

HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION MEETING

AGENDA

January 15, 2026, 8:30 a.m.

Brookside School, 1260 Meadowbrook Rd. N. Merrick, NY 11566

- I. Good & Welfare
- II. Attendance
- III. Review and approval of agenda with the right to re-order **Approved**
- IV. Approval of High School Association minutes **Approved**
- V. Guest Speakers
 - a. Long Island Gym- John & Matt
 - i. Scoreboards, shot clocks, sound systems, batting cages, etc.
- VI. Section VIII Report.....Pat Pizzarelli - Executive Director
 - a. All sportsmanship incidents need to be reported within 24 hours through Section Form. Appeals must be made within 24 hours. Must notify the Section of legal representation who will be immediately.
 - b. Visit teams should stay together and exit as a unit as soon as the game concludes.
 - c. Supervisors should be present at all home and away contests.
 - d. Justin Jonas
 - i. Hall of Fame nominations for next year starting soon.
 - ii. Sportsmanship Policy updates
 - 1. Will be using NYS protocols of 2 halves for fighting/punches. Section VIII will hold the right to extend if egregious
 - 2. Spectators entering the field of play will be suspended for one calendar year from the date of the event.
 - iii. Volleyball will be a one year pilot for JV/Varsity home and away. JV will be the best of 5. Modified games will go to 25 points for next season.
 - iv. Spring schedules will come out by tomorrow, start reviewing games and making changes by the due date. All games during break should be moved before break, not after.
 - v. Playoffs- notify the section of all wins so next games can be scheduled asap.
- VII. NYSPHSAA Report.....Jennifer Keane/Mike Bongino
 - a. Handbook language change to NYSPHSAA representation rule....**APPROVED**
 - b. Flag football coordinator at modified level...**APPROVED**
 - c. Promotion rule with section approval promotion at any time....**OPPOSED**
 - d. Representation and friends and neighbors....**APPROVED**

- e. Boys Basketball get rid of 5 second closely guarded rule....APPROVED
- f. Require school team to have at least 5 athletes on roster at State championship and begin competition with at least 5....APPROVED
- g. The representation rule for female wrestlers who compete on the boys team cannot qualify for girls championship....OPPOSED
- h. NFHS for flag football with waivers....APPROVED
- i. NFHS deadball flag checks....APPROVED
- j. Onside play option for flag football...APPROVED
- k. Outdoor Track-when using superstandard will have to run at the state qualifier, athletes must finish in the top 5 to advance to states, they will be in effect this spring....APPROVED
- l. Outdoor Track-cannot use superstandard after State qualifier....APPROVED
- m. Outdoor Track-Three year average for the formula to get state standard (reduce from 5 year).....APPROVED
- n. Baseball- make it optional to use double base in season/playoffs in Spring 2026....APPROVED
- o. Sectional Concerns/Discussion Items
 - i. Girls wrestling championship pathway, double base baseball, volleyball pool play vs semi finals structure, track/swim qualification numbers, at large bid definition and pathway clarification, and schools without boundaries. AD representation for sport coordinators at NYS championships.

VIII. Report from Male and Female Vice Presidents.....Jennifer Keane/Matt McLees

- a. State AD Conference March 17th-Saratoga- Section VIII Hosts...please attend
- b. Boys Swim Report- Dual meet season concluded. Congratulations to all conference champions.
- c. Gymnastics Report- 20 teams strong, if you want to start a team contact Kim asap. Thank you to all our host schools for the post season and cartwheel for cure events.
- d. Indoor Track- winter season going well only one meet ran late but all others ended by 1030pm cut off. Coaches will be receiving forms and deadlines for counties next week.
- e. Bowling- All league play concludes this week. Seeding meeting next week for all playoff bids. Great season overall. Dinner March 3rd.
- f. Girls basketball- all games must be done by February 14th. Seeding meeting Feb. 15/16th. Playoffs at Farmingdale State College, LIC in Suffolk. Rating must be submitted asap.
- g. Boys Basketball- all games must be done by February 14th. The next available date must be held for the remainder of the season. February 16th post season coaches meeting. Rating cards must be submitted asap as it impacts Varsity teams. Playoffs hosted at Farmingdale State College.
- h. Fencing- coaches must input scores properly.
- i. Wrestling- league season ends this week. Playoffs will start Thursday next week. If you cannot host due to testing, notify Josh immediately.
- j. Competitive Cheer- season going well. If tie at Counties, they will compete again.
- k. Rifle- Sport Report

i. The Nassau County Rifle Winter season has been moving along well without any issues. The county has 8 teams broken into 2 conferences by population:

Kaiser Conf / Large Schools

1. Valley Stream District
2. Sewanhaka District
3. Bellmore-Merrick District
4. Freeport

Sawyer Conf / Small Schools

1. Massapequa
2. Garden City
3. Baldwin
4. Glen Cove

Bellmore-Merrick, Garden City and Baldwin use the Nassau County Pistol Range by Mitchell field for practices and matches. The other 5 schools have their own ranges within their schools and practice/host matches there. Our county finals are approaching on Thursday, February 5 and will be shot at a neutral site, the Roslyn Gun range. We would love to build the sport back up and if you are interested in returning a team for the upcoming season, please feel free to reach out to Michael Palumbo, the Nassau County Rifle Coordinator.

IX. Conference Reports.....

- a. Conference 1- Sportsmanship, JV girls Lax, policy on conference alignment.
- b. Conference 2- No Report
- c. Conference 3- Girls Lacrosse and shot clock, officials recruitment, golf survey, AD conference, middle school cut policies.
- d. Conference 4- JV lax schedule, vacation policy survey, ATC license, baseball reschedule due to wrong date listed.

X. Sport Overviews

(B) Golf

Anthony Brancato

Boys Spring Golf starts this year on Monday 3/16

-We are back to normal - Bethpage is available for teams to practice and play matches- ***
Be aware- fairways in early spring will be a mix of dirt and grass due to the ryder cup. Gonna need some nice weather to allow it to grow back in***

-Thank you to all that filled out google form on JV golf. As of right now I have 7 schools that have JV boys golf. - Fall - Locust Valley, CSH, Massapequa & Roslyn- Spring - Syosset, Garden City & Plainview **If anyone else is planning on having a team, please let me know so we can schedule accordingly**

Important Dates for Spring 2026

- Practice Rds - Thursday May 7 & Tuesday May 12 - Bethpage Red 3-5pm - Sign up sheet will be sent out early May.

- Play-in match - Friday May 15 - 8am - Bethpage blue- 7vs 10 & 8vs 9 Both winners will compete in the county tournament as a team.

- County Tournament - Bethpage

- Tuesday May 19 - Blue Course - 7am

- Wednesday May 20 - Red Course - 7am

- Saturday May 23 - Black Course - LIC Practice Rd -10am

- Tuesday May 26 - Black Course - LIC 10am

- Friday June 5- Monday June 9 - NYS Golf Championship - Rochester , NY

(G) Golf Brian Rath Will present next month

Approval of Sport Alignment/Schedules

(G) Badminton Jenna Cavuto APPROVED

XI. Standing Committees

Appeals John Franchi

a. No Report

Awards Mike Scaturro

b. Coming in soon

By-Laws & Policies Dave Zawatson

c. No Report

Student Athlete Development Pat Maguire

d. 18 students attending in April.

Modified Athletics Cathleen Dnyprowsky

e. Review teams in email and meeting on Jan 29th. Do not move games up from the end of season...that is when officials are available.

Nominations Don Lang

f. All positions approved for opening in committees.

Safety Committee Jennifer Keane

g. ATC standing orders-medical director signs off.

Sportsmanship Justin Jonas

h. Appeal later today.

Team Up for Unity Kru Patel

i. State meeting this week. Cheerleading wants to be treated like every other sport.

Sport Seasons Michael Brostowski

j. Sports calendar approved and emailed.

Officials Peter Cardone/Ed Wallace

k. OCC meeting next week will bring AD concerns to the group.

Championship Advisory Ed Ramirez

l. No Report

Combining of Team Report Mike Pelan

m. Fall girls tennis- Malverne/East Rockaway split.

Classification Committee John Kostkowicz

n. Meet three times a year. Submitted report for approval in February. The section has 15 days to appeal after that meeting. Other sections can challenge placement of another section. Sport coordinators should review other sections' placements.

Ethics Glen Zakian

o. No Report

Association Reports

NYSAAA Eric Caballero

a. Take advantage of fee courses being offered.

b. Jim Amen- Hall of Fame inductee at State Conference.

c. Survey to be sent out for years of service.

COA Tom Lehman

- d. Meeting next week. Submit Todd Heimer payments asap.

XII. Unfinished Business

- a. Girls Lacrosse- JV will mirror last year's schedules. Look for alternatives for Spring 2027. Girls JV shot clock recommendation is optional for Spring 2026, coaches vote was in slight favor for mandatory.
- b. Baseball- Error in handbook regarding Passover start date. Schedules have been modified to accommodate Section no play dates. Non-league games must be moved as well by districts.
 - i. MOTION: Scrimmage after 6 practices have been approved. Pitching violations (30 pitches max, may finish the batter) in a scrimmage on day 7,8,9,or 10 will result in a 1 game suspension for the head coach (next game).
 - 1. 1st, 2nd APPROVED
 - ii. The Nassau County Rifle Winter season has been moving along well without any issues. The county has 8 teams broken into 2 conferences by population:

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XIII. New Business

- a. Incidents Management
 - i. Discuss with your Superintendent regarding emergency protocols and when to contact Emergency Services in relation to crowd control. Work with the District Security team for extra support at rival games.
 - ii. Section VIII will look into whether the Security company could offer training for supervisors.
- b. AD meeting is March 12th to accommodate the State Conference.
- c. Fall Sport coordinators- all significant changes must be presented in February so it can be approved at the March meeting with the goal of schedules in April. Conference meetings will meet based on fall football conference alignment starting late April/Early May.
- d. MOTION: Sports Coordinators have a responsibility to designate a representative to attend the NY State Championships if they are not available and notify the Section Office.
 - 1. 1st, 2nd. APPROVED

XIV. Announcements

All announcements must be written and given to Shannon McEntee, Secretary

Next Meeting
February 12, 2026