

FOOTBALL

2024 HANDBOOK

CO-CHAIRPERSONS

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Legal Practice Guidelines and Dates	3
Interschool Scrimmages	4
Section 9 Football Committee	5
Coaches/Athletic Director Directory	6
Section IX By-Laws	12
Section IX Neutral Site Policy	18
Section IX Football Alignments	20
Playoff Structure	21
Playoff Schedule	22
Modified Standards	24
Overtime Procedures	25
Past Champions	27
Sectional and State Awards	28
Concussion Information	29
NYSPHSAA Heat Index Policy	30
Section IX Thunder and Lightning Policy	31
NYSPHSAA Unsportsmanlike Conduct	32
Tommy Tough Standards	33

LEGAL PRACTICE GUIDELINES AND DATES

TBD, 2024: Rules Interpretation meeting (Varsity, JV, Freshman) at Middletown High School – Virtual via Zoom or Google Meet

TBD, 2024: Rules Interpretation meeting (Modified) at Middletown High School – TBD location

Monday, August 19: High School Football practice starts

Thursday, August 29: First legal date for scrimmage/contest vs. other school(s)

(Updated by NYSPHSAA May 2023)

- The first two (2) days of practice must be non-contact, without the use of **personal** protective equipment and mechanical blocking devices. The use of cones, ropes, ladders, step-over dummies, soft hand shields and similar devices as teaching aids is permissible. Helmets may be worn.
- The next three (3) days provide a transition from the conditioning phase to full contact. During this phase, players are permitted to wear a helmet and shoulder pads. Blocking dummies, sleds and similar devices are permitted. During this phase, player-to-player tackling drills, team scrimmaging, running full contact plays, etc. are not permitted.
- The following five (5) days consist of contact practice with full protective equipment and the use of all training devices. Full player-to-player contact and team scrimmaging is permitted. Interscholastic contests/scrimmages may commence after 10 practices have been completed by the individual player and team.

NYSPHSAA Combined Practice Requirements (July 2019):

- A. Coaches will instruct their own players.
- B. “Live Contact” is permitted but not required.
- C. Athletes/ Teams may not participate in a combined practice until the first five (5) day of practice have been completed.
- D. 8-Man Football: Drills may not exceed more than seven (7) players from each team.
- E. 11-Man Football: Drills may not exceed more than nine (9) players from each team. (Feb. 2023)
- F. 11-man football may conduct 11-on-11 drills for a maximum of 10 offensive and 10 defensive plays. (May 2024)

G. 8-man football may conduct 8-on-8 drills for a maximum of 10 offensive plays and 10 defensive plays. (May 2024)

*On May 1, 2015 the NYSPHSAA Executive Committee approved limiting contact in the sport of football beginning with the 2015 season. The newly adopted Football Contact Limitation states: *Contact in the sport of football for high school and modified football teams shall have no more than two "Full-Contact practices" per week during the season; with no "Full-Contact" session to exceed 90 minutes. "Full-contact" means a practice where drills or live action is conducted that involves collisions at game speed, where players execute tackles and other activity that is typical of an actual tackle football game.*

- *Limitation of "Full-Contact practices" will begin with the 13th day (high school) and 14th day (modified).*

INTERSCHOOL SCRIMMAGES

A scrimmage is a practice that is a SIMULATED CONTEST.

- Both squads use the same field simultaneously, with both coaches making corrections and giving instructions.
- GAME RULES MUST BE ALTERED
- No official score is kept
- Time period(s) are defined in the Sport Standards section of the NYSPHSAA Handbook
- No admission is charged.
- The use of officials is permitted and encouraged, whenever possible, for the purpose of instruction regarding rules and proper application of the rules.



SECTION IX FOOTBALL COMMITTEE



Co-Chair	David Coates	591-5571	326-1532	david.coates@ecsdm.org
Co-Chair	Tom Cassata	849-8677	876-8853	tcassata@rhcsd.org
Class AA	Marsh Canosa	744-5482	744-2031	sayhey@frontiernet.net
	Howard Harrison	825-1409	460-7045 x7049	hharrison@m2.k12.ny.us
Class A	Tim Bult	798-4552	355-5172	tbult@minisink.com
Class B	JJ Gass	283-1118	858-3100 x1880	ggass@pjschools.org
Class C	Marco Lanzoni	(914) 805-0202	463-7824	marco.lanzoni@sufsdny.org
8 man	David Eggleton	665-2079	943-8401	eggletondav@swcsd.org
Advisors	Jason Semo	(518) 588-1113	534-8009 x7504	jsemo@cornwallschools.com
	John Giametta	430-5990	838-6900 x3230	giametta.j@beaconk12.org
	Bryan Wilson	(518) 321-4605	446-4914 x2880	bryan.wilson@hffmcsd.org
Scheduler	Chris Mayo	591-5276	294-5799	christopher.mayo@ouboces.org
Assign/Ratings	Dan Morse	283-0599	294-5799	daniel.morse@ouboces.org
Coaches' Representative	Aaron Hasbrouck		987-4735	ahasbrouck@burkecatholic.org
Coaches' Representative	Ryan Stover		742-5794	ryan.stover@chesterufsd.org
Official Rules Interpreter	Ed Musa		(914) 799-0049	ed@gitlincpa.com





Greg Ransom, Executive Director	914-805-6302	gransom1@hvc.rr.com
Tim Bult, President	845-355-5172	tbult@minisink.com
Steve Boucher, 1 st Vice President	845-871-5500 X 5535	sboucher@rhinebeckcsd.org
Jason Semo, 2 nd Vice President	845-534-8009 x7504	jsemo@cornwallschools.com
James Osborne, Secretary	570-618-2200	josbornesection9@gmail.com
Linda Trapani, Treasurer	845-742-5867	ltrapani@hvc.rr.com

COACHES/AD DIRECTORY

 Beacon Bulldogs 			
Head Coach	Jim Phelan	beaconfb2018@gmail.com	845-891-6377
Athletic Director	John Giametta	Giametta.john@beaconk12.org	845-838-6900, X 3230 845-430-5990

 Burke Catholic Eagles 			
Head Coach	Aaron Hasbrouck	ahasbrouck@burkecatholic.org	845-987-4735
Athletic Director	Adam Kless	akless@burkecatholic.org	845-294-5481, X 152 845-721-1995

 Chester Hambletonians 			
Head Coach	Ryan Stover	Ryan.stover@chesterufsd.org	845-469-2231, X3302 845-742-5794
Athletic Director	Michael Doucette	Michael.doucette@chesterufsd.org	845-469-2231, X 3302

 Cornwall Green Dragons 			
Head Coach	Kevin Arduino	karduino@cornwallschools.com	845-596-3267
Athletic Director	Jason Semo	jsemo@cornwallschools.com	845-534-8009, X7504

 Dover Dragons 			
Head Coach	Christian Jones	Doverdragons13@gmail.com	845-275-9389
Athletic Director	Susan Forbes	Susan.forbes@doverschools.org	845-877-5700, X 1202

 Eldred Yellow Jackets 			
Head Coach	Sean McAveney	mcaveney@eldred.k12.ny.us	914-850-0068
Athletic Director	Amanda Zgroddek	zgroddeka@eldred.k12.ny.us	845-456-1100, X 5020 845-978-9895

 **Ellenville Blue Devils** 

Head Coach	Dan Cavanagh	dcavanagh@ecs.k12.ny.us	845-647-0200, X 466 845-807-8348
Athletic Director	Matthew Salamone	msalamone@ecs.k12.ny.us	845-647-0134



FDR - Hyde Park Presidents



Head Coach	Ken Barger	kennethbarger@hpcsd.org	845-464-9587
Athletic Director	Beth Fletcher	bethfletcher@hpcsd.org	845-229-4020, X 6881



Fallsburg Comets



Head Coach	Dominick Scanna	dscanna@fallsburgcsd.net	845-701-3987
Athletic Director	Amanda Stevens	astevens@fallsburgcsd.net	845-434-6800, X 2212



Goshen Gladiators



Head Coach	John Stephens	John.stephens@gcsny.org	845-674-0246
Athletic Director	George St. Lawrence	George.stlawrence@gcsny.org	845-615-6161



Highland Huskies



Head Coach	Thomas Schlappich	tschlappich@highland-k12.org	845-235-2168
Athletic Director	Frank Alfonso	falfonso@highland-k12.org	845-691-1030



Kingston Tigers





Head Coach	Scott Ricketson	Sricketson@kingstoncityschools.org	845-901-4309
Athletic Director	Rich Silverstein	rsilverstein@kingstoncityschools.org	845-943-3736



Liberty Redhawks





Head Coach	Adam Lake	alake@libertyk12.org	845-292-5400 845-807-8433
Athletic Director	Kimberly Clark	kclark@libertyk12.org	845-294-5400, X 2013



 Livingston Manor Wildcats 			
Head Coach	Mike Hill	mhill@roscoe.k12.ny.us	607-498-4126, X 6832 845-798-0892
Athletic Director	Christopher Hubert	Christopher.hubert@lmcs.us	845-439-4400, X 2417 914-799-0362



 Marlboro Iron Dukes 			
Head Coach	Ryan Brooks	Ryan.brooks@marlboroschools.org	845-275-2710
Athletic Director	Philip Cancellaro	Philip.cancellaro@marlboroschools.org	845-874-0169

 Middletown Middie Bears 			
Head Coach	Tim Strenfel	Timothy.strenfel@ecsdm.org	570-592-5810
Athletic Director	David Coates	David.coates@ecsdm.org	845-326-1532 845-591-5571

 Millbrook Blazers 			
Head Coach	Lou Portaro	louportaro@yahoo.com	845-264-4187
Athletic Director	Alfred Hammell	Alfred.hammell@millbrookcsd.org	845-677-2510, X 126 845-527-0897

 Minisink Valley Warriors 			
Head Coach	Kevin Gallagher	kgallagher@minisink.com	845-800-6004
Athletic Director	Timothy Bult	Tbult@minisink.com	845-355-5172

 Monroe Woodbury Crusaders 			
Head Coach	James Sciarra	jsciarra@mw.k12.ny.us	845-987-6902
Athletic Director	Howard Harrison	hharrison@mw.k12.ny.us	845-460-7049 845-828-1409

 Monticello Panthers 			
Head Coach	Tyler Rodriguez	trodriguez@k12mcsd.net	845-258-8785
Athletic Director	Ryan Jasper	rjasper@k12mcsd.net	845-794-8840, X10995

 Newburgh Free Academy Goldbacks 			
Head Coach	Bill Bianco	Nfacoach66@aol.com	914-474-0454 845-563-5418
Athletic Director	Christian Hodge	chodge@necsd.net	845-563-5420



 New Paltz Huguenots 			
Head Coach	Kyle Jansen	Kylejansen76@gmail.com	845-243-4631
Athletic Director	Gregory Warren	gwarren@newpaltz.k12.ny.us	845-256-4153


 James I. O'Neill Raiders 			
Head Coach	Dave Moskowitz	David.moskowitz@hffmcsd.org	845-323-2898
Athletic Director	Bryan Wilson	Bryan.wilson@hffmcsd.org	845-446-4914, X 2880 518-321-4605

 Onteora Eagles 			
Head Coach	Michael Liverani	mliverani@onteora.k12.ny.us	845-943-8343
Athletic Director	Jonah O'Donnell	jodonnell@onteora.k12.ny.us	845-657-2373, X 2113


 Our Lady of Lourdes Warriors 			
Head Coach	Sean Keenan	Coachkeenan5@gmail.com	845-781-0986
Athletic Director	Matt Petruzzelli	mpetruzzelli@ollchs.org	845-463-0400, X1011

 Pawling Tigers 			
Head Coach	Jason Kuhlmann	kuhlmannj@pcsdny.org	914-391-6137
Athletic Director	John Bellucci	Belluccij@pcsdny.org	845-855-4670

 Pine Bush Bushmen 			
Head Coach	Rich Ormsby	Richard_ormsby@yahoo.com	518-879-6019
Athletic Director	Jennifer Evans	Jennifer.evans@pinebushschools.org	845-744-2031, X 3608

 Pine Plains Bombers			
Head Coach	Mike Cooper	m.cooper@ppcsd.org	518-398-7181, x1159
Athletic Director	Les Funk	l.funk@ppcsd.org	518-398-7181, X1316

 Port Jervis Red Raiders			
Head Coach	Damien Striharsky	dstriharsky@pjschools.org	845-341-3667 845-856-3100, X19240
Athletic Director	JJ Gass	ggass@pjschools.org	845-858-3100, X1880



 Red Hook Raiders			
Head Coach	Tom Giorgio	t.giorgio@ppcsd.org	607-227-0435
Athletic Director	Tom Cassata	tcassata@rhcsd.org	845-758-2241, X 3248 845-849-8677



 Rondout Valley Ganders			
Head Coach	Chris Frenza	cfrenza@rondout.k12.ny.us	914-456-8853
Athletic Director	Jeffrey Panek	jpanek@rondout.k12.ny.us	845-687-2400, X 4261

 Saugerties Sawyers			
Head Coach	Nick Bernard	nbernard@saugerties.k12.ny.us	845-750-2310
Athletic Director	Lee Molyneaux	lmolyneaux@saugerties.k12.ny.us	845-247-6680 845-416-6664


 Spackenkill Spartans			
Head Coach	Josh Riley	Joshua.riley@sufsdny.org	845-416-6694
Athletic Director	Marco Lanzoni	Marco.lanzoni@sufsdny.org	845-463-7824 914-805-0202

 Sullivan West Bulldogs			
Head Coach	Ron Bauer	bauerron@swcsd.org	845-932-8401, X 1136
Asst. Coach	Justin Diehl	diehljus@swcsd.org	845-932-8401, X 1284
Athletic Director	Kurt Buddenhagen	Buddenhagenkur@swcsd.org	845-932-8401, X 1105

 Tri Valley Bears 			
Head Coach/AD	Kevin Crudele	kevincrudele@trivalleycsd.org	845-541-0177 845-985-2296, X 7041

 Valley Central Vikings 			
Head Coach	Scott Rumsey	Scott.rumsey@vcsdny.org	845-527-7903
Athletic Director	Richard Steger	Richard.steger@vcsdny.org	845-457-2400, X17885 845-863-5141

 Wallkill Panthers 			
Head Coach	Joe Pillitteri	jpillitteri@wallkillcsd.k12.ny.us	845-522-2463
Athletic Director	William Earl	wearl@wallkillcsd.k12.ny.us	845-895-7158

 Warwick Wildcats 			
Head Coach/AD	Greg Sirico	gsirico@wvcsd.org	845-987-3050, X12880 845-222-1402

 Washingtonville Wizards 			
Head Coach	Don Clark	dclark@wcsdk12.org	845-649-3001
Athletic Director	Suzanne Lenzian	slenzian@wcsdk12.org	845-497-4000, X24561 845-987-4511

SECTION IX BY-LAWS

Section 9 Football 2024 Bylaws

1. Play will be governed by National Federation Rules, NYSPHSAA rules and regulations and Section 9 Bylaws. Violations will result in sanctions.

2. Scheduling

a. Prior to Dec. 31 of each year, all schools must provide scheduling information to the Section 9 football chairman or designee. The football committee will release schedules to the athletic directors prior to approval. The athletic directors have one week to communicate, in writing, any issues with the schedule to their class representative. The committee will consider, but not necessarily solve, all issues.

b. All football scheduling in Section 9 is to be done by the designee of the football committee. Individual schools and athletic directors may not schedule games.

c. The Section 9 schedule-maker is empowered to schedule any Section 9 school against an opponent one classification above or below the school's current classification. This applies both within and outside of Section 9.

d. If the Section 9 football schedule-maker has to schedule a school **two classifications** above or below, it will be by mutual agreement of both schools.

e. If a Section 9 drops football before or during the season, the schedule maker is empowered to make the necessary adjustments to the schedule.

f. The Section 9 schedule-maker can schedule a Section 9 school with an out of- section team one classification above or below.

g. All Section 9 football schools must honor the Section 9 schedule. All games scheduled outside or within the section must be scheduled by the Section 9 schedule-maker and honored.

h. In all cases listed above, schools will be obligated to play.

i. If a Section 9 member violates the bylaws and refuses to play a contest scheduled by the football committee or its designee, the Section 9 football committee will meet and, barring and extenuating circumstances, recommend that the member in violation be ineligible for sectional competition in football for up to one year per violation.

j. If a Section IX school cancels their season **before** the start of the regular season, scheduled opponents may schedule a replacement game. During the season, if a school drops their team or forfeits the week's game, the following applies: If it is a non-divisional or non-classification game within Section IX or an out of section game, the opponent has the option of accepting a forfeit

victory or they may schedule a replacement game. If it is a divisional game or game within Section IX of the same classification, the opponent must accept the forfeit and cannot schedule an additional game.

k. When a class attains eight teams, the football committee will consider dividing the class into two divisions.

l. Section 9 Playoff structure. See appendix "A"

3. The Section 9 football committee will consist of (1) representative from each classification, the Section 9 chairman and the assistant chairman.

4. Seniors are not allowed to participate on junior varsity teams. Juniors must have the approval of the opponent's athletic director prior to participating in a JV contest.

5. Divisions

a. 2010 bylaw (a) is replaced by (l) above. See Appendix "A"

b. 2010 bylaw (b) is replaced by (l) above. See Appendix "A"

c. Any division participating in a 6 or 8 team or more playoff whose schools do not qualify will be required to participate in assigned week 8 and week 9 crossover games. Teams that are involved with a 2, 3, or 4 team playoff whose schools do not qualify are required to participate in the assigned week 9 crossover games.

d. In classifications that are divided into 2 divisions comprising 9, 10, 11, 12 or more schools must have all league/division contests completed by the 8th week. In classifications that are divided into 2 divisions comprising a total of 8 teams must complete all league/division contests by the 9th week. In all classifications not divided into divisions, all league contests must be completed by the 9th week. If the Section 9 scheduler-maker cannot arrange a crossover game, that team will have a bye.

6. Section 9 Playoffs

a. On the 10th week of the season, the two (2) top teams in Class AA, A, B, C and D will compete for the Section 9 Championship.

b. Classifications with 9, 10, 11, 12 or more teams will have quarterfinal games contested in the 8th week and Semifinal games contested in the 9th week.

c. Classifications with 5, 6, 7, or 8 teams will have Semifinal games contested in the 9th week.

d. Classifications with 3 or 4 teams will have no Semifinal.

7. Playoff scenarios not expressly defined in bylaws will defer to committee decision.

8. Breaking Ties

a. In the event of a tie, the following criteria will be used to determine class/division champions for sectional representation. Once the class/division champion is determined, the tie breaking process will be reinitiated:

- 1) Head to Head competition in class/division
- 2) Point differential of teams involved in the tie. Maximum point differential is 21 points per game. Apply negative point differential against the tied teams only (the team closest to zero is the champion).
- 3) Cumulative Negative Points in Division/Classification games lost – differential is -21
- 4) Cumulative Positive Points in Division/Classification games won – positive point differential is +29
- 5) Blind Draw

b. Any forfeit occurring in Section 9 will award the offended team a 21-0 victory and the forfeiting team a 0-21 loss.

Criteria 3 Example:

Monroe-Woodbury 30, NFA 20 (NFA -10) Champion: Monroe-Woodbury
 NFA 21, Kingston 18 (Kingston -3) Runner Up: NFA
 Kingston 7, Monroe-Woodbury 6 (M-W -1)

Criteria 4 Example:

Middletown 3-3	MW 3-3	Washingtonville 3-3
lost to Pine Bush 0-21 (-21)	lost to Pine Bush 0-21 (-21)	lost to Pine Bush 27-60 (-21)
lost to MW 0-21 (-21)	lost to Wash 20-41 (-21)	lost to Midd. 7-28 (-21)
lost to NFA 20-27 (-7)	lost to NFA 3-21 (-18)	lost to NFA 12-18 (-6)
Total (-49)	Total (-60)	Total (-48)

1st Place Wash (-48, number closest to zero (0), then reinitiate.
2nd Place MW (head to head with Midd)
3rd Place Midd (head to head with MW)

Criteria 5 Example:

Wall. 3-1	Gosh. 3-1	Mont. 3-1	N.P. 1-3	Saug.
0-4				
Gosh. W 28-7 (+21)	Wall L 7-28 (-21)		Saug. W 26-8 (+18)	Gosh L 6-14 (-8)
Wall. L 0-21 (-21)				
Mont. L 14-35 (-21)	Mont. W 42-21 (+21)	NP W 28-12 (+16)	Wall. L 14-16 (-2)	Gosh. L 7-21 (-14)
Saug. W 21-0 (+21)	Saug. W 21-7 (+14)	Gosh. L 21-42 (-21)	Mont L 12-28 (-16)	NP. L 7-21 (-14)
NP. W 16-14(+2)	NP W 14-6 (+8)	Wall. W 35-14 (+21)	Saug. W 21-7 (+14)	
Mont. L 8-26 (-18)				
Total Plus Points				
Wall.	Gosh.	Mont.	N.P.	Saug.
21+21+2= 44	21+14+8= 43	18+16+21= 55	14= 14	0=0

1st Place Mont. (+55 points), then reinitiate

- 2nd Place Wall.** (Head to Head with Gosh.)
- 3rd Place Gosh.** (Head to Head with Wall.)
- 4th Place N.P.** (Head to Head with Saug.)
- 5th Place Saug.** (Head to Head with N.P.)

9. All games will be played until a winner is determined. The New York State tiebreaker system will be used to break all ties in Section 9.

10. Division/Sectional sites will be determined by the football committee.

11. All types of cameras are approved for scouting purposes. All scouting cameras must remain outside the track/fence/football field proper. Check with home Athletic Director for exceptions. The two teams contesting the game have permission to use telescoping end zone cameras in the end zone or sideline areas.

12. NFHS rules concerning coaches' field equipment apply to Section 9. Rule 1-6.

13. Recommended game times

- a. Varsity: Friday night @ 7:30 PM - Saturday @ 1:30 PM
- b. Junior Varsity: Thursday @ 4 PM (3:30 PM after Daylight Savings Time ends)

14. Each school is required to have adequate supervision based on past experience, game time and expected crowd size.

15. Cancellations, postponements and makeup dates are to be determined by the athletic directors from the schools involved. The earliest possible date is recommended.

16. Dressing room facilities

- a. Varsity: Locker room will be provided.
- b. JV will come dressed, unless otherwise agreed upon.

17. An official football, as stated in the NFHS rules, must be used. Both teams must supply ball boys if the same ball is not being used. The Spalding Alpha football is the official ball of the state football tournament and must be used in the regionals, semifinals and finals.

18. Coaches Meetings

- a. Prior to the season for rules interpretation, and after January 1, if needed.
- b. Notification will be sent to all schools regarding time and site of meetings.
- c. All head coaches are expected to attend or send a designee.

19. Officials Evaluations

- a. Ratings will be submitted on all individual on-field officials working a varsity contest.
- b. It is the Head Coaches responsibility to enter the ratings into the rSchool Today mobile application on a weekly basis.

20. Score Reporting

- a. Scores must be reported to the League using the rSchool Today mobile app. Coaches are encouraged to send results to the local media outlets.

21. Medical coverage is recommended by NYSPHSAA.

22. Halftime will be 15 minutes, plus a 3 minute warm up period. An additional five (5) minutes can be requested by the home team, if it is mutually agreeable to both schools, and a request is made to the officials prior to the game.

23. It is the responsibility of the athletic director to confirm all in-section and out-of section varsity and junior varsity contests immediately after the schedules are approved. Games played at Dietz Stadium should be confirmed with Kingston athletic director, Rich Silverstein and Dietz Stadium coordinator Rick Tavares. The athletic director is responsible for all of the arrangements at the neutral site. All confirmations must be completed prior to the end of the school year.

24. In the event of inclement weather, teams must stay at the game site until a determination is made to play or postpone the contest.

25. If a school is scheduled to play the same school twice (2) during the regular season, the second (2) contest will be considered the league contest. The first (1) contest will be considered non-league.

26. Sectional Quarterfinals, Semifinals and Finals

a. In classifications that have 9, 10, 11, 12 or more teams, the Quarterfinals will consist of 6 or 8 seeded teams from two (2) divisions, with contests being played at the higher seeds home field. The winners of the Quarterfinals will play in the Semifinals with the remaining higher seeds becoming the home teams. The Finals will be played with the remaining two (2) teams. The home team will be the remaining highest seed.

b. In classifications that have 8 teams (2 Divisions) the top two (2) teams from each division will crossover. Division 1 #1 vs Division 2 #2, Division 2 #1 vs Division 1 #2 in the 9th week Semifinal contests. The winners will play in the Finals during the 10th week. Section 9 Seeding criteria will be utilized to determine home team if necessary.

c. In classifications that have 6 or 7 teams, #1 plays #4, and #2 plays #3 in the 9th week Semifinals. Winners play in the Finals during the 10th week. The higher seeds are the home teams.

d. In classifications that have 5 teams, #1 gets a bye and #2 plays #3 in the Semifinal during the 9th week. The winner plays #1 in the Finals during the 10th week. The higher seed is the home team.

e. In classifications with 3 or 4 teams, the top two (2) teams will play in the finals during the 10th week. There will be no Semifinal. The home team is the higher seed.

27. If a school's enrollment numbers change after the scheduling process has been completed, there will be no change in the school's divisional status for that season. If the school's classification changes, it will play in the class it was scheduled in, but will be ineligible for the section and state tournaments.

28. Each team will send films of its last two (2) prior to regionals, semifinals, and finals. The participating schools are required to make the arrangements. The exchange should be made in a timely manner. Schools not complying should be reported to the Section 9 and State chairmen.

29. Spectator programs for division playoffs, sectional championships and regional games are the responsibility of the home team. **A minimum of 400 program copies should be delivered to the site chairman one hour or more before kickoff.**

30. Scheduled practices are permitted at Faller Field prior to any Semi Final or Final (**only if your game is not scheduled at Faller Field**). Scheduled practices are permitted at Dietz Stadium prior to any Semi Final or Final (**only if your game is not scheduled at Dietz Stadium**). Practice times and availability are not guaranteed. Please be advised that dates and times are limited during this time of year and may be subject to a facility usage fee.

End Zone Cameras

One end zone camera is approved for each contestant school. One camera person is approved. The camera person must have a sideline pass obtained from his head coach's supply of 15. The number of spotters allowed on the roof of the press box is reduced from four to three, if the team has an end zone camera.

AVOID HEAT EXHAUSTION

Coaches should observe special precautions when the temperature and humidity are high. To prevent dehydration, water or other liquids should be readily available on the field and the players encouraged to maintain proper fluid balance. Clothing light in color and texture should be used. Hold light workouts with frequent breaks.



Section IX Football

SECTION IX NEUTRAL SITE POLICY

It is the responsibility of the sport chairperson to consider the viability of all championship sites located within Section IX. Every consideration will be made to avoid potential scheduling issues with facilities for sectional and championship games.

The sport committees will make recommendations to the Executive Director to place all sectional finals at sites that are of the highest quality for the athletes, officials, and spectators. Once these sites for the sectional finals are established, they will not be changed due to a host team's potential involvement in the finals.

Appendix “A” - Playoffs

The Section 9 Football playoff plan includes all 5 classifications and 8 man. Playoffs will be reviewed annually by the football committee.

The Football Committee will provide no less than 50% participation, and no more than 66% participation for all 5 levels of Section 9, with playoff determination depending on the number of teams, and or divisions, for each level. (Except for a 2 team division). Under the current format, if the AA receives a BYE in the NYS Tournament and their division consists of 9, 10 or 11 teams, they will increase to 8 teams with no BYE. Along with this increase, any S9 division with less than 60% representation in the playoffs will have their numbers increase as well. Examples 2 out of 4 goes to 3 of 4, 4 out of 7 goes to 6 of 7, and 4 out of 8 goes to 6 of 8.

- 3 teams – top 2, 66%
- 4 teams – top 2, 50%
- 5 teams – top 3, 60% - 1 gets a bye, plays winner of 2/3
- 6 teams - top 4, 66% - 1/4, 2/3, winners
- 7 teams – top 4, 57% - 1/4, 2/3, winners
- 8 teams – 2 Divisions, top 2 in each. 50% - crossover 1v2, 1v2, winners
- 9 teams – 2 Divisions, top 3 in each, 66% - Division 1 & 2 winners will be seeded #1 and #2 and receive a BYE. Division 1 & Division 2 Second Place Finishers will be seeded #3 or #4 and will receive a home game. Division 1 & Division 2 3rd place finishers will be seeded #5 or #6 and will be the visiting team.
- 10 teams – 2 divisions, top 3 in each, Same as 9 team scenario listed above
- 11 teams – 2 divisions, top 6, 54%, 12 teams – 2 divisions, top 8, 66%

**** Seeding Tie Breaker –**

1. Head to Head Record
2. Win/Loss Record Against Common Opponents
3. S9 Tie Breaker with Common Opponent Loss or Losses within classification

*****In the event that there are no head to head competitions or common opponents to seed two teams, the added criteria will be as follows:**

1. Common opponent outside of classification
2. Divisional record within classification
3. Blind Draw

Lower or higher classification school opponents or out of section opponents do not count for seeding purposes.

SECTION IX ALIGNMENTS

Class AA (1025 and up)	<i>Enrollment</i>	Class A (665-1024)	<i>Enrollment</i>
<u>Division 1</u>		<u>Division 1</u>	
1. Newburgh	2867	1. Warwick	1010
2. Middletown	2106	2. Washingtonville	938
3. Monroe Woodbury	1758	3. Minisink Valley	876
4. Kingston	1446	4. FDR-Hyde Park	870
5. Pine Bush	1209	<u>Division 2</u>	
6. Valley Central	1026	1. Goshen	798
		2. Cornwall	743
		3. Wallkill	698
		4. Lourdes**	554
		Monticello - Independent	740
Class B (385-664)		Class C (261-384)	
<u>Division 1</u>		<u>Division 1</u>	
1. Beacon	645	1. Dover	374
2. Saugerties	642	2. James I. O'Neill	335
3. Liberty	567	3. Chester/Seward	306
4. Port Jervis	557		
5. New Paltz	473		
6. Marlboro	462		
<u>Division 2</u>			
7. Rondout Valley	414		
8. Spackenkill	411		
9. Red Hook	399		
10. Highland	396		
11. Fallsburg	395		
Class D (up to 260)		8-Man Football	
<u>Division 1</u>		<u>Division 1</u>	
1. John S. Burke	222	1. Sullivan West	237 – D
		2. Tri Valley	234 – D
		3. Eldred	110 – D
		4. Liv Manor/Roscoe	103 – D
		<u>Division 2</u>	
		1. Ellenville	383 – C
		2. Onteora	350 – C
		3. Pine Plains/Rhinebeck	332 – C
		4. Millbrook/Webutuck	262 – C
		5. Pawling	266 – C
<p>**Lourdes moved to Class A by Section IX Classification Committee</p>			

2024 PLAYOFF STRUCTURE

Class AA – 6 teams, 66% - 1 division: Top 4 make playoffs:

Bracket: #1 vs. 4 and #2 vs. #3

Class A – 8 teams, 50%, 1 independent - 2 divisions: Top 2 from each division; crossover playoff structure.

Bracket: Division 1 winner vs. Division 2 second place AND Division 2 winner vs. Division 1 second place

Class B – 11 teams, 54% - 2 division: 2 divisions: Top 3 from each division; Division 1 and 2 winners will be seeded 1 and 2. 2nd place finishers will be seeded 3 and 4, 3rd place finishers will be seeded 5 and 6. All higher seeds receive the home game.

Bracket: #1 and #2 BYE, #3 vs. #6, #4 vs. #5

Class C – 3 teams, 66% – 1 division: Top 2 make it to the Section IX Final;

Bracket: #1 vs. #2

Class D – 1 Team – Automatic Section 9 Champion

8 man – 9 teams 60% - 2 divisions: Top 3 from each division; Division 1 and 2 winners will be seeded 1 and 2. 2nd place finishers will be seeded 3 and 4, 3rd place finishers will be seeded 5 and 6. All higher seeds receive the home game.

Bracket: #1 and #2 BYE, #3 vs. #6, #4 vs. #5

2024 PLAYOFF SCHEDULE

- If a higher seed is scheduled to play a Friday night 7 PM game and does not have lights to host this game at night, the game will be rescheduled for the next day, Saturday @ 1 PM.
- In order to effect a change in any higher seed game date, time or venue both schools must mutually agree. The Section 9 Chairmen must also be notified of the proposal.
- If a school drops their program before the 1st game then that division will follow the new playoff structure in accordance with our Section 9 playoff appendix
- If a school drops their program after the 1st game the current Section 9 playoff structure will not change. For every scheduled game not played after the drop date will receive a -21 point differential.

Division Playoff Schedule 2024

November 1-2	8 Man	#3 vs #6	@ Higher Seed	7 PM
	8 Man	#4 vs #5	@ Higher Seed	7 PM
<u>#1 and #2 seeds in 8-man receive a BYE</u>				
November 1-2	Class B	#3 vs #6	@ Higher Seed	7 PM
	Class B	#4 vs #5	@ Higher Seed	7 PM
<u>#1 and #2 seeds in Class A receive a BYE</u>				
November 8-9	Class A	Div 1 #1 vs. Div 2 #2	@ Higher Seed	7 PM
	Class A	Div 2 #1 vs. Div 1 #2	@ Higher Seed	7 PM
November 8-9	Class B	#1 vs. winner #4 vs #5	@ Higher Seed	7PM
	Class B	#2 vs. winner #3 vs #6	@ Higher Seed	7PM
November 8-9	8 Man	#1 vs winner #4 vs #5	@ Higher Seed	7 PM
	8 Man	#2 vs winner #3 vs #6	@ Higher Seed	7 PM
November 8-9	Class AA	#1 vs #4	@ Higher Seed	7 PM
		#2 vs #3	@ Higher Seed	7 PM

Snow Dates - Sunday, November 10 and Monday, November 11

Section IX school districts should have open dates and time slots available on 11/8 and 11/9 in the event Higher Seeds have field issues during this weekend. Athletic Directors can also seek out other local venues. Higher Seeded schools are fully responsible for the facility rental fees. Section 9 is not responsible for Semifinal playoff games.

Section IX Championship Schedule 2024 – November 15-16

November 15, 2024	8 Man	James I. O’Neill HS	6:00 p.m.
November 15, 2024	Class A	FDR-Hyde Park HS	6:00 p.m.
November 15, 2024	Class C	Goshen HS	6:00 p.m.
November 16, 2024	Class AA	Newburgh Free Academy	12:00 p.m.
November 16, 2024	Class B	James I. O’Neill HS	1:00 p.m.

**Snow Dates – Saturday, November 16, Sunday, November 17 and Monday, November 18
Middletown is unavailable due to hosting the NYSPHSAA Boys’ Soccer Championships on 11/15-11/17**

Regional Championship Schedule 2024 – November 22-23

November 22, 2024	Class A	Sec. 9 vs Sec. 4ATL	Goshen HS – 6 p.m.
November 22, 2024	8 Man	Sec. 9 vs Sec. 4	James I. O’Neill HS – 6 p.m.
November 23, 2024	Class C	Sec. 9 vs Sec. 1	James I. O’Neill HS – 6 p.m.
November 23, 2024	Class AA	Sec. 9 vs Sec. 4ATL	FDR-Hyde Park HS – 12 p.m.
<u>Tentative</u> 11/23/24	Class B	Sec. 9 @ Sec. 1	TBA – Sect 1
<u>Tentative</u> 11/23/24	Class D	Sec. 9 @ Sec. 1	TBA – Sect 1

Snow Dates - Sunday, November 24 and Monday, November 25

East Semifinals Schedule 2024 Section I, II, XII, IX, X – November 29-30

November 29, 2024	8 Man	TBD	12:00 p.m.
November 29, 2024	Class D	Faller Field	3:00 p.m.
November 29, 2024	Class A	Faller Field	6:00 p.m.
November 30, 2024	Class C	Faller Field	12:00 p.m.
November 30, 2024	Class B	Faller Field	3:00 p.m.
November 30, 2024	Class AA	Faller Field	6:00 p.m.

Snow Dates - Sunday, November 26 and Monday, November 27

NYSPHSAA Finals Schedule 2024 - December 6-7

December 6, 2024	Class D	JMA Wireless Dome	12:00 p.m.
December 6, 2024	Class A	JMA Wireless Dome	3:00 p.m.
December 6, 2024	Class C	JMA Wireless Dome	6:00 p.m.
December 7, 2024	Class B	JMA Wireless Dome	12:00 p.m.
December 7, 2024	Class AA	JMA Wireless Dome	3:00 p.m.

MODIFIED FOOTBALL STANDARDS

(Updated practice requirements by NYSPHSAA approved Feb. 2019)

1. The first 2 days of practice must be non-contact exercises. Equipment shall be limited to the helmet, face mask, dental protection, T-shirt, supporter, shorts, ankle supports, socks, shoes and protective pads for elbow and/or knee areas.
2. The next 3 days of practice, shoulder pads are permissible, along with the use of blocking dummies, sleds and other similar training and teaching devices. **NO SCRIMMAGES OR LIVE CONTACT DRILLS ARE ALLOWED.**
3. The next 5 days shall consist of contact with full protective equipment and the use of training devices.
4. Scrimmages and games are permitted on the 11th day of practice. All players must have attended and participated in 10 practices before scrimmaging or playing against another school.
5. No team, or individual player, may participate in more than 7 games. Games shall be scheduled with no more than 1 game per week. In extreme cases, games may be rescheduled, if approved by the Section 9 committee.
6. A minimum of 4 nights rest must occur between games. A minimum of 3 nights rest must elapse between scrimmages.
7. At least 18 players must be dressed and available to play in all games and scrimmages.
8. Practice is limited to 6 days per week. Only 1 practice per day may be counted.
9. In modified football, two points are awarded for a point-after TD kick. One point is awarded for a run or pass.
10. Refer to the league web sites for modified by-laws:

OVERTIME PROCEDURES



NYSPHSAA 20 Yard Line Overtime Procedures

1. An overtime period is untimed play after a regulation game has ended with the score tied. During an overtime period each team has an opportunity to be on offense. However, an overtime period may include only one offensive possession if the defensive team scores a safety or touchdown.
2. When the score is tied at the end of the fourth period, the referee will instruct both teams to return to their respective team boxes. There will be a three-minute intermission during which both teams may confer with their coaches. At the end of the intermission, the linesman will go to the team on the side of the field where the line to gain equipment is located and the line judge will go to the other team. They will inform the coaches of any special penalty enforcements that apply.
3. At the coin toss in the center of the field the visiting-team's captain shall be given the privilege of calling the coin. The winner of the toss shall be given his choice of defense or offense first, or of designating the end of the field at which the ball will be put in play for this overtime period. The loser will have his choice of the other options. The referee will indicate the winner of the toss by placing a hand on his shoulder. To indicate which team will go on offense, the referee will have that captain face the goal toward which his team will advance and indicate this with the first-down signal. The other team captain will face the offensive captain with his back toward the goal he will defend.
4. Each team shall be permitted one additional time-out during each overtime period. The team scoring the greater number of points in the overtime shall be declared the winner. The final score shall be determined by totaling all points scored by each team during both regulation time and overtime periods.
5. To start the overtime, the offensive team shall put the ball in play, first and 10, on the defensive team's 20-yard line anywhere between the inbounds lines. The first offensive team shall have a series of four downs to either score or gain enough yardage for a 1st down. If the offensive team gains a first down, the possession will continue, with the ball in play as either first and 10, or first and goal if the ball is snapped inside the defensive team's 10-yard line. The offensive possession shall be terminated by any score by the offensive team, or if the defensive team has gained possession of the ball.
6. If the team on offense scores a touchdown, it is entitled to the opportunity for a try unless the points would not affect the outcome of the game or playoff qualifying. A field-goal attempt is permitted during any down. If the defensive team gains possession, the ball becomes dead immediately and the offensive team's possession is ended.

PAST CHAMPIONS

Class AA

2023: Middletown 26, Newburgh 14
2022: Newburgh 35, Middletown 0
2021: Newburgh 15, Monroe Woodbury 7
2020: Middletown 17, Monroe Woodbury 14
2019: Pine Bush 46, Monroe Woodbury 14
2018: Newburgh 20, Monroe Woodbury 9
2017: Newburgh 33, Pine Bush 6
2016: Newburgh 17, Monroe Woodbury 14
2015: Newburgh 23, Monroe Woodbury 0
2014: Newburgh 15, Monroe Woodbury 7
2013: Monroe-Woodbury 31, Newburgh 30
2012: Pine Bush 20, Monroe-Woodbury 16
2011: Newburgh 46, Warwick 21
2010: Monroe-Woodbury 48, Kingston 7
2009: Monroe-Woodbury 35, Warwick 27
2008: Monroe-Woodbury 16, Newburgh 7
2007: Monroe-Woodbury 35, Minisink Valley 28
2006: Monroe-Woodbury 26, Newburgh 3
2005: Monroe-Woodbury 34, Kingston 0
2004: Monroe-Woodbury 36, Newburgh 22
2003: Newburgh 35, Monroe-Woodbury 0
2002: Newburgh 28, Warwick 21
2001: Newburgh 27, Monroe-Woodbury 6
2000: Monroe-Woodbury 43, Newburgh 20
1999: Newburgh 14, Monroe-Woodbury 13
1998: Monroe-Woodbury 20, Newburgh 7

Class A

2023: Cornwall 47, Our Lady of Lourdes 8
2022: Our Lady of Lourdes 8, Cornwall 7
2021: Minisink Valley 13, Cornwall 7
2020: Cornwall 41, Minisink Valley 0
2019: Cornwall 44, Minisink Valley 20
2018: Cornwall 23, New Paltz 0
2017: Cornwall 52, Port Jervis 14
2016: Cornwall 31, Goshen 0
2015: Cornwall 42, Port Jervis 28
2014: Cornwall 40, Port Jervis 0
2013: Cornwall 48, Wallkill 21
2012: Cornwall 53, Wallkill 0
2011: Cornwall 28, Wallkill 14

Class C

2023: O'Neill 14, Chester 0
2022: O'Neill 42, Burke Catholic 6
2021: O'Neill 28, Chester 14
2020: O'Neill 28, Chester 12
2019: Chester unopposed
2018: Chester 48, Spackenkill 6
2017: Burke Catholic 40, Chester 12
2016: Burke Catholic 31, Millbrook 12
2015: Liberty 21, Millbrook 0
2014: Millbrook 24, Sullivan West 0
2013: Burke Catholic 48, O'Neill 40
2012: O'Neill 35, Liberty 14
2011: O'Neill 10, Burke Catholic 7
2010: Millbrook 20, Burke Catholic 19
2009: Ellenville 27, Liberty 0
2008: Ellenville 34, Sullivan West 20
2007: Tri-Valley 18, Sullivan West 6
2006: Sullivan West 48, Tri-Valley 27
2005: Sullivan West 34, Tri-Valley 7
2004: Tri-Valley 27, Pine Plains 13
2003: Tri-Valley 24, Pine Plains 16
2002: Liberty unopposed
2001: O'Neill 25, Sullivan West 8
2000: Sullivan West 37, O'Neill 6
1999: Liberty 13, Spackenkill 12
1998: Highland 35, Liberty 28

Class D

2023: John S. Burke - unopposed
2022: NONE
2021: NONE
2020: NONE
2019: NONE
2018: NONE
2017: Millbrook unopposed
2016: Roscoe/Downs/LM unopposed
2015: Roscoe/Downs/LM 40, Eldred 8
2014: Chester 55, Liv. Manor 0
2013: Chester 27, Roscoe 0
2012: Chester 53, Eldred 22
2011: Chester 41, LM/Roscoe 8

2010: Wallkill 24, Cornwall 22
2009: Cornwall 26, Wallkill 7
2008: Cornwall 37, Wallkill 14
2007: Cornwall 34, Wallkill 0
2006: Cornwall 32, Rondout Valley 6
2005: Cornwall 14, Goshen 7
2004: Wallkill 33, Port Jervis 0
2003: Cornwall 37, Wallkill 31
2002: Rondout Valley 17, Port Jervis 14
2001: Port Jervis 9, Minisink Valley 0
2000: Warwick 13, Minisink Valley 7
1999: Minisink Valley 14, Port Jervis 0
1998: Port Jervis 40, Warwick 7

Class B

2023: Port Jervis 37, Marlboro 7
2022: Port Jervis 34, New Paltz 7
2021: Port Jervis 41, Red Hook 16
2020: Port Jervis 48, Marlboro 0
2019: Port Jervis 27, Marlboro 24
2018: Marlboro 28, O'Neill 12
2017: Marlboro 27, New Paltz 25
2016: New Paltz 33, Marlboro 17
2015: Marlboro 41, O'Neill 21
2014: Marlboro 25, Burke 13
2013: Marlboro 41, Rondout Valley 7
2012: Marlboro 10, Spackenkill 7
2011: Marlboro 14, Spackenkill 7
2010: New Paltz 13, Marlboro 0
2009: James I. O'Neill 35, Highland 28
2008: Highland 19, New Paltz 16
2007: New Paltz 19, Burke Catholic 10
2006: Red Hook 14, Marlboro 12
2005: Burke 9, Red Hook 7
2004: Sullivan West 21, Marlboro 12
2003: O'Neill 20, New Paltz 16
2002: New Paltz 7, Spackenkill 6
2001: Red Hook 13, Rondout Valley 12
2000: Rondout Valley 44, Marlboro 8
1999: Red Hook 41, New Paltz 7
1998: Rondout Valley 27, Goshen 16
1997: Rondout Valley 28, New Paltz 7
1996: Rondout Valley 37, Goshen 18

2010: Chester 34, LM/Roscoe 10
2009: Eldred 45, Chester 6
2008: Chester 24, Eldred 14
2007: Eldred 20, Chester 16
2006: Chester 20, Eldred 14
2005: Eldred 27, Chester 14
2004: Chester 16, Millbrook 8
2003: Chester 24, Millbrook 18
2002: Livingston Manor 26, Roscoe 7
2001: Millbrook 35, Roscoe 15
2000: Millbrook 25, Tri-Valley 6
1999: Tri-Valley 34, Liv. Manor 7
1998: Delaware Valley 36, T-V 13

8 Man football

2023: Sullivan West 32, Pawling 20
2022: Tri Valley 43, Spackenkill 20
2021: Spackenkill 54, Sullivan West 12
2020: Pawling 34, Roscoe/LM/Downs 0
2019: Ellenville 46, Tri Valley 36
2018: Tri Valley 16, Pine Plains 12

SECTIONAL & STATE AWARDS

DIVISION PLAYOFFS

- Most Valuable Offensive Player
- Most Valuable Defensive Player

SECTIONALS

- Most Valuable Offensive Player
- Most Valuable Defensive Player
- Section 9 championship trophy (rotates from year to year)
- Plaque to first-place team

REGIONALS

- Plaque to first-place team
- Certificate of participation to each team member

STATE SEMIFINALS

- Plaque to first-place team
- Plaque to losing team

STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

- Certificate of participation to each team member
- Medals for each team participant (55 total)
- N.Y. State shaped team plaque to both teams

CONCUSSION INFORMATION

A concussion is a brain injury and all brain injuries are serious. They are caused by a bump, blow, or jolt to the head, or by a blow to another part of the body with the force transmitted to the head. They can range from mild too severe and can disrupt the way the brain normally works. Even though most concussions are mild, **all concussions are potentially serious and may result in complications including prolonged brain damage and death if not recognized and managed properly.** In other words, even a “ding” or a bump on the head can be serious. You can’t see a concussion and most sports concussions occur without loss of consciousness. Signs and symptoms of concussion may show up right after the injury or can take hours or days to fully appear. If an athlete reports any symptoms of concussion, or if you notice the symptoms or signs of concussion, seek medical attention right away.

Symptoms may include one or more of the following:

Headaches	“Don’t feel right”	“pressure in head”
Nausea or vomiting	Sadness	Fatigue or low energy
Neck pain	Nervousness or anxiety	Balance problems or dizziness
Irritability	More emotional	Blurred, double or fuzzy vision
Confusion	Drowsiness	Sensitivity to light or noise
Amnesia	Change of sleep patterns	Concentration or memory problems
Feeling foggy or groggy	Feeling sluggish	Repeating the same question/comment

Signs observed by teammates, parents and coaches may include:

Vacant facial expression	Shows behavior or personality changes	Confused about assignment
Can’t recall events prior to hit	Cannot recall events after hit	Forgets plays
Seizures or convulsions	Loses consciousness	Slurred speech
Answers questions slowly	Unsure of game, score or opponent	Change in typical behavior -
Moves clumsily or displays un-coordination		

What can happen if an athlete keeps on playing with a concussion or returns too soon? Athletes with the signs and symptoms of concussion should be removed from play immediately. Continuing to play with the signs and symptoms of a concussion leaves the young athlete especially vulnerable to greater injury. There is an increased risk of significant damage from a concussion for a period of time after that concussion occurs, particularly if the athlete suffers another concussion before completely recovering from the first one. This can lead to prolonged recovery, or even to severe brain swelling (second impact syndrome) with devastating and even fatal consequences. It is well known that adolescent or teenage athletes will often under report symptoms of injuries. And concussions are no different.

If you think an athlete has suffered a concussion:

Any athlete even suspected of suffering a concussion should be removed from the game or practice immediately. You should also inform the child’s parent/guardian if you think that a player may have a concussion.

HEAT INDEX INFORMATION

Administration of Heat Index Procedures:

- Feels Like Temperature (Heat index) or THI using a Wet Bulb indicator on the field 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.
- Download WeatherBug app to your phone or log into www.weatherbug.com. Schools may also use a Wet Bulb indicator on the field that will be used.
- Enter zip code or city and state in the location section of the app or on-line or determine the THI by using a Wet Bulb indicator.
- If the Feels Like temperature (heat index) or the Wet Bulb Indicator is 90 degrees or above, the athletic trainer, athletic director, or school designee must re-check the Feels Like temperature (heat index) or Wet Bulb indicator at halftime or midway point of the contest. If the Feels Like temperature (heat index) or Wet Bulb indicator is 96 degrees (Fahrenheit) or more, the contest will be suspended.

Please refer to the following chart to take the appropriate actions:

	Feels Like Temp (Heat Index) or Wet Bulb indicator under 79 degrees	Full activity, no restrictions
R E C O M M E N D E D	Heat Index Caution: Feels Like Temp (Heat Index) or Wet Bulb indicator 80 to 85 degrees	Provide ample water and multiple breaks. Monitor athletes for heat illness. Consider reducing the amount of time for practice.
	Heat Index Watch: Feels Like Temp (Heat Index) or Wet Bulb indicator 86 to 90 degrees	Provide ample water and multiple breaks. Monitor athletes for heat illness. Consider postponing practice to a time when Feels Like temp is lower. Consider reducing the amount of time for practice. 1 hour of recovery time for every hour of practice.
	Heat Index Warning: Feels Like Temp (Heat Index) or Wet Bulb indicator 91 to 95 degrees	Provide ample water and multiple breaks. Monitor athletes for heat illness. Consider postponing practice to a time when Feels Like temp is lower. Consider reducing the amount of time for practice. 1 hour of recovery time for every hour of practice. 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: Feels Like Temp (Heat Index) or Wet Bulb indicator 96 degrees and above	No outside activity, practice or contest, should be held. Inside activity should only be held if air conditioned.

THUNDER AND LIGHTNING POLICY

SECTION 9 THUNDER AND LIGHTNING POLICY

The occurrence of lightning and thunder is **neither subject to interpretation nor debate.** Lightning and thunder necessitates that contests, events, and practices be immediately suspended.

Chain of command

1. The chain of command at athletic events is defined as:
 - a. Superintendent of School
 - b. Principal/Building Administrator
 - c. Sport chairs or their designees
 - d. Athletic Coordinator
 - e. Host site athletic directors or their designees
 - f. Officials
 - g. Sponsoring Coach
 - h. Security Personnel

Sequential Response

1. Suspend play and direct participants to shelter in a public building or if building is unavailable, to a vehicle with a solid top.
2. Monitor weather scanners/stations
3. After lightning and thunder has passed, **wait a full 30 minutes after the last lightning strike and/or sound of thunder before resuming play.**

Host school responsibilities

1. To make a pre-event announcement that notes rules, regulations and evacuation procedures.
2. Announcement to be read: "All spectators, competitors, and personnel should go inside to the school building as quickly as possible. A vehicle with a metal roof and the windows rolled up is a safe alternative to a sturdy building. DO NOT take shelter under trees or other lone objects. DO NOT remain on, under, or near metal bleachers, fences, or backstops."
3. Consideration to cancel or resume play must take into account a minimum 30 minute wait from the time of interruption.
4. To plan for the occurrence of bad weather.

UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT POLICY

The NYSPHSAA and Section IX recognize and appreciate 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 and Section IX 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.

Coach

1. Any coach excluded by a certified official from an interschool competition for unsportsmanlike conduct 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. **The coach may not be present at the game 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.

2. A coach who strikes, shoves, kicks or makes other physical contact with the intent to do so to another person (e.g. official, another coach, player, fan) shall be expelled immediately and banned from further participation or coaching in all sports for one year from the date of the offense.

3. The coach of the player(s) who was ejected will notify his/her Athletic Director of the incident on the same day that it occurred. The Athletic Director will then contact the League Coordinator to confirm that the player(s) will not be allowed to participate in the school’s next scheduled game/games as above.

Player

1. Any member of a squad ruled out of a contest for unsportsmanlike conduct or for a flagrant foul will have the following occur:

First Ejection – that player(s) cannot participate in the next two (2) consecutive halves **in that sport**. If the season has ended the player(s) cannot attend or participate in the next scheduled contest in his/her next season of participation.

Second Ejection – that player(s) cannot participate in the next four (4) consecutive halves **in that sport**. If the season has ended the player(s) cannot attend or participate in the next two scheduled contests in his/her next season of participation.

Third Ejection – that player(s) cannot attend or participate in any remaining scheduled contests for the remainder of that sports season. If the season has ended the player(s) cannot attend or participate in the next three scheduled contests in his/her next season of participation.

Note: Disqualified from one season carry over to the next season of participation.

2. Any member of the squad who strikes, shoves, kicks or makes other physical contact with the intent to do so to an official shall be expelled from the game immediately and banned from further participation in all sports for one year from the date of the offense. **NOTE:** “Member of the squad” includes player, manager, scorekeeper, timers, statisticians.

Official

1. Unprofessional conduct on the part of official such as, but not limited to, taunting, baiting, use of profanity, shall be reported by a school administrator from the aggrieved school to the Section Executive Director. A request will be made to the appropriate sport officials’ chapter to investigate the incident and to report their action to the Section in a timely manner.

2. The official who ejected the player(s) or coach shall notify the League Coordinator prior to Noon the following day of the name(s) of the player(s) or the coach and the infraction(s). The League Coordinator shall notify the Athletic Director of the offending school.

TOMMY TOUGH STANDARDS

Section 9 Football

Tommy Tough Standards

That will begin to be implemented in the fall of 2018.

1. Implementation of a mandatory safety statement that will be read pre-game by the officials to all players in grades 7-12 at all contests commencing in the fall of 2018.
2. Identification of a "Player Safety Coach," as per USA Football.
3. Develop, promote and implement an education program for Athletic Directors, coaches, players, parents, spectators and communities focusing on safety and proper techniques as it relates to illegal helmet contacts. Programs will be designed and implemented targeting all stakeholders with our vision of minimizing risk thereby creating a safer game for all participants. Programs will begin in fall 2018.
4. Support officials associations in the enforcing of NFHS rules and regulations related to the penalties for illegal contacts and hits. Flagrant fouls will result in the appropriate yardage penalty as well as the ejection of the athlete from the contest. The illegal hits of targeting, **illegal helmet contact (butt blocking, face tackling and spearing)** and defenseless player hits will result in the appropriate yardage penalty as well as the player being removed from the field for at least one play.
5. Players and/or coaches ejected from a contest will be suspended from the next regularly scheduled contest as per the NYSPHSAA and Section IX Unsportsmanlike Conduct Policy. Repeated infractions may lead to additional penalties.
6. The Section 9 Football Coaches Association has pledged its support to the officials to make the calls necessary to minimize the risks of the all participants as well as maintain the integrity of the game.
7. Support head coaches in the downloading of game film to the Central Hudson Valley Officials Association for their review and use in the education and professional growth of all of its membership.
8. Support and work with USA Football in its efforts to promote and implement programs that are being created for the benefit of all in the game.
9. Work with Central Hudson Valley Officials Association and Section 9 Coaches Association in its commitment to dramatically reduce illegal hits. Data on the illegal hits of targeting, **illegal helmet contact (butt blocking, face tackling and spearing)** and defenseless player hits will be tracked and reported to Section IX for compilation. This data will aid us in the evaluation of our work.
10. Work with the Central Hudson Valley Officials Association in the exploration and development of the best possible evaluation programs.
11. Commitment to bring each of these initiatives to the NYSPHSAA and NFHS level.

We are confident that through the implementation of these strategies and commitment by all who love this great game we can create an even better experience for our student-athletes.

Announcements

Pre-Game Officials Statement:

“In an effort to minimize risks to you and your opponent, helmets are not to be considered weapons and are not to be used as weapons. Helmets are not to be intentionally used to initiate illegal helmet contact against an opponent, such as spearing, targeting, butt blocking and face tackling.”

Sample Public Announcement During Football Game (should be announced at least 2 times during contest):

“The (insert name of both schools) school districts salute the Section 9 Football coaches, officials and Athletic Administrators for implementing the Tommy Tough Football Standards, therefore reducing risks for all Section 9 football players. We ask all spectators to join the Section 9 football coaches and Athletic Administrators in supporting the officials when they make calls pertaining to targeting, illegal helmet contact and defenseless player hits. Thank you for your anticipated cooperation.

Tommy Tough History

ABOUT TOM CUTINELLA

Thomas Cutinella was a Shoreham-Wading River student-athlete who on October 1, 2014 in his junior year suffered a traumatic and fatal head injury playing a game that he loved. He was a bright light in the SWR community, intelligent, athletic, a positive leader who strived to serve his team, community and country. Thomas was indeed one of those individuals who made a difference and influenced all whose lives he touched. Besides his qualities of selflessness, respect and kindness he had that tremendous gift of leadership and used this gift to inspire so many.

It is in his memory, Section XI and the stakeholders in Suffolk County football have embarked on a mission to put in place standards and policies which will not only protect the integrity of the game but will be integral in minimizing the risks for all those who participate. It is through the efforts of so many that these standards have become a reality.

These standards are a way for Thomas to continue to serve us all. They are a tribute to the way he lived his life, in his death he will continue to inspire, lead and give back to those who follow. Frank Cutinella, Thomas's dad, in his presentation at the New York State Athletic Administrators Association state conference in March 2016 asked us all to continue to "Sing Tommy's song". The Tommy Tough Football Safety Standards will continue to sing his song...and the lyrics speak to serving others by reducing risks for all football student-athletes.



Thomas Cutinella