

# NJSIAA 2018 Football Tournament Regulations

## Regular Season Regulations

### **NFHS Rules:**

National Federation Football Rules shall govern all NJSIAA games, including Regular Season, Championship Playoff and Regional Crossover games.

### **Start of Practice:**

Official practice starts on **Wednesday, August 8, 2018**. With Board approval, heat acclimatization may begin on Monday, August 6, 2018 but not earlier.

### **Start of Regular Season Schedule:**

Thursday, August 30, 2018

### **End of Season:**

As provided for in Program Regulations, Section 10.

### **Transfers:**

Any transfer on or after half of the regular season is not eligible for post-season play. (NJSIAA Bylaws Article V, Section K, paragraph 2c.)

<b>First Game</b>	<b>Transfer Date*</b>
Thurs, Aug. 30 <sup>th</sup>	Thurs, Oct. 4 <sup>th</sup>
Fri, Aug. 31 <sup>st</sup>	Fri, Oct. 5 <sup>th</sup>
Sat, Sept. 1 <sup>st</sup>	Sat, Oct. 6 <sup>th</sup>
Sun, Sept. 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Sun, Oct. 7 <sup>th</sup>
Fri, Sept 7 <sup>th</sup>	Fri, Oct. 13 <sup>th</sup>
Sat, Sept 8 <sup>th</sup>	Sat, Oct. 14 <sup>th</sup>
*Transfer on or after this date is not eligible.	

### **Scrimmages:**

The first available scrimmage date is **Wednesday, August 15, 2018**. Football scrimmages will be permitted twice per week. Scrimmages during the regular season count toward the allowable number of games.

### **Games per Nine Days, per 24-hour Period:**

It is recommended that a player participates in no more than two football games during any nine-day period; however, a player may not participate in more than one scheduled game during a twenty-four (24) hour period. This includes freshman, sophomore, junior varsity and varsity competition. A team may not play more than two football games in a period of nine days. The 24 hour period begins with the start of the first game until the start of the next contest.

### **Maximum Games:**

A member school may play no more than **ten (10)** games (including scrimmages as provided for in Program Regulations, Section 7). The regular season schedule for each member school must reflect competition of no less than 70% against New Jersey schools (Non-Public Group III and Non-Public Group IV are excluded from this requirement).

**Postponed/Suspended Games:**

Member schools must play a postponed game no later than Tuesday of the following week (Monday if either team is scheduled to play on the following Friday.) This rule also applies to suspended games which are to be continued according to Conference or NJSIAA procedures.

When a game is postponed during week 8, that game **must** be played on the next day. There will be no regularly scheduled games permitted on **Sunday, October 28, 2018**.

**Please refer to NJSIAA Guidelines, Policies and Procedures...Suspended Football Games (p. 34).**

**League and Conference Play-off Games:**

Member schools may, with Executive Committee approval, play play-off games to break a tie for league or conference championships so long as the maximum number of games either school plays during that season does not exceed ten games, including the play-offs. Such play-off must be played no later than ten (10) days after Thanksgiving. This provision is not applicable to the NJSIAA Football Playoff resolution.

**Game Management – Running Clock Rule:**

For all levels of play, during both the Regular Season, Championship Playoffs and Regional Crossover games, if the score differential reaches 35 points or more in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half, the clock will stop only for a score, time out, penalty or injury. If the score differential drops below 35 points, normal timing rules will again be in effect.

**Reporting of Schedules and Team Contacts:**

All schools will be required to submit their schedules and primary team contact information (name, title, cell phone number) to **Gridiron New Jersey** via email to [football@njsiaa.org](mailto:football@njsiaa.org) no later than **July 15, 2018**. Any team that has not submitted a final schedule and primary team contact information by this deadline will be subject to a \$150 fine, to be assessed by the NJSIAA.

**Reporting of Game Results:**

**Final scores must be reported within 2 hours of the conclusion of each game to Gridiron New Jersey via email to [football@njsiaa.org](mailto:football@njsiaa.org).**

For those schools not reporting their game results timely, as indicated above, a warning will be given the first time the school fails to comply. Future instances will be subject to a \$150.00 fine, to be assessed by the NJSIAA.

**Exchange of Game Film:**

All regular season and Championship Playoff games must be available via Hudl, or other appropriate exchange method, within 12 hours of the conclusion of the game. ALL GAMES must remain available for viewing via Hudl, or other appropriate exchange method, for the entire season through the end of the Championship Playoffs. During the post-season, only two individuals from each school will be permitted in the press box or designated area to record playoff game films.

**For the 2018 season the National Federation has granted New Jersey permission to experiment and pilot video replay review of official's game decisions. Member schools have the option of voluntarily participating in the year one pilot. Those schools that choose to participate will have access to, and be emailed a copy of the 2018 NJSIAA Replay Rules, Regulations, and Protocol Manual which is posted on the NJSIAA website. All participating schools agree to follow the Manual regulations and also agree to accept all replay review decisions made by officials as final and binding.**

**Football Classifications:**

Prior to the start of the regular season, public schools will be divided into 5 Groups (I - V) and 2 Super Sections (North and South) while non-public schools will be divided into 3 Groups (II, III and IV) only.

**Football Intent Card:**

Participation in the Championship Playoffs or Regional Crossover games is an option of each member school. All member schools must submit their playoff intentions via the NJSIAA Football Intent Card no later than **October 15, 2018**. **New to this year, the NJSIAA Football Intent Card will be submitted online**. The link to the online Intent Card will be posted the week of September 17<sup>th</sup> to the AD Forum and the NJSIAA website.

The Intent Card provides every post-season option available, such as: Championship Playoffs, Regional Crossover games (i.e. one or two) or no post-season participation. Please note, should a school change their intentions as submitted online after the October 15, 2018 deadline, then the school may be subject to a **\$150 fine** to be assessed by the NJSIAA.

**United Power Ranking System**

The United Power Ranking System will be the sole criteria used to qualify for the 2018 Championship Playoffs, except as noted for the Non-Public Group IV and Group III (please see p. 5).

The United Power Rank (UPR) will be based on a weighting of two rating systems: Power Points and the Born Power Index (BPI). The UPR will use a formula that will weigh the BPI at 60% and Power Points at 40%.

**Gridiron New Jersey** will be the official football statistician for the NJSIAA...please ensure your schedules and results are accurate on [www.gridironnewjersey.com](http://www.gridironnewjersey.com) over the course of the season. Please contact [football@njsiaa.org](mailto:football@njsiaa.org) with any questions or updates.

The UPR will be made available at [www.gridironnewjersey.com](http://www.gridironnewjersey.com) beginning with the conclusion of the week 3 games. **For weeks 3 – 7, the UPR will be available no later than 6:00pm on Sunday. For week 8, the UPR will be available no later than 10:00am on Sunday.**

Please notify Gridiron New Jersey ([football@njsiaa.org](mailto:football@njsiaa.org)) if any week 8 Saturday game is scheduled to start at 4:00pm or later.

**Power Point Calculation:**

Gridiron New Jersey will maintain a weekly update of the Power Point totals beginning with week 1.

All games will count towards a team's final Power Point average. For instance, a team's final Power Point total will be divided by the number of games played (i.e. 7, 8 or 9) prior to, but including, week 8. However, the final Power Point total will only include Residual Points for the first seven games played.

NJSIAA Football Tournament Regulations (continued)

1. **Quality Points** – Each school will receive the following Quality points for all games played up to, and including, week 8:
  - a. Win = 6 points
  - b. Tie = 3 points
  - c. Loss = 0 points
  
2. **Group Points** – Each school will receive the following Group points from a team they defeated or tied for all games played up to, and including, week 8:
  - a. Group V = 5 points
  - b. Group IV = 4 points
  - c. Group III = 3 points
  - d. Group II = 2 points
  - e. Group I = 1 point
  
3. **Residual Points** – Each school will receive the following Residual points for the first seven games played up to, and including, week 8 as follows:
  - a. Defeated – For each win or tie of an opponent that a school beat:
    - i. Win = 3 points
    - ii. Tie = 1.5 points
    - iii. Loss = 0 points
  - b. Tied – For each win or tie of an opponent that a school tied:
    - i. Win = 1.5 points
    - ii. Tie = .75 points\*
    - iii. Loss = 0 points

**\*No points will be rewarded when the school's game is their opponents only tie, the school has already been awarded points for that tie.**
  - c. Loss – For each win or tie of an opponent that a school lost to:
    - i. Win = 1 point
    - ii. Tie = 0 points
    - iii. Loss = 0 points

**Born Power Index (BPI) Rating:**

The Born Power Index rating will be maintained by Bill Born and provided to the NJSIAA on a weekly basis starting with week 3. The Born Power Index website ([www.bornpowerindex.com](http://www.bornpowerindex.com)) will maintain a weekly update of every team's BPI rating beginning with week 0.

The Born Power Index is an ever changing mathematical evaluation of a team's relative strength against similar competition. The index includes a blowout factor that rewards teams for doing well against stronger opponents and discourages running up the score against weaker teams.

**Non-Public Group Equivalents:**

When a Public school plays a Non-Public school, the Non-Public's Group equivalent will be used in the power point calculation. When two Non-Public schools play each other, the actual Group size will be used. The NJSIAA will assign the Group size to out-of-state and in-state, non-member schools based on total enrollment in grades 9 – 11. The Non-Public Group Equivalency chart is included in the Football Classifications that can be found on the NJSIAA website under Football.

**Non-Public Multiplier:**

When a Public School plays a Non-Public school, the following multipliers will be in effect.

Category A (5 teams)	Category B (4 teams)	Category C (8 teams)	
Win = 54 pts; Loss = 36 pts	Win = 48 pts; Loss = 32 pts	Win = 42 pts; Loss = 28 pts	
Bergen Catholic	Delbarton	Camden Catholic	St. Augustine
Don Bosco Prep	DePaul	Holy Spirit	St. John Vianney
Paramus Catholic	Pop John	Mater Dei	St. Joseph (Hammonton)
St. Joseph Montvale	Seton Hall Prep	Red Bank Catholic	St. Josephs (Metuchen)
St. Peter's Prep			

There will be no multiplier in effect for all other remaining Non-Public schools.

**For purposes of these Regulations, all post-season information is applicable to both the Championship Playoffs and Regional Crossover games unless noted otherwise.**

**Championship Playoff/Regional Crossover Seeding and Schedule**

**Tournament entry fee is \$80 per school for either the Championship Playoffs or Regional Crossover games.**

For Public Schools, at the conclusion of Week 8, the top 16 teams per the United Power Rank in each Super Section (i.e. North and South) will be identified. The top 16 will then be sorted based on their Northing number to create two Sections within each Super Section (i.e. North I, North II, Central and South). Each Section will then be re-sorted based on their United Power Rank for seeding #1 - #8.

For Non-Public Schools, at the conclusion of Week 8, the top 12 teams per Group will be seeded. New to 2018, a Seeding Committee will seed both Group IV and Group III based on UPR, head to head competition, strength of schedule and overall record. The Seeding Committee will be comprised of one athletic director and one head football coach from both Non-Public Group IV and Group III, and will be chaired by an NJSIAA Executive Committee member. Group II will be seeded solely on the United Power Rank.

All Regional Crossover games will be scheduled by the NJSIAA within each Super Section. UPR and other factors, such as geography, will be taken into consideration. Under no circumstances, is a school allowed to schedule their own Regional Crossover game(s).

**It is important to note, that due to the number of schools requesting Regional Crossover games, teams may be paired against an opponent that they have previously played during the regular season. Also, based on the number of Regional Crossover games requested, the lowest rated team (per the UPR) may not receive a requested Regional Crossover game.**

The Championship Playoff pairings will be released to the state-wide media on **Sunday, October 28, 2018**. The NJSIAA will use Arbiter Sports ([www.arbitersports.com](http://www.arbitersports.com)) to notify all schools of the date, site, time and officials assigned to each Championship Playoff game.

The NJSIAA will also use Arbiter Sports ([www.arbitersports.com](http://www.arbitersports.com)) to notify all schools participating in Regional Crossover games of the date, site, time and officials assigned to each Regional Crossover game.

**The NJSIAA will schedule and assign officials for all Regional Crossover games.**

**Tie Breakers:**

The following criteria will be used when the #16 and #17 seed within a Super Section are a statistical tie:

1. Head to Head
2. Common Opponent
3. BPI Power Rank
4. Power Point average
5. Coin Flip

Ties between teams within the top 16 do not need to be addressed until the top 16 are divided into Sections by their Northing Numbers. Ties between teams within a Section will utilize the same criteria as listed above.

**Head-to-Head Rule (16 Teams) – Super Sections (North/South):**

The Head-to-Head Rule will be applied from the **“bottom-up” ONLY** before a Super Section is broken into 2 sections (NI/NII and Central/South) by Northing Numbers.

The criteria for this rule are as follows:

1. If the 16<sup>th</sup> ranked team has beat ANY team ranked #1 - #15 above them, the FIELD IS SET and NO movement will occur.
2. If #16 has not beaten anyone ranked #1 - #15, then using a “bottom-up” methodology, beginning with the lowest ranked team in the Super Section, head to head results are used to determine if the school should “jump” the school directly above them.
3. However, if the #17 ranked team has defeated the #16 ranked team they would move to the #16 slot and qualify for the Championship Playoffs in lieu of the original #16 ranked team.
4. Movement of more than one seeding slot can occur but only 1 “jump” at a time providing the teams defeated are directly above them with no “space” in between.

Please see the attached summary with examples of the Head-to-Head rules for the Super Sections on pages 12 and 13 of this document.

**Head-to-Head Rule (8 Teams) – Sections (NI/NII/Central/South):**

Once a Super Section is broken into 2 sections based on Northing Numbers, then the following Head-to-Head rule will apply from the **“top-down”**.

The criteria for this rule are as follows:

1. If team A, directly below team B, has defeated that team B head-to-head, team A would move ahead of team B within that respective section.
2. Teams can only move ahead of a team they defeated that are directly above them in the bracket.
3. Movement of more than one seeding slot can occur, 1 “jump” at a time providing the teams defeated are directly above them with no “space” in between.

Please see the attached summary with examples of the Head-to-Head rules for the Sections on pages 12 and 13 of this document.

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**Play Dates:**

First Round Play-Off games	Fri. Nov. 2 <sup>nd</sup> , Sat. Nov. 3 <sup>rd</sup>
Week 9 Regional Crossover games	Thurs. Nov. 1 <sup>st</sup> , Sat. Nov. 3 <sup>rd</sup>
Second Round Play-Off games	Fri. Nov. 9 <sup>th</sup> , Sat. Nov. 10 <sup>th</sup>
Week 10 Regional Crossover games	Thurs. Nov. 8 <sup>th</sup> , Sat. Nov. 10 <sup>th</sup>
Public Sectional Finals/Non-Public Semifinals	Fri. Nov. 16 <sup>th</sup> , Sat. Nov. 17 <sup>th</sup>
Public “Bowl” games/Non-Public Finals	Fri. Nov. 23 <sup>rd</sup> , Sat. Nov. 24 <sup>th</sup> , Fri. Nov. 30 <sup>th</sup> , Sat. Dec 1 <sup>st</sup>

**Regional Crossover games must be scheduled on Thursday or Saturday of each week.** Under no circumstance may a Regional Crossover game be scheduled on Friday of each week.

SCHOOLS WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO SCHEDULE THEIR OWN REGIONAL CROSSOVER GAMES.

The date and times of first round, second round and Public Sectional Final/Non-Public Semifinal games will be assigned based on the Intent Card of the higher-seeded team.

**All Public “Bowl” games/Non-Public Final games will be played at Met Life Stadium. Dates and times of all games will be determined by the NJSIAA.**

**Championship Playoff Regulations**

Any Varsity team accumulating three or more player or coach disqualifications for flagrant unsportsmanlike conduct prior to the start of the NJSIAA tournament will not be permitted to participate in same.

Any player with two or more disqualifications in the current season, prior to the start of an NJSIAA tournament, will be ineligible to compete in said tournament.

**Host Sites:**

Suitability of the playing field and/or seating facilities, as well as the selection of a designated site will be the sole determination of the NJSIAA, and must be accepted by the competing schools. The decision on the change in site will be made when the site is inappropriate due to the lack of facilities or cannot seat the anticipated crowd. The schools must understand that they cannot be guaranteed that they will have a practice workout at the designated field due to weather or other conditions. A designated field may also be used more than one time for a team in a specific group playoff.

Teams must indicate on their Football Intention Card that they will go to any predetermined multi-game site for any round or not be eligible for the Championship Playoffs if selected. The selection process will be determined by the highest-powered ranked team per game in descending order, given geographic considerations.

Separate administrative regulations shall be issued to schools playing at predetermined, multi-game sites. **All Public “Bowl” games and Non-Public Finals (13 games in total) will be played at MetLife Stadium.** The home field of the higher seeded team will normally be the site of each game. If the playing field or facilities of the higher seeded team is not considered suitable by the NJSIAA, the NJSIAA may then assign a designated playing site, or the lower seeded team’s field, and this decision must be accepted by the competing schools.

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Those games where a designated site other than the home site of the lower seed is used, the higher seeded team will be the “home” team, wear dark-colored jerseys, and use the “home” bleachers.

Equal accommodations shall be made for both team spotters at Championship Playoff games and Regional Crossover games.

A game site will not be changed because of wet or muddy conditions at a particular field. It must be anticipated that similar conditions may be present at all fields at that time of year.

No rental of bleachers, maintenance or grounds costs will be permitted, unless solely at the expense of the home team/or visiting team, and not chargeable to the gate receipts. No rentals will be reimbursed for home site (all exceptions must be authorized in writing through the NJSIAA).

**Game Administration:**

All tickets will be sold at the game site, unless otherwise directed by the NJSIAA. The higher seeded team will be the host school until the Public “Bowl” Games and Non-Public Finals. Any host school electing to play at another site will be responsible in full for any rental or custodial costs.

**The first round Championship Playoff game and all Regional Crossover games will be the financial responsibility of the host school.** The host school will operate these games like a regular season home game. However, the NJSIAA will assign all officials for these games.

For all other Championship Playoff games at host school sites, the NJSIAA will be financially responsible and will retain all net game receipts. Host schools will be provided with NJSIAA tickets and operation reports which will detail the approved event workers, related fees for each worker and approved police security. Any exceptions to the allowable event staff/police security must be approved by the NJSIAA. NJSIAA provided tickets must be used and the ticket prices will be the host school’s regular season ticket prices. The P.A. announcer must announce the actual paid attendance after ticket sales have concluded.

**Game Ball:**

Wilson footballs must be used in all playoff competition. The NJSIAA will provide three (3) Wilson G.S.T. F-1003 footballs. The game ball will be changed by the officials upon each change in possession. Each team shall provide a “ball boy or girl” (age 12 or older) available on the sideline with drying towels available for the officials use. If a school chooses to use a Wilson football other than the Wilson G.S.T. F-1003, then that school must supply three (3). The winner keeps two (2) footballs for the next game.

**Game Officials:**

Six (6) NJSIAA registered field officials, plus one (1) clock operator, will be assigned by the NJSIAA to all Championship Playoff games. Chain-crews will be assigned by the host school in the first round and the NJFOA Chapter Secretaries or Assignors for all other rounds.

**It is the Athletic Directors responsibility to confirm all assignments of game officials.**

Fee	Game Officials (6)	Clock Operator (1)	Chain-Crew (3)
1 <sup>st</sup> Round	\$85	\$65	\$50
2 <sup>nd</sup> Round	\$87	\$65	\$50
P Sectional Final/NP Semifinal	\$95	\$70	\$55
Public “Bowl” games/NP Finals	\$100	\$75	\$60



**Overtime Procedures:**

The NJSIAA has adopted a 25-YARD LINE PROCEDURE to determine a winner in regular season games at the varsity level which end regulation play in a tie.

This 25-YARD LINE PROCEDURE will utilize the National Federation OVERTIME PROCEDURE (in the 2018 National Federation Football Rule Book) with the following modifications:

1. At the end of regulation playing time, the referee, in the presence of the field captains, shall toss a coin which the visiting team shall call. All other regulations as detailed in the National Federation Football Rules then prevail.
2. To start the overtime, the offensive team shall put the ball in play, 1st and 10, from the 25-yard line of their opponents unless a penalty shall cause the ball to be placed elsewhere.
3. It is possible for a team to earn or be awarded a first down during a team's possession; thus giving them an additional four (4) downs during their possession to move the ball ten (10) yards for a new series or to score. Since it is possible to earn a first down, THE LINE TO GAIN EQUIPMENT MUST BE USED DURING THE 25-YARD LINE PROCEDURE.
4. The defense may score during the OVERTIME PROCEDURE. The ball remains alive if there is a change of possession. Any foul, which occurs after a change of team possession, is automatically refused. If there is a change of possession and the team in possession fouls and subsequently scores, the score is cancelled and A's series has ended. If neither team scores after a change of possession, A's series has ended. If B scores, they are the winners and the game is over. If a foul occurs before the change of possession, it will be treated as any foul is treated in the regular game. If there is an inadvertent whistle after a change of possession, the team with the ball will have the option of accepting the play or to replay the down. This will also be the end of A's series.
5. Each team will be permitted only one (1) time-out during each OVERTIME PROCEDURE. Any unused time-outs from the regulation game or a previous overtime procedure WILL NOT BE PERMITTED.
6. Except as specifically provided above, the 2015 National Rules and Regulations, as adopted by the NJSIAA, shall prevail. There is no need to use the scoreboard time during the 25-YARD LINE OVERTIME PROCEDURE.
7. In the event of a tie during the regular season, a maximum of 3 series will be played. In the 3<sup>rd</sup> series, teams must utilize the 2 point try.
8. During the Championship Playoffs, the maximum three (3) series overtime limit will not be in force. The overtime series will continue until a winner is determined using the 2 point try in the third and additional periods if necessary.

**Forfeiture:**

When a forfeit win is awarded to a school due to the termination of their opponent's football program or for their failure to fulfill their contractual obligation, the affected school has the option of accepting the forfeit win or playing a game with another school with the results of the newly scheduled school being the official game for power-ranking purposes.

**Postponed Football Game:**

It shall be the decision of the Site Manager (normally the Director of Athletics of the host school) as to whether a game should be postponed because of inclement weather. Such decision should be made no later than 4 hours prior to kick-off the day of the game, and the Site Manager will attempt to consult with the Director of Athletics of the competing school prior to making his final decision.

1. The final determination of the time and date of any postponed game in the first three rounds rests with the higher seeded team (home team).
2. The NJSIAA will make the final determination regarding the time and locations for any postponed Public "Bowl" game/Non-Public Final.

## **Championship Playoff Administration**

### **Video Replay:**

All Public “Bowl” games and Non-Public Finals which will be played at MetLife Stadium may be subject to the NJSIAA Video Replay protocol. This protocol is described in the NJSIAA Video Replay manual, which can be found at [www.njsiaa.org](http://www.njsiaa.org) under Important Documents.

### **Game Day Passes:**

NJSIAA passes will be issued for your school with the game operation and participant notification information. These passes will be good only at NJSIAA member school facilities. They will not be accepted at any other sites.

Each school will be provided **25** sideline passes for all Public Sectional Finals and Non-Public Semifinals. For all games at Met Life Stadium, each school will be provided **30** sideline passes.

These passes must be used by the head football coach, assistant coaches, administrative personnel, doctor(s) and dentist(s), trainer(s), managers and statisticians, and any injured players who are not in uniform. Only those individuals wearing a sideline pass shall be permitted on the sidelines of their respective teams during the game, with the exception of team members in full uniform. **THIS REGULATION MUST BE STRICTLY ENFORCED BY THE SITE DIRECTOR.**

Only fully dressed squad members will be permitted on the playing field.

### **Administrative Supervision:**

These regulations specifically provide the requirement that all member schools that elect to enter the NJSIAA Football Tournament, after meeting the necessary requirements, will provide the presence of administrative personnel that will assist the efforts of on-site management in **MAINTAINING CONTROL AND CONDUCT OF THEIR STUDENT SPECTATORS AT ALL GAMES IN THE TOURNAMENT IN WHICH THEIR TEAM IS A PARTICIPANT. THIS IS A REQUIREMENT FOR ENTRANCE INTO THE TOURNAMENT.**

### **Medical Personnel:**

It will be the responsibility of all schools participating in the championship tournament to provide athletic trainer services and/or physician for their respective team during all rounds of competition.

### **No Travel Allowance:**

All teams entered in the Championship Playoffs must pay for transportation for teams, cheerleaders, drill teams, bands, and other game support units.

### **Game Scouts:**

At no time shall scouts for future opponents, or college scouts be permitted in the press box.

### **Competitor/Staff Admission:**

Each competing school will be given complimentary admission passes for the following staff members:

1. Cheerleader Advisor - 1 pass
2. Band - 5 passes for Support Personnel (Band Director, Majorettes, Advisor, etc.) Squad members, coaches, managers, cheerleaders, band members, drill teams, majorettes, color guard, and flag squad will be admitted for free provided they are in full uniform and enter as a group.

Sub-varsity football team members WILL NOT be given complimentary admission passes.

**Band Activity – Pre-Game:**

The "visiting team" band ONLY will present a maximum ten-minute (10-minute) pre-game show, including the playing of the National Anthem, from the field prior to the game. The Site Manager shall coordinate the starting time of this show with the two head coaches and visiting school band director in order that it will not interfere with the pre-game warm-up drills of the competing schools and in order to be completed prior to the scheduled starting time of the game.

Pre-game commercial music must meet both schools standards.

HALF-TIME - FIFTEEN (15) MINUTES + THREE (3) MINUTES MANDATORY WARMUP

**Band Activity – Half Time:**

The "home team" band ONLY will present a maximum ten-minute (10-minute) half-time show.

**School Photographers/School Game Films:**

Competing schools filming, video-taping, or taking photographs of a Championship Playoff game are advised that any expense incurred is the financial responsibility of the individual school.

**Media/Photographers:**

The Director of Athletics of the school at the site of the Championship Playoff game will normally be the Site Manager and all arrangements for press accommodations must be made through the Athletic office. The Site Manager has the responsibility to accommodate newspaper representatives from not only the area newspaper servicing the competing schools, but also the larger newspapers of the state. It is recommended that press box facilities be used whenever possible rather than "on field" coverage by sportswriters.

The Sports Editors of the New Jersey newspapers will be requested to contact each Site Manager in advance in order that he/she will be aware of the number of sports reporters and/or photographers who will be covering a particular Championship Playoff game. Competing schools are asked to give complete cooperation to the media representatives and to provide them with the actual paid attendance as soon as ticket sales are closed for each game; in addition, the actual paid attendance must be announced by the P.A. announcer.

**(End of Regulations)**

**Head-to-Head Rule (16 Teams) – Super Sections (North/South)**

The Head-to-Head Rule will be **ONLY** applied from the “**bottom-up**” before a Super Section is broken into 2 sections by Northing Numbers.

The criteria for this rule:

1. If the 16<sup>th</sup> ranked team has beat ANY team ranked above them, the FIELD IS SET and NO movement will occur.
2. If the #17 ranked team has defeated the #16 ranked team they would move to the #16 slot and qualify for the playoffs in lieu of the original #16 ranked team

Example:

- Team A (#16) in Central/South has NOT defeated any ranked team above them
  - Team A (#16) has a UPR (United Power Rank) of 15.5
  - Team B (#17) has a UPR (United Power Rank) of 16.2
  - Team B defeated Team A head to head during the regular season
  - Team B WILL make the playoffs and Team A will NOT
3. Movement of more than one seeding slot can occur, 1 “jump” at a time providing the teams defeated are directly above them with no “space” in between.

Example #1:

- Team A (#16), Team B (#17) and Team C (#18) are in the North1/North2 “Super Section”
- Team A (#16) has NOT defeated any ranked team above them
- Team B (#17) has defeated Team A (#16)
- Team C (#18) has defeated both Team A (#16) and Team B (#17)
- Team C is now #16 (now in the playoffs)
- Team B remains #17 (still out of the playoffs)
- Team A in now #18 (now out of the playoffs)

Example #2:

- Team A (#15), Team B (#16), Team C (#17) Team D (#18) are in the North1/North2 “Super Section”
- Team B (#16) has NOT defeated any ranked team above them.
- Team C (#17) has defeated Team A (#15) and Team B (#16)
- Team D (#18) lost to Team C (#17)
- Team C is now #15 (now in the playoffs)
- Team A is now #16 (still in the playoffs but now at lower seed)
- Team B is now #17 (now out of the playoffs)
- Team D remains #18 (still out of the playoffs)

NJSIAA Football Tournament Regulations (continued)

Example #3:

- Team A (#15), Team B (#16), Team C (#17) Team D (#18) are in the North1/North2 “Super Section”
- Team B (#16) has NOT defeated any ranked team above them
- Team D (#18) DEFEATED Team C (#17) and DID NOT PLAY Team B (#16)
- Team C (#17) defeated Team A (#15) and Team B (#16)
- Team D is now (#17) (still out of the playoffs at higher rank)
- Team C is now (#18) (still out of the playoffs at lower rank)
- There is NO MOVEMENT within the top 16

Example #4:

- Team A (#15), Team B (#16), Team C (#17), Team D (#18) are in the North 1/North 2 “Super Section”
- Team D (#18) DID NOT play Team C (#17)
- Team C (#17) defeated Team A (#15)
- Team C (#17) DID NOT play Team B (#16)
- There is NO MOVEMENT within the top 16

**Head-to-Head Rule (8 Teams) – Sections (NI/NII/Central/South)**

Head to Head jumps for the 8 team Sections, which are created after the Super Sections have been established, will be applied from the “**top-down**”.

The criteria for this rule:

1. If team A, directly below team B, has defeated that team B head-to-head, team A would move ahead of team B within that respective section.

Example:

- In Central-Group 2, Team A is the 3 seed and Team B is the 4 Seed.
- Team B defeated Team A in the regular season.
- Team B will now become the 3 seed and Team A will now become the 4 seed.

2. Teams can only move ahead of a team they defeated that are directly above them in the bracket.

Example:

- Team A is the 2 seed in North 2 and Team B is the 4 seed.
- Team B defeated Team A during the regular season.
- Team B will remain the 4 seed and Team A will remain the 2 seed.

3. Movement of more than one seeding slot can occur, 1 “jump” at a time providing the teams defeated are directly above them with no “space” in between.

Example:

- Team A (#1), Team B (#2) and Team C (#3) are in South-Group 1
- Team C (#3) has defeated Team A (#1) and Team B (#2)
- Team B (#2) DID NOT play Team A (#1)
- Team C is now the #1 seed
- Team A is now the #2 seed
- Team B is now the #3 seed