



## 2023-24 NJSIAA Boys & Girls Soccer Tournament

NJSIAA reserves the right to adjust, change or cancel dates, times, and locations for all NJSIAA State tournaments. 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 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. The NJSIAA will make every effort to accommodate schools that have a conflict with their graduation.

Schools that are disqualified 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. If a school is disqualified 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. If a school is disqualified from state tournament competition 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.

<b><u>NJSIAA Director of Boys Soccer</u></b>	<b><u>Boys Tournament Director</u></b>	<b><u>NJSIAA Rules Interpreter</u></b>
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## New for This Year's State Tournament

1. No Changes for this year

### Soccer Tournament Dates

Event	Dates		
First Practice:	August 21, 2023		
First Scrimmage:	August 28, 2023		
Opening Day:	September 7, 2023		
Transfer Date:	September 7, 2023		
Entry Form Opens:	October 1, 2023		
Entry Form Closes:	October 15, 2023		
Conflict of Interest Form Due:	October 15, 2023		
Cutoff:	October 21, 2023		
Tournament Seeding:	October 23, 2023		
Regular Season Competition Ends:	November 12, 2023		
Post-Season Meeting:	TBA		
Public Tournament	Dates (Boys)	Dates (Girls)	Location
Round 1 - All Groups:	October 25, 2023	October 26, 2023	Higher Seed
Round 2 - All Groups:	October 28, 2023	October 30, 2023	Higher Seed
Round 3 - All Groups:	November 1, 2023	November 2, 2023	Higher Seed
Sectional Finals:	November 4, 2023	November 6, 2023	Higher Seed
State Semifinals:	November 8, 2023	November 9, 2023	Predetermined
State Finals:	Nov. 11, 2023	Nov. 12, 2023	TBA
Non-Public Tournament	Dates (Boys)	Dates (Girls)	Location
Round 1 - All Groups:	October 27, 2023	October 27, 2023	Higher Seed
Round 2 - All Groups:	October 31, 2023	October 31, 2023	Higher Seed
Round 3 - All Groups:	November 3, 2023	November 3, 2023	Higher Seed
Sectional Finals:	November 7, 2023	November 7, 2023	Higher Seed
State Finals:	November 10, 2023	November 10, 2023	Kean University

## Tournament Schedule

### Public State Semifinals

Boys State Semifinals	Girls State Semifinals
November 8, 2023	November 9, 2023
North I vs. North II - Central vs. South	North I vs. North II - Central vs. South
Host Teams: North I & Central	Host Teams: North II & South
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.

## Boys State Finals

Non- Public - Boys State Finals	Public Boys State Finals
November 10, 2023	Saturday, November 11, 2023
Kean University	TBA
Non-Public B – Boys @ 11:00 AM Non-Public B – Girls @ 1:30 PM	Group 4 @ 10:00 AM
Non-Public A – Boys @ 4:00 PM Non-Public A- Girls @ 6:30 PM	Group 1 @ 12:30 PM
	Group 2 @ 3:00 PM
	Group 3 @ 5:30 PM
Dark Jerseys Public Schools: Central & South	
Dark Jerseys Non-Public Schools: South A & South B	
White Jerseys Public Schools: North I & North II	
White Jerseys Non-Public Schools: North A & North B	

No practice sessions will be permitted at the final facility. There are no restrictions on schools practicing at other artificial turf sites if they can secure the facility. Both turf shoes and regular soccer shoes may be worn on the turf field.

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. shoes may be worn on the turf field.

## Girls State Finals

Non – Public Girls State Finals	Public Girls State Finals
November 10, 2023	Sunday, November 12, 2023
Kean University	TBA
Non-Public B - TBD	Group 4 @ 10:00 AM
Non-Public A -TBD	Group 1 @ 12:30 PM
	Group 2 @ 3:00 PM
	Group 3 @ 5:30 PM
Dark Jerseys Public Schools: Central & South	
Dark Jerseys Non-Public Schools: South A & South B	
White Jerseys Public Schools: North I and North II	
White Jerseys Non-Public Schools: North A & North B	

No practice sessions will be permitted at the final facility. There are no restrictions on schools practicing at other artificial turf sites if they can secure the facility. Both turf shoes and regular soccer shoes may be worn on the turf field.

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 NJSIAA power point system will be used to qualify all teams for the tournament. Only NJSIAA full or federated member school games will count toward PowerPoints.
3. Games played after the cutoff date will not count toward the PowerPoint calculation even if they were started before the cutoff date.
4. The top 16 teams from each section and each group will qualify for this tournament using the PowerPoint system.
5. PowerPoint calculation for soccer will be using the **12 best** power-pointed games from opening day to the cutoff date regardless of how many games were played.
6. Residual points earned from opponents will be calculated using the opponent's **first 12** games played.
7. If there is a tie in power points, the current NJSIAA tie-breaking procedure will break all ties.
8. Teams that play less than 12 games will still be eligible for the tournament based on their total power points achieved at the cutoff.
9. 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.
10. 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. Seeded teams will forfeit their right to compete if a disqualification limit is reached prior to the start of the tournament for the team.

### **Entry Procedure**

1. All varsity schedules & rosters must be entered in njschoolsports.com by the start of the season.
2. All varsity scores must be reported to [www.njschoolsports.com](http://www.njschoolsports.com) as soon as possible after each contest. If you encounter problems, please contact [hssupport@njadvancemedia.com](mailto:hssupport@njadvancemedia.com).
3. When a team wins or loses in overtime, the win or loss must be reported to njschoolsports.com. In League, Conference, or County Tournament games that require a team to advance, it shall be recorded as a tied game if the score remains tied after the completion of the overtime periods.
4. Power Points will be downloaded from the njschoolsports.com website on the date listed above at noon. The seeding committee will use this information to seed the tournament. Coaches are reminded that all team information must be totally up to date and checked for accuracy.
5. The entry form must be completed online during the time period listed above.
6. The officials Conflict of Interest form must be completed by the date listed above.

### **Tournament Seeding**

1. The qualifying schools in each group and each section will be seeded using the NJSIAA power point system.
2. Teams will be seeded based on their power point 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.**

### **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 Rules & Information**

1. The NFHS Soccer Rules along with any NJSIAA soccer rule modifications will govern this tournament.
2. Game times for the first three (3) rounds and 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.

3. All game times are pending official's availability. Athletic Directors must communicate consistently through the first four (4) rounds of the tournament regarding start times.
4. The NJSIAA and the tournament director will determine the start times for the first four (4) rounds if there is any disagreement with start times between schools.
5. Game times for the state finals will be established by the NJSIAA and the Tournament Director. Any adjustment to the established times must be approved by the Tournament Director.
6. Since some schools must use a field with lights for other sports, time adjustment will be at the discretion of the home team pending official's availability.
7. All games will be played on the date designated for that round with the following day as the rain date. If rain delays the completion of that round, 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. Schools will be asked to provide their own athletic trainers throughout the tournament.
10. Each school must provide three (3) top-grade NFHS approved, playable soccer balls for all games and the officials will decide which are to be used.
11. The Wilson soccer ball is the official soccer ball of the NJSIAA tournament. Only the Wilson soccer ball provided may be used during the State Finals. The NJSIAA will provide 6 Wilson soccer balls to be used in all state finals games.
12. 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.
13. In accordance with NJSIAA policy, banners (homemade) will NOT be permitted to be hung at game sites, including the State Final sites. Please notify fans that hand-held signs and noisemakers will not be permitted.
14. As per National Federation rules, no electrical or electrical communication devices are permitted.
15. Participating schools must assign adequate supervision for all games, home and away.
16. Each school must provide two (2) ball-persons for all games.
17. The higher seeded team (Home Team) will wear dark jerseys for all games up to and including the sectional finals.
18. State tournament games suspended because of conditions which make it impossible to continue play, should be played to completion from the point of interruption. All cautions issued in the terminated game will be in effect for rescheduled terminated game. If the losing team at the point of interruption does not want to return to complete the game, the game will be considered complete.

**State Tournament assignors:** (Both assignors will conference with each other on overlapping areas.)

Teri Connor, (732) 598-4148, [ptkak.con@verizon.net](mailto:ptkak.con@verizon.net)

- Central, South, Non-public South, Burlington County, Shore Conference

Keith Breznovits, (973) 698-5673, [keithbrez@verizon.net](mailto:keithbrez@verizon.net)

- North I, North II, Non-public North, Mercer County, Middlesex County

### **Officials Assignments**

The higher seeded school is responsible for contacting their local assignor to obtain officials for tournament rounds one (1), two (2), and three (3). The NJSIAA will assign the officials from the sectional finals to the end of the tournament.

#### Rounds 1 & 2

- 2 game officials assigned by the local assignor.
- Higher seeded school pays both officials at the area agreed upon rate.

#### Round 3

- 3 game officials assigned by the local assignor.
- Higher seeded school pays all 3 officials at the area agreed upon rate.

### Sectional Finals

- NJSIAA will assign and pay for the 3 officials.
- 1 Referee
- 2 Linesman

### State Semis-Finals

- NJSIAA will assign and pay for the 4 officials & 1 timer.
- 1 Referee
- 3 Linesman
- 1 Timer

### State Finals

- NJSIAA will assign and pay for the 4 officials & 1 timer.
- 1 Referee
- 3 Linesman
- 1 Timer

### **Host School Assignment of Officials Procedure**

1. All schools hosting games that require them to assign the officials must do so by using their local assignor.
2. The local assignor must be contacted ASAP as to the time and location of the game.
3. Schools are to treat these rounds like a regular-season game regarding the assignment of officials.
4. School/Coaches will not be permitted to request specific officials.
5. Any preferred or not preferred lists used during the regular season will not be used during the state tournament.
6. Only the conflict of interest form will be used to assign all tournament games. Assignors will be notified of this procedure.
7. Host schools must notify their assignors within a timely fashion prior to any change of game time and or site location.
8. If your local assignor will not be assigning the tournament games, please contact the regional or state assignor who is assigned to your area ASAP.

### **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.

### **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.