

NASSAU COUNTY SOFTBALL 2024 HANDBOOK

COORDINATOR: RACHEL BARRY

1-23-24



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2024 NASSAU COUNTY SOFTBALL COMMITTEE

Rachel Barry- Section VIII Coordinator
Christina Bivona- NC Softball Officials Chairperson
Rick Norris- NC Softball Rules Interpreter

Softball Coaches Association
Eric Sutz-Port Washington-President
Deirdre Kelly-Sewanhaka
Anthony Turco-Carey
Melissa Amitrano-Plainedge
Bobby Fehrenbach-MacArthur
Rich Hinnerschietz-Hicksville
Chris Van Kovics- West Hempstead
Carmine Verde- Long Beach
Carlo Quagliata- Oceanside
Chris Ceruti – Past Coordinator

Dear Coach:

The “Section VIII Softball Handbook” is a resource for coaches. It contains information that you may need to access pertaining to the 2023 softball season including procedures, rules, regulations and important dates. Please read it thoroughly and feel free to call me if you have any questions.

"Teamwork is really a form of trust. It's what happens when you surrender the mistaken idea that you can go it alone and realize that you won't achieve your individual goals without the support of your players."

On behalf of the Softball Committee, I wish you a season of significance.

Sincerely,

Rachel Barry

Rachel Barry
516-647-5260
RBARRY@emufsd.us

***NEXT DATE TO MARK ON YOUR CALENDAR**

FRIDAY MAY 10th ON ZOOM---playoff details only!

MONDAY MAY 13th 7PM AT EAST MEADOW HS-----awards details only!

SOFTBALL 2024 SEASON TIMELINE

***Maximum number of Softball Games
(Non-League & League Combined) for Varsity=20 & JV =19
16/18 LEAGUE GAMES SCHEDULED, NON-LEAGUES AVAILABLE***

**Required number of team/individual practices prior to first
scrimmage=6 Required number of team/individual practices prior to
first game=6**

Monday, March 11th – First Day of Season

Monday, March 18th - First Scrimmage/Non-League Date

Monday, March 25th – First Date for League Play

2024 Nassau County Softball

Classes AAA, AA, A, B & C(no participant)

Nassau County Softball

Class AAA, AA, A, & B

All 57 schools will be seeded based solely on ability from 1 (highest)- 57

**Six Conferences –Each team will play everyone in conference 2X (home & away) LEAGUE games for
Conferences 1-4 and 6. Conference 5 will play all conference opponents one time each.**

NON-LEAGUE GAMES available, total games not to exceed:

20 Varsity, 19 Junior Varsity

Conference I- #1-9

Conference II- #10-17

Conference III- #18-25

Conference IV- #26-33

Conference V- #34-48

Conference VI- #49-57

POST SEASON:

Each team will be placed in the appropriate classification bracket.

Straight seeding for playoffs.

Teams will be seeded based upon Conference finish.

No team shall displace a team from a higher conference.

***teams that achieve the % listed for making playoffs will enter the bracket, some with a play in game**

Conferences 1 and 2, teams will ALL make Playoffs.

Class AAA- (14) Top 8 teams qualify. Conference III must win 50% of league games, Conference IV must win 55% of league games & Conference V must win 80% of league games to qualify. Conference VI must win 85% of league games to qualify.

Class AA- (22) Top 12 teams qualify. Conference III must win 50% of league games, Conference IV must win 55% of league games & Conference V must win 80% of league games to qualify. Conference VI must win 85% of league games to qualify.

Class A- (15) Top 8 teams qualify. Conference III must win 50% of league games, Conference IV must win 55% of league games & Conference V must win 80% of league games to qualify. Conference VI must win 85% of league games to qualify.

Class B- (7) Top 4 teams qualify. Conference III must win 50% of league games, Conference IV must win 55% of league games & Conference V must win 80% of league games to qualify. Conference VI must win 85% of league games to qualify.

Conf 1, 2, and 6 will play on the same dates.

Conf 3, 4, and 5 will play on the same dates.

***preferred for NL options and balanced amount of contests for official assignments.**

DATES FOR REGULAR SEASON PLAY:

Day one, March 11

Scrimmage/NL Start, March 18

League Play Game one: March 25

Last Game Scheduled May 10.

Rain Dates May 11,12

End of Season Meeting for playoffs May 10th(on zoom)

End of Season Meeting for awards May 13th(in person)

Nassau County Softball 2024 Coaches Directory
Coordinator: RACHEL BARRY
Cell: 516-647-5260



JV LIST AS OF 2/1/24....ACTIVE LIST ON GOOGLE IN FOLDER FOR JV INFO
 TURF FIELD LIST (NO METAL CLEATS HERE)

Submission for no JV	Turf Field
School	South Side
Floral Park	Seaford
South Side	Floral Park
Oyster Bay	Port Washington
Island Trees	East Rockaway
Carle Place	Hewlett
Roslyn	Roslyn
West Hempstead	Hicksville
Bellmore Kennedy	Wantagh
Friends Academy	VSN
Manhasset	VSS
Westbury	CSH
	Plainedge
Maybe No JV	Manhasset
Locust Valley	
Lynbrook	
Plainedge	
East Rockaway	
Division	
Plainview JFK	
Hewlett	
Jericho	

NASSAU COUNTY FAST-PITCH SOFTBALL 2024

nassaucountysoftballofficialsassociation.com

Rick Norris, SB Rules Interpreter 917-865-4461 Norrisimo@aol.com
Christina Bivona Chairperson

[2024 rule changes.pdf](#) (CLICK HERE FOR 2024 RULE CHANGES)

BELOW ARE THE CHANGES FROM 2023:

2023 USA Softball Rule Changes with Comments as of October 2022

NOTE: All changes below are EFFECTIVE January 1, 2023 unless otherwise noted

Rule 3, Section 1D: Delete the sentence; Any attachment such as a molded finger grip, flare cone or choke up device must be attached with grip tape.

Comment: Removes the requirement to use tape to attachments added to the grip.

Rule 4, Section 1C [1]: Adds a letter D and E. D allows for ONE EP so you can bat 10. E allows you to use the DP/Flex with ONE EP to bat 10 players. In both D and E, any player in the line-up can play defense. Substitutions for the pitcher and catcher must be reported.

Comment: This allows for an EP in Junior Olympic Girls Classification of Play. In E the DP/Flex Rule is in effect so if the

Flex is taken out of the defense it is a substitution. Also clarifies substitutions for the pitcher and catcher must be reported.

Rule 4, Section 1C: Change the designation of "Baseman" to "Base player".

Comment: This change better represents all who participate in our game.

Rule 4, Section 2L: Creates an additional section in the ADA Rule which allows a player with a disability, who needs to come out of the game due to the disability, to have a replacement player until the disability subsides.

Comment: This allows players who have certain conditions such as a diabetic event, to leave the game and be replaced until they can return, without requiring a substitution.

Rule 6A, Section 3K: (Women's and JO Girls) Pushing off and dragging the pivot foot in contact with the ground or having both feet in the air is allowed.

Comment: Allows for Women and Junior Olympic Girls Classification of Play to have both feet in the air at the same time but must still stay within the 24" pitching plate.

2024 JV Softball
Two-Hour Time Limit and Five Runs Per Inning

Here are some guidelines to make this program work smoothly:

1. The time limit starts at the end of the pregame conference, not at the scheduled start time. For example, if the game is schedule for 4 o'clock but the pregame conference does not end until 4:10 then no new inning can start after 6:10.
2. When the conference breaks up, the officials will let the coaches know the start time.
3. Once an inning starts it is played to completion, both the top and the bottom of the inning, with one exception when the home team is ahead, the bottom of the inning does not have to be played.
4. The new inning starts time wise when the last out is recorded in the previous inning, not when the team takes the field or when the warm ups are completed.
5. When it is getting close to the time limit the officials will let the coaches know how much time is remaining. A good rule of thumb is the officials will let the coaches know somewhere around the ten-minute mark.
6. It is unsporting for a team to stall to end the game early.
7. If both teams want to not start a new inning at shortly before the time limit, it will be allowed.
8. Calling a game for dark, rain, fire, panic or other peril etc. still remains, as rule book referenced.
9. Innings 1 - 6 allow no more than 3 outs or a maximum of 5 runs scored per 1/2 inning. Unlimited runs in the 7th inning. With advance notice, inning 5 or 6 may follow the unlimited runs procedure if getting close to the time limit. Once the fifth run scores in inning 1-6 the inning is over. If 4 runs have already scored and the player hits a three run homerun, only one run counts.
10. **NEW**** REMOVE THE 5 RUNS PER INNING-----if you are playing an opponent for the second time and the game was competitive the first round, the coaches and notify the official that there are not restrictions with runs per inning. *2 hour time limit will stay!**

2024 Nassau County SOFTBALL: CONFERENCES

Conferences with 1-57 ranking (classifications below)

Conference 1		Conference 2		Conference 3	
Team #		Team #		Team #	
1	Massapequa	1	Carey	1	Long Beach
2	Mac Arthur	2	Clarke	2	Island Trees
3	East Meadow	3	Plainview JFK	3	Plainedge
4	Oceanside	4	Wantagh	4	Glen Cove
5	Calhoun	5	Levittown Division	5	Hicksville
6	Syosset	6	Seaford	6	Bethpage
7	Mepham	7	Mineola	7	Baldwin
8	Farmingdale	8	Herricks	8	Carle Place
9	Bellmore Kennedy				
Conference 4		Conference 5		Conference 6	
Team #		Team #		Team #	
1	Port Washington	1	Elmont	1	Valley Stream South
2	Wheatley	2	Oyster Bay	2	Valley Stream Central
3	Garden City	3	Manhasset	3	Malverne
4	Sewanhaka	4	Roslyn	4	Westbury
5	Valley Stream North	5	Great Neck South	5	Roosevelt
6	Jericho	6	Cold Spring Harbor	6	Uniondale
7	New Hyde Park	7	East Rockaway	7	Hempstead
8	Floral Park	8	Lynbrook	8	Friends Academy
9	South Side	9	North Shore	9	Hewlett
		10	Freeport		
		11	Locust Valley		
		12	Great Neck North		
		13	West Hempstead		
		14	Lawrence		

Conf 1 - Teams 1-9, 16 League Games. All Make Playoffs
Massapequa(AAA), MacArthur(AA), East Meadow(AAA), Oceanside(AAA), Calhoun(AA), Syosset(AAA), Mepham(AA), Farmingdale(AAA), Bellmore(AA)
Conf 2 - Teams 10-17, 14 League Games, All Make Playoffs
Carey(AA), Clarke(A), Plainview JFK(AAA), Wantagh(A), Division(AA), Seaford(A), Mineola(A), Herricks(AA)
Conf 3 - Teams 18-25, 14 League Games, 50% Playoffs
Long Beach(AA), Island Trees(A), Plainedge(A), Glen Cove(AA), Hicksville(AAA), Bethpage(AA), Baldwin(AAA), Carle Place(B)
Conf 4 - Teams 26-33, 16 League Games, 55% Playoffs
Port Washington(AAA), Wheatley(B), NHP(AA), Garden City(AA), Sewanhaka(AA), Floral Park(A), VSN(A), Jericho(AA), Southside(AA)
Conf 5 - Teams 34-48, 13 League Games, 80% Playoffs
Elmont(AA), , Roslyn(AA), GNS(AA), Cold Spring Harbor(A), East Rock(B), Manhasset(AA), Oyster Bay(B), Lynbrook(A), North Shore(A), Freeport(AAA), Locust Valley(A), GNN(AA), West Hempstead(B), Lawrence(A)
Conf 6 - Teams 49-57, 16 League Games, 85% Playoffs
VSS(A), VSC(AAA), Malverne(A), Westbury(AAA), Roosevelt(AA), Uniondale(AAA), Hempstead(AAA), Friends(B), Hewlett(AA)

NASSAU COUNTY SOFTBALL 2023 DATES AND INFORMATION TO REMEMBER

The following items must be submitted via google form. Form will be provided at or around May 10th.

- Senior Scholar-Athlete name and information

- Coaches Association Scholarship Nominations

Senior Scholar-Athlete:

We will acknowledge each high school's eligible honoree (Only one per team)

Criteria: Must be a senior member of your team. Must be a varsity athlete

Must have a minimum 85 cumulative average through 3 years (7 semesters) of high school

Print: Athlete's name, high school and numerical average

Academic and/or Athlete Scholarship Winners: We will pay special tribute to those graduating seniors who will be attending college next year on an academic and/or full or partial scholarship (in any sport).

Print: Names of all scholarship winners, their high school, the college they have committed to, the scholarship they have earned (academic or athletic) and if athletic, the sport in which they have earned it.

NCSCA SCHOLARSHIPS:

4 General Coaches Assn. Scholarships (\$500.00 each) with an emphasis on community service, leadership, and value to the team. Nominations must be written in composition form (by the coach). To be nominated, players must meet the following criteria:

- 1) Senior Softball Player*
- 2) Good school and community service*
- 3) Good academic standing*
- 4) Must have participated in 3 extracurricular activities other than athletics*
- 5) Optional: in need of financial support*

Winners will be selected by the awards committee.

OPTIONAL: Proposal for a different alignment for the 2024 season (if wanted)

DUE ON JULY 1st, 2024 *reminder---6 classifications

2024 AWARD DISTRIBUTION

AA, A, B, C – Total Awards Breakdown

	CONF ONE	CONF TWO	CONF THREE	CONF FOUR	CONF FIVE	CONF SIX
ALL COUNTY						
ALL COUNTY HONORABLE MENITON						
ALL CONFERENCE						
TOTALS						

AA, A, B, C – Conference Awards Breakdown

PLACEMENT	CONF 1	CONF 2	CONF 3	CONF 4	CONF 5	CONF 6
1						
2						
3						
4						
5						
6						
7						
8						
9						
10						
11						
12						
TOTALS						

Nassau County Softball Coaches Association

End-Of-Season-Awards

The Awards Committee has worked extremely hard to establish exceedingly fair guidelines. Listed below are the comprehensive voting procedures that are to be strictly adhered to by all coaches.

*****Non-league contests should not be included in final statistics when discussing All-County, All-County Honorable Mention, All-Conference, Player of the Year and Pitcher of the Year*****

All-County

Each coach must arrive with and submit a list of potential “All-County” players from their own team. Each coach will have an opportunity to speak about his/her player(s), provide information to support the player(s) nomination and field the questions from other coaches with regard to the nominated player(s). Once each coach has had an opportunity to speak about his/her player(s) and all discussions regarding those players nominated for “All-County” have ceased, coaches will vote.

All-County Honorable Mention

Following the selection of the “All-County” awards, each coach will nominate player(s) from their own team for “All-County Honorable Mention.” Any player(s) previously nominated for “All-County” and not selected as such will **not automatically** be selected as “All-County Honorable Mention.” Any such player(s) must be nominated again to receive consideration for “All-County Honorable Mention” selection. Each coach will have an opportunity to speak about his/her player(s), provide information to support the player(s) nomination and field questions from other coaches with regard to the nominated player(s). Once each coach has had an opportunity to speak about his/her player(s) and all discussions regarding those players nominated for “All-County Honorable Mention” have ceased, coaches will vote.

All-Conference

Following the selection of the “All-County Honorable Mention” awards, each coach will submit the name(s) of his/her own player(s) for “All-Conference.” No discussion or voting will be used for selecting “All-Conference” awards. Each team/coach will receive a specific number of “All-Conference” awards based on their finish in their respective division.

Player and Pitcher of the Year are not part of the awards total...these are ADDITIONAL

Conference Player of the Year

NEW! Conference Player of the year (one player from each of the 6 conferences that is VOTED on by all coaches as the best Overall player in the conference). This player will be added to the nomination list for Nassau County Player of the Year.

Conference Pitcher of the Year

NEW! Conference Pitcher of the year (one pitcher from each of the 6 conferences that is VOTED on by all coaches as the best Overall Pitcher in the conference). This Pitcher will be added to the nomination list for the Nassau County Pitcher of the Year.

*****Pitchers and Players of the year for EACH conference must have Statistics to share with the awards committee. (stats should be that pitcher/player vs the top 3 teams)

Please Note: No team may receive more than the allotted number of awards based on their final conference placement. (not including special awards> conference player/conference pitcher of the year, Overall NC Pitcher of the Year and NC player of the year)

End-Of-Season-Awards (continued)

Item 1: Each team will receive a certain number of selections due to their final placement in their conference standing. No team may receive a number of selections different than their designated total.

Item 2: Non-league contests should not be included in final statistics when discussing All-County, All-County Honorable Mention, All-Conference, Most Valuable Offensive Player of the Year and Pitcher of the Year

Item 3: Coaches must bring scorebooks and copies of league game statistics for fellow coaches' perusal. (*Helpful Hint: Upon completion of a league game, record the name(s) of an outstanding opponent(s) in your scorebook to help you recall at season's end.*)

Item 4: If teams are tied in final standings, both teams will be eligible for equivalent awards at the "All-Conference" level.

Item 5: All nominations will be done verbally. Voting will be done on paper ballot.

Item 6: Only varsity coaches or varsity assistants may vote. No proxy voting will be permitted. Advanced nominations and voting will only be allowed due to extenuating circumstances and only if that coach notifies Rachel Barry prior to the voting.

Item 7: Coaches may vote for their own player(s).

Item 8: All coaches are bound by the final outcome of the voting. A coach may not substitute another player from his/her team for an original award winner.

Item 9: A coach cannot receive any selections except those designated for his or her team based on the team's finish in the Conference. A coach may choose to not accept some or all of his or her selections. Any unused selections will be left as such.

Item 10: If a coach/team does not wish to be considered for an award, that coach must make it perfectly clear to the other coaches within the conference prior to any

voting.

Item 11: All ties in voting must be broken. Tie-breaking procedure:

A) Each coach involved will speak for a maximum of two minutes on behalf of his/her player

B) One re-vote must be taken by the respective division coaches

C) In the event of an existing tie, coaches involved will step out and remaining coaches will break tie (no further discussion).

Item 12: As a result of the voting, if a coach believes that an extreme injustice has occurred at the **All-County** level and that a very deserving player has been overlooked, an appeal may be made to the *Appeals Committee*. The appeal must be made on the night of the voting. A player's statistics from games against the top 3 teams in the conference will be reviewed. The Appeals Committee's decision is final.

Item 13: All coaches are responsible for checking the spelling of names, grade level, and position for his/her award recipient(s) before leaving the awards meeting.

Item 14: Coach of the Year – The coaches in each conference will vote for one coach as their Coach of the Year. This will be done in a secret ballot. In the event of a tie there will be a re-vote.

Item 15: Most Valuable Players will be selected at the conclusion of the playoffs in each respective classification (AA, A, B, C). One MVP will be selected by the winning coach in each classification.

Item 16: Each of the Conference Player/Pitcher(s) of the Year will be eligible for Nassau County Pitcher/Player of the year. This will be selected via statistical support by the Awards Committee. *ALL nominees must have statistics provided.

Item 17: NO COACHES MAY LEAVE the voting room until a member of the executive board has reviewed the final awards sheet.

SOFTBALL REGULATIONS – 2024
N. Y. S. P. H. S. A. A.

MAXIMUM NUMBER OF GAMES PER SEASON* VARSITY 20/JV 19
NUMBER OF TEAM PRACTICES BEFORE FIRST SCRIMMAGE.....6
NUMBER OF INDIVIDUAL PRACTICES BEFORE FIRST SCRIMMAGE... 6
NUMBER OF TEAM PRACTICES BEFORE FIRST GAME..... 6 NOTE:
***REFERS TO SECTION VIII NUMBERS IN DIRECTORY Pg. 21**

SECTION REGULATIONS

ALL GAMES WILL BE PLAYED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE 2024 USA OFFICIAL RULES, UNLESS MODIFIED BY NYSPHSAA RULINGS. On all levels of softball play in NYSPHSAA, a coach (preferably the head coach) is now required to attend the pre-game captains' meeting at home plate. The lineup card can be handed in and confirmed. The umpires will have captains introduce themselves. The umpires will go over ground rules, jewelry rules, and paraphrase the sportsmanship card. At the end of the conference, each official is required to ask, "Coach, to the best of your knowledge, is your field set up properly and are your players legally equipped for today's game? We need a "yes" (I believe so) in order to play. (Added 2-7-12)

PITCHING DISTANCE: 43 Feet in all high school level games (middle school is 40

ft) **EQUIPMENT AND UNIFORMS:**

Ball

- A regulation softball (12", 375 compression, .470 core, optic yellow with raised red stitches)
- The home school shall supply 2 new official softballs for each game •
Each team must supply their own practice softballs

Bases

- Rubber, throw down or makeshift bases are not permitted. All bases and home plate must be spiked (double spike preferred) to the ground, or otherwise properly anchored and be a single unit
- The pitcher's plate must be anchored to the ground with at least two spikes on either end (preferably three spikes)
- The double first base became mandatory for all levels in 2004 and must be one complete unit

Bats All Bats must be ASA or USA approved and have a visible seal

Players

- Metal spikes MAY be worn by any player on the varsity and the JV level, unless playing on a turf field. *metal spikes are not permitted on the JHS level. •

Facemasks are mandatory. They must have the NOCSAE seal of approval on them.

- Numbers must be used for batting purposes and must be visible while team is at bat.

Schools

Schools must supply their own: *DO NOT ASK TO BORROW!!*

- first aid kit
- catcher's equipment
- helmets (NOCSAE SEAL/WARNING LABELS ARE MANDATORY AND MUST BE VISIBLE)
- bats
- practice softballs
- chin straps (not mandatory)
- **BASE COACH MUST WEAR HARD SHELL HELMET**

FIELD CONDITIONS AND LOCATIONS:

- If there are any irregularities in the field, home ground rules, or park permits, the home school must notify the visiting school prior to the game
- When playing at a park, the coach of the home team must have the park permit on hand (with starting and finishing times). Please note: any rules established prior to the start of the game pertaining to curfews cannot be changed once the game has begun.
 - *SCHOOLS PLAYING ON TOWN OR COUNTY FIELDS WITH AN EARLY CURFEW MUST MAKE AN HONEST ATTEMPT TO USE A DISTRICT FIELD WHEN HOSTING SCHOOLS THAT HAVE A LATE DISMISSAL TIME OR THAT TRAVEL A DISTANCE.*
- ALL FIELDS (school, town, county) MUST HAVE 60 FOOT BASEPATHS AS WELL AS 43 FEET BETWEEN THE PITCHER'S PLATE AND HOME PLATE! Coaches should carry tape measures with them.

LEAGUE GAMES:

A league contest takes precedence over a non-league contest.

- All league games MUST be played. Non-compliance will result in a forfeit for teams refusing to do so.
- All league contests count in the standings.
- If field conditions are not playable, game site should be switched from home to away when possible to get the game played (second game can be switched so not to lose field advantage).
- No varsity game can be rescheduled after the last regularly scheduled league game of the season, unless it is because of a rain out on the last day of the season • Any game changes must be reported to the Section VIII Office

LEAGUE STANDINGS:

Conference standings will be determined by win-loss records and tie breakers as described in the "Overview".

OFFICIAL BALL:

The official game ball is an optic yellow red stitched ball with a .47 COR and a compression of 375 with raised seams. Only a Dudley optic yellow 12 LRF FP will be used in the playoffs.

OFFICIALS:

Only approved officials shall be assigned to officiate games. There shall be 2 officials working each game whenever possible. *It is mandated that after each contest the coach rate officials on line (check with your AD regarding your district's log in).*

PLAYING REGULATIONS:

Schools playing at an unusual site must send that information to schools in their conference, the Section Coordinator, and the Section VIII Office. All games shall run for the regulation 7 innings unless:

- It is called by the officials for unsafe conditions
- Park permits present limitations (Reminder: rules established prior to the start of the game cannot be changed once the game has begun)
- One team trails another by 12 runs or more after 5 completed innings (4.5 if the home team is ahead) Additionally, please note the following:
 - If a school finds that they are/will be unavoidably delayed getting to a school they must *notify the host school, Section VIII and the officials*)
 - The home school will bat last and have choice of bench
 - League games that are called by the umpire BEFORE they are considered regulation shall resume at the exact point at which they were stopped
 - **All ties must be played out**

POSTPONED GAMES:

All league games must be played as scheduled. **Before a game is postponed the home school must contact the visiting school by 12 noon to check on the playability of their field. **If the visiting team's field is playable every effort must be made to transfer the game to that field.** In the event that a J.V. game was scheduled for the field, it must be postponed and rescheduled as the varsity game takes precedence. The original home school must contact the SECTION VIII OFFICE and the SOFTBALL COORDINATOR.*

Please Note:

- ***Games should only be postponed due to acts of God (weather, a tragedy, etc)***

- A postponed league contest must be made up on the **NEXT AVAILABLE DATE** after the regularly scheduled date. Failure to do so may result in a forfeit on the part of the school that does not comply.

PROTESTS:

Please see protest procedures in the Appendices section of the handbook

REPORTING RESULTS:

Standings will be printed/posted by NEWSDAY based upon the game results. ALL MUST LOG IN AND SUBMIT.

OPTIONAL: Game can be called in by the WINNING COACHES at (631) 843- 2820.

- The Section Coordinator must be informed of any error or omission in what is printed or reported as soon as it is discovered, as the standings are derived from this information.
- *FORFEITS* must be reported to the Section Coordinator and Newsday, as they are included in the final standings

ROSTERS:

- Each team must present a lineup card to the plate umpire and the opposing team. A list of substitute players must be included.
- **Rosters are frozen for the day only. Team rosters must be sent to the teams Athletic Director before the first game.**

STARTING TIME:

- No regular season game on a school day shall start before 4:30pm • Every effort should be made to start a game at the scheduled time • If a school appears on the field 45 minutes after the game was scheduled to start it is up the discretion of the home team whether to play the game or reschedule it for a later date
- If a team fails to show up for a scheduled game, they will forfeit that contest

UNUSUAL CIRCUMSTANCES:

The Section VIII Softball Committee will handle any unusual circumstances or problems.

VIDEOTAPING:

No school will videotape a contest unless that school is playing in that contest.

WARM-UPS:

The home team will warm up first, and will be off of the field at least 20

minutes before game time, except under extenuating circumstances. **No more than 15 minutes is** allotted to either team for warm ups. **LATE ARRIVALS MUST BE GIVEN THEIR WARM UP TIME!**

POST SEASON PLAY

AWARDS: Each Conference Champion will receive a team plaque. The AAA, AA, A, & B Nassau County Champion Teams will receive individual plaques and a team plaque.

DROP OUTS:

After the first round of play the opposing team will receive a “win” by forfeit in that round.

DURATION OF GAME:

Each tournament game shall be played to completion, except when the 12 run rule is applied(until Regional round).

Postponements for rain, darkness, etc. will continue on the rain date from the point of suspension. Before leaving the field it must be noted in the official score book (1) number of runs scored by both teams (2) number of outs (3) the status of players participating in the game (4) the inning (5) runners on base (6) batter

NOTE: DURING TOURNAMENT PLAY ONLY, IF LIGHTENING IS SEEN or THUNDER HEARD, SEEK SHELTER IN A SAFE PLACE, AND WAIT OUT STORM.

OFFICIALS: Two officials will be assigned to first and second post-season games, four for the semi finals and finals.

PROCEDURES AT GAME SITE

Higher Seed:

Home schoolbat last.....choose bench.... And must make sure that the field is properly lined and set up.

IN ADDITION:

- The home team will be off of the field and finished with their warm up at least 20 minutes before game time
- The visiting team will be ready to take the field 20 minutes before game time
- Teams will exchange line ups and each will give a copy to the plate umpire
- The home school will supply the plate umpire with two new Dudley softballs

Neutral Site:

.....Higher seed will bat last and choose bench (in the best of three finals, they will bat last and choose bench in Games 1 and 3, the lower seed will bat last and choose bench in game 2)

IN ADDITION:

- Plan to arrive at least 45 minutes before game time and go immediately to the field
 - The first team to arrive will take the field for warm ups first
 - Warm ups on the field will be limited to no more than 15 minutes for each team •
- Teams will exchange line up cards and give a copy to the plate umpire **PROTEST PROCEDURES AND UNUSUAL SITUATIONS:**

Any situation that falls into this category will be ruled upon IMMEDIATELY by the Section VIII Softball Protest Committee:

- The on-site protest committee will consist of the Section Coordinator (or designee), Assigned softball committee members, and an official (s);
- The protest committee will convene quickly behind the scorer's table away from players, coaches, and spectators;
- The decision by the protest committee will be binding and the game will immediately continue

SEEDING PROCEDURE:

Once the tournament teams are determined, the coaches will seed the “AAA”, “AA”, “A” and “B” classification teams according to the Overview. The names of the teams will then be placed on the tournament brackets.

The SEEDING MEETING will take place on Friday May 10th via zoom and AWARDS on Monday, MAY 13, 2024 at 7:00 PM at East Meadow High School

DATES FOR POST SEASON PLAY:
*play in games: May 13
Round 1 AA: May 14, Rain date May 15
Quarters AAA,AA,A,B: May 16, Rain date May 17
Semi Final Game 1: May 18, Rain Date May 19
Semi Final Game 2: May 20
Semi Final Game 3: May 21, Rain Date May 22
Nassau County Finals at Mitchel Field (avoid holiday weekend)
NC Game 1 May 23, NC Game 2 May 24
Rain Dates May 25, May 26
NC Game 3 May 28, Rain Date May 29
<u>LIC hosted by Section 11 at Martha Ave Rec Park, Bellport</u>
Regional Semi Finals 5/30 Class B: 5pm, Class A: 7:30pm
Regional Finals 5/31 Class AA:5pm, Class AAA: 7:30pm
Regional Finals 5/31 Class B and Class A TBA
NYS Semi Final Fri June 7th at Martha Ave Rec Park Bellport
NYS Finals Sat June 8th at Martha Ave Rec Park Bellport

***NYSPHSAA Officers Approval**

Originally Released September 8, 2021

At this time, NYSPHSAA plans to host all State Championship events as scheduled. The following protocol will be published in all Championship Operation Packets and used for 2021- 2022 NYSPHSAA Regional and State Championship events if a participating member school is notified of a confirmed positive COVID-19 case impacting a member of their team (i.e., players, coaches, managers, etc.) during post season play. Championship Operation Packets are released approximately one month prior to the State Championship.

Failure to abide by the following protocol could lead to censure, sanction, probation and/or forfeiture at the discretion of the NYSPHSAA Executive Director in accordance with the NYSPHSAA Handbook.

1) When advancing to Regional and State championship play, school administration must notify the NYSPHSAA Executive Director in writing within 24 hours of any confirmed COVID- 19 positive case or close contact (as defined by the local Department of Health) impacting a member of their team.

Dr. Robert Zayas, NYSPHSAA Executive Director

rzayas@nysphsaa.org

518.925.6631 (cell)

Any members of a team who have tested positive will not be permitted to participate in NYSPHSAA Regional and/or State Championship events and will not be permitted entrance into any Regional or State Championship venue until properly cleared by local Department of Health officials. The local Department of Health where a Regional/ State Championship is being hosted shall take precedence pertaining to interpretation and compliance of New York State Department of Health regulations.

School administration should follow their approved local Department of Health protocols and develop a contingency plan to properly supervise students if a confirmed COVID-19 case were to originate during a NYSPHSAA Regional and/or State Championship event.

2) NYSPHSAA Executive Director or his designee will notify the host local department of health upon receiving written documentation from the impacted member school.

3) The member school will work in conjunction with their local Department of Health to determine if they can continue participating in the NYSPHSAA Regional and/or State Championship; the local Department of Health where a Regional/ State Championship is being hosted shall take precedence pertaining to interpretation and compliance of New York State Department of Health regulations. It shall be the responsibility of the member school to inform NYSPHSAA's Executive Director in writing of their ability to continue participating in accordance with the released event schedule.

Game dates, times, event schedules, locations, etc. will not be adjusted or revised to accommodate an impacted school (e.g., quarantine, contact tracing, etc.); in accordance with the NYSPHSAA Handbook: *"...that during regional and state championship activity, all questions concerning the rules and regulations of the*

NYSPHSAA, Inc. and questions of general eligibility shall be referred to the Executive Director of the NYSPHSAA, Inc. or his or her designated representative for such contest if he or she is unavailable. Because of time constraints, the decision of the Athletic Council or the Executive Director as the case may be, will be final with no right of formal appeal to the Appeal Panel or other administrative body.”

4) If the member school determines it is unable to continue participating in a NYSPHSAA Regional and/ or State Championship event, it shall be the responsibility of the NYSPHSAA Executive Director to determine if there is a reasonable amount of time and interest to replace the impacted team/ individual and which team/ individual will be invited in accordance with NYSPHSAA bylaws (Rule 19. Penalties b. 1 & 2). If a replacement can be invited, that team/ individual will be inserted into the bracket or event position vacated.

5) The New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) and local Departments of Health will have final jurisdiction over NYSPHSAA Regional and State Championship events pertaining to matters of public health. The local Department of Health where a Regional/ State Championship is being hosted shall take precedence pertaining to interpretation and compliance of New York State Department of Health regulations. The NYSPHSAA Executive Director will work collaboratively with the NYSDOH and local Departments of Health when events are impacted by a confirmed positive COVID-19 case(s).

NYSPHSAA will continue to review, examine and potentially revise the above protocol throughout the 2021-2022 school year.

CHAMPIONSHIP VENUES:

In accordance with NYSDOH guidance (September 2, 2021) pertaining to scholastic events, masks are required at all indoor venues regardless of vaccination status. NYSPHSAA will honor and abide by any additional conditions or restrictions imposed by the scheduled and contracted venue for matters impacting and protecting public health. Public health restrictions may include, but are not limited to, capacity limitations, screening and testing protocols, vaccination requirements, etc.

The NYSPHSAA website will list any venue imposed COVID restrictions as soon as they are made available. Approximately one month prior to the State Championship, the NYSPHSAA sports specific Championship Operations Packet will list any COVID restrictions that exist at that time; restrictions are subject to change.

NEW YORK STATE SOFTBALL COMMITTEE RULES AND WAIVERS

These rules are in effect for all games in New York State as a waiver to the USA rulebook

Jewelry Rule

NEW! Jewelry is permitted, but can be requested for removal if officials deem the jewelry a safety risk. NO HANGING ITEMS (studs/close contact is recommended). Necklaces and bracelets are allowed if in close contact with the skin.

NO WATCHES OR NECKLACES AT ANY TIME!!!!

Helmets

Wearing of helmets is mandatory for the batter, all base runners, on deck batter and player/student coaches. All batting helmets must be NOCSAE approved.

Pitching Rule

The pitching rule governing “hands coming together” shall be interpreted as follows: “the ball DOES NOT HAVE TO BE INSIDE glove” (i.e., merely touching the outside of the glove with the ball satisfies the rule).

Tie Breaker

The tie-breaker rule will start after nine innings.

Run Rule

It will be optional for each section to adopt a “run rule” with a minimum of 10 runs, to terminate an official game. The “run rule” must be in compliance with Rule 5 – Section 3, paragraph a-f of the ASA rulebook. The “run rule” can be used for junior varsity and varsity teams and will not be used beyond Sectional play.

Blood Rule

NYSPHSAA interpretation of excessive blood: Excessive blood on a uniform will mean that the part of the uniform involved is saturated with blood. Saturated does not mean a wet spot. Saturated means a major portion of the garment is covered and soaked through with blood. For this to occur, a serious injury would have had to take place. This rarely happens during an entire season of competition. For any blood on uniforms less than “saturated,” the uniform does not have to be changed. School personnel have the responsibility of treating the bloody area with the appropriate disinfecting solution before the athlete may participate. If the uniform is “saturated” with blood, the uniform must be changed before the athlete may participate.

Unannounced Substitution

There is no penalty for an unannounced substitution.

*report defensive changes when involving pitcher/catcher.

Pitching Distance

Pitching distance is 43 feet for all freshman, junior varsity and varsity teams. The distance for modified is to be determined by each league and can be 40 feet.

Metal Cleats

Metal cleats ARE allowed on the high school level for varsity and JV not for JHS.

Bat Grip

The bat grip should remain 10 to 15 inches, as stated in the 2011 rules. ASA approved bats may be modified with grip tape or a replacement grip to comply with this waiver.

REGIONAL AND STATE TOURNAMENT

Information and guidelines for Regional and State Tournament contests. Please familiarize yourself with the information contained in this handbook for the conduct of all Regional and State Tournament softball games in New York.

The State Sport Committee will establish dates, sites, brackets, contest times, etc. for all Regional, Semifinal and Championship contests. The State Tournament Committee reserves the right to change times, infield practice schedules, field assignments, etc. in the case of extenuating circumstances (e.g., weather, field conditions, prolonged games) for any Regional or State Championship contest.

Contest Rules

All play will be under the ASA rules for fast-pitch softball and the New York State softball rules adopted by the Softball Committee and NYSPHSAA.

Emergency Medical Information

All tournament sites for both Regional and State Tournament contests must have an emergency medical person on site to give immediate care to participants, as well as spectators. Appropriate personnel may include physicians, athletic trainers, EMTs, emergency squads and the like. The site director and Tournament Committee members should have access to an emergency phone and emergency phone numbers for the local rescue squad. Also, an AED must be on site with personnel certified for its use. Emergency personnel are provided to administer emergency services only and are not authorized to provide preventative taping or other pre-game medical procedures.

Code of Conduct

Prior to participation in any Regional or State Tournament contest, a completed and signed Code of Conduct form for each player, coach and team personnel must be turned in to the State Coordinator or her designee. Forms are available from your Section Coordinator. All forms will be kept after the first Regional game and will be held on file throughout the tournament. It is recommended that the coach, as a precautionary measure, have three copies of each Code of Conduct for players as the team advances in the Tournament. **NO FORM, NO PLAY.**

NYSPHSAA Thunder and Lightning Policy

1. Thunder and lightning necessitates that the contest be suspended.

The occurrence of thunder and/or lightning is not subject to interpretation or discussion – thunder is thunder and lightning is lightning. With your site administrator, set up a plan for shelter prior to the start of any contest.

2. When thunder is heard and/or when lightning is seen, the following procedures should be followed:

1. Suspend play and direct participants to go to shelter, a building normally occupied by the public, or if a building is unavailable, participants should

- go
inside a vehicle with a solid metal top (e.g., bus, van, car).
2. Do not permit people to stand under or near a tree. Have all individuals stay away from poles, antennas, towers and underground watering systems.
 3. After thunder and/or lightning have left the area, wait approximately 30 minutes after the last boom is heard or strike is seen before resuming play or competition.

Sportsmanship Policy (Team Conduct and Behavior)

The New York State Public High School Athletic Association (NYSPHSAA) requires officials to enforce all sportsmanship policies for the athletes and coaches at all Regional and State contests.

- Unsportsmanlike behavior will not be tolerated.
- The use of negative statements or actions between opposing players, especially trash talking, taunting or the baiting of opponents will not be allowed. • All team cheering will be done in a positive manner and not directed toward another player or team.
- Team cheering is prohibited during infield warm-up as a safety precaution for all teams involved.
- If such comments are heard, the officials will address the head coach concerning the situation. If further action is warranted, the penalty will be assessed by the umpires as per the ASA rule book.
- The contest should reflect mutual respect toward all players, coaches and umpires.

REGIONAL TOURNAMENT GUIDELINES

Regional Contests

All Regional games must be completed by **9 p.m. Thursday evening** prior to Friday's championship contests.

Admission

Admission will be charged by the host section (the fee is determined by the individual section). *teams participating will be provided a gate list

Team Arrival

Teams are expected to arrive no earlier than **90 minutes** prior to the scheduled game time. If a team arrives earlier than this time, they are required to stay outside the playing area/complex. **No use of the facility will be allowed. Further restrictions concerning the use of the fields may be enforced by the Site Coordinator, if necessary.** Teams may use the outfield area for warm-up activities 30 minutes prior to the start of infield practice. Extreme care should be taken by coaches during any batting practice to protect the safety of all participants. If an alternate warm-up area is available, the Site Coordinator will notify the coaches concerning its use. Pitchers may warm-up outside the foul lines on the infield area.

Team Personnel

The number of personnel from each team to be admitted into the tournament is 24. This includes **20 participants and four support personnel** (support personnel may include coaches, statisticians, athletic directors, chaperones and school administrators). All 24 participants and support personnel are allowed in the dugout.

Team Rosters

Teams involved in a Regional contest are asked to bring 10-15 copies of a team roster for spectators and the press. Also, a list of the four support personnel should be given to the Site Coordinator upon arrival. **Coaches must complete the Player and Support Staff Roster List and take it to all Regional contests** (this is found in the information packet).

Infield Practice

Each team will be given 15 minutes for infield practice. At that time, the team has exclusive use of the entire playing field for the warm-up period. No practice is allowed on the diamond area until the infield practice time. **Batting practice on the diamond area and the hitting of softballs against fences is prohibited.** The home team will take infield practice first.

Home Team

During Regional play, a coin flip will determine the home team. A coach should meet with the Site Coordinator, upon arrival to the site for the coin toss. The loser of the coin toss will have the choice of bench area.

Bench Area

Only 24 team personnel members listed on the roster will be allowed in the bench/dugout area. Only those 24 persons will be allowed in the dugout and on the

playing field at any time. All other individuals must remain outside the bench and dugout area.

Dug Outs

Teams are responsible for the clean-up of their dugout areas. The defacing of property will not be tolerated. Teams will be financially responsible for any damage that may occur.

Team Rituals

All team rituals must be completed during the 15-minute warm-up. Any on-field team rituals done outside this 15-minute framework will be considered unsportsmanlike conduct and the appropriate penalties will be assessed as per the NYSPHSAA Sportsmanship Policy.

Game Balls

For all Regional and State Tournament games, the Official Game Ball will be used. It is the Dudley SB 12LRF FP and has a cor.47 and 375 lbs. The ball is yellow with red stitches. Dudley is an official sponsor of the NYSPHSAA State Softball Tournament.

Scorekeepers

The official scorebook is kept by the home team(host section) during Regional play.

Ineligible Player or Team

Participation by an ineligible player or team in any postseason tournament game shall result in the forfeiture of that game. At the time of discovery, the school declared ineligible will be disqualified from the tournament immediately, and its last opponent will advance in its place. Schools eliminated prior to the last opponent will not re-enter tournament competition.

Equipment Check

The assigned umpires will check equipment prior to the start of each contest. Equipment found to be illegal, altered or unsafe will be removed from the dugout area and will remain with the Site Coordinator or designee for the duration of the competition. Teams may pick up the equipment from the Site Coordinator at the conclusion of the game.

Postponements

For all Regional play, if a contest is postponed due to rain or inclement weather, the game will rescheduled for the next day.

Protests

All protests are to be recorded in the official scorebook (during Regional play the home team keeps the official scorebook). The positions of all players at the exact time of the protest must be recorded, and the scorebook must be signed by both coaches and umpires. **All protests will be settled immediately on site.** During Regional competition, the State Committee member or his/her designee will coordinate and conduct the protest. **There is no further appeal.**

Disputed Play

In the case of a disputed play or decision, the team's head coach or team captain may

consult the game umpires. The other players and/or coaches are to be kept out of the discussion and must remain in the bench area.

Run Rule

There is no run rule during Regional and State Tournament Championships.

Heat Index

Site Coordinators will follow the heat index policy as per NYSPHSAA Handbook.

Awards

A certificate of participation will be awarded to each of the 20 team members. A plaque will only be awarded to the Regional winner. If a Regional game is a first-round game then a plaque will not be awarded but all participants will receive certificates. The Regional champion will receive the plaque at the conclusion of the Regional finals.

Spectators

Spectators are an important part of the game and are encouraged to conform to the accepted standards of good sportsmanship and behavior. Spectators should at all times respect officials, opposing coaches and players, and tournament staff. Enthusiastic cheering for a team is encouraged and is an important part of the tournament. Improper behavior will not be tolerated. Spectators who cannot comply with the NYSPHSAA Sportsmanship Policy will be asked to leave the facility. Remember that all noisemakers are prohibited at NYSPHSAA contests as per NYSPHSAA policy. **It is asked that each team have a chaperone or an administrator present at the contest who should identify himself/herself to the Site Coordinator.**

Umpires

It is the responsibility of each Softball Coordinator on the Committee to select and assign the umpires for Regional and State Tournament play. The best umpires are to be selected from each section. Umpires are encouraged to use the Umpire Application form for consideration as a Regional and State umpire. For Regional games, the host section will supply three umpires per contest.

STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT GUIDELINES

All semifinals and finals are conducted by NYSPHSAA and under the supervision of the State Softball Coordinator, the State Softball Committee and the Tournament Director. The State Tournament Committee reserves the right to change times, infield practice schedules, field assignments, etc. in the case of extenuating circumstances (e.g., weather, field conditions, prolonged games).

All contest rules in effect for Regionals are also in effect for the State Championships.

Admission

State Tournament contests have a FEE for an all-day admission ticket. There is an “NYSPHSAA Gate List” for school administrators and appropriate personnel. This must be completed by the Athletic Director and faxed to the NYSPHSAA office for approval by noon Thursday prior to the Saturday championship contests. This form is in the informational packet and on the NYSPHSAA website.

Team Arrivals

Coaches will receive directions for bus drivers concerning drop off and pick up of team personnel. Team members should arrive together and be in uniform when entering the field complex. All team members and personnel must wear ID badges for admission into the complex.

Team Warm-Up

Practice and warm-up time may be subject to field availability. The Tournament Coordinator and the State Coordinator will determine all practice times. For semifinal games, teams may start a warm-up one hour prior to the start of the first round. Due to limited space, the warm-up area may be limited and a team may have to share an area with another team. All teams may enter the diamond one half hour prior to the start of infield practice. For the finals, teams will be given 15 minutes for field/infield practice. All teams will have one half of the outfield for warm-ups prior to infield practice. In the event if extenuating circumstances, the Tournament Director and State Coordinator will then determine the amount of warm-up time and consult both coaches.

Team Rituals

All team rituals must be in compliance with the rules listed in the Regional Tournament Guidelines.

Home Team

The home team will be determined by a coin flip. The team losing the coin flip will have choice of dugout. The coin flip for the semifinal games will take place during the coaches’ meeting on Friday night or during the opening ceremonies. The coin flip for the finals will take place immediately following the conclusion of the semifinal game before teams leave the complex.

Game Balls

The State Tournament official ball is the Dudley SB 12LRF FP. The ball is yellow with red stitches and has a cor.47 and 375 lbs. Dudley is a NYSPHSAA tournament sponsor.

Run Rule

There is no run rule for State Championship play.

New York State Good Sports Award

A sportsmanship T-shirt will be awarded at the State Championship Tournament to one athlete from each participating team. Coaches will be notified prior to the tournament that they or their designee, are to select their team's award winner. Awards will take place during the semifinals award ceremony.

State Tournament Awards

For the semifinals, a semifinalist plaque will be awarded to the losing team in each semifinal contest. For the championship contest, State Finalists will receive medals (20) and the State Finalist Plaque. State Champions will receive medals (20) and the State Championship Plaque.

All award presentations will be conducted immediately following the conclusion of the game. All team personnel should line up on their respective baselines for the award ceremony as quickly as possible following the completion of the game. Teams should clean and vacate the dugout area as quickly as possible after the game so the field and dugouts can be prepared for the next game.

All spectators should stay in the outfield area during the award ceremony. An official tournament photographer will take photographs during the award presentation. Parents and spectators are not permitted on the playing field during the award ceremony.

State Tournament Umpires

Tournament umpires are selected by each Section Coordinator, and the number chosen per section is based upon the Umpire's Selection Chart. The game fee will be in accordance with the NYSPHSAA officiating fees and policies for both Regional and State Championship games.

Protests

During State Tournament play, the Protest Committee will consist of the New York State Softball Officials Organization (NYSSOO) State Rules Interpreter, one State Tournament Committee member and the State Coordinator. **All protests will be settled immediately on site. There will be no appeal.**

Tied and Suspended Game Rule

This rule is to be used for the NYSPHSAA Championship Tournament (it may also be used during regular season play with Section approval).

1. An official game is five innings or four and one-half innings if the home team is ahead. If a winner can be determined and no more softball can be played that day, the game is over and a winner is declared. The game does not have to go seven innings.
2. If a game is stopped before it becomes an official game, the game is a suspended game. This game will be picked up at that point. The score, inning, count of batter, etc. should all be recorded in the scorebook.
3. If the game is stopped after having gone long enough to be an official game but a winner cannot be determined due to a tied score, this game becomes a tied/suspended game at that point. This game will be picked up at that point. The score, inning, count of batter, etc. should all be recorded in the scorebook.
4. If a game is stopped after having gone long enough to become an official game and;
 - a. The visitors score a run or runs in the top half of the inning. This

- game reverts back to the last completed inning and either a winner is declared or it is a tied/suspended game. Or,
- b. The visitors score a run or runs in the top half of the inning and the home team does not complete its at bat. The game reverts back to the last completed inning and either a winner is declared or it is a tied/suspended game. If it is a tied/suspended game, the game is picked up from that point (the visitor's runs in the top half of the inning and home team's runs in bottom half count). This game will be picked up at that point. The score, inning, count of batter, etc. should all be recorded in the scorebook.
 - c. The home team ties the game in the bottom half of the inning but doesn't complete the inning. If the game cannot be played anymore it is a tied/suspended game at that point. This game will be picked up at that point. The score, inning, count of batter, etc. should all be recorded in scorebook. Or,
 - d. The home team takes the lead in the bottom half of the fifth or sixth inning, then the game is called. At that point the home team is declared the winner.

Official Scorebook

There will be an official scorekeeper assigned to all State Championship games.

Media Coverage

It is important that every coach report the results of every game to their hometown papers and to the radio and television stations. As media coverage is encouraged, the following guidelines must be adhered to:

- Photographers assigned to a game must be in foul territory and cannot be stationary. They must be mobile and are under the direction of the game umpires. If a live ball strikes a photographer assigned to the game, the ball is live and in play.
- Television and Radio: Any request by stations involving television or radio coverage must be reviewed and approved by the NYSPHSAA Assistant Director. All contract forms will be distributed through the NYSPHSAA office. Games may not be broadcast from the playing field, and cameras and/or video equipment may not be stationed on the playing field.

- All State Committee members should contact the State Coordinator and the Media Coordinator with game results. Game results may be found on **nysphsaa.org** and **www.nysphsaasoftball.com**.

NYSPHSAA Hotel Report

When a school stays overnight at a hotel, the school must complete a NYSPHSAA Hotel Form. **The completion of this form is mandatory.** The form is available from your Section Coordinators and must be given to the hotel upon arrival at check in.

TEAM ROSTER LIST -- REGIONALS

2024 NYSPHSAA Softball Championships

Copies of these documents will be provided to those that need it

This Regional roster must be completed for all Regional contests and given to the site coordinator with Code of Conduct forms upon arrival at the Regional site.

School: _____ Section _____ Class _____

Individuals on this list will receive ID badges. Each team may only have 20 participants and four support personnel. Please list all players, coaches, scorekeepers, managers, trainers, etc. below. All 24 participants will be allowed in the dugout.

Participants	Player/Coach/Scorer	Code of Conduct	
1.	_____	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____
6.	_____	_____	_____
7.	_____	_____	_____
8.	_____	_____	_____
9.	_____	_____	_____
10.	_____	_____	_____
11.	_____	_____	_____
12.	_____	_____	_____
13.	_____	_____	_____
14.	_____	_____	_____
15.	_____	_____	_____
16.	_____	_____	_____
17.	_____	_____	_____
18.	_____	_____	_____
19.	_____	_____	_____
20.	_____	_____	_____
	Support Personnel	Title/Position	
1.	_____	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____

TEAM ROSTER LIST -- NYSPHSAA CHAMPIONSHIP FRIDAY JUNE 7TH AND SATURDAY, JUNE 8TH

This roster must be emailed by Thursday, June 8th to: Peggy Seese at seese_p@argylecsd.org

Code of Conduct forms must be given to the Tournament Committee member upon arrival at the hotel.

School _____ Section _____ Class _____

Individuals on this list will receive ID badges. Each team may only have 20 participants and four support personnel. Please list all players, coaches, scorekeepers, managers, trainers, etc. below. All 24 participants will be allowed in the dugout.

Conduct	Participants	Player/Coach/Scorer	Code of
1.	_____	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____
6.	_____	_____	_____
7.	_____	_____	_____
8.	_____	_____	_____
9.	_____	_____	_____
10.	_____	_____	_____
11.	_____	_____	_____
12.	_____	_____	_____
13.	_____	_____	_____
14.	_____	_____	_____
15.	_____	_____	_____
16.	_____	_____	_____
17.	_____	_____	_____
18.	_____	_____	_____
19.	_____	_____	_____
20.	_____	_____	_____
	Support Personnel	Title/Position	
1.	_____	_____	
2.	_____	_____	
3.	_____	_____	
4.	_____	_____	



NYS PHSAA CHAMPIONSHIP
SCHOOL GATE LIST

Due to NYS PHSAA Office by June 9, 2022
Fax to 518-690-0775 or email to tnelson@nysphsaa.org

School: _____

Championship Event: _____

Date: _____

Site: _____

Please enter below the number of players and bench personnel your school will be bringing to the Championship event. Please note that each sport has a maximum number of players and bench personnel allotted for each school. If your school chooses to bring more than the maximum number allowed the NYS PHSAA will bill the school for the difference. We will use these numbers to prepare the proper credentials and awards for your school.

of Players _____ **# of Bench Personnel** _____

Note: This list below is designed for school administration and appropriate school personnel. The list is limited to a maximum of 8 individuals and is exclusive of the team players and bench personnel listed. Team photographers should not be added to the School Gate List or be included in the bench personnel. Please contact the NYS PHSAA office if your school has a team photographer. This list should be faxed to the NYS PHSAA office (518-690-0775) or emailed to tnelson@nysphsaa.org two days prior to the championship event. Please type or print names and titles.

	Name	Title
1. —		_____
2. —		_____
3. —		_____
4. —		_____
5. —		_____
6. —		_____
7. —		_____
8. —		_____

Athletic Director or Principal: _____
(full name and title)

Date: _____

NYS PHSAA Staff Approval: _____ **Date:** _____

TO: Section Executive Directors
FROM: Sandra E. Scott, Executive Director
RE: Interpretation of “Excessive” Bleeding

As you are aware, all National Federation game rules have a section on player’s bleeding. All use the term “excessive” when referring to the amount of blood on the uniform. To date we have not had a statewide problem in the interpretation of “excessive” blood on uniforms. Preferring to be in a position of readiness for situations which may arise, the NYSPHSAA will interpret “excessive blood” on a uniform as follows:

Excessive blood on a uniform will mean that the part of the uniform involved is saturated with blood. Saturated does not mean a wet spot. Saturated means a major portion of the garment is covered and soaked through with blood. For this to occur a serious injury would have had to take place. This rarely happens during an entire season of competition.

For any blood on uniforms less than “saturated”, the uniform does not have to be changed. School personnel have the responsibility of treating the bloody area with the appropriate disinfecting solution before the athlete may participate. If the uniform is “saturated” with blood, the uniform must be changed before the athlete may participate.

These Interpretations are to be followed in the conduct of all NYSPHSAA, Inc. contests.

cc: Sport Coordinators
Presidents of Officials Organizations

NYSPHSAA HEAT INDEX PROCEDURES

Administration of Heat Index Procedures:

Heat index will be checked 1 hour before the contest/practice by a certified

athletic trainer, athletic director, or school designee when the air temperature is 80 degrees (Fahrenheit) or higher.

The athletic trainer, athletic director, or school designee will use the accuweather.com website to determine the heat index for the area of the contest/practice. The accuweather.com website can be reached through the NYSPHSAA website. Once a person is on the accuweather.com website, they will put in the zip code for the location of the contest/practice and the website will give them the air temperature as well as the Real Feel temperature (heat index).

If the Real Feel temperature (heat index) is 90 degrees or above, the athletic trainer, athletic director, or school designee must re-check the Real Feel (heat index) at halftime or midway point of the contest. If the Real Feel (heat index) temperature is 96 degrees (Fahrenheit) or more, the contest will be suspended.

Please refer to the following chart to take the appropriate actions: Real Feel (Heat Index) under 79 degrees		Full activity. No restrictions
R E C O M M E N D E D	Heat Index Caution: Real Feel (Heat Index) 80 degrees to 85 degrees	Provide ample water and multiple water breaks. Monitor athletes for heat illness. Consider reducing the amount of time for the practice session.
	Heat Index Watch: Real Feel (Heat Index) 86 degrees to 90 degrees	Provide ample water and multiple water breaks. Monitor athletes for heat illness. Consider postponing practice to a time when Real Feel temp is lower. Consider reducing the amount of time for the practice session. 1 hour of recovery time for every hour of practice (ex. 2hr practice = 2hr recovery time).
	Heat Index Warning: Real Feel (Heat Index) 91 degrees to 95 degrees	Provide ample water and water breaks every 15 minutes. Monitor athletes for heat illness. Consider postponing practice to a time when Real Feel temp is much lower. Consider reducing the amount of time for the practice session. 1 hour of recovery time for every hour of practice (ex. 2hr practice = 2hr recovery time). Light weight and loose fitting clothes should be worn. For Practices only Football Helmets should be worn. No other protective equipment should be worn.
REQUIRED	Heat Index Alert: Real Feel (Heat Index) 96 degrees or greater	No outside activity, practice or contest, should be held. Inside activity should only be held if air conditioned.

NYSPHSAA

THUNDER & LIGHTNING POLICY *(Effective 10/25/04)*

(Revised October 20, 2008)

Applies to regular season through NYSPHSAA Finals:

- 1) Thunder and lightning necessitates that contests be suspended. The occurrence of thunder and/or lightning is not subject to interpretation or discussion - thunder is thunder, lightning is lightning.
 - a) With your site administrator, set up a plan for shelter prior to the start of any contest.
- 2) When thunder is heard and/or when lightning is seen, the following procedures should be adhered to:
 - a) Suspend play and direct participants to go to shelter, a building normally occupied by the public or if a building is unavailable, participants should go inside a vehicle with a solid metal top (e.g. bus, van, and car).
 - b) Do not permit people to stand under or near a tree; and have all stay away from poles, antennas, towers and underground watering systems.
 - c) After thunder and/or lightning have left the area, wait 30 minutes after the last boom is heard or strike is seen before resuming play or competition.

NYSPHAA HANDBOOK PG. 120

47. **SOFTBALL** - A contestant may participate in 2 regulation games per day with at least a 15 minute rest between games. By Section adoption 5 inning double headers may be played. Varsity softball teams can play three (3) contests in one day only for invitational tournaments during the regular season. Tie breaker rule in effect at top of

the 10th inning. An unannounced substitution during a contest will be not be penalized. For other requirements, see p. 111.

Waivers/Modifications:

1. The pitching distance will be 43 feet for the varsity, JV and freshmen levels. (Dec. 2010)
2. Waiver to ASA rule 3-1D to keep that bat grip at 10” to 15”.

Scrimmages:

A softball/baseball scrimmage must include free substitutions and lineup cards will not be exchanged. Scrimmages must also include *one or more* of the following:

1. Play six (6) outs per half inning (example - 3 outs clear the field/ 3 more outs). 2. Batting order must be altered or modified to include more batters than rules permit.
3. Start with a runner(s) on base with a predetermined situation for at least two (2) full innings.

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

a. Coach:

1. Any coach excluded by a certified official from an interschool competition for unsportsmanlike conduct, including taunting is ineligible to coach any interschool competition in that sport until after the next previously scheduled contest at the same level (e.g. junior varsity, varsity, etc.) has been completed. In individual sports a multi day contest is considered to be a contest. Disqualification from one season carries over to the next season of participation. The coach may not be present at the game site nor communicate in any manner during the contest with any person present at the site. **NOTE:** "Not being physically present at the site" means the disqualified coach is not to be present in the locker room, on the sidelines, in the stands or site area before, during or after the game/meet. Any coach that does not serve the penalty for violating the Sportsmanship Standard will be ineligible to participant in the next two regularly scheduled contests. If the coach continues to not serve the penalty, the matter will be referred to the Section for further action. If the coach is involved in the NYSPHSAA play-offs, the matter will be referred to the Executive Director of the NYSPHSAA.

Any coach:

1. Who receives a disqualification penalty in a sport shall not participate

in the next regularly scheduled contest;

2. Who receives a second disqualification penalty in the same sport in the same season shall not participate in the next two regularly scheduled contests; and 3. Who receives a third disqualification penalty in the same sport in the same season will not be allowed to participate for the rest of the season. If the disqualification penalty takes place in the last contest of the season (regular season or post schedule play), the Section Athletic Council will assess the penalty carrying over into the next season of participation.

4. A coach who strikes, shoves, kicks or makes other physical contact with the intent to annoy, harass or intimidate another person (e.g. official, another coach, player, and fan) shall be expelled immediately and banned from further participation or coaching in all sports for a period of time to be determined by the section not to exceed one year from the date of the offense

b. Player:

1. Any member of a squad disqualified by a sport official for unsportsmanlike conduct, including taunting, or for a flagrant foul shall not participate in that sport in the next previously scheduled contest with a member school or in NYSPHSAA tournament play. In individual sports a multi-day contest is considered to be a contest. The contest in which the athlete was disqualified must count in the total maximum number of contests permitted. Disqualifications from one season carry over to the next season of participation.

Any player:

1. Who receives a disqualification penalty in a sport shall not participate in the next regularly scheduled contest;

2. Who receives a second disqualification penalty in the same sport in the Same season shall not participate in the next two regularly scheduled contests; and 3. Who receives a third disqualification penalty in the same sport in the

same season will not be allowed to participate for the rest of the season. If the third ejection takes place in the last contest of the season (regular season or post schedule play), the Section Athletic Council will assess the penalty carrying over into the next season of participation.

"THE CONCUSSION RULE"

The New York State Public High School Athletic Association (NYSPHSAA) has joined with the National Federation of High Schools (NFHS) in formulating a "Concussion Rule". Sports official organizations and their individual officiating members play the major role in the appropriate management of this rule. This rule super cedes any sport specific rulebook discussion on the topic of possible concussions. Basically stated, "Any athlete who exhibits signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with a concussion (such as loss of consciousness, headaches, dizziness, confusion or balance problems) shall be immediately removed from the contest and shall not return to play that day until cleared by an appropriate health-care professional". Sports officials will play a paramount role in the removal of the athlete from the contest. If signs of a possible concussion have been exhibited, the sport's official will have the injured player removed. A good

indicator is to look at the eyes of the injured player as a first. Make a notation on the game's score-sheet including the name and uniform number of the removed player. Indicate pertinent circumstances and what resulted if the player returned to the playing field. Identify the medical personnel involved. The official should not be involved in any farther evaluation or management of the athlete. That player is basically, done for the day. An athlete may not return if an appropriate health care provider is not available to give medical clearance. A nurse, athletic trainer, emergency paramedic and the team's coach/AD do not qualify as appropriate health care providers. A certified medical physician assigned by the school could qualify, if on site. We would always hope that a coach and official would be reacting quickly together to recognize and react appropriately to any of the following signs, symptoms, and behaviors of possible post head trauma:

A. Problems in Brain Function -

- a. Confused state - Dazed look, vacant stare, confusion about what happened or is happening.
- b. Memory problems - Can't remember assignment on play, opponents, score of game, or period of the game. Can't remember how or with whom he/she traveled to the game, what he/she is wearing, what was eaten for breakfast etc.
- c. Symptoms reported by athlete - Headache, nausea, or vomiting, blurred or double vision, over sensitivity to sound, light or touch, ringing in the ears, feeling foggy or groggy.
- d. Lack of sustained attention - Difficulty sustaining focus adequately to complete a task or a coherent thought or conversation

B. Speed of brain function - Slow response to questions, slow slurred speech, incoherent speech, slow body movements, slow reaction time.

C. Unusual Behaviors - Behaving in a combative, aggressive or very silly manner, or just atypical for the individual. Repeatedly asking the same question over and over, Restless and irritable behavior with constant motion and attempts to return to play or leave and Reactions that seem out of proportion and inappropriate. Changing position frequently and having trouble resting or finding a comfortable position.

D. Problems with Balance and Coordination - Dizzy, slow, clumsy movements, inability to walk a straight line or balance on one foot with eyes closed. Head injuries are extremely serious and can result in death or severe brain damage. The safety of an athlete should always come first. BOCES and the OCC must receive all noted information and other details as necessary.

ON-DECK BATTER & DUGOUT CONDUCT

The on-deck batter is defined as "the offensive player who is scheduled to bat next." At the beginning of the game and at the start of each inning, the on-beck batter is the offensive player who is going to lead off that inning. Rule 1.

The on-deck circle is defined as "the area nearest their dugout, on deck batter can move to the non open side of the batter for safety, in which the next batter of the offensive

team is restricted to before the release of the pitch.” Rule 1.

Coaches, players, substitutes and other bench personnel shall not be outside the designated bench, dugout/team area except when the rules allow or it is justified by the umpire. - "Effect: " The first offense is a team warning. Any repeat offense shall result in the ejection of that team member." Rule 5-12.

"Once the game begins, only players involved in the game may be outside the dugout, except when the rules allow or a reason that is justified by an umpire." Rules Supplement 16. "Players involved in the game "are limited to batters, runners, student base coaches, etc. An example of a situation "justified by an umpire" is a substitute pitcher warming up with another player. The soft tossing of additional offensive players outside the dugout is not an automatic exception to these explicit rules.

"The on-deck batter shall take a position within the lines of the on-deck circle nearest the offensive team area." Rule 7-1-A

"The on-deck batter may leave the on-deck circle: (1) when they become the batter; (2) when directing runners advancing from third to home plate." Rule 7-1-C-(1) & (2).

The primary reason for requiring an on-deck batter in place is to keep the game flowing. Requiring an on-deck batter eliminates the need for allowing a new batter to take multiple warm-up swings once she gets in the batter's box. Use of the on-deck batter is also a tool for the offensive coaching staff to confirm who is going to bat next and that this player is, in fact, ready to bat.

By rule, there can only be one on-deck batter. That is so because there can only be one next batter. At the start of the game and the beginning of a new half inning, only one on deck batter is permitted. Allowing more than one offensive player to swing a bat at this time is an unsafe and improper practice, in violation of the Rules. There is a significant risk of liability.

Use of an on-deck batter is required. The on-deck batter is restricted to the on-deck circle. Generally, the circle (assuming one is drawn), will be located near each team's dugout. If, as a result of safety-concerns, the umpire deems that the use of an on-deck circle on the field is potentially dangerous he/she could designate an alternative area off the field of play.

All coaches, players, substitutes, and bench personnel are required to be in the dugout unless a rule allows that they are to be outside that area (e.g., use of a 1st and 3rd base coach, on-deck batter, runners, etc.). Players and bench personnel shall not be permitted to leave the dugout in order to hit off tees, do soft tosses, use a hitting stick, etc. To allow otherwise would be to violate the on-deck batter rule and the dugout conduct rule. Moreover, it would tend to defeat the purpose of requiring an on-deck batter in the first place - to keep the game moving. In addition, use of these additional warm-up techniques creates significant possibilities for safety issues. Frequently, these so-called "double-deck" or "triple-deck" batters do not wear required protective gear. There is a risk that spectators or others could get hit by one of the additional on-deck batters' actions. Remember, umpires are required to enforce clearly established or codified rules. Because coaches and schools have assumed additional responsibilities of

a supervisory nature, they are required to promote and follow all of the safety measures to be implemented into fast-pitch softball game play.
Strict enforcement of the on-deck batter rules by both umpires and coaches will help keep the game moving smoothly and help to limit potential liability.