Members in Attendance:
Voting: Allison Munch, State Rules Interpreter, Vic Dudka, Assignor, Donna Martello, Tournament Director; Athletic Directors: Ernie Covington, Bordentown HS, Derrick Levine, Camden Catholic HS; Coaches: Nicolette Cannizzaro, Burlington Twp. HS, Pamela Pickett, Buena HS, Debbie Schwartz, Donovan Catholic HS, Nicole Velardi, Cedar Grove HS.

Non-voting: NJSIAA Assistant Director, Kim DeGraw-Cole.

Approval of the 2018 Minutes: Motion by Allison Munch, second by Vic Dudka, Unanimous.

Correspondence & Discussion:

Protective Masks: Chris Brown, Park Ridge HS
New Jersey will continue to follow the NFHS Softball Rules which permits the use of protective masks, however it is not mandatory. The masks presently worn by infield players are not NOCSAE or ASTM certified.

Scorebook Stats: Chris Carroll, Kittatinny HS
The coaches believe this is an issue, when coaches inflate statistics to benefit players for all county, conference or state selection. Point of Emphasis for 2020: Scorekeepers are encouraged to check their scorebooks at the end of each full inning. Coaches are encouraged to determine the stats and not leave in the hands of the students.

Check Swing: Joe Trentacosta, West Milford HS
Allison Munch provided a description of the ruling to the coaches and will gather additional information and input to determine if a modification would be helpful. The NFHS is working on the mechanics manual this summer.

Power Points, reporting: Colleen Moyle, Pompton Lakes HS
Warren Rotella, JFK HS
Coaches communications-seeding/power pts/reporting
Addressed as part of the tournament regulations.

Thank You: Anne Marie Mercado, St. Joseph’s Hammonton
Tournament Review:

Tournament Sites:

Ivy Hill Park for the Tournament of Champions viewed as a positive site and experience.

Kean University is viewed as a great place for the Group Finals.

State Semi-Finals: some concerns registered as to warm up areas, turf fields, and possible other opportunities to explore. 1:00 & 4:00 pm time slots, unless we secure additional sites and move to single games.

Tournament Regulations:

- Remove the 50% winning record and seed purely on power points: Motion by Ernie Covington, second by Nicolette Cannizzaro. Unanimous
- A review of the power points after the cutoff. Athletic Director must notify the NJSIAA Assistant Director, kcole@njsiaa.org of any issue by 4:00 pm the day after the cutoff. The NJSIAA will work with njschoolsports to rectify any corrections. Coaches will not be permitted to make changes effective 11:59 pm the evening of the Cutoff.
- Ties in the Power Point Calculation: Discussion, no action. Ties will not be recognized for Softball for power point calculations.
- Add Sectional Trophies will be sent to the #1 Seeded Team (available at games)
- Brackets will be final at 11:59 pm the day of the seeding, unless there was an error by the Seeding Committee.
- Tournament of Champions clarification: Higher seed is the home team and selects the dugout.
- In an effort to keep the tournament progressing, when a change of site is required, the NJSIAA Softball Tournament Staff reserves the right to designate a “home” team for the State Semi-Final round, as per the rotation of payment of officials.
- Remove the requirement for a full 7 inning game, when weather or darkness creates suspension and both teams agree to the outcome. The agreement must be verified the School administration, not coaches.
- Game Balls: for the Public State Semi-Finals and Non-Public Sectional Finals both teams will provide 4 NFHS optic yellow softballs. (Pre-determined Sites)
- E-mail confirmation for out of state process, discussion with Tony Maselli.
- Tournament of Champions seeding: discussion of using power points. The committee took no action. Committee seeding will remain in place for 2020.
• **Tournament Officials: Recommendation for 2020**

  Rounds 1 & 2 (2 umpires): $85 per umpire, host school pays  
  Round 3 (3 umpires): $85 per umpire, host school pays  
  Public Sectional Finals (3 umpires): $90 per umpire- host school pays  
  Public State Semi-Finals & Non-Public Sectional Finals: $95 Home Rotation

  If a game is postponed for any reason less than an hour prior to the start time, each umpire shall be compensated with ½ game fee for travel.

  Once a game begins and is suspended due inclement weather, darkness or field conditions, each umpire shall be paid the full game fee.

  Each umpire assigned to complete a suspended game shall be paid the full game fee.

  Motion by Debbie Schwartz, second by Nicole Velardi, Unanimous.

  Allison Munch described the process for the rotation of officials among the chapters, and the method for selection. (12 chapters-6 chapters/year)

• **POINT OF EMPHASIS**: The Officials Form (completed by the coaches/athletic directors) is extremely important as a means of identifying the most competent, qualified umpires. Schools are encouraged to complete.

• **POINT OF EMPHASIS**: The NJSIAA recommends that county and conference tournaments be completed prior to the group finals, whenever possible.

**Softball Modifications:**
  • Suspended/Halted game: no change  
  • Eye Black: to be used as intended, one single color, one single line under the eye to prevent sun glare. (umpires must be cautioned when smearing occurs this is still within the modification). No intimidating markings. Motion by Allison Munch, second by Ernie Covington. Passes 6-1.

**2020 Tournament Dates: Tentative**
  Practice: March 6 and Game Date: April 1, 2020

**CUT-OFF DATE**: May 7, 2020 (the cutoff for records: 11:59 pm). Any issues must be reported to kcole@njsiaa.org by 4:00 pm on 5/8/20. Records will be pulled on 5/8/20 and power points at that time will be used for seeding.  
  Tournament Refusal Date: May 7, 2020.

  Seeding Meeting: **Monday, May 11, 2020**
2020 Tournament Dates (continued)

Date Confirmation must be secured from the Assignor: On or before provides flexibility in scheduling, however it is contingent upon umpire availability.

NON-PUBLIC: (Note Memorial Day is May 25, 2020)

Preliminaries: 1st round on or before Saturday May 16 (Rain 5/19)-Not on 5/14
2nd round on or before Thursday, May 21 (Rain 5/22)
3rd round on Tuesday May 26 (Rain 5/27)

Sectional Finals: Thursday, May 28, 2020 (Rain 5/29)

PUBLIC: (Note Memorial Day is May 25, 2020)

Preliminaries: 1st round on or before Thursday, May 14 (Rain 5/15)
2nd round on or before Monday, May 18 (Rain 5/19)
3rd round on or before Thursday, May 21 (Rain 5/22)

Sectional Finals: Tuesday, May 26, 2020 (Rain 5/27)

State Semifinal: Thursday, May 28, 2020 (Rain 5/29)

Public and Non-Public Finals: Saturday, May 30 (2:30/5:00/7:30) and Sunday, May 31 (12/2:30/5) at Kean University.

TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS:
At Seton Hall, Ivy Hill Park
Times: move to 1:00 & 4:00 for Quarter and Semi?

Tuesday, June 2, 2020 Quarter-Finals at 5:00 & 7:00 (3/6; 4/5)

Wednesday, June 3, 2020 Semi-Finals at 5:00 & 7:00 (2 vs 3/6 winner; 1 vs 4/5 winner)

Friday, June 6, 2020 Finals at 7:30 pm

Meeting adjourned 1:15 Motion by Pam Pickett, second by Derrick Levine. Unanimous.