



2024-25 NJSIAA Boys & Girls Soccer Tournament

NJSIAA reserves the right to adjust, change or cancel dates, times, and locations for all NJSIAA State tournaments. Schools entering the tournament will not be granted a change of date/time due to any conflicts with school trips, proms, banquets, SATs, unless agreed upon by both schools. During the spring tournament season, we will make every effort to accommodate schools that have a conflict with their graduation.

Member schools will not be eligible to participate in any NJSIAA Tournaments if it has violated the NJSIAA Constitution, Bylaws, Rules, Regulations, Guidelines, Policies, or Procedures. Any student-athlete who transfers after the competition start date will not be eligible for this tournament (Bylaws, Article V, Section 4.K. 5).

Schools are to be reminded of the 3-team DQ rule for state tournament eligibility, which states “Any varsity team accumulating three or more player or coach disqualifications prior to the team’s participation in the state tournament will not be permitted to participate in the state tournament. The 3-team DQ rule is no longer applicable during participation in the state tournament.

The NJSIAA will follow the procedure below for schools that are disqualified from state tournament competition:

1. If a school is disqualified, either for the use of an ineligible player or violating the 3-team DQ rule, from state tournament competition after the tournament has been seeded but prior to the bracket being final, then the bracket will be reseeded and the next ranked school who entered the tournament will be included.
2. If a school is disqualified, either for the use of an ineligible player or violating the 3-team DQ rule, from state tournament competition after the tournament has been seeded and after the bracket is final, then the bracket will not be reseeded, and no additional school will be included.
3. If a school is disqualified from state tournament competition due to the use of an ineligible player during the state tournament, then the school will be removed from the tournament immediately and their last opponent will advance in their place.

Schools participating in any NJSIAA tournament are responsible for the actions and behaviors of their spectators. Schools are required to provide adequate staff security to ensure there is proper oversight of their spectators. In addition, schools are financially responsible for any damages to the property or premises caused by their student-athletes, staff, or spectators (spectators include, but are not limited to, cheerleaders, marching band participants, students, and other fans).

NJSIAA requires Certified Athletic Trainers at all its tournament events. The ATC must document all injuries on an injury report form. This form must be available to the NJSIAA upon request.

Member schools not willing or able to comply with these tournament regulations and any relevant procedures found in the Operating Procedures Handbook should not enter the tournament. Member schools are encouraged to review these tournament regulations with the school administration. Coaches must have a copy of these regulations as well as a copy of the Rule Modifications (if any) for this tournament available at all contests. Copies of these documents are available on the NJSIAA website.

NJSIAA Soccer Tournament Staff

NJSIAA Director of Boys Soccer

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Tournament Assignors

North I, North II & NP-North
Keith Breznovits
(973) 698-5673
keithbrez@verizon.net

Tournament Assignors

Central, South & NP-South
Teri Connor
(732) 598-4148
ptkak.con@verizon.net

Regional Assignors

The following regional assignors will assign the first three (3) rounds of the tournament. If you are the home team, please reach out to the appropriate assignor as to the game date, time and location ASAP.

North I Schools
Joel Stein
(973) 652-6170
soccerstein@yahoo.com

Central, NP-South Schools
Teri Connor
(732) 598-4148
ptkak.con@verizon.net

North II & NP-North Schools
Keith Breznovits
(973) 698-5673
keithbrez@verizon.net

South Schools
John Barna
(856) 534-7115
Johnj.barna3@verizon.net

Sectional Assignors

The following sectional assignors will assign the sectional finals, please reach out to the appropriate assignor as to the game date, time and location ASAP.

North I, North II & NP-North
Keith Breznovits
(973) 698-5673
keithbrez@verizon.net

Central, South & NP-South
Teri Connor
(732) 598-4148
ptkak.con@verizon.net

New for This Year's State Tournament

1. The NJSIAA will assign the officials for all rounds of the tournament.
2. The new PowerPoint system will be used this season.
3. When a game ends in a tie after overtime, it shall be recorded as a tie. In any tournament game that requires a team to advance, the advancing team shall be recorded as the winner regardless of the overtime procedure used. The final score should reflect one (1) additional point for the advancing team.

Soccer Tournament Dates

Event	Dates		
First Practice:	August 19, 2024		
Competition Start:	August 26, 2024		
Entry Form Opens:	October 1, 2024		
Entry Form Closes:	October 15, 2024		
Conflict of Interest Form Due:	October 15, 2024		
Cutoff:	October 26, 2024		
PowerPoints Close at Noon	October 27, 2024		
Tournament Seeding:	October 30, 2024		
Regular Season Competition Ends:	November 24, 2024		
Post-Season Meeting:	TBA		
Public Tournament	Dates (Boys)	Dates (Girls)	Location
Round 1 - All Groups:	November 5, 2024	November 4, 2024	Higher Seed
Round 2 - All Groups:	November 8 or 9, 2024*	November 7, 2024	Higher Seed
Round 3 - All Groups:	November 12, 2024	November 11, 2024	Higher Seed
Sectional Finals:	November 15 or 16, 2024*	November 14, 2024	Higher Seed
State Semifinals:	November 19, 2024	November 18, 2024	Predetermined
State Finals:	November 23 or 24, 2024	November 23 or 24, 2024	Franklin H.S.
Non-Public Tournament	Dates (Boys)	Dates (Girls)	Location
Round 1 - All Groups:	November 5, 2024	November 4, 2024	Higher Seed
Round 2 - All Groups:	November 8 or 9, 2024*	November 7, 2024	Higher Seed
Round 3 - All Groups:	November 12, 2024	November 11, 2024	Higher Seed
Sectional Finals:	November 15 or 16, 2024*	November 14, 2024	Higher Seed
State Finals:	November 20 or 21, 2024	November 20 or 21, 2024	Franklin H.S.

All tournament rounds are **PLAY ON** dates. Schools can mutually agree to move tournament dates except for the state finals. If schools do not agree, then it must be played on the date listed. If any date is moved by mutual agreement, the potential next round opponents must be notified ASAP.

*For rounds two (2) and the sectional finals, the game may be played on either of the dates provided. The home team will determine which date to play on and no mutual agreement is required.

Public State Semifinals

Boys State Semifinals	Girls State Semifinals
November 19, 2024	November 18, 2024
North I vs. North II - Central vs. South	North I vs. North II - Central vs. South
Host Teams: North II & South	Host Teams: North I & Central
The host schools will wear dark (home) uniforms.	The host schools will wear dark (home) uniforms.

Game times for the state semifinals will be: 2:00pm (no lights), 4:00pm (with lights). Games may be played at an alternate time if both schools agree. If schools cannot agree, the above times will be used.

Non-Public State Finals

Boys State Finals	Girls State Finals
November 20 or 21, 2024	November 20 or 21, 2024
Location – Franklin H.S.	Location – Franklin H.S.
Non-Public B – Time TBD	Non-Public B - TBD
Non-Public A – Time TBD	Non-Public A -TBD
North Schools will wear Dark Jerseys	North Schools will wear Dark Jerseys
South Schools will wear White Jerseys	South Schools will wear White Jerseys

Public State Finals

Boys State Finals	Girls State Finals
November 24, 2024	November 23, 2024
Franklin H.S.	Franklin H.S.
Group 3 @ 10:00 AM	Group 3 @ 10:00 AM
Group 4 @ 12:30 PM	Group 4 @ 12:30 PM
Group 1 @ 3:00 PM	Group 1 @ 3:00 PM
Group 2 @ 5:30 PM	Group 2 @ 5:30 PM
North I / North II will wear Dark Jerseys	North I / North II will wear Dark Jerseys
Central / South will wear White Jerseys	Central / South will wear White Jerseys

No practice sessions will be permitted at the final facilities. There are no restrictions on schools practicing at other artificial turf sites if they can secure the facility.

Bench personnel for the State Finals will be limited to Team players in uniform, four (4) coaches, three (3) managers/statisticians/scorekeepers, two (2) ball runners, and one (1) Athletic Trainer.

To Qualify for the Team Tournament

1. Teams must be competing on a varsity interscholastic basis and sixty percent (60%) of the games played on or before the cutoff date must be against New Jersey schools.
2. The top 16 teams from each section and each group will qualify for this tournament using the PowerPoint system.
3. Games played after the cutoff date will not count toward the PowerPoint calculation even if they were started before the cutoff date.
4. If there is a tie in power points, the current NJSIAA tie-breaking procedure will break all ties.
5. Any player with two (2) or more disqualifications in the current season, prior to the start of the tournament, will be unable to compete in the state tournament.
6. Any varsity team accumulating three (3) or more player or coach disqualifications prior to the start of the tournament will not be permitted to participate in the state tournament.

PowerPoint Procedure

The PowerPoints earned from each game are based on the sum of Quality Points and Residual Points, which is then multiplied by a strength of schedule factor (OOWP). The sum of each game's power points will then be averaged, and the result will be your team's PowerPoints. All PowerPoints will be rounded to three (3) decimal places where applicable.

Formula:

Step 1: (Quality Points + Residual Points) x OOWP = Game PowerPoints

Step 2: (Sum of Game PowerPoints) / Number of Games = Team PowerPoints

Notes:

1. All games played from opening day to the cutoff date will count, regardless of how many games are played.
2. Soccer predetermined minimum number of games is 12. All teams that fall below this minimum number are still eligible for the playoffs, however their points will be divided by the minimum number of 12.
3. Residual points will be awarded based on your opponents' **first 12 games**.
4. Ties will be calculated only for sports where the regulations state ties are acceptable outcomes.

Out of State / Non-Member Opponents – Games against out-of-state or non-member opponents will count for power points and will follow the same calculation procedure as games against member schools except they will be assigned a .500 record for the purposes of residual points and OOWP calculations.

Entry Procedure

1. The entry form must be completed online during the time period listed above.
2. All varsity schedules & rosters must be entered in njschoolsports by the start of the season. Rosters must be checked and updated, if necessary, by the start of the tournament. We cannot guarantee any roster changes made after the start of the tournament will make it into the tournament program.
3. All varsity scores must be reported to www.njschoolsports.com as soon as possible after each contest. If you encounter problems, please contact hssupport@njadvancemedia.com.
4. During the **regular season**, when a game ends in a tie after overtime, it shall be recorded as a tie and the teams will split the PowerPoints.
5. For all **regular season** County, Conference, or league tournaments that require a winning team to advance, the team advancing shall be recorded as the winner regardless of the overtime procedure used. The winning team shall receive all the PowerPoints. When entering the results in njschoolsports, the final score should reflect one (1) additional point for the winning team.
6. PowerPoints will be downloaded from the njschoolsports website on the date listed above at noon. Coaches are reminded that all team information must be totally up to date and checked for accuracy before the data is downloaded.
7. The officials Conflict of Interest form must be completed by the date listed above.

Entry Fee

- \$90.00 per team, Payable to the NJSIAA (Please note Soccer Tournament).
- Forward all entry fees to: NJSIAA, 1161 Route 130 North, Robbinsville, NJ 08691

Tournament Seeding

1. The qualifying schools in each group and each section will be seeded by the tournament staff.
2. Teams will be seeded based on their PowerPoint totals.
3. If there is a tie in power points for seeding, we will use the current NJSIAA tie-breaking procedure.
4. **The media may post brackets following the completion of the seeding meeting, however seedings and brackets do not become official until 12:00pm on the day after seeding.**

PowerPoint Tie Breaking Procedure

1. Head-to-Head Competition. Any ties involving 3 or more teams, move to step #2
2. Average quality points per game.
3. Average residual points per game.
4. Average OOWP for all opponents.
5. Common opponent winning percentage
 - a. Example: Team A is 3-0 (100%) vs. team C and team B is 2-0 (100%) vs. team C, go to #6
 - b. Example: Team A is 2-1 (.667%) vs. team C and team B is 1-1 (.500%) vs. team C, Team A wins
6. Team total winning percentage
7. Coin Toss

The tie breaking procedure above includes all contests from the competition start date to the cutoff date.

Tournament Rules & Information

1. The NFHS Soccer Rules along with any NJSIAA soccer rule modifications will govern this tournament.
2. All tournament rounds are **PLAY ON** dates. Schools can mutually agree to move tournament dates except for the state finals. If schools do not agree, then it must be played on the date listed. If any date is moved by mutual agreement, the potential next round opponents must be notified ASAP.
3. Game times for all rounds up to and including the sectional finals will be designated by the higher-seeded team. The recommended start times are:
 - a. No lights: 3:00pm up to the eastern standard time change, then it is 2:00pm.
 - b. With lights: 4:00pm.
 - c. Non-School Days: Times to be established by the home team.
4. The NJSIAA may need to establish the start times if there is any disagreement between schools.
5. All game times are pending the official's availability. Athletic Directors must communicate consistently throughout all rounds up to and including the sectional finals regarding start times and field locations.
6. Game times for the state finals will be established by the NJSIAA.

7. All games that cannot be played on the designated date because of the weather, the game must be played on the following day. Teams must adhere to the deadline of the succeeding round, even though games may be played on consecutive days.
8. When conditions prevent a game from being played at the site of the higher seeded team in a reasonable amount of time, the tournament director may choose an alternate site, which may include the lower seeded teams' field.
9. Higher-seeded schools hosting tournament games must provide an athletic trainer for both teams. Each school will be asked to provide its own athletic trainer when tournament games are not held at a higher-seeded school.
10. The winning school must notify njschoolsports.com immediately after each game, and the competing schools must notify the local newspapers to keep the media informed as to the tournament progression.
11. Participating schools must assign adequate supervision for all games, home and away.
12. The higher seeded team (Home Team) will wear dark jerseys for all games up to and including the sectional finals.
13. State tournament games suspended because of conditions which make it impossible to continue play, should be played to completion from the point of interruption. If the losing team at the point of interruption does not want to return to complete the game, the game will be considered complete.
14. Each school must provide three (3) NFHS approved soccer balls for all games and the officials will decide which are to be used.
15. Each school must provide two (2) ball-persons for all games. Coaching by the ball persons is forbidden. Fifteen (15) minutes prior to game time the ball person from each team will meet with the official for instructions.
16. The Wilson soccer ball is the official soccer ball of the NJSIAA tournament. The NJSIAA will provide 6 Wilson soccer balls to be used in all state finals games.

Overtime Procedure

Any tournament game that ends in a tie, the overtime procedure will be as follows:

1. There shall be up to two (2) ten (10) -minute "sudden victory" overtime periods.
 - Coin toss shall be held as in Rule 5-2-2(E).
 - Teams shall change ends if a second overtime period is required.
 - There shall be a two (2)-minute interval between periods.
2. If the score remains tied:
 - The head referee shall choose the goal at which all of the kicks from the penalty mark shall be taken.
 - Each coach will select five (5) players, on or off the field (except those who have been disqualified), to take the kicks.
 - A coin toss shall be held as in Rule 5-2-2(E). The team winning the toss shall have the choice of kicking first or second.
 - Teams will alternate kickers. There is no follow-up on the kick.
 - The defending team may change the goalkeeper prior to each kick.
 - Following five (5) kicks for each team, the team scoring on the greatest number of these kicks shall advance. The kicks shall end at the point where the advancing team has been determined.
3. If the score remains tied after each team has taken five (5) kicks:
 - Each coach will select any five (5) players, whether or not a player participated in the initial five (5) kicks, to take another set of five (5) kicks in the same team order in a sudden victory situation, wherein if one team scores and the other team does not score, the game is ended without more kicks being taken.
4. If the score remains tied after the second set of five kicks, the process will continue to repeat until a winner is determined.

Officials Assignments

The NJSIAA will assign all officials for all rounds of the tournament.

Rounds 1 & 2

- 2 game officials.
- All officials are **assigned** by the NJSIAA.
- Higher-seeded schools pay all officials at the area agreed-upon rate.

Round 3

- 1 Referee
- 2 Linesman
- All officials are **assigned** by the NJSIAA.
- Higher-seeded schools pay all officials at the area agreed-upon rate.

Sectional Finals

- 1 Referee
- 2 Linesman
- All officials are **assigned and paid** by the NJSIAA.

State Semis-Finals

- 1 Referee
- 3 Linesman
- All officials are **assigned and paid** by the NJSIAA.

State Finals

- 1 Referee
- 3 Linesman
- 1 Official Timer
- All officials are **assigned and paid** by the NJSIAA.

Awards

Sectional Champions:

A team trophy and thirty (30) certificates to each Sectional Champion in each Group.

State Champions:

A team trophy and thirty (30) certificates to each State Champion in each Group.