

Section VIII

Girls Basketball Handbook

2026 - 2027



May 2026

Message from Section VIII Coordinator

Micheal Pelan

The Section VIII Girls' Basketball 2026-2027 Handbook is updated annually and distributed to all people involved during the basketball season. The purpose of the manual is to inform you of the methods and procedures to be applied for the 2026-2027 Season. Please *read it thoroughly*.

REMINDER: EACH PROGRAM IS ALLOWED 20 VARSITY AND 19 JUNIOR VARSITY GAMES

We would like to thank everyone involved in girls' basketball for all their support and hard work during the 2025/2026 season. It was a great year, and it couldn't have been achieved without everyone's cooperation.

We would also be remiss in not thanking the members of the Girls' Basketball Committee. Without their hard work and tireless efforts, we would not have the outstanding program that we currently have.

On behalf of the Basketball Committee, we would like to wish you the very best of luck during the season and hope your basketball experience will be both successful and rewarding. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at:

E-mail: mpelan@malverneschools.org

Board of Directors for NCGBCA

Meredith Jones - President (Freeport)

Keith Freund - VP (North Shore)

Dave Stein - Treasurer (Farmingdale)

Stephanie Bartkus - Secretary (Seaford)

Conference Coordinators and Playoff Committee:

AAA - TBA

AAA - Tom Catapano (Baldwin)

AA1 - Dave Radke (MacArthur)

AA2 - TBA

AA3 – Alex Soupios (Sewanhaka)

A1 - Mike Spina (Floral Park)

A2 - Stephanie Bartkus (Seaford)

A/B3 - Rory Malone (CSH)

Stan Bujacich (Wantagh) (BCANY Rep)

Michael Bello (NHP)

Lopsided Policy

Philosophy: "Section VIII Athletic Programs are educationally based designed to encourage safety, participation and sportsmanship." Contributors of Section VIII for all playing levels (V, JV, JH) feel that this policy will serve to provide a wider range of players with additional playing time while keeping the game competitive.

Guidelines: Each sport coordinator will be charged with writing guidelines, to be included in the sport overview, for coaches to follow while competing during the season. This policy will enforce written guidelines for each sport.

First Reported Incident: If the score exceeds the written sport guidelines, a report must be submitted online on the 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. The form will include recording the score and a statement to be made by the sender: In your opinion, was this an infraction of the sport guidelines set for the score differential, YES or NO. A notification of this report will be sent to school's athletic director, principal, and superintendent. If report indicated YES, it will be reviewed by the sport coordinator, coach's association president and office of the executive director and if warranted, a letter of warning will be issued by the office of the Executive Director to the athletic director, principal and superintendent of the offending school.

Second Reported Incident (In the Same Season): A second reported incident involving a coach will be communicated to all the listed above, but the details involved will be addressed by a committee of: Sport Coordinator, Coaches Association President, office of the Executive Director, HSAA President, Sportsmanship Chairperson, and OCC President. The committee will consider evidence (scorebooks, video, written/verbal reports from both coaches and officials) to determine if an adequate attempt was made to mitigate the score. The coach will be suspended during the pending review by this committee, pending an appeal from the athletic director. A letter of reprimand with a recommendation of consequences will be issued by the office of the Executive Director to the athletic director, principal and superintendent of the offending schools.

Third Reported Incident (In the Same Season): A third reported incident involving a coach will be referred to the committee that met in the second incident, with an immediate suspension with no appeal from the athletic director until the incident is ruled upon. This may lead to more severe disciplinary action, including suspension for the remainder of the season. Such disciplinary action could carry over into subsequent sports seasons. Additional consequences may also be recommended by the office of the Executive Director.

Girls Basketball Lopsided Policy

The Section VIII Athletic Council has asked that all sports adopt a lopsided score policy. In the event a team(s) does not adhere to the policy, there will be an investigation and findings brought to a Section VIII lopsided score committee. They will decide if it warrants any type of action like a coach suspension.

- When two Section VIII teams are playing and the point differential is 35 points, policy is as follows:
 - If your team can clear the bench and play the 2nd and 3rd string, you should. If your team does not have 5 backups to put in, you are to teach the starters that are in to navigate and share the ball for the 2nd and 3rd string players to score. Each team MUST make every attempt to keep the main(better) players from dominating and scoring. They are to assist the backups to gain more game experience and chances to be involved.
 - There is to be no pressing and trapping (Full or Half Court) by EITHER defense.
 - Defense for BOTH teams should wait at the 3-point line and in.
 - Teams can play man or zone but still NO Trapping.
 - The winning team should make an attempt not to fast break.
- If the losing team gets a score to 20 points or below, starting players may come back into the game. If the score gets back to a 35 points differential, both teams must follow the policy stated above.
- All scores that exceed 35 points will be reported to the sports coordinator and an investigation will take place into account why this happened. The lopsided score committee, AD's and Coaches from both schools will meet to discuss the possibility of a consequence.

LEAGUE OVERVIEW & PLAYOFF CRITERIA “AAA” CLASSIFICATION

WE ARE IN THE 15TH YEAR OF OUR POPULATION BASED SYSTEM

THE “AAA” SCHOOLS ARE COMPETING IN ONE CONFERENCE

Total “AAA” Schools = 16 “AAA” Playoff Spots = 8+

AAA - I

Syosset

Freeport

Uniondale

Massapequa

Hempstead – JV only

Plainview OB-JFK

Farmingdale

Hicksville

Port Washington

Oceanside

East Meadow

Herricks

Westbury

Baldwin

Great Neck South

Academy/Uniondale Charter – JV only

- Top 8 finishers in AAA qualify for the playoffs
- In addition, any team with a .500 conference record or better will qualify for the playoffs
- Within the conference no team may be seeded higher than another team with a higher place of finish within the conference

TOURNAMENT SEEDING - CLASS AAA

The committee will consider the following (not listed in any specific order):

- Head-to-Head Record
- League Record
- Competition/Record against other league teams that have qualified for the playoffs
- Record against common opponents

LEAGUE OVERVIEW & PLAYOFF CRITERIA “AA” CLASSIFICATIONS

WE ARE IN THE 15TH YEAR OF OUR POPULATION BASED SYSTEM.

THE “AA” SCHOOLS ARE COMPETING IN THREE CONFERENCES

Total “AA” Schools = 21 “AA” Playoff Spots = 12+

AA-I

Valley Stream Central
MacArthur
Jericho
Calhoun
Long Beach
Mepham
Garden City

AA-II

Carey
Roslyn
John F Kennedy
Great Neck North
New Hyde Park
Roosevelt
Manhasset

AA-III

Sewanhaka
Glen Cove
Hewlett
Division Ave
Bethpage
Elmont
South Side

- Top 4 finishers in each conference qualify for the playoffs.
- In addition, any team with a .500 conference record or better will qualify for the playoffs
- Within the conference no team may be seeded higher than another team with a higher place of finish within the conference

TOURNAMENT SEEDING - CLASS AA

The committee will consider the following (not listed in any specific order):

- Head-to-Head Record
- League Record
- Records against teams in ascending order
- Competition/Record against other league teams that have qualified for the postseason
- Record against common opponents

LEAGUE OVERVIEW & PLAYOFF CRITERIA “A AND B” CLASSIFICATIONS

WE ARE IN THE 15TH YEAR OF OUR POPULATION BASED SYSTEM.

THE “A” SCHOOLS ARE COMPETING IN 2 CONFERENCES – A-I, A-II &

WE WILL HAVE A COMBINED A/B-III CONFERENCE

Total “A” Schools = 17 “A” Playoff Spots = 10+ Total “B” Schools 4 “B” Playoff Spots = 4

A-I

Clarke
Plainedge
Mineola
Wantagh
Lynbrook
Valley Stream North
Floral Park

A-II

Valley Stream South
North Shore
Lawrence
Island Trees
Seaford
Locust Valley
Friends Academy

A/B-III

Malverne (A)
Wheatley (A)
West Hempstead (A)
Cold Spring Harbor(B)
Carle Place (B)
Oyster Bay (B)
East Rockaway (B)

- Top 4 finishers in A-I, A-II, A/B-III qualify for the playoffs.
- Top 4 B schools will qualify for the playoffs
- In addition, any team with a .500 conference record or better will qualify for the playoffs
- Within the conference no team may be seeded higher than another team with a higher place of finish within the conference

TOURNAMENT SEEDING - CLASS A/B

The committee will consider the following (not listed in any specific order):

- Head-to-Head Record
- League Record
- Record against teams in ascending order
- Competition/Record against other league teams that have qualified for the postseason
- Record against common opponents

BREAKING TIES FOR SEEDING PURPOSES

BREAKING TIES WITHIN THE CONFERENCE FOR SEEDING PURPOSES

1. Head-to-Head in Conference Play
2. Record vs. Playoff Teams in your Conference
3. Tournament Committee Decision

BREAKING TIES WITHIN CLASSIFICATION FOR SEEDING PURPOSES

1. Conference Finish
2. Record vs. common Crossover Opponent
3. Tournament Committee Decision

The seeding committee's decisions are final

“AAA” CLASSIFICATION REGULAR SEASON 16-TEAM SCHEDULE

AAA - I

1-Syosset	9-Port Washington
2- Freeport	10-Oceanside
3- Uniondale	11-East Meadow
4-Massapequa	12-Herricks
5-Hempstead – JV only	13-Westbury
6-Plainview-JFK	14-Baldwin
7-Farmingdale	15-Great Neck South
8-Hicksville	16-Academy Charter

16 TEAM CONFERENCE – 14 LEAGUE GAMES AND 6 NON-LEAGUE GAME – Varsity

12/10	12/14	12/17	12/22	1/6	1/9	1/12	1/15	1/21	
1@16 15@2 14@3 4@13 6@11 10@7 8@9 12 -bye 5@12	15@1 2@13 16@14 12@3 11@4 9@6 8@7 10-bye 10@5	14@1 2@11 15@13 16@12 3@10 4@9 6@7 8-bye 5@8	13@1 9@2 12@14 11@15 10@16 8@3 7@4 6-bye 6@5	1@12 7@2 13@11 10@14 15@9 16@8 3@6 4-bye 4@5	11@1 10@12 9@13 8@14 7@15 16@6 3@4 2-bye 5@2	1@10 2@3 11@9 8@12 13@7 14@6 16@4 15-bye 15@5	2@1 3@16 4@15 6@13 7@12 8@11 9@10 14-bye 5@14	1@9 16@2 10@8 7@11 6@12 14@4 3@15 13-bye 5@13	
1/25	1/30	2/3	2/6	2/9	2/12				
1@8 14@2 7@9 10@6 12@4 13@3 15@16 11-bye 11@5	1@7 12@2 6@8 4@10 3@11 16@13 15@14 9-bye 5@9	6@1 10@2 4@8 9@3 11@16 12@15 14@13 7-bye 7@5	2@8 4@6 3@7 9@16 15@10 11@14 13@12 1-bye 5@1	1@4 2@6 7@16 8@15 9@14 13@10 12@11 3-bye 5@3	1@3 4@2 6@15 14@7 13@8 12@9 11@10 16-bye 16@5				

“AA” CLASSIFICATION REGULAR SEASON 7-TEAM SCHEDULE

AA-I

1-MacArthur
2-Jericho
3-Calhoun
4-Long Beach
5-Mempham
6-Garden City
7-Valley Stream Central

AA-II

1-Roslyn
2-Bellmore JFK
3-Great Neck North
4-New Hyde Park
5-Roosevelt
6-Manhasset
7-Carey

AA-III

1-Glen Cove
2-Hewlett
3-Division Ave
4-Bethpage
5-Elmont
6-South Side
7-Sewanhaka

7 TEAM CONFERENCE – 12 LEAGUE GAMES AND 8 NON-LEAGUE GAMES

12/12	12/15	12/18	1/4	1/7	1/13	1/16
7@2 3@6 4@5 1-bye	7@1 4@3 5@2 6-bye	6@1 2@3 5@7 4-bye	1@5 3@7 4@6 2-bye	1@4 3@5 6@2 7-bye	1@3 6@7 2@4 5-bye	2@1 4@7 5@6 3-bye
1/19	1/22	1/29	2/1	2/4	2/10	2/13
2@7 6@3 5@4 1-bye	1@7 3@4 2@5 6-bye	1@6 3@2 7@5 4-bye	5@1 7@3 6@4 2-bye	4@1 5@3 2@6 7-bye	3@1 7@6 4@2 5-bye	1@2 7@4 6@5 3-bye

“A” CLASSIFICATION REGULAR SEASON 7-TEAM SCHEDULE

A-I

1- Clarke
2-Plainedge
3-Mineola
4-Wantagh
5-Lynbrook
6-Valley Stream North
7-Floral Park

A-II

1-Valley Stream South
2-North Shore
3-Lawrence
4-Island Trees
5-Seaford
6-Loust Valley
7-Friends Academy

7 TEAM CONFERENCE – 12 LEAGUE GAMES and 8 NON-LEAGUE GAMES

12/11	12/16	12/19	1/5	1/8	1/11	1/14
7@2 3@6 4@5 1-bye	7@1 4@3 5@2 6-bye	6@1 2@3 5@7 4-bye	1@5 3@7 4@6 2-bye	1@4 3@5 6@2 7-bye	1@3 6@7 2@4 5-bye	2@1 4@7 5@6 3-bye
1/20	1/23	1/30	2/2	2/5	2/8	2/11
2@7 6@3 5@4 1-bye	1@7 3@4 2@5 6-bye	1@6 3@2 7@5 4-bye	5@1 7@3 6@4 2-bye	4@1 5@3 2@6 7-bye	3@1 7@6 4@2 5-bye	1@2 7@4 6@5 3-bye

“A/B” CLASSIFICATION REGULAR SEASON 7 -TEAM SCHEDULE

A/B-III

- 1-Wheatley (A)
- 2-West Hempstead (A)
- 3-Cold Spring Harbor (B)
- 4-Carle Place (B)
- 5-Oyster Bay (B)
- 6-East Rockaway (B)
- 7-Malverne (A)

7 TEAM CONFERENCE – 12 LEAGUE GAMES and 8 NON-LEAGUE GAMES

12/11	12/16	12/19	1/5	1/8	1/11	1/14
7@2 3@6 4@5 1-bye	7@1 4@3 5@2 6-bye	6@1 2@3 5@7 4-bye	1@5 3@7 4@6 2-bye	1@4 3@5 6@2 7-bye	1@3 6@7 2@4 5-bye	2@1 4@7 5@6 3-bye
1/20	1/23	1/30	2/2	2/5	2/8	2/11
2@7 6@3 5@4 1-bye	1@7 3@4 2@5 6-bye	1@6 3@2 7@5 4-bye	5@1 7@3 6@4 2-bye	4@1 5@3 2@6 7-bye	3@1 7@6 4@2 5-bye	1@2 7@4 6@5 3-bye

2027 Section VIII Tentative Boys and Girls Basketball Playoff Schedule

Feb	17	Wednesday	TBA	Girls - AAA & A 1st Round (If needed) Boys - A & AAA 1st Round (If needed)	@ Higher Seed
Feb	18	Thursday	TBA	Boys - AA 1st Round	@ Higher Seed
Feb	18	Thursday	TBA	Girls - AA 1st Round	@ Higher Seed
Feb	20	Saturday	TBA	Girls - A & AAA Quarterfinals Boys- A & AAA Quarterfinals	@ Higher Seed
Feb	21	Sunday	12pm, 2pm, 4pm, 6pm	Girls B Semifinals Boys B Semifinals	FSC
Feb	23	Tuesday	TBA	Boys AA Quarterfinals	@ Higher Seed
Feb	24	Wednesday	TBA	Girls AA Quarterfinals	@ Higher Seed
Feb	24	Wednesday	6:30pm & 8:30pm	Girls A Semifinals	FSC
Feb	26	Friday	6:30pm & 8:30pm	Boys - A Semifinals	FSC
Feb	27	Saturday		Skyline Championship	
Feb	28	Sunday	12pm, 2pm, 4pm, 6pm	Girls AAA Semifinals Boys AAA Semifinals	FSC
Mar	1	Monday	6:30pm & 8:30pm	Boys - AA Semifinals	FSC
Mar	3	Wednesday	6:30pm & 8:30pm	Girls - AA Semifinals	FSC
Mar	4	Thursday	5:30pm & 8:00pm	Girls B Finals Boys B Finals	FSC
Mar	5	Friday	5:30pm & 8:00pm	Girls A Finals Boys A Finals	FSC
Mar	6	Saturday	12pm, 2:30pm, 5pm, 7:30pm	Girls AA & AAA Finals Boys AA & AAA Finals	FSC
Mar	11	Thursday	5:30pm & 8:00pm	<u>Section VIII Host Girls LIC</u> B LIC A LIC	FSC
Mar	12	Friday	5:30pm & 8:00pm	<u>Section VIII Host Girls LIC</u> AA LIC AAA - LIC	FSC
Mar	18	Thursday		<u>NYS Semi-Finals</u> AAA – Semi-Finals 6:00pm and 7:45pm AA – Semi-Finals 2:30pm and 4:15pm	HVCC

Mar	19	Friday		<u>NYS Semi-Finals & Finals</u> AAA – Finals – 7:45pm AA – Finals – 6:00pm	HVCC
Mar	20	Saturday		<u>NYS Semi-Finals & Finals</u> B – Semi-Finals – 10:00am and 11:45am A – Semi-Finals – 1:30pm and 3:15pm	HVCC
Mar	21	Sunday		<u>NYS Finals</u> B – Finals – 10:00am A – Finals – 11:45am	HVCC

Playoff Information

Playoff Qualifiers:

Class AAA will qualify Top 8 playoff teams in order and are seeded as is.

- In addition, any team with a .500 conference record or better will qualify for the playoffs
- Within the conference no team may be seeded higher than another team with a higher place of finish within the conference

Class AA will qualify 12 playoff teams. The top 4 teams by finish in AA-I, AA-II, AA-III qualify for the playoffs.

- In addition, any team with a .500 conference record or better will qualify for the playoffs
- Within the conference no team may be seeded higher than another team with a higher place of finish within the conference

Class A will qualify 10 playoff teams. The top 4 finishers in A-I, A-II, A/B-III qualify for the playoffs. If there are still allotted playoff spots available, then the next team(s) based on league winning percentage will fill remaining playoff spots and ***will be seeded behind*** the teams that have qualified.

- In addition, any team with a .500 conference record or better will qualify for the playoffs

Class B will qualify 4 playoff teams in order and seed as is.

Seeding for Playoffs:

- The seeding committee will seed teams for the playoffs. Their decision is final.
 - Each team will have the opportunity to speak about their team via Zoom, facetime, pre-recorded video or written letter
 - AAA and B will NOT speak as their finish in standings is their seed
 - Each team will be given 2 minutes to speak.
 - When all teams have spoken, all coaches will privately rank all the teams.
 - **Teams will pre rank and send to Micheal Pelan
 - The votes from the coaches will be tallied and given to the seeding committee to be used as a tool in seeding.

Teams will be notified after the meeting of their seed in the playoffs.

COACHES CHECKLIST FOR SEEDING MEETING

- Fill out the team record sheet
- Fill out Player Roster Sheet for playoffs
- Be Prepared to Rank your officials for playoffs
- Be sure to have the most accessible phone number in case of emergency on your roster. This may not be the home number.

Seeding Parameters:

The committee will consider the following (not listed in any particular order):

- Head-to-Head Record
- League Record
- Overall Record
- Competition/Record against other teams that have qualified for the playoffs
- Record against common opponents
- Strength of schedule
 - Documentation must be provided about teams out of state
- All games played during the season will be considered (league and non-league games).
- No team can be seeded above a team that finished above them in the same conference.
- Conference winners are not guaranteed a top 4/5 seed.
- Conference records are to be used for breaking ties.
- Every effort will be made to not have a team play someone in their conference in the first round.

Breaking ties within the conference for seeding purposes

1. Head-to-Head in Conference Play
2. Head-to-Head in Non-league Play
3. Record vs Playoff Teams in your Conference
4. Record vs Common Opponents outside your Conference
5. Tournament Committee Decision

Breaking ties within Classification for seeding purposes

1. Conference Finish
2. Head-to-Head in non-league play
3. Tournament Committee Decision

Tie Breaker Criteria for teams qualifying for playoffs:

All tie breakers will be determined by conference games.

1. Head-to-head record
2. The total number of wins against teams that finished ahead of you in the conference. The team with the most wins gets the spot.
3. Quality wins against teams that finished ahead of you, one at a time, beginning with the first-place team. (i.e. if you beat the first-place team and the other team does not, you get the spot.
4. The number of wins vs. teams below you are taking one spot at a time.
5. Seeding Committee decision. The seed committee may use any other information to help seed if conference play cannot clearly determine a seed. The seeding committee's decision is final.

Complete League Games

It is mandatory that you complete all league games by Tuesday, February 13th. You may play this game at any time, but please remember to call Newsday immediately after the game. If your game has playoff or seeding implications, please email Mike at E-mail: mpelan@malverneschools.org with your score immediately after the game.

Basketball Seeding Committee Meeting will convene tentatively on Feb. 14th at 9:00am at Nassau BOCES.

- The committee will meet to verify the playoff teams and fill in the brackets.
- The committee needs the scores to determine the playoff teams.
- End of year wins/loss report sheet is due Saturday night, February 13th also to be emailed to Mike at E-mail: mpelan@malverneschools.org
- Please do not delay in getting these scores called into Newsday on Tuesday night.
- Officials' rankings must be completed via the provided google form.

Play in Game

- The top 4 in each conference (tie-breaker criteria used for tie) and .500 above make the playoffs. If two teams are tied for 4th and below .500 and they stay tied after all tie breaker criteria is exhausted, they are in! No play-in game needed!

First round

- Since there is the potential for many teams to qualify due to .500 record qualifiers, the first-round games will be played Friday, February 17th for AAA, A, B (if needed) and Saturday, February 17th for AA.
- Should there be more than 8 teams in AA that qualify, the committee reserves the right to seed all teams in a larger bracket, similar to A. Teams with a .500 record are considered qualified for the tournament and will be seeded based on criteria.

Tournament Rules, Regulations and Procedures

- All rosters are to be submitted electronically (see below). These will be the rosters used for the program
- You are responsible for the correct spelling and must fill in all the information.

Tournament Information:

Game Dates: All games are to be played on the date specified. Inclement Weather: If there is some doubt whether the game will be played due to inclement weather, the home school must comply with the following steps:

- Call the Section VIII coordinator, give a new date and time. The game must be played the next day. If your school is not available, the game will go to the visiting
- team. If this poses a problem, the coordinator will set up a neutral site at the expense of both teams.
- Call the game officials and give them the new information.

There may be a circumstance where the coordinator will cancel the entire playoff schedule on a day of inclement weather. Communication is essential.

Semi Finals and Finals:

During these games the Section VIII Coordinator will contact the participating schools. The decisions on playing or not shall be determined by the coordinator and the Executive Director –Pat Pizzarelli. Once this decision is made, the Section Coordinator will call the following people:

- School's athletic directors- home and opposing
- Coaches of both home and opposing schools
- All game officials.

Early Round Games:

- There will be no charge from BOCES to attend all first round and quarterfinal games.
- It will be left up to the individual home school if they want to charge for the game.
 - The admission charge should not exceed \$2.00.
 - Please inform the opposing school if there will be an admission charge so they can inform their fans.
 - A section gate list shall be honored at this round.

Game Times:

Early round game times will be determined by the host school.

- No games should be scheduled before 10:00 a.m. and no later than 8:00 p.m.

Home School Responsibilities:

The higher seeded team is considered the home team during the entire tournament.

PLEASE NOTE: Those teams hosting a game need to take responsibility to provide the most positive and safe atmosphere for all concerned. As the host team you have the advantage of hosting a game at your school, however, you must realize that you are hosting a Section 8 playoff game and, as such, not treat the game as a regular season home game. There will be no "Senior Nights" or awards presentations that are specific to your school or players. Schools may arrive at the playoff 40 minutes before the game.

If you host a game, an AED MUST BE ON SITE. *THE OFFICIAL GAME BALL FOR ALL PLAYOFF GAMES IS THE SPALDING TF 1000 Legacy*

The home team will:

Play in the largest gym in that school district. If the gym is not available, the game will be played at the visitor's school. A school may not play in the smaller gym used for their league games. It cannot be by mutual agreement of the coaches that a game be played in the smaller facility. If the home school does not adhere to the rule on game day, a forfeit will be assessed. Valley Stream Central and Herricks are the gyms that need to be played in another facility than regular season games. If you are not sure if your gym is suitable, check with the coordinator for clarification. Wear light-colored uniforms. Please check with the opponents to make sure the uniforms will contrast. You will be the official timer and scorer and must supply an official score clock operator and 30 second clock operator as well as provide an official book. Only qualified adult personnel should be allowed on the clocks and books. It is also your responsibility for the game ball and practice balls for both teams. As the host, you should provide ice and water for the visitor's bench as well as an area for the visiting team to change and talk to their team before the game, at halftime and after the game.

Visiting School Responsibilities

Be prepared to host a game in the event the home school cannot.

- Bring supervisors to the game.

Officials Rooms:

- It is expected that there be a separate place for the officials to have privacy, before, at halftime and after the game. This place should be easily accessible

Semi-Final Games /Nassau County Neutral Site Games

- No practice will be allowed on neutral site venues at any time.
- Game Balls: GAME BALLS WILL BE PROVIDED BY THE COORDINATOR. They must be Spalding TF-1000
- Practice Balls: PRACTICE BALLS WILL BE PROVIDED BY THE COORDINATOR.
- Pregame Music: WILL BE PROVIDED BY SECTION VIII.
- Athletic Trainer: Section VIII and Hofstra/Farmingdale will provide a trainer on site. An individual team may bring their own trainer if they choose to do so.
- Scorer, Timers, Announcer: Section VIII will provide the official scorers and timers as well as the announcer for the games. Individual schools may keep their own scorebook and will be able sit near the official scorebook. We will make every effort to afford equal access for both schools' scorebooks. If not, then no one affiliated with the school may sit at the scorer's table.

Tickets are purchased at <https://gofan.co/app/school/NYSPHSAA8> .

Locker-room – will be available, but players are to bring their belongings with them to the bench. Section VIII and/or Hofstra/Farmingdale will not be responsible for lost items.

Responsibility for Damage: Each school is responsible for any damage that is done to a Host Site. Any damage incurred at the playing site should be reported to the Tournament Director immediately after the game for disposition. You are to provide supervisors to ensure the proper conduct of your spectators and teams.

Gate Lists: (Use Section VIII form, that is online.) This is needed for all games starting with the semifinals. Participating schools are required to submit a gate list to the person in charge of admissions. One side of the gate list should list all the traveling and necessary personnel for your team. This shall include players, managers, scorekeepers, supervisors, trainers and the like. Cheerleaders can enter for free with their advisor and need not be listed on the gate list. The other side of the gate list shall list guests who are just guests of the school district. That should include personnel such as the Board of Ed members (7). This number shall not exceed 15. (Any numbers above that number, Section VIII will bill the school).

Passes: Only two types of passes will be accepted for admission to the games: The State Athletic Director passes will be honored at all Sectional games, admitting one and a guest.

HEAD VARSITY COACHES WILL BE ADMITTED FREE OF CHARGE. We encourage the entire coaches' association to attend.

Press Passes: Members of the working press must show credentials to be admitted to the games free of charge.

Arrival Time: It is expected that the teams will have enough time to arrive, dress, warm up and be ready to play 5 minutes before the start time of the game. Arrive at the site no earlier than 40 minutes before game time. You will be permitted on the floor **20** minutes with basketballs before the pre-game announcements.

Team Bench: The home team will sit to the right of the scorer's table.

Spectator Seating: Spectator seating will be assigned by the coordinator with each team's fans being seated on opposite sides of the gym where possible. The home team will have their spectators behind them. If seating is not possible on opposite sides, your spectators will be on the same side opposite or behind your bench. Your supervisors will be responsible for the correct seat locations as well as spectators conduct. Look for designated signs to properly sit your fans.

Protests: all protests must be heard, and a judgment rendered AT THE SITE OF THE GAME. For an early round game, the decision can be made by the game officials. A conference call can be made to Jen or Mike for a possible resolution. Reminder: a protest cannot involve an official's judgment.

If a protest is to be lodged, the following steps must be followed:

- The coach will notify the game official immediately or before the next dead ball, if in the coach's opinion, there is a violation of a written rule. The official will stop the game. Both officials will meet and render a decision so that the game may continue. There will be no appeal once a decision is reached. It is recommended that all coaches bring a rule book to the game.

Withdrawal: If a school withdraws after the tournament bracket is determined, or while the tournament is in progress, the opposing team will receive a forfeit win and automatically advance to the next round with the appropriate placement on the bracket.

Banners, Signs, Etc. Banners, signs, and any other objects may be posted on the side to which a school is assigned. Nothing can be posted at either end of the court. Posters and signs are to be positive and in good taste. The Tournament Director has sole discretion in approving any of the above items. The officials have the right to ask for removal of posters.

Balloons – Balloons or other items that can be attached to chairs or bleachers are NOT ALLOWED any neutral site in the tournament. The neutral sites are from the semifinals on through the state tournament. If balloons, etc. are brought to the early round games they can only be placed at the end of a school's bench, not behind each chair or on the bleachers. This includes the home and visiting school. The balloons cannot block the vision of spectators.

Regional Games

Nassau County is the AWAY school for ALL regional play on Long Island games and Nassau will wear their dark colored uniforms. All other rules above apply.

SUPERVISION: Crowd Control: Each school is responsible for bringing a minimum of 3 Supervisors easily identified as being from your school. It is their responsibility to supervise the conduct of the spectators from their school. It is their responsibility to ensure that your team is escorted to the team bus at the end of the game.

*****ALL SUPERVISORS MUST INTRODUCE THEMSELVES TO THE HOST DIRECTOR PRIOR TO THE CONTEST TO RECEIVE ANY ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE ADEQUATE SUPERVISION OF THE FACILITY. *****

TEAM PHOTO

ANY TEAM MAKING IT TO THE COUNTY FINALS MUST EMAIL SUBMIT THEIR PHOTO AND ROSTER TO MAXPREPS