94	89	87

NOTE: From 2025-26 to 2028-29 live births are the average of the previous five years. Consequently, from 2025-26 to 2028-29 the early grade enrollments are quite speculative.

Beginning in 2016-17, the K-12 student enrollment in Livingston Manor declined through the 2018-19 school year followed by an increase in 2019-20. The enrollment has