

Section 9 Football 2010 Bylaws

1. Play will be governed by National Federation Rules, NYSPHAA Rules and Regulations and Section 9 Bylaws. Violations will result in sanctions.
2. **Scheduling**
 - a. Prior to **Dec. 31** of each year, all schools must provide scheduling information to the Section 9 football chairman or designee. The football committee will release schedules to the athletic directors prior to approval. The athletic directors have one week to communicate, in writing, any issues with the schedule to their class representative. The committee will consider, but not necessarily solve, all issues.
 - b. All football scheduling in Section 9 is to be done by the designee of the football committee. Individual schools and athletic directors may **not** schedule games.
 - c. The Section 9 football schedule-maker is empowered to schedule any Section 9 school against an opponent one classification above or below the school's classification. This applies both within and outside of Section 9.
 - d. If the Section 9 football schedule-maker has to schedule a school **two classifications** above or below, it will be by mutual agreement of both schools.
 - e. If a Section 9 school drops football before or during the season, the schedule-maker is empowered to make the necessary adjustments to the schedule.
 - f. The Section 9 schedule-maker can schedule a Section 9 school with an out-of-section team one classification above or below.
 - g. All Section 9 football schools must honor the Section 9 schedule. All games scheduled outside or within the section must be scheduled by the Section 9 schedule-maker and honored.
 - h. In all cases listed above, schools will be obligated to play.
 - i. If a Section 9 member violates the bylaws and refuses to play a contest scheduled by the football committee or its' designee, the Section 9 football committee will meet and, barring extenuating circumstances, recommend that the member in violation be ineligible for sectional competition in football for up to two years per violation.
 - j. If a team cancels its' season **before** the start of the regular season, its' scheduled opponents may schedule a replacement game. However, if a team folds **after** the season has started, **a replacement game may not be scheduled**. If another game is scheduled, the team will be ineligible for sectional competition that year.
 - k. When a class attains eight teams, the football committee will consider dividing the class into two divisions.
 - l. Any class with five (5) or fewer schools will have two-team playoffs. If a class has more than five (5) teams, four teams will qualify for the playoffs.
3. The Section 9 football committee will consist of one (1) representative from each classification, the Section 9 chairman and the assistant chairman.

4. Seniors are not allowed to participate on junior varsity teams. Juniors must have the approval of the opponent's athletic director prior to the contest.

5. Divisions

- a. Class AA is divided into two divisions based on enrollment.
- b. In Class A, B, and C, the top four (4) teams qualify for the playoffs. Division playoffs will take place the ninth week of the season to determine sectional representation.
- c. Schools not qualifying are **required** to participate in an **assigned** 9th-week crossover contest.
- d. In classifications that have been divided into divisions, all league/division contests must be completed by the ninth week of the season. In all classifications not divided into divisions, all league contests must be completed by the ninth week of the season. In the event that the Section 9 schedule-maker cannot arrange a crossover game, that team will have a bye.

6. Section 9 playoffs

- a. On the 10th week of the season, the two (2) top teams in Class AA, A, B, C and D will compete for the Section 9 championship.
- b. Class champions will be declared in the ninth week of the season. Sectional champions will be decided in the 10th week of the season.

7. Breaking ties

- a. In the event of a tie, the following criteria will be used to determine class/division champions for sectional representation. Once the class/division champion is determined, the tie-breaking process will be reinitiated :
 - 1. Head-to-head competition in division/class.
 - 2. Point differential of teams involved in the tie. Maximum point differential is 21 points per game. Apply negative point differential against teams only (team closest to zero (0) is the champion.
 - 3. Blind draw.

3-way tie Example

Monroe-Woodbury 30, NFA 20 (NFA -10)	Champion: Monroe-Woodbury
NFA 21, Kingston 18 (Kingston -3)	Runnerup: NFA
Kingston 7, Monroe-Woodbury 6 (M-W -1)	

3-way tie Example

Monroe-Woodbury 21, NFA 14 (NFA -7)	Champion: NFA (blind draw)
NFA 21, Kingston 14 (Kingston -7)	Runnerup: Kingston
Kingston 21, Monroe-Woodbury 14 (M-W -7)	

8. All games will be played until a winner is determined. The New York State tiebreaker system will be used.

9. Division/Sectional sites will be determined by the football committee.

10. VCR cameras are approved for scouting. Scouting of scrimmages is approved.

11. Recommended game times

- a. Varsity: Friday night at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday at 1:30 p.m.
- b. Junior varsity: Friday at 4 p.m. (3:30 p.m. after Daylight Savings Time ends)

12. Each school is to required to have adequate supervision based on past experience, game time and expected crowd size.

13. Cancellations, postponements and makeup dates are to be determined by the athletic directors from the schools involved. The earliest possible date is recommended.

14. Dressing room facilities

- a. Varsity: Locker room will be provided.
- b. Will come dressed, unless otherwise agreed upon.

15. An official football, as stated in the National Federation Rules, must be used. Both teams must supply ballboys if the same ball is not being used. The Rawlings football is the official ball of the state football tournament and must be used in the regionals, semifinals and finals.

16. Coaches meetings

- a. Prior to the season for rules interpretation, and after January 1, if needed.
- b. Notification will be sent to all schools regarding time and site of meetings.
- c. All head coaches are expected to attend or send a designee.

17. Officials Evaluations

- a. Ratings will be submitted on all individual officials working a varsity contest.
- b. It is the coach's responsibility to FAX or mail the completed evaluation form no later than the following Monday to: James Osborne, OCIAA Office, 53 Gibson Road, Goshen, N.Y., 10924, or FAX 291-7306.

18. Medical coverage as required by NYSPHAA.

19. Halftime will be 15 minutes, plus a 3-minute warmup period. An additional five (5) minutes can be requested by the home team, if it is mutually agreeable to both schools, and a request is made to the officials prior to the game.

20. It is the responsibility of the athletic director to confirm all in-section and out-of-section varsity and junior varsity contests immediately after the schedules are approved. Games played at Dietz Stadium should also be confirmed with Kingston athletic director Glen Maisch and Dietz Stadium coordinator Rick Tavares. The athletic director is responsible for ALL of the arrangements at a neutral site. All confirmations must be completed prior to the end of the school year.

21. In the event of inclement weather, teams must stay at the game site until a determination is made to play or postpone the game.

22. If a school is scheduled to play the same school twice during the season, the second game will be considered the league contest. The first game is considered non-league.

23. Sectional Semifinals

- a. In Class AA sectional semifinals, Division 1 will play Division 2. The first-place team will crossover and play the second-place team in the opposite division. The home team will be the division winner.

- b. In Class A, B, C, the first-place team will play the fourth-place team. The second-place team will face the third-place team. The first- and second-place teams will be home.
 - c. Division playoffs will take place the 9th week of the season.
- 24.** If a school's enrollment numbers change after the scheduling process has been completed, there will be no change in the school's divisional status for that season. If the school's class changes, it will play in the class it was scheduled in, but will be ineligible for the section and state tournaments.
- 25.** Each team will send films of its' last two games prior to the regionals, semifinals and finals. The participating schools make the arrangements. The exchange should be made in a timely manner. Schools not complying should be reported to the Section 9 and State chairmen.
- 26.** Spectator programs for division playoffs, sectional championships and regional games are the responsibility of the home team. **A minimum of 400 program copies should be delivered to the site chairman one hour or more before kickoff.**