



Section IX Athletics

Gregory Ransom, Executive Director

Section IX Athletic Council Meeting

Tuesday, October 4, 2022

Zoom Meeting at 9:30 am

1. Call to Order- Greg Ransom
2. Review of Meeting Materials
3. Approval of September 8, 2022 Minutes
4. Financial Report- Linda Trapani
5. Section IX NYSPHSAA Representatives- Roberta Greene
 - a. Sportsmanship: NYSPHSAA Sportsmanship Spectator Expectation
 - b. Sportsmanship: NYSPHSAA Spectator Sportsmanship Regulation
 - c. Unified Sports: Waiver of the NYSPHSAA Representative Rule
 - d. Unified Sports: Mandate the NFHS Coaching Unified Sports Course
 - e. League Placement of Section VI Charter School
 - f. Cheerleading: Establish an NYSPHSAA Game Day State Championship
 - g. Boys Soccer: Increase Allowable Yellow Cards in the Post-Season
 - h. Wrestling: Extension of the Pilot – Weight Classes
 - i. Softball: Request to Extend the Softball State Championship to Two (2) Days
 - j. Championship Advisory Committee: Addition of Officials at Individual Wrestling Championship
6. NYSPHSAA Office Report – Dr. Robert Zayas
7. Combining of Teams- Tim Bult and Dominic Zarrella
8. Fall Chair Reports:
 - a. Volleyball Steve Boucher
 - b. Football Dave Coates / Tom Casatta
 - c. Cross-Country Jim Glover / Joe Cahill
 - d. Cheerleading Kelly Hall
 - e. Girls Swimming Chris Sammons
 - f. Field Hockey Deb Beam
 - g. Girls Tennis Urvashi Gupta
 - h. Boys Soccer Pete Ferguson / Tony Martelli
 - i. Girls Soccer Diane Wanser
9. Chair Reports:
 - a. Girls & Boys Modified Sports Greg Warren / Suzanne Lendzian
 - b. Safety Janet Carey
 - c. Student Athlete Advisory Committee Suzanne Lendzian
 - d. Eligibility Tom Cassata
 - e. Officials Coordinator Dennis Burkett
 - f. Sportsmanship Adam Kless
 - g. Unified Sports Rich Silverstein
 - h. Girls Wrestling Thomas Cunningham
 - i. Girls Flag Football Rich Silverstein / Greg Sirico
10. Old Business
 - a. Chairpersons for Girls Lacrosse, Softball, and Ice Hockey
 - b. Section IX Male Representative to NYSPHSAA
11. New Business
 - a. Mixed Competition Rules – Greg Ransom
 - b. Tornado Policy – Section IX
12. Adjournment of Section IX Meeting

Next Meeting Date:

Tuesday, November 1, 2022

Zoom Meeting



Section IX Athletics

Gregory Ransom, Executive Director

Financial Report October 4, 2022

Orange County Trust Company

Period Ending: September 30, 2022

Beginning Balance:

September 1, 2022: \$271,858.88

Ending Balance:

September 30, 2022: \$296,594.89

New York State Public High School Athletic Association

Executive Committee Meeting – October 19, 2022



Sportsmanship: NYSPHSAA Sportsmanship Spectator Expectation

- ☒ Action Item
- ☐ Discussion Item
- ☐ Informational Item

Presenter:

Todd Nelson, NYSPHSAA Sportsmanship Liaison

Proposal:

The NYSPHSAA Sportsmanship Committee is recommending adding the following NYSPHSAA Sportsmanship Spectator Expectation Statement to the Handbook.

"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."

Effective Start Date:

Fall 2022

Rationale:

NYSPHSAA member schools have witnessed an increase in negative behavior by spectators at interscholastic contest at all levels. This behavior is having a negative impact on students, coaches, administrators, and officials. NYSPHSAA does not currently have a Spectator Expectation statement in the NYSPHSAA handbook. This statement sets the expectations for all NYSPHSAA member schools.

Proposal Originated:

NYSPHSAA Sportsmanship Committee

Budgetary Impact:

Schools may have to increase supervision staff at all interscholastic contests.

Notes:

None

Attachments:

None

DATE REVISED: June 17, 2022

New York State Public High School Athletic Association



Executive Committee Meeting – October 19, 2022

Sportsmanship: NYSPHSAA Spectator Sportsmanship Regulation

- ☒ Action Item
☐ Discussion Item
☐ Informational Item

Presenter:

Todd Nelson, NYSPHSAA Sportsmanship Liaison

Proposal:

The NYSPHSAA Sportsmanship Committee is recommending adding the following NYSPHSAA Sportsmanship Spectator Regulations to the Handbook.

"Any negative, inappropriate, derogatory comments or actions that brings direct attention to 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, home or away. 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.

Note: A school may take any or all these actions during or after an interscholastic contest.

Effective Start Date:

Fall 2022

New York State Public High School Athletic Association



Executive Committee Meeting – October 19, 2022

Rationale:

NYSPHSAA Sportsmanship Committee believes the time has come to hold our spectators to the same expectations that our coaches and student athletes are held to during an interscholastic contest. If our spectators cannot meet these expectations, then just like our coaches and student athletes they will face a similar consequence to their behaviors and comments. NYSPHSAA schools have a requirement to address these types of behaviors as members of our association.

Proposal Originated:

NYSPHSAA Sportsmanship Committee

Budgetary Impact:

Schools may have to increase supervision staff at all interscholastic contests.

Notes:

None

Attachments:

None

New York State Public High School Athletic Association



Central Committee Meeting – July 26-27, 2022

Unified Sports: Waiver of the NYSPHSAA Representation Rule

- ☒ Action Item
- ☐ Discussion Item
- ☐ Informational Item

Presenter:

Todd Nelson, NYSPHSAA Unified Liaison

Proposal:

The NYSPHSAA Unified Committee is recommending with Section approval waiving the NYSPHSAA Representation Rule letter (e) for a one-year pilot period.

Effective Start Date:

2022-2023 School year

Rationale:

We currently have over three hundred schools participating in Unified Basketball and over 150 schools participating in Unified Bowling. Several schools are finding it difficult to recruit partners to be part of the Unified team, especially unified basketball. Schools are reporting that students that have participated in the winter basketball program are interested but the Representation Regulation is preventing them from participating. If this rule were waived these students could be beneficial to the program and team by participating. There is a concern that participation could provide an unfair advantage to a team. For this reason, the committee is asking for a one-year pilot period to examine the extent of any unfair advantage.

Proposal Originated:

NYSPHSAA Unified Sports Committee

Budgetary Impact:

None

Notes:

None

Attachments:

None

New York State Public High School Athletic Association



Central Committee Meeting – July 26-27, 2022

Unified Sports: Mandate the NFHS Coaching Unified Sports Course

- ☒ Action Item
- ☐ Discussion Item
- ☐ Informational Item

Presenter:

Todd Nelson, NYSPHSAA Unified Liaison

Proposal:

The NYSPHSAA Unified Committee is recommending all Unified Sports Coaches take the NFHS Coaching Unified Sports course within the next two years. Coaches would only need to take the course one time to meet this requirement.

Effective Start Date:

2022-2023 School year

Rationale:

Coaching student athletes in Unified Sports requires a particularly good understanding of the diverse make-up of the team and the teams they will be competing against. The NFHS course provides a particularly good outline of the goals and objectives of Unified Sports and provides the coach with a great starting point. Many of our coaches have already completed the course, on their own, and the Unified Committee feels that all coaches and teams would benefit from taking the course.

Proposal Originated:

NYSPHSAA Unified Sports Committee

Budgetary Impact:

None – the course is free and can be completed on the coaches own period.

Notes:

None

Attachments:

None

New York State Public High School Athletic Association



Central Committee Meeting – July 26-27, 2022

League Placement of Section VI Charter Schools

- ☒ Action Item
- ☐ Discussion Item
- ☐ Informational Item

Presenter:

Robert Zayas, NYSPHSAA Executive Director

Proposal:

Discussion pertaining to the league placement of Section VI Charter Schools. Action is needed at October 2022 Executive Committee meeting.

Effective Start Date:

N/A

Rationale:

The NYSPHSAA Constitution states:

"ARTICLE VI

League and Section Organization

1. A school may join with other schools to form a league for the purpose of providing interschool athletic competition among schools of comparable size, similar interests, and within reasonable distance of each other. Leagues so formed shall be organized and affairs conducted in accordance with the rules of the section and of the association. If the section athletic council is unable to provide for league affiliation, they shall refer the problem to the NYSPHSAA, Inc. Executive Committee within 30 days for action."

Proposal Originated:

Section VI

Budgetary Impact:

None

Notes:

The NYSPHSAA Executive Committee will need to render a decision at the October 19, 2022 Executive Committee meeting.

Attachments:

Request from Section VI

New York State Public High School Athletic Association



Central Committee Meeting – July 26-27, 2022

CHEERLEADING: Establish a NYSPHSAA Game Day State Championship

- ☒ Action Item
- ☐ Discussion Item
- ☐ Informational Item

Presenter:

Jennifer Simmons, NYSPHSAA Cheerleading State Chair

Proposal:

The NYSPHSAA Cheerleading Committee is seeking approval for a NYSPHSAA Game Day State Championship in the Fall of 2023.

Effective Start Date:

Fall 2023. This event would continue to take place on week #17—the same weekend as the Game Day Regional Invitational tournament sponsored by NYSPHSAA—or week #18 depending on venue availability.

Rationale:

NYSPHSAA has conducted Game Day Regional Invitationals in the Fall of 2021 and will do so in the Fall of 2022. NYSPHSAA member schools will meet the NYSPHSAA Championship Philosophy criteria of 4 teams in 6 Sections prior to the 2023 season.

Proposal Originated:

NYSPHSAA Cheerleading Committee at their May 2022 meeting

Budgetary Impact:

There will lodging, meal and transportation costs typical with travel to any state championship.

Notes:

The Cheerleading State Committee unanimously voted in favor of this proposal at its May 2022 meeting.

Currently, the invitationals are held in 4 classes (A, B, C and D). The Cheerleading Committee will make a recommendation on the number of classes and the classification cut-off numbers based on the number of teams competing in Game Day in the Fall of 2023.

Attachments:

None

CAC Feedback:

No concerns at this time.

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Central Committee Meeting – July 26-27, 2022

BOYS SOCCER – INCREASE ALLOWABLE YELLOW CARDS IN THE POSTSEASON

☒ Action Item
☐ Discussion Item
☐ Informational Item

Presenter:

Mike Andrew, NYSPHSAA Boys Soccer Chair

Proposal:

The NYSPHSAA Boys Soccer Committee is seeking approval to increase the allowable yellow cards received by an individual in the post season before a one-game suspension is imposed. Presently a player must sit out a one game suspension upon receiving a third yellow card in postseason matches. The committee is seeking to change from three (3) to five (5) in the Yellow Card Accumulation Policy that presently exists for the soccer post season.

Effective Start Date:

Fall 2022

Rationale:

Coordinators have pointed out that in some Sections, and in some classifications, across the State teams may play as many as eight games to reach the Semifinals. Receiving a third card has required that a player sit out either the semifinal or final game of the State Championship. The committee believes this is a harsh punishment at that stage of the tournament. For clarification, the post season begins with the first game of sectionals.

Proposal Originated:

NYSPHSAA Boys Soccer Committee on April 5, 2022

Budgetary Impact:

None

Notes:

The NYSPHSAA Boys Soccer Committee voted 11-0 to support this request.

Attachments:

None

CAC Feedback:

CAC had no concerns at this time.

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Central Committee Meeting – July 26-27, 2022

Wrestling: Extension of the Pilot Weight Classes

- ☒ Action Item
- ☐ Discussion Item
- ☐ Informational Item

Presenter:

Marty Sherman, NYSPHSAA Wrestling Chairmen

Proposal:

The NYSPHSAA Wrestling Committee is recommending continuing the 2-year pilot program for wrestling weight classes for the 2022-2023 season.

Effective Start Date:

Winter 2022-23 season

Rationale:

Due to the cancellation of post season championships in 2020-2021 (year 1) the wrestling committee would like to use the current weight classes for two complete years before considering which NFHS weight classes to recommend in the future.

Proposal Originated:

NYSPHSAA Wrestling Committee

Budgetary Impact:

None

Notes:

None

Attachments:

None

New York State Public High School Athletic Association



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SOFTBALL - Request to Extend the Softball State Championships to Two Days

☒ Action Item
☐ Discussion Item
☐ Informational Item

Presenter:

Jim Wright, NYSPHSAA Softball State Chair

Proposal:

The NYSPHSAA Softball Committee is requesting approval to extend the Softball State Championship to two days starting in Spring 2023.

Effective Start Date:

June 2023

Rationale:

Quality of play and safety are focuses on why this event needs to be extended to two days. Although it is not the same length of a baseball game, high temperatures in June are likely thus creating heat issues for players participating in two games on one day. There have been state tournaments in recent years where the heat and humidity have caused teams with one pitcher to tire much sooner in the second game in addition to position players like catchers risking hydration issues. Additionally, often times games go extra innings in the state tournament due to outstanding pitching, case in point in 2019 when a semifinal game went 19 innings. In 2022, a Class B semifinal went to extra innings and the winning team was scheduled to play immediately after. They were offered a 30-minute break but declined and subsequently were beaten 14-2 in the final.

Although pitch count is not a factor in softball, quality of play is important in the state championship which would be significantly better if teams played one game per day and also enjoyed the experience of a two-day state tournament much like baseball and nearly all other NYSPHSAA team championships.

Transitioning to a 6th classification also prompts softball to explore a two-day event to ease the state tournament schedule. Fields at the current hosting facility are available for more games but the number of games for six classes would go from 15 games to 18 games and its more manageable for a two-day event to play 12 semifinals on day one and 6 finals to be played on day two. Keep in mind, most teams are coming in for a Friday afternoon practice already.

Proposal Originated:

At the June 2020 NYSPHSAA Softball Committee meeting a discussion and straw poll took place.

Budgetary Impact:

There will be a financial impact for schools who would have to travel in one night earlier (Thursday night) however the tournament will start on Friday afternoon of day one so teams would have time to travel in for their games. In 2022, NYSPHSAA began offering optional practices for teams and 19 out of 20 teams opted to use the practice time. NYSPHSAA would also endure only additional expenses (and

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revenues) for awards and umpires for a two-day tournament since the Town of Brookhaven (current host) will take on added costs and the section has volunteers to work an extra day. In a two-day format, the finals would be played with two games at a time—10 am, 12 pm, and 2 pm allowing schools to get on the road much sooner than they would in a one-day tournament.

Notes:

The NYSPHSAA Softball Committee voted unanimously in favor of this proposal at their June 21, 2022 meeting.

Attachments:

None

CAC Feedback:

No concerns at this time.

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CHAMPIONSHIP ADVISORY COMMITTEE: Addition of Officials at Individual Wrestling Championship

- ☒ Action Item
- ☐ Discussion Item
- ☐ Informational Item

Presenter:

Marty Sherman, NYSPHSAA Wrestling Chair

Proposal:

The NYSPHSAA Championship Advisory Committee is seeking approval to change the NYSPHSAA Fees and Policies Document of having 30 officials plus 2 alternates at the same cost of 28 officials and 2 alternates for the NYSPHSAA Wrestling Individual Tournament.

Effective Start Date:

Winter 2022-23 season

Rationale:

During the 2021-22 Individual Wrestling Championship two mats and 70 wrestlers were added to the championship. Those changes resulted in an increase of 136 bouts in the tournament. Both alternate officials were utilized during the tournament for a total of 28 officials. CAC is requesting to add 30 officials and 2 alternates to the NYSPHSAA Fees and Policies Document for the Individual Wrestling tournament. CAC is proposing to have 30 working officials plus 2 alternates at the same cost as 28 working officials and 2 alternates. The current fee for a working official is \$602. The officials have agreed to lower the fee to \$565 per official to have 30 working officials. There would be no increased cost for NYSPHSAA for having 30 working officials as opposed to 28 working officials.

Proposal Originated:

NYSPHSAA Wrestling Committee at the May 2022 meeting

Budgetary Impact:

The proposal will increase the fee by \$565 (due to two ½ fees for alternates).

Notes:

The Wrestling Committee voted unanimously in favor of supporting this proposal at its May 2022 meeting.

Attachments:

None

CAC Feedback:

CAC voted 10-0 in favor of this proposal.



Girls Wrestling Meeting Report

Date: September 14th @ 1pm

Topic Discussed:

1. NYSPHSAA/SED Regulations
2. NYSPHSAA Eligibility Rules
3. NYSPHSAA Girls Wrestling Rules
4. Future NYSPHSAA events

Attendees:

Section I – absent
Section 2 – absent
Section III – Chris Els
Section IV – Brandon MacWhinnie
Section V – Eric Mullen
Section VI – Alex Conti
Section VII – absent
Section VIII – Carol Roseto
Section IX – Tom Cunningham
Section X – Randy Morrison
Section XI – Tom Combs
NYSPHSAA – Todd Nelson, Robert Zayas, Joe Altieri, Chris Joyce, Chris Watson, Lisa Hand, Kyra Barry, Olivia Intern.

Status Updates:

1. Girls Wrestling is an official NYSPHSAA Emerging Sport.

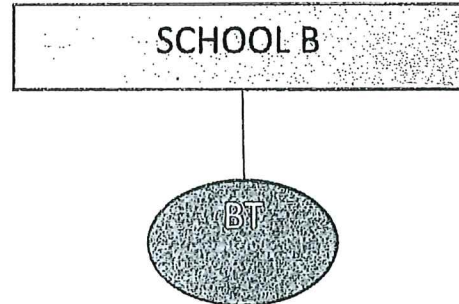
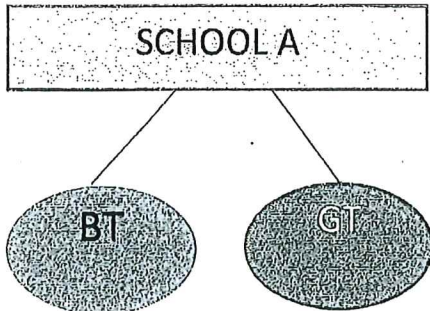
Items Discussion/ Action Taken:

1. All NYSPHSAA/SED rules and regulations must be followed by all participating schools and student athletes.
2. NYSPHSAA Representation Rule. Girls on Boys team through mixed competition may practice or compete in any girl only events. Girls on Boys team with a girl only team at the school are prohibited from competing in Girls only post season. (Please see attached flow chart).
3. A recommendation was made to follow the NFHS Girl 12 weight classes plus a lower weight of 94 lbs. 7th or 8th graders must have a minimum weight of 86lbs for the 94lb weight class and 92 lbs for the 100lb weight class and 180 lbs for the 235 lbs weight class.
4. A recommendation was made to waive the maximum of 6 tournaments for girls only tournaments only, during the regular season for a 2-year period.
5. A recommendation was made to require 3 contests to meet the representation rule for girls post season.
6. A recommendation was made to offer a NYSPHSAA Invitational Tournament in January 2023. This tournament would not count toward the maximum of 20pts during the regular season for this year only.

Future Items/Meeting:

1. Planning of NYSPHSAA Invitational Event
2. Next Meeting: December 15th at 10am

Girls Wrestling Rules In Regards to Mixed Competition



Girls must choose to be on the girls team, or participate through mixed competition.	Girls participate through mixed competition.
Girls on the girls team cannot compete or practice with boys.	Girls can practice and compete with boys.
Girls on the boys team can practice and compete with girls during the regular season.	Girls may compete with and practice with girls during the regular season.
Girls on the boys team <i>cannot</i> participate in girls only postseason tournament.	Girls on the boys team <i>can</i> participate in girl only postseason tournament.
Athletes can only choose one postseason path. If an athlete is on the girls team they can only compete in girls post-season. If the athlete is on the boys team through mixed competition they are only eligible for boys post-season.	Athletes can only choose one postseason path. They must declare with the Section Executive Director prior to participating in the post season. See NYSPHSAA handbook under representation.

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Girls Wrestling – NYSPHSAA Hosting Girls Wrestling Invitational

- ☒ Action Item
- ☐ Discussion Item
- ☐ Informational Item

Presenter:

Todd Nelson, Assistant Director

Proposal:

The NYSPHSAA Girls Wrestling Committee is recommending NYSPHSAA host a girl only Wrestling Invitational during the 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 school year.

Effective Start Date:

Winter 2022

Rationale:

This invitational event would provide female wrestlers from across New York State to participate in a state level competition. This would be an open invitational to all female wrestlers.

Proposal Originated:

NYSPHSAA Girls Wrestling Committee

Budgetary Impact:

NYSPHSAA would be responsible for all tournament expenses and receive all revenue for this event.

Notes:

This proposal is an action item because of the timing between emerging sport status and the start of the season. This event would be in conjunction with the NYSPHSAA Dual Meet State Championship held at SRC Arena Section 3. This event would not count toward the 20 maximum points for all participants.

Attachments:

None

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Girls Wrestling – Waiver of the NYSPHSAA Representation Rule

- ☒ Action Item
- ☐ Discussion Item
- ☐ Informational Item

Presenter:

Todd Nelson, Assistant Director

Proposal:

The NYSPHSAA Girls Wrestling Committee is recommending a 2-year waiver of the NYSPHSAA Representation rule from 6 to 3 for girls post season only.

Effective Start Date:

Winter 2022

Rationale:

As an emerging sport, this waiver will allow female wrestlers to participate in girl only post season events without having to participate in 6 contest.

Proposal Originated:

NYSPHSAA Girls Wrestling Committee

Budgetary Impact:

None

Notes:

This proposal is an action item because of the timing between emerging sport status and the start of the season. There is not expected to be any post season events during the 2022-2023 season.

Attachments:

None

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Girls Wrestling – Waive the NYSPHSAA Maximum Number of Tournaments

- ☒ Action Item
- ☐ Discussion Item
- ☐ Informational Item

Presenter:

Todd Nelson, Assistant Director

Proposal:

The NYSPHSAA Girls Wrestling Committee is recommending a 2-year waiver for the maximum number of tournaments (6) by a wrestler for female only tournaments.

Effective Start Date:

Winter 2022

Rationale:

As an emerging sport, it will take time for full teams to develop and leagues to schedule dual meets for the female wrestlers. By waiving the maximum number of tournaments for the female wrestlers it will allow the growth of the sport by giving more females the opportunity to compete in various tournaments.

Proposal Originated:

NYSPHSAA Girls Wrestling Committee

Budgetary Impact:

None

Notes:

This proposal is an action item because of the timing between emerging sport status and the start of the season.

Attachments:

None

New York State Public High School Athletic Association



Executive Committee Meeting – October 19, 2022

Girls Wrestling – Use of NFHS 12 Female Weight Classes plus NYSPHSAA 94lb. weight class

☒ Action Item
☐ Discussion Item
☐ Informational Item

Presenter:

Todd Nelson, Assistant Director

Proposal:

The NYSPHSAA Girls Wrestling Committee is recommending using the NFHS 12 female weight classes along with a NYSPHSAA weight class of 94lbs. The 12 NFHS weight classes are 100, 107, 114, 120, 126, 132, 138, 145, 152, 165, 185, and 235. The minimum weight for 7th and 8th graders to compete at 94 and 100 would be 86 and 92 respectively and 180 for 235.

Effective Start Date:

Winter 2022

Rationale:

As a recognized sport by NYSPHSAA, Girls wrestling needs to establish weigh classes that are specific for the females. The NFHS has given options for State Associations to select 12, 13, or 14 weight classes. The committee feels that 12 weight classes plus the NYSPHSAA lower weight best serves the sport and the female wrestlers in NYSPHSAA.

Proposal Originated:

NYSPHSAA Girls Wrestling Committee

Budgetary Impact:

None

Notes:

This proposal is an action item because of the timing between emerging sport status and the start of the season.

Attachments:

None



Girls Flag Football Meeting Report

Date: September 14th @ 10am

Topic Discussed:

1. NFL Grant Opportunities
2. NYSPHSAA/SED Regulations
3. HS Eligibility Standards for Girls Flag
4. Girls Flag Football Playing Rules
5. Future Championship Events

Attendees:

Section I – Dan Belfi
Section 2 – absent
Section III – April Wertheim
Section IV – Brad Tomm
Section V – Jen Lapinski
Section VI – absent
Section VII – absent
Section VIII – Amie Epstein
Section IX – Greg Sirico/Rich Silverstein
Section X – Mark Wilson
Section XI – Phillip Torregrosa
NYSPHSAA – Todd Nelson, Robert Zayas, Joe Altieri, Olivia intern, Chris Joyce, Lisa Hand, Chris Watson, Tim Arden, Pat Pizzarelli, Preston Teague, Todd Santabarbara, Pete Blieberg, Jessie Linder, Eli Hodges, Ethan Medley

Status Updates:

1. Girls Flag Football is an official emerging NYSPHSAA sport.

Items Discussion/ Action Taken:

1. Sections was directed to communicate with their member schools on the interest in offering Girls Flag Football in the Spring of 2023. NYSPHSAA is looking for a firm commitment by November 1st for schools to participate. NYSPHSAA is available to meet with Section schools to answer any questions or concerns.
2. As an official NYSPHSAA Sport all SED and NYSPHSAA rules and regulations are to be followed.
3. A recommendation was approved to follow the same HS Eligibility Standards as Girls Lacrosse.
4. A recommendation was made to follow the NFHS Football rules as well as the NYSPHSAA Girls Flag Football Rules (see attached).
5. A recommendation was made for NYSPHSAA to offer a State Championship for Girls Flag Football in the Spring of 2024 during week #48.

Future Items/Meeting:

1. Grant opportunities for new sections and school.
2. Next Meeting: June 2023

New York State Public High School Athletic Association

Executive Committee Meeting – October 19, 2022



Girls Flag Football – NFHS/NYSPHSAA Playing Rules

☐ Action Item
☒ Discussion Item
☐ Informational Item

Presenter:

Todd Nelson, Assistant Director

Proposal:

The NYSPHSAA Girls Flag Football Committee is recommending following the NFHS Football playing rules along with the NYSPHSAA Girls Flag Football Rules.

Effective Start Date:

Spring 2023

Rationale:

During the pilot program in the Spring of 2022 the participating teams used the NFHS Football rules along with NYSPHSAA Girls Flag Football Rules. The committee did review all of the rules and made minor adjustments to them for the 2023 season.

Proposal Originated:

NYSPHSAA Girls Flag Football Committee

Budgetary Impact:

None.

Notes:

None.

Attachments:

NYSPHSAA Playing Rules

DATE REVISED: 9/26/2022

New York State Public High School Athletic Association

Executive Committee Meeting – October 19, 2022



Girls Flag Football – NYSPHSAA State Championship

_____ Action Item
_____ X _____ Discussion Item
_____ Informational Item

Presenter:

Todd Nelson, Assistant Director

Proposal:

The NYSPHSAA Girls Flag Football Committee is recommending NYSPHSAA offer a State Championship starting in the Spring of 2024.

Effective Start Date:

Spring 2023

Rationale:

During the pilot program in the Spring of 2022 NYSPHSAA had 51 schools in 6 sections participate. All 51 schools will be participating again this year. There was a minimum of 4 schools in all 6 Sections. NYSPHSAA has opened this opportunity up all 11 Sections. Sections have indicated that more schools will be offering Girls Flag Football teams during the 2023 season.

Girls Flag Football meets the criteria for a State Championship established by the NYSPHSAA Championship Philosophy Document.

Proposal Originated:

NYSPHSAA Girls Flag Football Committee

Budgetary Impact:

NYSPHSAA would assume all championship expense and receive all championship revenue.

Notes:

If approved, the NYSPHSAA staff would send out a request for Championship Bids for Girls Flag Football. The number of classes/divisions would follow the Championship Philosophy

document and be determined by the number of teams participating in the Spring of 2023.

Attachments:

None

DATE REVISED: 9/26/2022

New York State Public High School Athletic Association

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Girls Flag Football – High School Sport Standards

_____ Action Item
_____X_____ Discussion Item
_____ Informational Item

Presenter:

Todd Nelson, Assistant Director

Proposal:

The NYSPHSAA Girls Flag Football Committee is recommending the following High School Sport Standards for Girls Flag Football.

- Minimum 6 practices to represent your school
- Maximum 16 games during the regular season
- 1 night rest between contests
- 1 contest allowed per day
- NFHS Football Rules plus NYSPHSAA Rules
- 1 scrimmage per day

Effective Start Date:

Spring 2023

Rationale:

As an emerging sport, Girls Flag Football needs to establish High School Sport Standards. These standards are the same as Girls Lacrosse Standards.

Proposal Originated:

NYSPHSAA Girls Flag Football Committee

Budgetary Impact:

None.

Notes:

None.



OFFICIAL NYSPHSAA GIRLS FLAG FOOTBALL RULES

THE GAME, FIELD, PLAYERS AND EQUIPMENT

General Rules

1. The game should be played between 2 teams of 7 players each. Five players are required to avoid a forfeit.
2. The game shall be played under the supervision of 3 officials.
3. A speaking captain must be selected to make all decisions and shall be the only one who addresses the officials.
4. Team representatives, including players, substitutes, replaced players, coaches, trainers, and other persons affiliated with the team are subject to the rules of the game, and shall be governed by decisions of officials assigned to the game.

The Field

1. The field shall be 40 yards in width and 80 yards in length and contain four (4) twenty (20) yard zones with a ten (10) yard end zone on each end. The total field size is 40X100 (including end zones).
2. A one (1) yard wide line should be marked at each end at the three- and ten-yard lines in the middle of the field. These lines shall be used for the extra point try when a team scores a touchdown. The 20-yard line will also be used for an extra point try.

Game and Player Equipment (Legal)

1. Football - The official ball shall be pebble-grained leather or rubber covered and shall be a junior size. The referee shall be the sole judge of any ball offered for play and may change the ball during play at his/her discretion.
2. Jerseys - Players of opposing teams must wear contrasting colored jerseys, and/or pinnies.
3. Pants / Shorts - Each player must wear pants or shorts without any belt(s), belt loop(s), pockets, or exposed drawstrings. The pants or shorts must be a different color than the flags.
4. Flag belt - Each player must wear sonic flag belts at the waistline with two flags.
5. Gloves - Players may wear gloves which must consist of a soft, pliable and nonabrasive material
6. Headwear - Players are not permitted to wear bandanas. Players may wear knit stocking caps, or elastic headbands. Hats may not have a bill. Soft headgear is allowed.
7. Shoes - Shoes with cleats must be made of soft pliable plastic or rubber. No exposed metal cleats are permitted. (See illegal player equipment).
8. Mouthguard - All players are required to wear mouthguards during game play.

Game and Player Equipment (Illegal)

1. A player wearing illegal equipment shall not be permitted to play. This applies to any equipment, which, in the opinion of the Referee, is dangerous or confusing. Types of equipment or substances which shall always be declared illegal include:
 - A. Headgear containing any hard, unyielding, or stiff material, including billed hats.
 - B. Jewelry
 - C. Pads or braces worn above the waist.
 - D. Shoes with metal, ceramic, screw-in, or detachable cleats. Any team found wearing illegal equipment will be penalized 15 yards, and the second warning results in a forfeit.

- E. Shirts or jerseys, which do not remain, tucked in. Any hood on a coat, sweatshirt, or shirt, which does not remain tucked in.
 - F. Pants or shorts with any belt(s), belt loop(s), pocket(s) or exposed drawstring(s).
 - G. Leg and knee braces made of hard, unyielding material, unless covered on both sides and all edges overlapped, and any other hard substance is covered with at least 1/2 inch of closed cell slow recovery rubber or other material of similar thickness and physical properties.
 - H. Towels attached at the player's waist (flag only).
2. Players will be sent off the field during the next dead ball to permit prompt repair of equipment, which becomes illegal or defective through use (except for illegal shoes).

DEFINITIONS OF PLAYING TERMS

Catch - A catch is an act of establishing player possession of a live ball in flight.

Clipping – Clipping is running or diving into the back or throwing or dropping the body across the back of the leg or legs of an opponent, or pushing an opponent in the back.

Diving - a ball carrier may not dive (diving is defined as an offensive player leaving their feet without returning to their feet) in an effort to gain extra yardage. Defenders can dive to pull a flag.

Encroachment - Encroachment is a term to indicate a defensive player is illegally in the neutral zone. An entering substitute is not considered to be a player for encroachment restrictions until he/she is on his/her team's side of the neutral zone.

Fair Catch – A signal made by receiving person of a punt in which the receiver cannot run after catching the ball and the ball is immediately down when caught.

Foul – A foul is a rule infraction for which a penalty is assessed.

Fumble - A fumble is a loss of player possession other than by handing passing or kicking the ball.

Goal Line – Each goal line is a vertical plane separating the end zone from the field of play. The plane of goal extends beyond the sideline.

Hurdling - Hurdling is an attempt by a player to jump with one or both feet or knees foremost over a player who is on his/her feet.

Interception - A catch of an opponent's pass or fumble in flight is an interception.

Live Ball - A pass or fumble, which has not yet touched the ground, is a live ball in flight and therefore can be caught and advanced by either team.

Neutral Zone - The neutral zone is the area between the offensive and defensive line of scrimmage that has been established by the spot cone markers and extends to each sideline. It is established when the ball is ready for play.

Pass (Forward and Backward) - A forward pass is a pass thrown with its initial direction toward the opponent's end line. A backward pass is a pass thrown with its initial direction parallel with or toward the passer's end line. A pass continues to be a pass until it is caught or strikes the ground. A backward pass that hits the ground is ruled the same as a fumble. It will be dead at the spot where it strikes the ground.

Penalty – A penalty is a loss imposed by rule upon a team that has committed a foul.

Protective Scrimmage Kick – A punt in which prohibits either team from advancing beyond their scrimmage lines until the ball is kicked.

Punting - A punt is kicking the ball by a player who drops it and kicks it before it hits the ground.

Screen Blocking - Screen Blocking is legally obstructing an opponent without initiating contact with him/her with any part of the screen blocker's body. **There shall be no moving screens beyond the line of scrimmage. Offensive players beyond the line of scrimmage may set a standing pick (similar to basketball) or may follow the play in event of a backward pass (pitch play).**

Tagging - Tagging is placing one hand anywhere between the shoulders and knees of an opponent with the ball. The tagger may leave his/her feet to make the tag. Pushing, striking, slapping, and holding are not permitted. If a player trips the runner in his/her attempt to make a diving tag, it is a penalty.

- A. Tagging is appropriate when the flag belt for an offensive player falls off on its own - without a pull from the defender.
 - a. Ex: Receiver is running a route, uncontacted, the flag belt falls off and they receive a pass- at that time it is appropriate to tag that ball carrier.

Tripping - Tripping is the use of the lower leg or foot to obstruct an opponent, including the runner, below the knee.

PERIODS, TIME FACTORS, SUBSTITUTIONS

1. Game time is forfeit time.

2. Coin Toss - The second team on the scoresheet shall be the home team. The game will begin with a coin toss. The visiting team will have the choice before the toss - heads or tails. The team who wins the coin toss has the option to defer, select offense (either a 20-yard line start) or defense).

3. Length of game - Playing Time shall be 50 minutes, divided into two halves of 25 minutes running time with stop clock the last two minutes of each half and change of possession. The intermission between halves shall be 5 minutes. When overtime is used, there will be a 3-minute intermission.

4. Shortened Periods - Before the start of the game, playing time may be shortened by mutual agreement of the field captains and the Referee. Anytime during the game, the playing time of any remaining period(s) may be shortened by mutual agreement of the opposing captains and the Referee.

5. Extended Periods - A half may be extended by an untimed down when, during the last timed down, one of the following occurred:

A. If there was a foul by either team and the penalty is accepted.

B. If there was a double foul.

C. If there was an inadvertent whistle and the down is to be replayed.

D. If a touchdown was scored, the try is attempted unless the touchdown is scored during the last down of the second half and the point(s) would not affect the outcome of the game or playoff qualifying.

6. 2-Minute Warning - Approximately 2 minutes before the end of each half the Referee informs both captains of the playing time remaining in that half.

7. Stopped Clock:

A. Incomplete Pass

B. Out-of-Bounds

C. Score (touchdown or safety)

D. Team time-out

E. Fair Catch

F. Penalty and administration (on snap or ready for play depending on previous ball status)

G. Referee's Time-out - starts at his/her discretion

H. Touchback

I. Change of Possession

J. Team attempting to conserve time illegally

K. First Down (this is a temporary stop, wind the clock once ball and officials are set)

8. Timing Errors - The Referee shall have the authority to correct obvious timing errors if discovery is prior to the second live ball following the error unless the period had officially ended.

9. Tie Game - In case of a playoff game ending in a tie score, the officials must bring all players and coaches of both teams to the center of the field. They will discuss the tiebreaker procedures and answer all questions prior to the coin toss. After this meeting the field captains will stay while the remaining players and coaches return to their respective sidelines.

A. A coin will be flipped or odd/even choice by the visiting team captain will determine the options as in the start of

the game. The winner of the toss shall be given the options of offense, defense, or direction. The loser of the toss shall make a choice of the remaining options. **Each overtime period begins with a coin toss or odd/even choice.**

B. ALL OVERTIME PERIODS ARE PLAYED TOWARD THE SAME GOAL LINE.

- C. Unless moved by penalty, each team will start 1st and goal from the 20-yard line. The object will be to score a touchdown. An overtime period consists of one possession by each team. If the score is still tied after one period, they go to a second period or as many as needed to determine a winner. If the first team which is awarded the ball scores, the opponent still has a chance to win the game. If the defense intercepts the pass or fumble and returns it for a touchdown, they win the game. If they do not return the interception for a touchdown, the ball will belong to the defense, as the offense did not convert their chance. They must convert to win or another period starts. Each team is entitled to one time-out per overtime period.
- D. Penalties - The offense should be awarded a new series of 4 downs when the penalty for defensive pass interference or roughing the passer is accepted. Dead ball fouls following a successful try will be penalized from the succeeding spot.

10. Time-Outs – Each team is entitled to 2 charged timeouts per game.

- A. The Referee shall declare time-out when he/she suspends the play for any reason. Each time-out shall be charged either to the Referee or one of the teams.
- B. The Referee shall declare an official's time-out when a team is illegally conserving time and administer a five-yard penalty.
- C. The Referee may declare an official's time-out for any contingency not covered elsewhere by the Rules.
- D. Coach-Referee Conference - When a team requests a charged time-out for a misapplication or misinterpretation of a rule, the Referee will confer with the team captain or coach. The request must be made prior to the time the ball becomes alive following the play to be reviewed unless the period has officially ended. At the end of the half the team has until the first snap of the second half to protest.
- E. An injured or apparently injured player, who is discovered by an official while the ball is dead and the clock is stopped, shall be replaced for at least one down unless the halftime or overtime intermission occurs. A player who is bleeding, has an open wound, or has blood on the uniform shall be considered injured.

11. Delays

Delay of Game - The ball must be put in play promptly and legally and any action or inaction by either team, which tends to prevent this, is a delay of game. This includes:

- A. Failure to snap or free kick within 25 seconds after the ball is ready for play.
- B. Putting the ball in play before it is declared ready for play.
- C. Deliberately advancing the ball after it has been declared dead.

Unfair Tactics - The Referee may order the game clock started or stopped whenever, in his/her opinion, either team is trying to conserve or consume playing time by tactics obviously unfair.

Penalty: Delay of Game, 5 yards from previous spot.

12. Substitutions - No substitute shall enter during a down. All substitutions must enter the game during a dead ball.

SERIES OF DOWNS, NUMBER OF DOWN, & THE TEAM POSSESSION AFTER PENALTY

- 1. Each team receives four (4) downs to pass the zone-line-to-gain or endzone.
- 2. The zone line-to-gain in any series shall be the zone in advance of the ball, unless distance has been lost due to penalty or failure to gain. In such cases, the original zone in advance of the ball at the beginning of the series of downs is the zone line-to-gain. The most forward point of the ball, when declared dead between the goal lines, shall be the determining factor.
- 3. A new series of downs shall be awarded when a team moves the ball into the next zone on a play free from penalty; or a penalty against the opponents moves the ball into the next zone; or an accepted penalty against the opponents involves an automatic first down; or either team has obtained legal possession of a ball as a result of a penalty, free kick, protected scrimmage kick, touchback, pass interception, or failure to gain the zone in advance of the ball.
- 4. To start the game, 2nd half and following scores, the ball will be placed on the 20yd line (2nd zone front line).

5. If offsetting fouls occur during a down, that down shall be repeated.

Exception: If each team fouls during a down in which there is a change of team possession, the team last gaining possession may retain the ball, provided its foul was not prior to the final change of possession and it declines all penalties for its opponent's fouls, other than unsportsmanlike.

KICKING THE BALL AND FAIR CATCH

Protected Scrimmage Kick - Dead Punt

1. Prior to making the ball ready for play on fourth down, the Referee must ask the offense if he/she wants a protected kick (punt). The Referee must communicate this decision to the defensive captain and the other officials.
 - a. The offensive team must declare their intentions on 4th down – punting or *going for it*
2. The offense must have all field players (typically 6) except the punter on the line of scrimmage. The defense must have at least 5 players within 1 yard of their scrimmage line. All players on the line of scrimmage must remain motionless until the kick is made. A line player may not raise his/her arms to distract the kicker or block the kick. **Penalty:** Illegal Procedure, 5 yards from the previous spot.
3. The kicker must be at least 5 yards behind the scrimmage line when receiving the snap. After receiving the snap, the kicker must kick the ball immediately and in a continuous motion.
4. Any kick caught by the kicking team behind the line of scrimmage cannot be advanced.
5. If the ball touches the ground following a protected scrimmage kick (punt) or is caught by the receiving team, the play is dead where the ball initially landed, crossed out of bounds or caught by the receiving team.

Fair Catch

1. Any receiver may signal for a fair catch while any kick is in flight and is beyond the kicker's free kick line.
2. If any receiver gives a valid signal for a fair catch and catches the kick beyond the kicker's line and between the goal lines, it is a fair catch and the ball becomes dead.
3. After a valid fair catch signal by any member of the receiving team, no receiver may advance the ball. When receiving a protected kick, the receiver may call for a fair catch. The player must signal intention by extending one arm above his/her head and waving laterally from side to side more than once.
4. An invalid fair catch signal is any signal by a receiver before the kick is caught or recovered that does not meet the requirements of a valid signal or after the kick has touched a receiver or the ground.

SNAPPING, HANDLING, PASSING, RECEIVING, RUNNING THE BALL

Prior to the Snap

1. Following the ready for play and until the snap, no player on defense may encroach, touch the ball, nor may any player contact opponents or in any other way interfere with them. This includes standing in the neutral zone to give defensive signals or shifting through the zone. After the snapper has placed his/her hands on the ball, it is encroachment for any player to break the scrimmage line plane, except for the snapper's right to be over the ball. **Penalty:** Dead Ball Foul, Encroachment, 5 yards from the previous spot.
2. The snapper, after assuming position for the snap and adjusting the ball, may neither move nor change the position of the ball in a manner simulating the beginning of a play until it is snapped. An infraction of this provision may be penalized, whether or not the ball is snapped, and the penalty for any resultant encroachment or contact foul by an opponent shall be cancelled.

Position and Action during the Snap

1. The offensive team must have at least 4 players within 1 yard of the scrimmage line at the snap.
Penalty: Illegal Formation, 5 yards from previous spot
2. All offensive players must be within 15 yards of the ball.
Penalty: Illegal Formation, 5 yards from previous spot
3. One offensive player may be in motion, but not in motion toward the opponent's goal line.

Penalty: Illegal Motion, 5 yards from previous spot

4. The player who receives the snap must be at least two yards behind the offensive scrimmage.

Penalty: Illegal Formation, 5 yards from previous spot

5. In a snap preceded by a huddle or shift, all offensive players must come to a complete stop and remain stationary in legal position without movement of feet, body, head, arms for at least one full second before the snap. **Penalty – Illegal Shift**, 5 yards from previous spot

Passing and Receiving

1. All players are eligible to catch a pass.
2. There is no **diving** while running with the ball. A receiver may dive to catch a ball. A defensive player may dive for to try to remove a flag.
2. A runner may pass the ball backward or lose player possession by a fumble at any time except if intentionally thrown out-of-bounds to conserve time or to avoid being deflagged/tagged.
3. A backward pass or fumble which touches the ground between the goal lines is dead at the spot where it touches the ground and belongs to the last team in possession unless lost on downs.
4. A backward pass or fumble that goes out-of-bounds between the goal lines belongs to the team last in possession at the out-of-bounds spot. If out-of-bounds behind a goal line, it is a touchback or safety.
5. If an offensive player fumbles the ball prior to reaching the end zone and the ball lands in the end zone, the offensive team shall retain possession at the spot of the fumble.
 - 5a. A forward fumble out-of-bounds between the goal lines comes back to the spot where the team lost possession the ball.
6. A forward pass is illegal:
 - A. If the passer's foot is on or beyond the line of scrimmage.
 - B. If intentionally thrown to the ground or out-of-bounds to save loss of yardage.
 - C. If there is more than one forward pass per down.
7. The line of scrimmage remains throughout the play. A team may advance the ball across the line of scrimmage by backwards passes or runs, and then backwards pass the ball behind the line for a forward pass attempt.
8. If a player attempts a catch or intercept while in the air, the player must contact the ground inbounds with the ball in his/her possession prior to touching out-of-bounds, unless an opponent's contact causes him/her to first touch out-of-bounds.
 - A. If one foot first lands in-bounds and the receiver has possession and control of the ball, it is a catch or interception although a subsequent step or fall takes the receiver out-of-bounds.
 - B. A loss of ball simultaneously with returning to the ground is not a catch or interception.
9. A player may, while jumping in the air to attempt a catch, may pass (tip) the ball forward provided he/she has not touched the ground yet.
10. Pass Interference - Contact that interferes with an eligible receiver who is beyond the line of scrimmage is pass interference unless it occurs when 2 or more eligible receivers make a simultaneous and bona fide attempt to reach, catch, or bat a pass.
 - A. Offensive Pass Interference - after the ball is snapped, and until a receiver has touched it, there shall be no offensive pass interference beyond the line of scrimmage.

Penalty: Offensive Pass Interference, 10 yards from previous spot, loss of down
 - B. Defensive Pass Interference - after the pass is thrown, and until it is touched, there shall be no defensive pass interference beyond the line of scrimmage while the ball is in flight.

Penalty: Defensive Pass Interference, 10 yards from previous spot, automatic first down
11. Roughing the passer – Defensive players must make a definite effort to avoid charging into the passer after it is clear the ball has been thrown, also there should be no attempts to hit the player's arm during a throwing motion.

Penalty: Roughing the Passer, 10 yards, automatic first down

Running and Flag Removal

1. Flag Removal - When the flag is clearly taken from the runner in possession of the ball, the down shall end, and the ball is declared dead. A player who removes the flag from the runner should immediately hold the flag above their head to assist the official in locating the spot where the capture occurred. The ball is spotted where the ball was when the player is deflagged. Players must have possession of the ball before they can legally be deflagged.
 - B. When a runner loses their flag belt either accidentally, inadvertently (not removed by grabbing or pulling), or on purpose, play continues. The deflagging reverts to a one-hand tag of the runner between the shoulders and knees.
 - C. In circumstances where a flag is removed illegally, play should continue with the option of the penalty or the play.
 - D. A defensive player intentionally pulling a flag belt from an offensive player without the ball is illegal. The official shall warn the team, any further penalty will result in an unsportsmanlike conduct.
 - E. Tampering with the flag belt in any way to gain an advantage including tying, using foreign materials, or other such acts is illegal.
 - F. A defensive player may leave their feet when trying to remove the flag.
 - G. If an eligible receiver is deflagged/tagged prior to touching the ball on a pass thrown beyond the line of scrimmage.
Penalty: Early Flag Pull Foul, 5 yards from spot of the penalty
2. Contact - In an attempt to remove the flag belt from a runner, defensive players may contact the body and shoulders, but not the face, neck or any part of the head of an opponent with their hands. A defensive player may not hold, push, or knock the runner down in an attempt to remove the flag belt.
Penalty: Defensive Holding, 10 yards from spot
3. Flag Guarding - A runner shall not flag guard by using their hands, arms, or the ball to deny the opportunity for an opponent to pull or remove the flag belt. A player may use a spin, jump cut, or dip, however; must keep their arms away from their flag to avoid flag guarding.
Penalty: Flag guarding, 10 yards from the spot of the penalty.
 - A. A runner shall be prohibited from contacting an opponent with an extended hand or arm which includes the use of a "stiff arm" to flag guard
Penalty: Flag guarding, 10 yards from the spot of the penalty
4. Helping the runner - A player shall not grasp, pull, push or aid any teammate runner.
Penalty: Helping the Runner, 5 yards from spot of the penalty.

BLOCKING

1. Offense Blocking - The offensive blocking shall take place without contact. The blocker shall have his/her hands and arms at his/her side or behind his/her back. Any use of the hands, arms, elbows, legs, or body to initiate contact during an offensive block is illegal.
Penalty: Personal Foul, 10 yards from the spot of the penalty
2. Interlock Blocking - Teammates of a runner or passer may interfere for him/her by screen blocking but shall not use interlocked interference by grasping or encircling one another in any manner.
3. Defensive Rush and Use of Hands - Defensive players must attempt to go around the offensive blocker. Defensive players must not use any part of his/her arms, hands, elbows, or any part of the body to contact the offensive player.
Penalty: Personal Foul, 10 yards from previous spot

SCORING PLAYS AND TOUCHBACKS

Touchdown

1. All touchdowns are 6 points
2. A touchdown shall be scored when a legal forward pass is completed or a fumble or backward pass is caught behind

the opponent's goal line or when a player is legally in possession of the ball and penetrates the vertical plane of the opponent's goal line. The ball scores, not the player's hips or flag.

Extra Point Try = 1, 2, or 3 Points

1. An opportunity to score 1 point from the 3-yard line or 2 points from the 10-yard line, or 3 points from the 20-yard line shall be granted to the team scoring a touchdown. While time is out there shall be one scrimmage play, unless changed by penalty.
2. The Referee must speak to the field captain, asking him/her whether the try shall be from the 3, 10 or 20-yard line. Once the scoring team makes the choice, he/she may change the decision only by taking a charged team time out.
3. If a double foul occurs during the down, the down shall be replayed. When a distance penalty is incurred by the offense during a successful try, the down will be repeated, if accepted. However, if the offense penalty carries a loss of down, the try has ended and will not be repeated.

Safety = 2 points

1. It is a safety when a runner carries the ball from the field of play to or across his/her own goal line, and it becomes dead there in his/her team's possession.
Exception: Momentum Rule
2. A safety is also when an offensive player commits a foul for which the penalty is accepted, and the measurement is from the spot of the foul that is in the end zone.
3. When a safety is scored, the ball belongs to the defending team, and they shall put the ball in play from the 20-yard line.

CONDUCT OF PLAYERS AND OTHERS

Unsportsmanlike Conduct

1. No player shall commit non-contact acts during a period or intermission. Examples include, but are not limited to: A.
Any acts of unfair play.

B. Using disconcerting acts or words prior to the snap in an attempt to interfere with the offense's signals or movements.

C. Intentionally kicking at any opposing player.

D. Intentionally swinging an arm, hand or fist at any opposing player.
2. Dead Ball Player Fouls
A. Intentionally kicking the ball.
B. Spike the ball into the ground.
C. Throw the ball high into the air.
3. Prohibited Acts - There shall be no unsportsmanlike conduct by players, substitutes, coaches or others subject to the Rules. Examples include, but are not limited to:
A. Attempting to influence a decision by an official.
B. Disrespectfully addressing an official.
C. Indicating objections to an official's decision.
D. Holding an unauthorized conference or being on the field illegally.
E. Using profanity, insulting or vulgar language or gestures.
F. Intentionally contacting a game official physically during the game by persons subject to the rules.

Personal Fouls

1. No player shall commit a personal foul during a period or an intermission. Any act prohibited hereunder, or any other act of unnecessary roughness is a personal foul. No player shall:
A. Punch, strike, strip, steal, or attempt to steal the ball from a player in possession.

B. Trip an opponent.

C. Contact an opponent who is on the ground.

D. Throw the runner to the ground.

E. Hurdle any other player.

- F. Contact an opponent either before or after the ball is declared dead.
- G. Make any contact with an opponent that is deemed unnecessary of any nature including using fists, locked hands, elbows, or any part of the forearm or hand, except according to Flag Rules.
- H. Deliberately drive or run into a defensive player.
- I. Clip an opponent.
- J. Tackling the runner.

ENFORCEMENT OF PENALTIES

1. Captain's Choice - When a foul occurs during a live ball, the referee shall, at the end of the down, notify both captains. The referee shall inform the captain of the offended team regarding the rights of penalty acceptance or declination and shall indicate the number of the ensuing down, distance to be gained, and status of the ball for each available choice. The distance penalty for any foul may be declined. If the penalty is declined or if there is a double foul, there is no loss of distance. A captain's choice of options may not be revoked.
2. Live Ball Fouls - Any live ball foul is penalized according to the all-but one enforcement principle, except:
 - A. A foul that occurs simultaneously with the snap or free kick is penalized from the previous spot.
 - B. A non-player foul, unsportsmanlike foul, or dead ball foul is penalized from the succeeding spot.
3. Dead Ball Fouls - When a foul occurs during a dead ball either between downs or before a snap or free kick, the officials shall not permit the ball to become live.
4. Establish Zone-line-to-gain - On a live ball foul mark off the penalty yardage first, then establish the zone line to gain. However, with a dead ball foul, establish the zone line to gain first, and then mark off the penalty yardage.
5. All-But-One Principle - Enforcement philosophy is based on the fact that a team is given the advantage of the distance that is gained without assistance of a foul. It is assumed that the only foul that would give this aid is a foul by the offense behind the basic spot. Therefore, all fouls but this one, that is a foul by the offense behind the basic spot, are penalized from the basic spot. This one foul is penalized from the spot of the foul.
6. Loose Ball Play - If a foul occurs during a loose ball play, the basic enforcement spot is the previous spot either the spot of the snap or the free kick.
7. Running Play - If a foul occurs during a running play, the basic enforcement spot is the spot where the related run ends.
8. Half the Distance - A measurement cannot take the ball more than half the distance from the enforcement spot to the offending team's goal line. If the penalty is greater than this, the ball is placed halfway between the enforcement spot and the goal line.
9. Safety / Goal Line - If the offensive team throws an illegal forward pass from its end zone or commits any other foul for which the penalty is accepted and measurement is from or behind its goal line which is now the basic spot, it is a safety. For a defensive team foul, if the enforcement spot that is now the basic spot is on or behind the offended team's goal line any measurement is from the goal line.
10. Foul on a Score - If there is a player foul by the offensive team other than unsportsmanlike or nonplayer, during a down which results in a successful touchdown or try, the acceptance of the penalty nullifies the score. If there is a player foul by the defensive team, other than unsportsmanlike or non-player, during a down which results in a successful touchdown or try, the penalty is automatically declined.
11. Foul Prior to a Try - When a foul occurs after a touchdown and before the ball is ready for play for the try, the enforcement is at the succeeding spot where the ball will be next snapped for the try, usually the 3 or 10 yard line.
12. Double Foul - It is a double foul if both teams commit fouls, other than unsportsmanlike or nonplayer, during the same live ball period in which:
 - A. There is no change of possession.
 - B. There is a change of possession, and the team in possession at the end of the down fouls prior to final change of possession.

C. There is a change of possession and the team in final possession accepts the penalty for its opponent's foul.
In all three the penalties cancel and the down is replayed.

EXCEPTION: If each team fouls during a down in which there is a change of team possession, the team last gaining possession may retain the ball, provided its foul is not prior to the final change of possession and it declined the penalty for its opponents foul(s), other than unsportsmanlike or nonplayer.

13. Multiple Live Ball Fouls - When 2 or more live ball fouls are committed by the same team, only one penalty may be chosen except when a foul(s) for unsportsmanlike or nonplayer conduct occurs. In such cases, the penalty/penalties for the unsportsmanlike conduct or nonplayer fouls are administered from the succeeding spot as a dead ball foul.
14. Multiple Dead Ball Fouls - Penalties for dead ball fouls are administered separately and in the order of occurrence. Dead ball fouls are not coupled with live ball fouls or other dead ball fouls to create double or multiple fouls. Penalize all unsportsmanlike and nonplayer fouls separately.

Boys WRESTLING

Motion #1: Brad Hamer-Section 3- Wrestling will become a "variation sport" for 2023-24 with current cutoff numbers of 600+ for D1 and 599 and below for D2 (to best keep approximately the same number of schools in each Division).
Passed: Unanimously

Motion #2: Mike DeBarbari-S6: For the 2023-24 season NYS will adopt the following 12+1 weight classes:

101 108 116 124 131 138 145 152 160 170 190 215 285

In Favor: Sections: 1,4,5,6,9,10,11

Opposed: Sections: 2,3,7,8

Motion #3 Izzy Martinez-S6-For 2023-24: NYSPHSAA will implement the NWCA 1.5% method of weight loss for the 2023-24 season and the 50% rule will be eliminated but the Growth allowance will remain in effect.

In Favor: Sections: 2,3,5,6,7,8,9,10,11

Opposed: Sections: 4

Abstain: Section 1

Motion #4: Matt DeVincenzo-S11-For 2023-24: As NYSPHSAA will be implementing the NWCA 1.5% method of weight loss for the 2023-24 season the Honor weigh-in system should be eliminated.

Discussion: There is concern that the "Honor" system is being abused in some sections. In many districts, administrators are not performing the honor weigh-ins.

In Favor: Sections: 2,3,5,6,7,8,9,10,11

Opposed: Sections: 1

Abstain: Section 4

Motion #5: Jeff Cuiilty-S9-For 2022-23: Coaches will be required to use Track wrestling weigh-in sheets for entering all weigh-in's for duals and tournaments. The 1.5% method will be available for wrestlers and coaches to view its data, but it will not be implemented in 2022-23. The 50% rule will remain in effect and the new Track 50% printout will be used for determining post-season weight class eligibility. The Growth allowance and the Honor -weigh-in procedure will remain in effect for 2022-23

In Favor: Sections: unanimously approved

Opposed: None

Chairmen need to reach out to their Executive Directors immediately to inform them that Motion #5 will be an Action item for October and require a vote for implementation this season.



Tornado Policy

- Tornado Watch-indicates tornados are possible. Event staff must continue to monitor the situation.
- Tornado Warning-Tornado siren sounds signaling tornado sighted or tornado indicated by radar

GUIDELINES/PROCEDURES

- If a tornado warning is initiated, immediate event delay shall be implemented, and all participants, spectators and athletic staff shall seek shelter immediately. Once inside a secure location, tune to local weather alert radio to be informed of the storm location, path and duration of tornado warning.
- Warning may be extended, or a new warning issued at any time, so continue to monitor.
- Safe shelter from tornado inside lowest building level, away from exterior walls/windows, with windows closed.

All Clear-tornado warning will expire after duration specified by the National Weather Service and the site director will notify all involved that the warning has ended, and the event may resume.

July 2022

Jewelry Rule:

The NYSPHSAA Central Committee voted to abide by the national governing body (i.e., NFHS, NCAA, USA Softball, USTA, USAG, etc.) jewelry rule. With this action, students will be permitted to wear jewelry while participating in cross country (NFHS), volleyball (NCAA - stud earrings), swimming & diving (NFHS), indoor/ outdoor track & field (NFHS), gymnastics (USAG – stud earrings), tennis (USTA), baseball (NFHS) and softball (USA Softball). This rule change will be addressed during the Fall Athletic Director Eligibility workshops.