



Section VIII

Girls Soccer Handbook



Fall 2026

Nassau County Girls Soccer Coaches Association

2026



Executive Board

Section VIII Coordinator- Mike Bongino, Cold Spring Harbor

President- Lauren Brossard, Port Washington

Treasurer/Awards Banquet- Gil Kreiss, Hewlett

Awards-

Conference Coordinators

AAA/AA

Conference 1- Bruce Stegner- Massapequa

Conference 2- Chris Keen- Manhasset

Conference 3- Matt Sviridoff- Roosevelt

A/B

Conference 1- Kurt Rogers - Floral Park

Conference 2- Ryan Towers- Cold Spring Harbor

Conference 3- Christine Gayson- Mineola

Journal- Lauren Brossard, Port Washington

Summer League- Steve Costello - MacArthur

Senior Game- Lauren Brossard, Lee Rogers.

INTRODUCTION

Fall 2026

Dear Coach,

The Section VIII Girls' Soccer Handbook is a resource for coaches. The handbook contains vital information that will guide you throughout the season. You will find rules, regulations, and important dates including play off information. Please take the time to read the handbook thoroughly. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Once again, let each of us represent our school, communities, and county with the highest level of integrity and character. Compete with dignity and class while maintaining the utmost level of respect for our opponents. Let good sportsmanship prevail at all times.

On behalf of the Girls' Soccer Committee, I wish you the very best this upcoming season and look forward to being a part of the many successes both on and off the field regarding Girls' Soccer in Nassau County.

"I am a member of a team, and I rely on the team, I defer to it and sacrifice for it, because the team, not the individual, is the ultimate champion"

- Mia Hamm

Sincerely,

Michael Bongino
Director of Health, Physical Education and Athletics
Cold Spring Harbor Central School District
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"A Commitment to Excellence"

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SECTION VIII GIRLS' SOCCER COACHING RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Enter your completed schedule & roster in the Nassau County Girls Soccer Website: <https://www.nassaucountygirlssoccer.org/> BEFORE your first contest. All coaches are to input scores, stats into our website and Newsday online within 24hrs of the match.
2. Review the Section VIII Sportsmanship Policy with your players, staff and spectators. Report any problems to your Athletic Director and Section Coordinator.
3. Notify the Section Coordinator/President (Mike Bongino/Lauren Brossard) and your Athletic Director immediately of any yellow cards, red cards or ejections at your

contests. Report any yellow cards to your conference coordinator and your Athletic Director.

4. No Jewelry is permitted. Please check your players prior to the start of the game. A yellow card will be given to the coach as a warning.

5. All players must wear NOCSAE approved shin guards. Anyone without them will not be permitted to enter the game. Goalkeeper jerseys must have a number on the front and the back; they are considered a field player. This is for VARSITY Only.

6. HOME TEAM must wear DARK jerseys and dark socks and the .VISITING TEAM must wear all-WHITE jerseys and white socks

7. There will be **NO OVERTIME** in regular season play. In the playoffs there will be 3 referees if possible, the Semifinals and Finals, there definitely will be three (3) referees.

8. Complete your conference games by October 15, 2026. A CANCELED conference match must be played on the NEXT AVAILABLE DATE. (League games take precedence over non-league).

9. Coaches in the spirit of sportsmanship the goal differential in a game should not exceed 7 goals. A conversation should be had between the 2 coaches if it is exceeded. Efforts of substitutions/changing of positions should be made in order to not run up the score. If a team feels this was not done they need to contact coordinator Mike Bongino detailing the game. Athletic Directors will discuss the match and if a school has more than one incident a formal meeting will take place and possible disciplinary action may take place.

2026 SEASON TIMELINE

Maximum number of soccer games (Non-League & League Combined)

Varsity = 16 & Junior Varsity = 15

Required number of practices prior to first scrimmage/non-league= 6

Minimum time between contests- 1 night

Individual Contest Limitations per Day- 1 contest

Scrimmage Limitations per day- 1

Rules- NFHS (National Federation of High Schools)

****** All Playoff dates & times are tentative**

-First Date of practice – Monday, August 24, 2026

-Preseason Coaches Meeting–Wednesday August 26th, 2026

- @ Garden City HS- 7:30pm

-First day to Scrimmage/Non-League –Monday, August 31, 2026

-Rosh Hashanah–sundown Friday, Sept 11, 2026–Sunday, Sept 13, 2026

-Yom Kippur– no games on - Monday, Sept 21, 2026

-Makeup Date for Games -next available date (league game is priority over non league)

-End of Year Meeting–All Varsity Head Coaches must attend-

Friday October 16, 2026 -**7:30 pm** - **@ Garden City HS**

-Games played on 10/16 Must be played at 5pm - **NO NIGHT GAMES**

Playoff Schedule

Play-in games - October 17th at higher seed by tie break

AAA Classification Playoffs

-Quarter Finals- Wednesday October 21st, 2026 @ higher seed

-Semi Finals-Tuesday, October 27th, 2026 @ CSH (5:30pm/7:30pm)

-County Finals - Monday, Nov 2nd, 2026 @ TBA

-LIC - Saturday Nov. 7th @ TBA

AA Classification Playoffs

-First Round- Monday, October 19th, 2026 @ higher seed

-Quarter Finals-Friday October 23rd, 2026 @ higher seed

-Semi Finals-Wednesday, October 28th, 2026 @ CSH (5:30pm/7:30pm)

-County Finals - Monday Nov 2nd, 2026 @
-LIC - Saturday Nov. 7th @ TBA

A Classification Playoffs

-Quarter Finals-Tuesday, October 20th 2026 @ higher seed
-Semi Finals-Monday, October 26th, 2026 @ CSH (5:30pm/7:30pm)
-County Finals -Friday, October 31st, 2026 @ TBA
-LIC - @ TBA

B Classification Playoffs

-Semi Finals- Saturday, October 24th, 2025 @ higher seed and time determined by higher seed
-County Finals - Thurs. 10/29 @
-LIC - @TBA

NYSPHSAA State Tournament

Friday, November 13 - Travel Day, Championship packet on NYSPHSAA Website

Saturday November 14th and Sunday, November 15, 2026 @ SUNY Cortland

-Nassau County Girls Soccer Awards Banquet—Monday November 30th, 2026 @
Crest Hollow Country Club

Fall 2025 Regular Season Final Standings

CONFERENCES

- Fall 2025 Regular Season

AAA/AA 1

- Fall 2025 Regular Season

TEAM	W	L	T	PTS	GF	GA	+/-	DIVISION
 Garden City	8	1	2	26	25	6	19	8-1-2
 Southside	8	3	1	25	28	9	19	8-3-1
 Oceanside	6	4	2	20	22	12	10	6-4-2
 Massapequa	5	5	2	17	12	11	1	5-5-2
 Syosset	2	6	4	10	13	25	-12	2-6-4
 Port Washington	3	8	1	10	12	35	-23	3-8-1
 MacArthur	2	7	2	8	9	23	-14	2-7-2

AAA/AA 2

- Fall 2025 Regular Season

TEAM	W	L	T	PTS	GF	GA	+/-	DIVISION
 Calhoun	9	4	1	27	22	12	10	7-4-1
 Carey	8	3	2	26	27	12	15	8-2-2
 Bethpage	6	4	2	20	26	19	7	6-4-2
 Long Beach	6	4	2	20	20	20	0	6-4-2
 Mepham	5	4	3	18	15	14	1	5-4-3
 Manhasset	2	8	2	8	14	27	-13	2-8-2
 Plainview JFK	1	9	2	5	10	28	-18	1-9-2

AAA/AA 3

- Fall 2025 Regular Season

TEAM	W	L	T	PTS	GF	GA	+/-	DIVISION
 Farmingdale	10	1	3	33	39	14	25	10-1-3
 Bellmore	10	2	2	32	32	21	11	10-2-2
 Roslyn	9	3	2	29	47	26	21	9-3-2
 Herricks	8	5	1	25	29	22	7	8-5-1
 East Meadow	3	7	4	13	17	31	-14	3-7-4
 Baldwin	2	9	3	9	16	29	-13	2-9-3
 New Hyde Park	2	10	3	9	22	46	-24	2-9-3
 Division	2	10	2	8	21	36	-15	2-10-2



AAA/AA 4

- Fall 2025 Regular Season

TEAM	W	L	T	PTS	GF	GA	+/-	DIVISION
Hewlett	10	1	1	31	43	20	23	10-1-1
Jericho	10	1	1	31	33	11	22	10-1-1
Glen Cove	7	4	1	22	36	28	8	7-4-1
Great Neck North	3	6	3	12	18	26	-8	3-6-3
Clarke	2	6	4	10	20	28	-8	2-6-4
Hicksville	2	9	2	8	18	41	-23	2-8-2
Great Neck South	0	8	4	4	12	29	-17	0-8-4



AAA/AA 5

- Fall 2025 Regular Season

TEAM	W	L	T	PTS	GF	GA	+/-	DIVISION
Valley Stream Central	17	0	0	51	91	9	82	16-0-0
Uniondale	12	3	1	37	62	20	42	12-3-1
Malverne/ER	7	3	0	21	32	19	13	7-3-0
Westbury	5	8	2	17	29	40	-11	5-8-2
Freeport	5	5	0	15	23	20	3	5-5-0
Roosevelt	5	11	0	15	27	45	-18	5-11-0
Elmont	4	9	3	15	16	47	-31	4-9-3
Sewanhaka	2	7	1	7	13	43	-30	2-7-1
Hempstead	0	10	1	1	3	50	-47	0-10-1

A/B 1

- Fall 2025 Regular Season

TEAM	W	L	T	PTS	GF	GA	+/-	DIVISION
 Seaford	7	0	4	25	38	9	29	6-0-4
 Plainedge	7	2	2	23	35	11	24	6-2-2
 Wantagh	7	2	1	22	21	10	11	7-2-1
 Floral Park	3	5	2	11	9	16	-7	3-5-2
 North Shore	2	7	1	7	9	29	-20	2-7-1
 Cold Spring Harbor	1	9	0	3	4	31	-27	1-9-0

A/B 2

- Fall 2025 Regular Season

TEAM	W	L	T	PTS	GF	GA	+/-	DIVISION
 Lynbrook	9	1	1	28	29	10	19	9-0-1
 Carle Place	7	3	1	22	23	21	2	5-3-1
 Island Trees	4	2	4	16	16	11	5	4-2-4
 Wheatley	5	7	0	15	20	28	-8	4-6-0
 Friends	2	5	2	8	10	18	-8	2-5-2
 Mineola	0	8	2	2	9	26	-17	0-8-2

A/B 3

- Fall 2025 Regular Season

TEAM	W	L	T	PTS	GF	GA	+/-	DIVISION
 Oyster Bay	10	1	0	30	37	6	31	10-0-0
 Locust Valley	7	3	1	22	31	8	23	7-2-1
 Valley Stream North	5	5	0	15	32	25	7	5-5-0
 Valley Stream South	4	5	1	13	18	18	0	4-5-1
 West Hempstead	1	7	0	3	7	36	-29	1-7-0
 Lawrence	0	8	0	0	2	36	-34	0-8-0

**Nassau County Girls Soccer Coaches Association
2026 Alignment Proposal**



AAA (15 schools) / AA (22 schools) Classification Ability within Enrollment --

2x-(12 team conference) -11 games & 5 non league games

1x-(13 team conference)- 12 games & 4 non league games

Playoffs-

AAA -8 team playoff bracket

AA- 12 team playoff bracket

<u>Conference 1</u>	<u>Conference 2</u>	<u>Conference 3</u>
1-Garden City-AA	1-Manhasset-AA	1-Glen Cove-AA
2-Southside-AA	2-Farmingdale-AAA	2-Great Neck North- AA
3-Oceanside-AAA	3-Plainview JFK-AAA	3-Hicksville-AAA
4-Massapequa -AAA	4-Bellmore-AA	4-Valley Stream Central-AA
5-Syosset-AAA	5-Roslyn-AA	5-Great Neck South- AAA
6-Port Washington-AAA	6-Herricks-AAA	6-Uniondale-AAA
7-Calhoun-AA	7-East Meadow-AAA	7-Malverne/ER-AA
8-MacArthur-AA	8-Baldwin-AAA	8-Westbury-AAA
9-Carey-AA	9-New Hyde Park-AA	9-Freeport-AAA
10-Bethpage-AA	10-Hewlett- AA	10-Roosevelt-AA
11-Long Beach-AA	11-Division-AA	11-Elmont-AA
12-Mephram-AA	12-Jericho-AA	12-Sewanhaka- AA
		13-Hempstead-AAA

Class AAA - Playoffs

- All 4 Teams in Conference 1 qualify and will be seeded by place of finish
- Top 3 Teams in Conference 2 qualify and will be seeded 5, 6, 7
- If Class AAA in Team in Conference 3 is the Conference Champion they will qualify and be seeded 8th.
- If AA school is conference Champion the 8th seed will go to the 4th place AAA finisher and have a play-in game with the top Conference 3 AAA team. That AAA team must win 9 games.

Class AA - Playoffs

- All 8 Teams in Conference I will qualify for the Playoffs and will be seeded in order of finish
- Top 3 Teams in Conference II will qualify for the playoffs and be seeded 9, 10, 11
- If the Class AA Team in Conference III is the conference Champion they will qualify and be seeded 12th. If a Conference AAA school is the conference Champion the 12th seed in Class AA will go to the 4th place finisher
- If a 2nd Class AA team has 9 wins they will qualify for a play-in game with the 4th place Class AA finisher in conference 2

Fall 2026 Schedules -AAA/AA- Conference 1 & 2- (12 team conference)

9/1	9/4	9/9	9/15	9/19	9/23	9/29	10/5	10/9	10/12	10/15
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2@1	12@2	5@8	8@2	12@8	4@2	8@1	11@12	4@7	7@12	11@7
3@12	1@7	6@7	9@12	2@7	5@12	9@7	6@1	5@6	8@11	12@6
4@11	8@6	12@1	10@11	3@6	6@11	10@6	7@5	1@11	9@10	2@5
5@10	9@5	2@11	1@5	4@5	7@10	11@5	8@4	12@10	4@1	3@4
6 @ 9	10@4	3@10	6@4	10@1	8@9	12@4	9@3	2@9	5@3	1@9
7 @ 8	11@3	4@9	7@3	11@9	1@3	2@3	10@2	3@8	6@2	10@8

• **AAA/AA- Conference 3- (13 team conference)**

9/2	9/5	9/10	9/14	9/16	9/18	9/24
1@2	8@9	2@3	9@10	324	10@11	4@5
7@9	1@3	8@10	2@4	9@11	3@5	10@12
3@13	7@10	1@4	8@11	2@5	9@12	3@6
6@10	4@13	7@11	1@5	8@12	2@6	9@13
4@12	6@11	5@13	7@12	1@6	8@13	2@7
5@11	5@12	6@12	6@13	7@13	1@7	1@8
8-BYE	2-BYE	9-BYE	3-BYE	10-BYE	4-BYE	11-BYE

9/26	9/30	10/3	10/7	10/10	10/14
11@12	5@6	12@13	6@7	1@13	7@8
4@6	11@13	5@7	1@12	6@8	2@13
10@13	4@7	1@11	5@8	2@12	6@9
3@7	1@10	4@8	2@11	5@9	3@12
1@9	3@8	2@10	4@9	3@11	5@10
2@8	2@9	3@9	3@10	4@10	4@11
5-BYE	12-BYE	6-BYE	13-BYE	7-BYE	1-BYE

**Nassau County Girls Soccer Coaches Association
2026 Alignment Proposal**



A (15 schools) / B (5 schools) Classification

2x-(6 team conferences) - 10 games & 6 non league games

1x-7 team Conference - 12 games & 4 non league games

Playoffs-

A -8 team playoff bracket

B- 5 team playoff bracket

Conference A/B-1	Conference A/B-2	Conference A/B-3
1-Seafood-A	1-Cold Spring Harbor-B	1-Clarke-A
2-Plainedge-A	2-Carle Place-B	2-Mineola- A
3-Wantagh-A	3-Island Trees-A	3-Locust Valley-A
4-Floral Park - A	4-Wheatley-B	4-Valley Stream North-A
5-North Shore-A	5-Friends - A	5-Valley Stream South-A
6-Lynbrook-A	6-Oyster Bay-B	6-West Hempstead-B
		7-Lawrence-A
		- Academy Charter (JV Only)
		Evergreen Charter (JV Only)

Class A Playoffs

- All 6 Teams in conference A1 qualify for the playoffs
- Top Class A school, in conference A/B-2, qualifies as the 7th seed
- If class A is Conference Champion in conference 3, they qualify as the 8th seed
- If the next class A school in conference 3 has 9 wins they will qualify for a play-in game against the 2nd place Class A finisher in conference 2

Class B Playoffs

- Top 4 teams in conference 2 will qualify for the playoffs
- Teams will be seeded by order of finish
- If the Conference 3 champion is from class B, they will qualify and play the 4 seed

Fall 2026 Schedule

-A / B - Conference 1 & 2

9/1	9/4	9/9	9/17	9/23
2@1	3@4	6@4	4@1	5@6
3@6	6@1	2@3	5@3	1@3
4@5	2@5	1@5	6@2	4@2

9/29	10/2	10/5	10/9	10/14
1@1	4@3	4@6	1@4	6@5
6@3	1@6	3@2	3@5	3@1
5@4	5@2	5@1	2@6	2@4

● **A/B- Conference - 3**

8/31	9/3	9/8	9/14	9/17	9/19	9/22
1 @ 6	4 @ 2	2 @ 7	5 @ 3	3 @ 1	6 @ 4	7 @ 5
2 @ 5	5 @ 1	3 @ 6	6 @ 2	4 @ 7	7 @ 3	1 @ 4
3 @ 4	6 @ 7	4 @ 5	7 @ 1	5 @ 6	1 @ 2	2 @ 3
7 – Bye	3 – Bye	1 – Bye	4 – Bye	2 – Bye	5 – Bye	6 – Bye

9/25	9/28	10/1	10/6	10/8	10/11	10/13
6 @ 1	2 @ 4	7 @ 2	3 @ 5	1 @ 3	4 @ 6	5 @ 7
5 @ 2	1 @ 5	6 @ 3	2 @ 6	7 @ 4	3 @ 7	4 @ 1
4 @ 3	7 @ 6	5 @ 4	1 @ 7	6 @ 5	2 @ 1	3 @ 2
7 – Bye	3 – Bye	1 – Bye	4 – Bye	2 – Bye	5 – Bye	6 – Bye

Nassau County Girls Soccer Coaches Association



GIRLS SOCCER SEEDING CRITERIA

SCORING:

Win- 3 Points

Tie - 1 Point

Loss- 0 Points

Play-In Game Criteria-

-All ties on points for the last playoff spot in conferences will be decided by a “play-in” game. The site of the game will be determined by the seeding criteria listed below.

TIE BREAKERS FOR TOURNAMENT SEEDING ONLY:

(2 teams already qualified for the playoffs but tied in points)

1. Head to Head.
2. Record against teams in your conference in descending order. (top to bottom)
3. Most wins in Conference record
4. Aggregate score between teams that are tied.
5. Least total amount of cards (yellow & red combined between coaches/players)

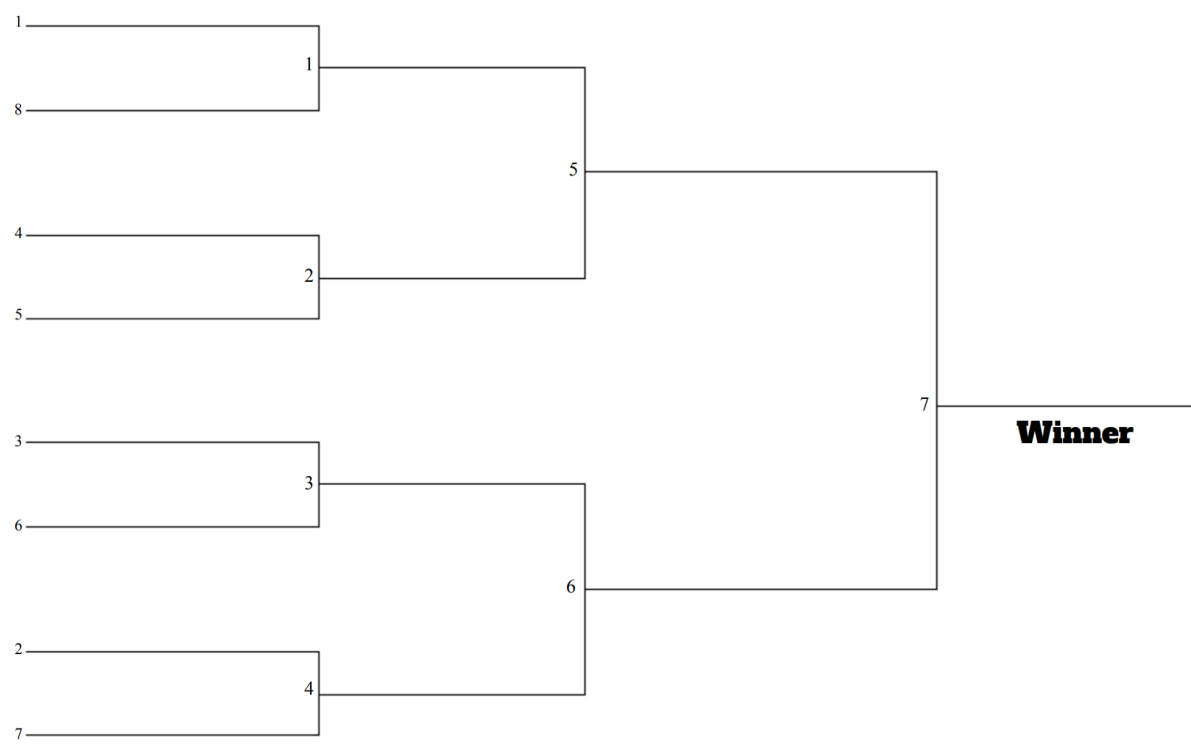
**If all tie breakers are not broken after the 5th criteria, the executive committee will make a final decision.

3 WAY TIE BREAKER

Take the three teams and look at their records against one another. Whichever team (s) has the best record moves on. After that, then you use the two-team tie breaker.

Class AAA & Class A Playoff Bracket 2025

8 Team Single Elimination



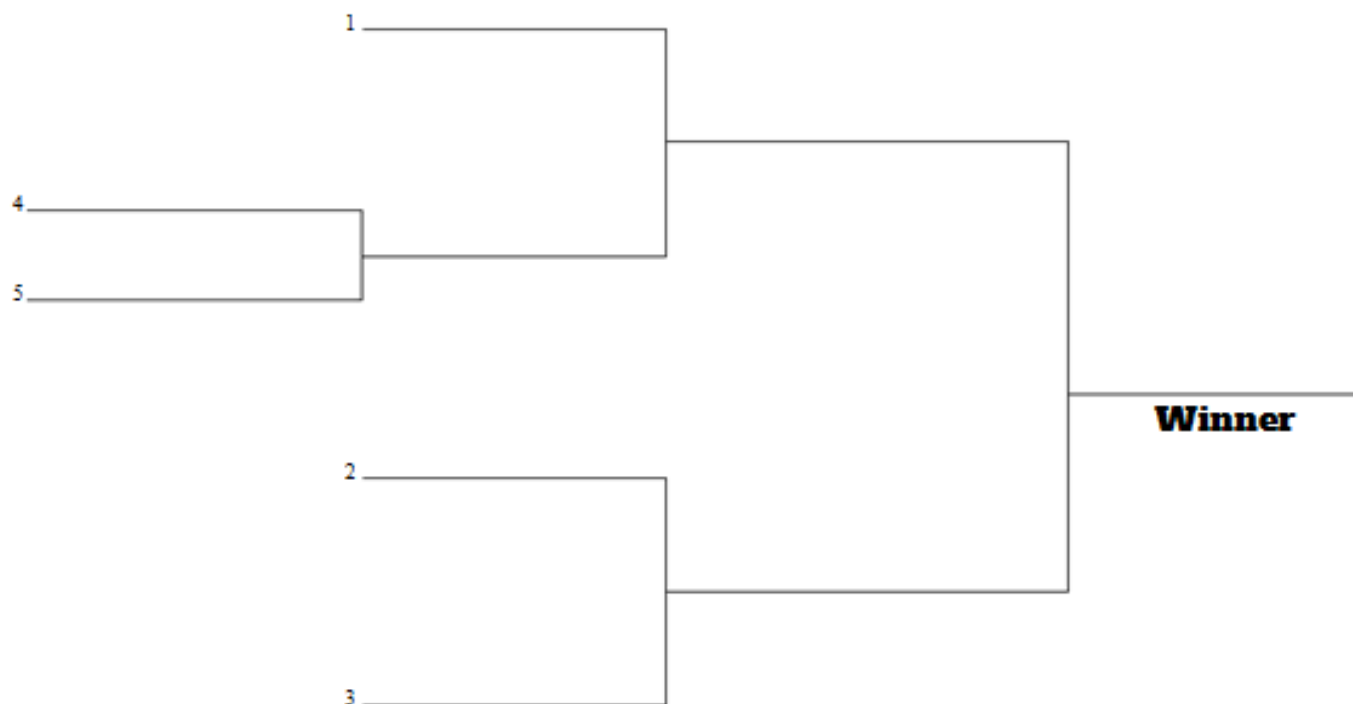
12 Team Single Elimination



PrintYourBrackets.com

Class B Playoff Bracket 2025

5 Team Single Elimination



PrintYourBrackets.com

SECTION VIII NASSAU COUNTY PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION POST SEASON PLAY

1. **Sports Committee-** will meet on October 17th at 7pm prior to the coaches meeting to determine seeds and placement for the playoffs.

2. **Withdrawal-** If a school withdraws after the tournament bracket is finalized or while the tournament is in progress, the opposing team will receive a BYE and automatically advance to the next round of play. It is advised that a coach does not take his or her team out of the tournament without prior approval of his/her Athletic Director.
3. **Site-** All preliminary qualifiers and quarterfinal games are to be played at the higher seed. If this site is unavailable, the sports committee will provide a suitable site. The opponent's field is an option.
4. **Game Balls-** All playoff games **MUST** be played with the Spalding TF 5000.
5. **Ball Personnel-** Each school should make a provision to have ball people to assist with the movement of the game. Their service must be provided for the entire contest. Both coaches must agree to any variation.
6. **Scorers-** Each team should provide a scorer, preferably an adult.
7. **Supervision-** Each school is to provide at least three (3) adults, paid by that school, who will report to the scorer's table and the sports committee before the game. These supervisors MUST wear some type of clothing identifying themselves.
8. **Team Area-** Each team will be issued a maximum of five (5) sideline passes for the semifinal and final game of the tournament. These passes are for the coach, athletic trainer, administration, etc. **NO ONE WILL BE PERMITTED NEAR THE TEAM BENCH WITHOUT A SIDELINE PASS.** The HOME team will occupy the bench to the right of the scorer's table as you face the field.
9. **Procedure for Breaking a Tie-** In case of ties at the end of regulation time, there will be two (2) 15 minute overtime sudden victory periods. An official game ends at the end of these two overtime periods. If the score is still tied, the teams will go to penalty shots.
10. **If the regulation game is not played in its entirety, in case of a tie, the entire game must be played over.** Sudden victory and penalty shots will resume at the point that they were ended.

11. PENALTY SHOTS:

- a. The winner of the coin toss will have the option to shoot first or second. This order will remain the same until a winner is determined.
- b. Each coach will submit a list of five (5) players and the order that they will shoot. These players can be anyone on the team including the goalie. Disqualified players cannot be used. This group goes to completion or until a winner is determined.
- c. If still tied, after the first group of shooters, five different players will be submitted and a sudden victory situation exists after each pair of shooters.

d. If still tied, after the second group of shooters, any list of five players will be submitted and a sudden victory situation exists after each pair of shooters. These players may come from the first two groups. This step is continued until a winner is determined.

12. **LATE START-** The home team must wait 30 minutes from the scheduled start of the game for the visiting team to arrive. (Schools should use discretion when waiting for teams to arrive. The game will NOT be forfeited and will be made up at another date.

13. **Inclement Weather-** Prior to playing at a neutral site, the site director will contact the participating schools to reach a decision. The home team (host) will notify the officials when the game is called off. When using a neutral site, the section coordinator will contact the participating schools. In the early rounds it is possible that only part of a bracket will be played. As per the Section VIII Policy, if lightning is observed, activity will be suspended immediately. Shelter should be sought in appropriate locations. Before resuming the contest, officials should wait a minimum of 30 minutes after the last observable lightning strike.

14. **Suspension/Termination of Games-** Once a game has begun, it is the responsibility of the game officials to determine whether a site is suitable for play or not. Game officials should consult with participating coaches and the site chairperson before making their decision. IT IS SOLELY THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE GAME OFFICIALS TO MAKE THE DECISION! The safety of the participants is the FIRST PRIORITY when making a decision. If a game is suspended during the first half and is not able to be resumed that day, it must be replayed in its entirety from the start. If a game is suspended during the second half, it shall be restarted from the point of suspension (including overtime and tie-breaking procedures). In the regular season if a game is suspended/terminated due to weather the game is continued the next day (available day) from the time the game was declared unplayable. Both coaches must record the time and the score that the game will resume.

15. **Home Team-** The higher seeded teams are considered the home teams during the entire tournament. The home team MUST wear a Dark jersey and Dark socks.

16. **Reporting Scores-**The winning coach should update on website, Newsday online and the Section Coordinator: Mike Bongino WORK: 631-367-6826 or MOBILE: 516-241-3805 – EMAIL: mbongino@csh.k12.ny.us- Lauren Brossard- 516-317-4715 - email: laurenbrossard@gmail.com
Emails and Texts are encouraged!

17. **Practices-** No visiting teams should request to practice or scrimmage on the host school's field. Neither team should request a practice on any neutral site to be used in the tournament.

Section VIII Girls' Soccer Official Selection/Post Season Play

The top ranked officials who qualify for the current season will be placed on the officials' sheet for coaches to rank. Each coach will rank the officials' 1-12 along with their "non-preferred list" of officials which will consist of up to only 3 names.

The first round of playoffs will be determined by official's rankings and matchups between the two schools competing. After the first round officials' assignments will be determined by the two teams competing. A team may not get the same officials in the

first two rounds. Teams may see a repeat of officials in the semifinal and final due to availability and rank. The pairing for the semifinal and final will be a three-man system, 2 linesmen and 1 referee.

The entire playoff bracket official's assignments will be determined by the 2 schools competing.

All coaches with teams that qualify for postseason play will rank the officials via email or Fax and submit to Grace Chianese, Assistant Executive Director (Girl's Athletics) from BOCES will be present to assist and provide copies of the seedlings once they are completed.

Copies must also be sent to Coordinator Mike Bongino- mbongino@csh.k12.ny.us
And President Lauren Brossard - laurenbrossard@gmail.com

TOURNAMENT PROTEST PROCEDURE

1.
 - A. Protest must deal with rule interpretation or procedure, not judgment.
 - B. If the coach feels that there are grounds for protest, he/she must announce to the other coach and to the officials that a protest is being made. The reason and time into the game must be noted into both scorebooks. At that point, the protest committee will make a decision and the game will continue from the time of the protest. All protests must be ruled on by committee before the teams leave the area of play. The decision of the committee is final.
 - C. During the final and semi final rounds, the protest committee shall consist of:
 - a. Back up official (Official who will serve as a time at the table).
 - b. Site supervisor appointed by the sports committee.

- c. Section Chairperson- If the section chairperson is unavailable, the site the supervisor will appoint a third person before the game begins.
 - d. In all situations, the site supervisor is responsible for setting up a three (3) person protest committee before the game. The names of the members of the the protest committee shall be recorded in both scorebooks.
- 2. Ejections for Unsportsmanlike Conduct- A game suspension will occur during the next round of the tournament. If that player's team is no longer in the tournament, the incident will be reviewed by the Section VIII Sportsmanship Committee and the suspension will be carried over to the next season.

PROCEDURES FOR PROTESTS

- 1. The protesting coach will inform the referee and the opposing coach at that point in the game immediately following the situation.
- 2. The time, score and situation will be identified in the scorebook, by an official or both coaches, as soon as the protest is announced to the officials and the opposing coach.
- 3. A subsequent protest in the same game will be required to be announced and recorded, using the same procedures described above for each specific point of protest.
- 4. The protesting coach is required to notify the conference chairperson and sport coordinator within 48 hours of the contest.
- 5. The protesting coach is required to file a written protest giving specific details of the situation, time, and score to the conference president within 48 hours of the conference. This report must be accompanied by a \$75.00 check payable to the Section VIII Athletic Council.
- 6. The protest will require the signatures of the coach, Athletic Director, and the Principal of the school.
- 7. Copies of the protest must be sent to the sports coordinator, the protest chairperson, and the opposing coach within 48 hours of the contest by the protesting coach.
- 8. The Section VIII sport coordinator will notify the Executive Director of Section VIII who, in turn will notify the game officials involved and direct that a written statement from the game officials be filed with the sport coordinator within 24 hours.
- 9. The sport coordinator will arrange for a meeting as soon as possible and have represented:
 - a. The protesting coach
 - b. The opposing coach
 - c. A rules interpreter
 - d. Sport committee (Girls Soccer)
- 10. Attendance of the game officials involved in the protested contest will be mandatory, unless extenuating circumstances preclude their attendance.

PROTEST COMMITTEE OPTIONS:

- To deny the protest
- To uphold the protest and direct that the game be replayed from the point of protest

- To uphold the protest and direct that the game be replayed in its entirety
- To deny the protest and recommend some further action by the Section VIII High School Association
- To uphold and protest and recommend some further action by the Section VIII High School Association

11. An appeal of the decision of the protest committee be made. This request must be filed within 72 hours of notification of this decision to the Section VIII Appeals Committee upon submission of a \$75.00 fee (A second fee if original protester).

12. In the case of a Protest or an Appeal that is upheld, the fee will be returned.

The **Concussion Management and Awareness Act** will go into effect on July 1, 2012 for all public schools and charter schools. The items listed below are required for school districts to be in compliance with the law. Some of the items are specifically spelled out in the law and others have been recommended by the State Education Department and the Department of Health and approved by the State Board of Regents.

Requirements of School Districts

Education:

Each school coach, physical education teacher, nurse, and athletic trainer will have to complete an approved course on concussion management on a biennial basis, starting with the 2012-2013 school year.

- School coaches and physical education teachers must complete the CDC course.
(www.cdc.gov/concussion/HeadsUp/online_training.html)
- School nurses and certified athletic trainers must complete the concussion course.
(<http://preventingconcussions.org>)

Information:

Provide concussion management information and sign off with any parental permission form.

The NYSPHSAA will provide a pamphlet to member schools on the concussion management information for parents.

The concussion management and awareness information or the State Education Department's website must be made available on the school website, if one exists.

Removal from athletics:

Require the immediate removal from athletic activities of any pupil that has or is believed to have sustained a mild traumatic brain injury.

No pupils will be allowed to resume athletic activity until they have been symptom free for 24 hours and have been evaluated by and received written and signed authorization from a licensed physician. For interscholastic athletics, clearance must come from the school medical director.

- Such authorization must be kept in the pupil's permanent health record.

- Schools shall follow directives issued by the pupil's treating physician.

State Education Department's Guidance for Concussion Management

Schools are advised to develop a written concussion management policy. A sample policy is available on the NYSPHSAA website at www.nysphsaa.org. The policy should include:

- A commitment to reduce the risk of head injuries.
- A procedure and treatment plan developed by the district medical director.
- A procedure to ensure proper education for school nurses, certified athletic trainers, physical education teachers, and coaches.
- A procedure for a coordinated communication plan among appropriate staff.
- A procedure for periodic review of the concussion management program.

Post Concussion Management

- **Cognitive rest** requires the student to avoid participation in, or exposure to, activities that require concentration or mental stimulation.
- **Physical rest** includes getting adequate sleep, taking frequent rest periods, and avoiding physical activity that requires exertion.
- **Return to school activities** may begin once a medical provider clears the student and may recommend a graduated return to activities, after the student has been symptom free for 24 hours. For physical activities, please refer to Zurich Guidelines which can be found at www.nysphsaa.org.

Schools may develop a **Concussion Management Team** to help guide and implement the program.

- The team may include, but is not limited to, students, parents/guardians, school administrators, medical director, private medical provider, school nurse, director of PE, certified athletic trainer, physical education teachers, coaches, and regular education teachers.

SECTION VIII OUT OF SPORTS SEASON ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION POLICY

In order to protect all eligible student-athletes from exploitation and coercion, the following principles should be adhered to:

- We, all member districts, do not limit individual students' opportunities to participate in other sports and athletic experiences.
- We do not exert pressure on student athletes to participate in an athletic activity outside of any sport season (as defined by the Section).
- We support and preserve the integrity of each interscholastic sports program by enforcing these principles.
- We ensure that the spirit and intent of this policy be understood and adhered to by all members of the Section.

To that end, the following guidelines will be in force replacing the former "Camp and Recreation Rule":

- Section VIII members will conduct programs which are recreational in nature as defined by this regulation. Intramurals, strength and conditioning programs, and recreation programs which are **open to all students** are permitted.
- During any approved activity **individual sport skills** may be taught to students.

- The same opportunity for instruction and personal improvement must be available to all students participating in the activity.
 - **Team strategy and roster specific workouts limited to members of an athletic team are prohibited.**
 - Recreational activities must be open and publicized to all eligible bona fide students. During the summer, Section VIII members may conduct leagues, camps, clinics, and similar activities at their facilities. Members shall observe the starting and ending dates of each sports season as set by the Section annually.
 - It is also the spirit of this rule that we encourage, enable, and permit athletes to participate in more than one sport during the course of the year. Students should not be coerced to participate in other activities organized during a specified sports season to maintain good standing in an out of season sport. It is the responsibility of the local athletic administrator to regulate, monitor, and require compliance with the tenets of this rule for it to be effectively observed. All who are concerned with the proper conduct and with the intent and spirit of any interscholastic sport are obligated to report any violation or perceived violation to the Ethics Committee through the Executive Director's office. All violations will be adjudicated by the Ethics Committee which could result in forfeiture of eligibility and/or sanctions of the students, teams, coaches, or schools involved.
- It is recommended that this policy and standard be made available to all students, parents, coaches and other school personnel concerned with the conduct of our interscholastic programs.
- Approved June 9, 2004
Athletic Council

Request for Medical Waiver of NYSPHSAA – Regulation #25

To be eligible for sectional, intersectional or state competition, a team must have competed in six (6) school scheduled contests during the season. To be eligible for sectional, intersectional or state competition, a team must have competed in six (6) school-scheduled contests which occurred on six different dates during the season. An individual is eligible for the team if he/she has been an eligible participant on a team in that sport in that school for a minimum of six (6) scheduled contests during the regular season. For football, a student must be an eligible participant for a minimum of three (3) contests. Contestants in individual sports (archery, badminton, bowling, cross country, fencing, golf, gymnastics, rifle, skiing, swimming tennis, outdoor track, winter track and wrestling) must also have represented their school in six (6) scheduled contests during the season to be eligible. These required contests must occur on six different dates and must be concluded prior to the conclusion of the team's regular schedule.

School

Sport

Athlete

Date Request Submitted

Nature of Injury/Illness

Date of Injury/Onset of Illness

Date of Medical Clearance

Record of Participation in Competitions (Exclusive of Section Tournaments): *For Wrestling Only

	DATE	OPPONENT		* Weigh-in validated by Athletic Director
1.			*	
	_____	_____		_____
2.			*	
	_____	_____		_____
3.			*	
	_____	_____		_____
4.			*	
	_____	_____		_____
5.			*	
	_____	_____		_____

Note:

All pertinent medical documentation must accompany this request before it will be considered. Such material MUST VERIFY the date of onset of the illness/injury and date physical activity may resume. NOTES FROM PHYSICAL THERAPISTS ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE.

Medical Documents Attached:

1.

2.

3.

4.

Request and documentation must be received by the sport coordinator and the Section VIII Office prior to the last league contest.

Approved by the Athletic Council - 2005

ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

**SECTION VIII UNSPORTSMANLIKE
BEHAVIOR/INCIDENT/DISQUALIFICATION REPORT**

This report is to be completed and submitted by game officials and athletic directors of both schools within 24 hours of the incident and/or violation.

Sport: _____ Level: _____ Date of the event: _____

Home School:_____ vs. Opponent:_____

Player(s) / Coach(es) / Official(s) / Spectator(s) Involved:

Name _____ School _____ Number _____

Name _____ School _____ Number _____

Brief description of the incident (attach additional documentation if necessary):

Action taken:

Supervisor(s):

Name _____ School _____ Phone _____

Name _____ School _____ Phone _____

Official(s) assigned:

Name _____ Number _____ Phone _____

Name _____ Number _____ Phone _____

Person filing this report:

Name _____ Position _____ School _____

Complete and return via e-mail to:

Patrick Pizzarelli: PPizzarelli@nasboces.org

Jim Amen: jamen@csh.k12.ny.us

Athletic Director _____

(or acting administrator)



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 RealFeel temperature (heat index).
- If the RealFeel temperature (heat index) is 90 degrees or above, the athletic trainer, athletic director, or school designee must re-check the RealFeel (heat index) at halftime or midway point of the contest. If the RealFeel (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:

	RealFeel (Heat Index) under 79 degrees	Full activity. No restrictions
RECOMMENDED	Heat Index Caution: RealFeel (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: RealFeel (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 RealFeel 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: RealFeel (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 RealFeel 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: RealFeel (Heat Index) 96 degrees or greater	No outside activity, practice or contest, should be held. Inside activity should only be held if air conditioned.

Approved May 1, 2010



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, 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.