

Section 9 Football 2016 Bylaws

1. Play will be governed by National Federation Rules, NYSPHSAA 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 schedule-maker is empowered to schedule any Section 9 school against an opponent one classification above or below the school's current 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 drops football before or during the season, the scheduler-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 it's designee, the Section 9 football committee will meet and, barring and extenuating circumstances, recommend that the member in violation be ineligible for sectional competition in football for up to one year per violation.
 - j. If a Section IX school cancels their season **before** the start of the regular season, scheduled opponents may schedule a replacement game. During the season, if a school drops their team or forfeits the week's game, the following applies: If it is a non-divisional or non-classification game within

Section IX or an out of section game, the opponent has the option of accepting a forfeit victory or they may schedule a replacement game. If it is a divisional game or game within Section IX of the same classification, the opponent **must** accept the forfeit and **cannot** schedule an additional game.

- k. When a class attains eight teams, the football committee will consider dividing the class into two divisions.

l. Section 9 Playoff structure. See appendix "A"

- 3. The Section 9 football committee will consist of (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 participating in a JV contest.

5. Divisions

- a. 2010 bylaw (a) is replaced by (l) above. See Appendix "A"
- b. 2010 bylaw (b) is replaced by (l) above. See Appendix "A"
- c. Any division participating in a 6 or 8 team or more playoff whose schools do not qualify will be required to participate in assigned week 8 and week 9 crossover games. Teams that are involved with a 2, 3, or 4 team playoff whose schools do not qualify are required to participate in the assigned week 9 crossover games.
- d. In classifications that are divided into 2 divisions comprising 9, 10, 11, 12 or more schools must have all league/division contests completed by the 8th week. In classifications that are divided into 2 divisions comprising a total of 8 teams must complete all league/division contests by the 9th week. In all classifications not divided into divisions, all league contests must be completed by the 9th week. If the Section 9 scheduler-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. Classifications with 9, 10, 11, 12 or more teams will have quarterfinal games contested in the 8th week and Semifinal games contested in the 9th week.
- c. Classifications with 5, 6, 7, or 8 teams will have Semifinal games contested in the 9th week.

d. Classifications with 3 or 4 teams will have no Semifinal.

7. Playoff scenarios not expressly defined in bylaws will defer to committee decision.

8. 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 the tied team 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)	Runner Up: 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)	Runner Up: Kingston
Kingston 21, Monroe-Woodbury 14 (M-W -7)	

9. All games will be played until a winner is determined. The New York State tiebreaker system will be used to break all ties in Section 9.

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

11. All types of cameras are approved for scouting purposes. All scouting cameras must remain outside the track/fence/football field proper. Check with home Athletic Director for exceptions.

The two teams contesting the game have permission to use telescoping end zone cameras in the end zone or sideline areas.

12. NFHS rules concerning coaches' field equipment apply to Section 9. Rule 1-6.

13. Recommended game times

- a. Varsity: Friday night @ 7:30 PM - Saturday @ 1:30 PM
- b. Junior Varsity: Friday @ 4 PM (3:30 PM after Daylight Savings Time ends)

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

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

16. Dressing room facilities

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

17. An official football, as stated in the NFHS 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.

18. 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.

19. Officials Evaluations

- a. Ratings will be submitted on all individual officials working a varsity contest.
- b. It is the Head Coaches responsibility to mail, fax or email the completed evaluation form no later than the following Monday to: Daniel Morse, OCIAA Office, 53 Gibson Road, Goshen NY, 10924. Fax: 845-291-7306 or email Dan Morse: daniel.morse@ouboces.org

20. Medical coverage is required by NYSPHSAA.

21. 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.

- 22.** 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 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 the neutral site. All confirmations must be completed prior to the end of the school year.
- 23.** In the event of inclement weather, teams must stay at the game site until a determination is made to play or postpone the contest.
- 24.** If a school is scheduled to play the same school twice (2) during the regular season, the second (2) contest will be considered the league contest. The first (1) contest will be considered non-league.

25. Sectional Quarterfinals, Semifinals and Finals

- a. In classifications that have 9, 10, 11, 12 or more teams, the Quarterfinals will consist of 6 or 8 seeded teams from two (2) divisions, with contests being played at the higher seeds home field. The winners of the Quarterfinals will play in the Semifinals with the remaining higher seeds becoming the home teams. The Finals will be played with the remaining two (2) teams. The home team will be the remaining highest seed.
- b. In classifications that have 8 teams (2 Divisions) the top two (2) teams from each division will crossover. Division 1 #1 vs Division 2 #2, Division 2 #1 vs Division 1 #2 in the 9th week Semifinal contests. The winners will play in the Finals during the 10th week. Section 9 Seeding criteria will be utilized to determine home team if necessary.
- c. In classifications that have 6 or 7 teams, #1 plays #4, and #2 plays #3 in the 9th week Semifinals. Winners play in the Finals during the 10th week. The higher seeds are the home teams.
- d. In classifications that have 5 teams, #1 gets a bye and #2 plays #3 in the Semifinal during the 9th week. The winner plays #1 in the Finals during the 10th week. The higher seed is the home team.
- e. In classifications with 3 or 4 teams, the top two (2) teams will play in the finals during the 10th week. There will be no Semifinal. The home team is the higher seed.

26. 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 classification changes, it will play in the class it was scheduled in, but will be ineligible for the section and state tournaments.
27. Each team will send films of its last two (2) prior to regionals, semifinals, and finals. The participating schools are required to 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.
28. 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.**
29. Scheduled practices are permitted at Faller Field prior to any Semifinal or Final (**only if your game is not scheduled at Faller Field**). Scheduled practices are permitted at Dietz Stadium prior to any Semifinal or Final (**only if your game is not scheduled at Dietz Stadium**). Practice times and availability are not guaranteed. Please be advised that dates and times are limited during this time of year and may be subject to a facility usage fee.

Appendix "A" - Playoffs

The Section 9 Football playoff plan includes all 5 classifications. Playoffs will be reviewed annually by the football committee.

The Football Committee will provide no less than 50% participation, and no more than 66% participation for all 5 levels of Section 9, with playoff determination depending on the number of teams, and or divisions, for each level. (Except for a 2 team division). Under the current format, if the AA receives a BYE in the NYS Tournament and their division consists of 9, 10 or 11 teams, they will increase to 8 teams with no BYE. Along with this increase, any S9 division with less than 60% representation in the playoffs will have their numbers increase as well. Examples 2 out of 4 goes to 3 of 4, 4 out of 7 goes to 6 of 7, and 4 out of 8 goes to 6 of 8.

3 teams – top 2, 66%

4 teams – top 2, 50%

5 teams – top 3, 60% - 1 gets a bye, plays winner of 2/3

6 teams- top 4, 66% - 1/4, 2/3, winners

7 teams – top 4, 57% - 1/4, 2/3, winners

8 teams – 2 Divisions, top 2 in each. 50% - crossover 1v2, 1v2, winners

9 teams – 2 Divisions, top 3 in each, 66% - Division 1 & 2 winners will be seeded #1 and #2 and receive a BYE. Division 1 & Division 2 Second Place Finishers will be seeded #3 or #4 and will receive a home game. Division 1 & Division 2 3rd place finishers will be seeded #5 or #6 and will be the visiting team.

10 teams – 2 divisions, top 3 in each, Same as 9 team scenario listed above

Future – 11 teams – top 6, 54%, 12 top 8, 66%

**** Seeding Tie Breaker –**

1. Head to Head Record
2. Win/Loss Record Against Common Opponents
3. S9 Tie Breaker with Common Opponent Loss or Losses within classification
4. Plus point differential with common opponent wins with the absence of a loss, capped at 21 points.
5. Blind Draw

***In the event that there are no head to head competitions or common opponents to seed two teams, the added criteria will be as follows:

1. Common opponent outside of classification
2. Divisional record within classification
3. Blind Draw

Lower or higher classification school opponents or out of section opponents do not count for seeding purposes.