

**NYSPHSAA GUIDELINES  
FOR  
EMERGENCY CANCELLATION & DECLARED EMERGENCIES**

**EMERGENCY CANCELLATION** -Cancellation of school(s) or cancellation of an interscholastic athletic contest(s):

- ❖ If an event is postponed, it will be rescheduled at a date and time mutually agreed upon by both school districts according to the policies of the league, and/or conference and/or Section. If there is a dispute on a rescheduled date or time, the league president (if there is one) or Section Executive Director, in accordance with Section policy, will make the final determination.
- ❖ If a contest cannot be rescheduled, the contest will be declared as a “no contest”. Therefore, no win or loss will be recorded on the team’s season record. Sections will adjust the seeding procedure to ensure no negative impact will be imposed in the seeding procedure.

**DECLARED EMERGENCY POLICY** - In the event an emergency is declared by a BOCES or governmental agency at the local, state and/or national level the NYSPHSAA policy will be:

- ❖ **LOCAL and COUNTY (included in this category are league, conference, Section, BOCES, etc)**
  - If a local emergency is declared, schools will be expected to adhere to the constraints placed on the local school districts. In the event the postponement of scheduled interscholastic contests is required, the rescheduling of these contests will be determined by the league, conference or section policies.
- ❖ **STATE** - If a state emergency is declared, all schools/school districts will determine whether they should postpone scheduled contests.
  - If a school/school district determines it is in its community’s best interest to postpone a scheduled contest, that is a decision that rests with the Chief School Officer of both schools after consulting with each other. Nevertheless, if one Chief School Officer decides it is in the best interests of his/her school not to play, the contest will be postponed and rescheduled when and if possible.
  - If an interscholastic athletic event is postponed, it will be rescheduled at a date and time mutually agreed upon by both school districts according to the policies of the league, and/or conference and/or Section. If there is a dispute on a rescheduled date or time, the league president (if there is one) or Section Executive Director in accordance with Section policy will make the final determination.
  - If a contest cannot be rescheduled, the contest will be declared as a “no contest”. Therefore, no win or loss will be recorded on the team’s season record. Sections will adjust the seeding procedure to ensure no negative impact will be imposed in the seeding procedure.
  - The NYSPHSAA will follow all appropriate directives and will determine whether interscholastic athletic competition will continue for its member schools.
- ❖ **NATIONAL** - If a national emergency is declared, the NYSPHSAA will follow all appropriate directives and will determine whether interscholastic athletic competition will continue for its member schools.
  - **Sectional Championships** - If a declared emergency is called during sectional events, the Section will make the determination whether to continue play after consulting with all appropriate health, NYSED and governmental agencies.
  - **NYSPHSAA Championship** - If a declared emergency is called during NYSPHSAA events, the NYSPHSAA will make the determination whether to continue play after consulting with appropriate health, NYSED and governmental agencies.

**Please note:** Member schools should go to the NYSPHSAA web site ([www.nysphsaa.org](http://www.nysphsaa.org)) or your Section web site for specific directions and instructions.

Approved May 1, 2009

Adapted from: California Interscholastic Federation