

**NEW JERSEY STATE INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION**  
Route 130, P. O. Box 487                      Robbinsville, NJ 08691

**TO:           ATHLETIC DIRECTORS**  
**FROM:       Robert W. Baly, Assistant Director**  
**DATE:        December 2008**

**RE:    2009 - 2010 SCHOOL YEAR OPENING DATES (FALL)**

Legislation passed on December 1, 2003 eliminates the “Early Opener” requests and starts all fall schedules the Friday before the second Saturday of September exclusive of Tennis.

Summer Recess practices do not count for “six day” interschool scrimmage or game provisions. Only those practices from the official opening practice date of a Sport Season may be counted to fulfill this requirement.

“Official” practices, scrimmages and games must be in compliance with the chart listed below and Rule 2, Section 6 (20 day Rule).

**Example:** If a team opens their schedule on September 11<sup>th</sup>, they may scrimmage on August 28<sup>th</sup> and start counting official practices on August 22<sup>nd</sup> as indicated below.

**EFFECTIVE FALL 2009**

<b><u>OPENING ON:</u></b>	<b><u>THEN 1<sup>ST</sup> SCRIMMAGE ON:</u></b>	<b><u>OFFICIAL NJSIAA 6 DAYS OF PRACTICE STARTS ON:</u></b>
September 11	August 28	August 22
September 12	August 29	August 23
September 13	August 30	August 24
September 14	August 31	August 25
September 15	September 1	August 26
September 16	September 2	August 27
September 17	September 3	August 28
September 18	September 4	August 29

**REMINDER (NEW): FOOTBALL ONLY** – Official practice for scrimmage purposes begins 25 days prior to the opening date. Scrimmages may occur after 6 days of practice. Example: September 11<sup>th</sup> opening date – first official practice August 22 – first scrimmage is August 28.

**REMINDER: TENNIS** – Teams may open on September 8<sup>th</sup> after six days of official practice, which may start on August 14, with the first scrimmage on August 21, 2009.