

# NEW JERSEY STATE INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

1161 Route 130 North, Robbinsville, NJ 08691

## 2021 NJSIAA/WILSON SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT

The 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, SAT's, graduation, and the like. Member schools not willing or able to comply with all tournament regulations should not enter the tournament.

**COVID-19 Postponements** - Please be advised that The NJSIAA will not make any changes, adjustments, or postponements to any round of its post-season tournament for COVID related reasons. If a school is unable to play on the scheduled day, then the school's opponent will advance in the tournament and no exceptions will be made. In Addition, no season ending date will be extended beyond the dates previously announced. Any school seeded in any NJSIAA tournament agrees to, and respects, these conditions.

To promote fairness in competition and for the health and safety of student-athletes, no member school will be eligible to participate in any NJSIAA Championship Tournament if it has violated the NJSIAA Constitution, Bylaws, Rules, Regulations, Guidelines, Policies, and Procedures. In addition, schools must follow the sports-specific tournament regulations for each NJSIAA tournament they are entering.

Coaches must have a copy of these regulations as well as a copy of rule Modifications (if any) for this tournament available at all matches. Copies of these documents are also available on the NJSIAA website.

All current NFHS softball rules and NJSIAA softball modifications will govern all tournament games.

**Softball Tournament Director:** Donna Martello, 609-319-6002, [dmartello140@comcast.net](mailto:dmartello140@comcast.net)

**Softball Rules Interpreter:** Allison Munch, 856-629-9003, cell 609-221-3392, [ajmunch@comcast.net](mailto:ajmunch@comcast.net)

### Softball Important Dates

<b>Event</b>	<b>Dates</b>	
First Practice (Pitchers & Catchers):	March 26, 2021	
First Practice (Team):	April 1, 2021	
First Scrimmage	April 8, 2021	
Opening Day:	April 19, 2021	
Transfer Date (on or after):	May 11, 2021	
Tournament Opt-out Date:	May 22, 2021	
Cutoff:	May 22, 2021	
Team Records Updated by (12:00pm):	May 23, 2021	
Seeding:	May 26, 2021	
Competition Ends	June 20, 2021	
Post-Season Committee Meeting:	June 24, 2021	
<b>Non-Public Tournament</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Location</b>
Round 1 by	June 3, 2021	Higher Seed
Round 2 by:	June 7, 2021	Higher Seed
Round 3 by:	June 10, 2021	Higher Seed
Sectional Finals:	June 14, 2021	Higher Seed
Group Finals:	June 17 & 18, 2021	Kean Univ./ Ivy Hill / TBD
Group Finals:	June 19, 2021	Kean Univ / . Ivy Hill / TBD
Tournament of Champions	June 20, 2021	Ivy Hill Park, TBD
<b>Dates Continued Next Page:</b>		

<b>Public Tournament</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Location</b>
Round 1:	June 1, 2021	Higher Seed
Round 2 by:	June 4, 2021	Higher Seed
Round 3 by:	June 9, 2021	Higher Seed
Sectional Finals:	June 12, 2021	Higher Seed
State Semifinals:	June 15, 2021	North 2 & South
Group Finals:	June 18, 2021	Kean Univ. / Ivy Hill / TBD
Group Finals	June 19, 2021	Kean Univ. / Ivy Hill / TBD
Tournament of Champions	June 20, 2021	Ivy Hill Park, TBD

### **New for This Year's State Tournament**

1. All public-school semifinal games will be played at high school based on a pre-determined rotation. This year is North II & South Schools.
2. Revised tie breaking procedure for qualifying and seeding.
3. Because of COVID-19 and the uncertainty of the number of games that will be played, the power point system will be calculated based on an average of the total games played between opening day and the cutoff date with a minimum of 10 games and no maximum.

### **To Qualify**

1. Teams must be competing on a varsity interscholastic basis.
2. Sixty percent (60%) of games played on or before the cutoff date must be against New Jersey schools.
3. The power point system will be used for all qualifying and seeding purposes.
4. The power point procedure for softball will be using the top 10 highest power point totals from opening day to the cutoff date regardless of how many games were played.
5. The residual points earned from opponents will be calculated using the opponent's first 10 games played.
6. Games completed after the cutoff date will not count even if they were started before the cutoff date.
7. The 16 highest team power point totals from each section and each group will qualify into the tournament.
8. Teams that play less than 10 games will still be eligible for the tournament based on their total power points achieved at the cutoff.
9. If there is a tie for qualification, we will use the current tie breaking procedure.
10. Teams not wishing to enter the tournament must notify the NJSIAA by using the NJSIAA online tournament opt-out procedure by the opt-out date listed in the chart.
11. 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.
12. 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](http://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.
3. All team records will be downloaded from the [njschoolsports.com](http://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 the records must be totally up to date and checked for accuracy by.
4. If you do not know your school code, or if you encounter problems, please contact [hssupport@njadvancemedia.com](mailto:hssupport@njadvancemedia.com).

### **Tournament Seeding: May 26, 2021**

1. The qualifying schools in each group and each section will be seeded using the power point system.
2. If there are ties for seeding, we will use the current tie breaking procedure.
3. 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. Brackets will only be adjusted if there was an error by the Seeding Committee.
4. Sectional Trophies will be sent to the #1 seeded team. It is the responsibility of the #1 seeded team to pass along the trophy as needed for presentation at the Sectional Final game.

### **Entry Fee**

- \$90.00 Payable to the NJSIAA (Please note Softball Tournament).
- Forward all entry fees to: NJSIAA, 1161 Route 130 North, Robbinsville, New Jersey 08691
- DO NOT use certified mail

**DO NOT ENTER** if your School is not able or willing to comply with tournament regulations. The Executive Committee of the NJSIAA has ruled that member schools failing to forward tournament forms to the proper address will be excluded from tournament competition in that sport.

### **Tournament Rules & Information**

1. All games will start at 4:00pm unless schools mutually agree on a different starting time and approved by the Sectional Assignors, Allison Munch or Vic Dudka. Any start time other than 4:00pm is contingent on the availability of tournament rated officials. If schools cannot agree, then the game will start at 4:00pm. Non-School day game times as designated by the home team.
2. Schools hosting games must notify their NJSIAA Sectional Assignor within a timely fashion prior to any change of game time and or site location. Weather conditions are the only acceptable reason for changing the start time on game day and must be made by 10:30 am. The home team must contact the umpires. The home team must contact the Sectional Assignor to confirm change. If replacement umpires are needed, the NJSIAA Sectional Assignor will make every effort to accommodate the request. The home team is responsible to keep all parties informed.
3. Round 2 and 3 games may be played earlier than dates indicated if both schools agree. If schools cannot agree, the game must be played on the play by date. Regular season/tournament games scheduled for these dates must be rescheduled.
4. Schools entering the tournament will not be granted a change of date/time due to any conflicts with school trips, proms, banquets, SAT's, graduation, and the like.
5. If any circumstance causes postponement, game must be played on the next day. If the next day is a Sunday, the game may be played if both schools are permitted to play on Sundays (BOE policy), otherwise, the game must be played on Monday. Non NJSIAA tournament games must be moved.
6. Responsibility for postponing a game shall rest with the host school. It is recommended that the host school should notify their opponent before the departure of the visiting school's busses at the latest.
7. The NJSIAA and Sectional Assignors must be notified of any postponement in a timely fashion.
8. After a second consecutive postponement of a game because of field conditions, the NJSIAA director of softball may designate an alternate site as the home field for the higher-seeded team which may include the opponent's field of the lower seeded team.
9. A maximum of twenty-five (25) uniform players, four (4) uniformed coaches, three (3) not-in- uniform support personnel, and a trainer will be permitted and confined to the Dugout. Dugouts may be extended away from home plate if needed.
10. After twenty-five (25) uniform players, to be identified and designated on the line-up card, are presented to the umpire at the beginning of the game, no additions to the card will be permitted.
11. If the host facility does not have dugouts, the host school will line out a bench area.
12. The winning school must notify njschoolsports.com immediately after each game, which must include the pitch count information.
13. Sites will not be declared unsuitable merely because recommended minimum fence distances are not available, or field conditions are less than perfect unless Leagues or Conferences have ruled such sites unsuitable for League or Conference play. Fields should be lined in accordance with National Federation Rules.
14. The host school must provide an adequate amount of crowd control/security as needed based on the host school's facility. The visiting school must provide at least one (1) **staff** member, not associated with the coaching staff, to be present at each tournament game to assist on-site management in maintaining control of visiting spectators.
15. Any member school and/or student-athlete withdrawing from competition after having officially entered an NJSIAA tournament in any sport will be disqualified from all remaining NJSIAA tournament competition in that sport in that season and possible barred from participating in NJSIAA tournament competition in that sport during the next school year unless truly extraordinary circumstances were present.

16. Participation by an ineligible player in any game during the regular season results in forfeiture of said game. If such forfeit(s) would have caused the school's failure to qualify for the tournament or if an ineligible player participates in a tournament game, said SCHOOL will be disqualified from the tournament immediately and their last opponent will advance in their place. Schools eliminated prior to the last opponent will not re-enter tournament competition.
17. Only Optic Yellow softballs meeting NFHS & NOCSAE specifications may be used in the tournament. The home team will provide the game balls. At the State Finals, all game balls will be provided by the NJSIAA. The Wilson A9011 Optic Yellow softballs will be the official ball for the State Finals.
18. Awards will consist of a team trophy and certificates to each sectional champion in each group and a team trophy and certificates to the state champion in each group.

### **Round 1, 2 & 3 Games & Sectional Finals**

1. All games in this round will be conducted at the higher seeded school.
2. All games will begin at 4:00pm, unless an alternate time has been agreed upon.
3. All Umpire fees will be paid by the host school.
4. The winning school must notify njschoolsports.com immediately after each game.

### **Public State Semifinals**

1. The sectional champions in the North 2 & South sections will host the semifinal games this year.
2. All games will begin at 4:00pm, unless an alternate time has been agreed upon
3. All games will be played on the State Semifinals Date.
4. All Umpire fees will be paid by the host school.
5. The winning school must notify njschoolsports.com immediately after each game, which must include the pitch count information.

### **State Group Finals**

1. All Group final games are scheduled to be played at a Pre-determined site.
2. All times will be determined by the NJSIAA.
3. Tickets will be sold at the site as permitted.
4. The NJSIAA will provide for and pay all umpires.
5. The NJSIAA will provide the game balls.
6. Teams should arrive at least one hour prior to game time.
7. The tournament director will conduct the coin toss. Central/South Team will call the toss.
8. The winner of the coin toss will designate home or away and the loser of the coin toss will choose the dugout/bench area.
9. Teams must arrive in uniform.
10. Coaches must provide the Tournament Director or site Manager with a roster and statistics upon arrival.
11. Two School Administrators must be present at Group Finals and Tournament of Champions games.
12. Athletic Trainer will be the responsibility of the competing schools.
13. Infield practice will be limited to ten (10) minutes per team as follows:
  - Home Team-Infield practice 30 minutes before game time.
  - Visiting Team-Infield practice 20 minutes before game time.
  - 10 minutes for field preparation and umpires' instructions.
  - Teams are not permitted to conduct batting practice. Soft Toss if the facility permits.

### **Suspended Game Rule**

All NJSIAA post season tournament softball games must be played to the full seven innings (turns at bat) unless extra innings are necessary because of a tie score, or unless shortened because the home team needs none of its half of the seventh inning or only a fraction of it. The exception to this is the 10-run rule that the state association has adopted.

A softball game that has reached the point of a regulation game, five full innings having been played, or if the home team has scored in five turns at bat, or if play has gone beyond five full innings, and then the game is called (ended) by the umpires due weather or darkness, the game will be considered a suspended game and the game will be resumed at the point of interruption.

Tie Breaking Procedure: applies to all state tournament games

At the top of the 10<sup>th</sup> inning, during each half inning use to enforce the tie-braker, the offensive team shall begins its turn at bat with the player who is scheduled to bat ninth in that respective inning being placed at second base. (e.g., if the number 5 batter I to lead off, the number 4 batter in the batting order would be placed on second base. A substitute may be inserted for the runner.)

### **Umpire Assignments**

1. The NJSIAA will assign all umpires for all rounds of the state tournament. Schools will no longer assign or have assigned umpires to their state tournament games.
2. In rounds 1 and 2 of the tournament, when two (2) schools compete that use the same umpires' association, assignors may use the same chapter to work those game(s). When two (2) schools do not use the same chapter, neutral umpires will be assigned when possible.
3. From Round 3 to the Finals, neutral/mixed crews (umpires from more than one chapter) will be assigned.
4. Two (2) NJSIAA registered softball umpires will officiate Rounds 1 & 2 of the tournament. We will use three (3) umpires the remainder of the tournament.
5. Sectional/Regional assignors have been provided with schools "Do not want list of umpires" if those lists were sent to NJSIAA by the date so designated.
6. Please remember it is the responsibility of both the schools and umpires to communicate with each other.
7. Athletic Directors should call sectional/regional assignors with any questions/concerns.
8. We recommend that all umpires arrive 30 minutes before game time.

### **NJSIAA Sectional & Regional Assignors**

**Winning Team must notify the Assignor immediately following the game.**

- **North 1 & North 2 & Non-Public North:** Vick Dudka-732-541-2706, [vicdudka@hotmail.com](mailto:vicdudka@hotmail.com)
- **Central & South & Non-Public South:** Allison Munch-856-629-9003, cell 609-221-3392, [ajmunch@comcast.net](mailto:ajmunch@comcast.net)

### **Umpire Fees:**

Rounds 1 & 2 (2 umpires) - \$85 per umpire - Host School Pays  
Round 3 (3 umpires) - \$85 per umpire - Host School Pays  
Sectional Finals (3 umpires) \$90 per umpire - Host School Pays  
Public State Semis-Finals (3 umpires) \$90 per umpire - Host School Pays  
State Finals & T of C (3 umpires) \$95.00 per umpire - NJSIAA pays

Please note for all tournament games:

- If a game is postponed after teams and umpires have arrived and before the game has started, the umpires will receive a full game fee.
- Once a game begins and then is suspended; the umpires will receive a full game fee.
- Each umpire assigned to complete a suspended game, will receive a full game fee.

### **Softball Power Point Calculation Procedure:**

The NJSIAA power point system will be used for all qualifying and seeding purposes. The power point procedure for softball will be using the top 10 highest power point totals from opening day to the cutoff date regardless of how many games were played. The residual points earned from opponents will be calculated using your opponent's first 10 games. Teams that play less than 10 games will still be eligible for the tournament based on their total power points achieved at the cutoff. Games completed after the cutoff date will not count even if they were started before the cutoff date.

1. **Quality Points** - Each school will receive the following quality points for a win:

- Win = 6 points
- Lose = 0 points

2. **Group Points** - Each school will receive the following group points from a team they defeated:

- Group IV = 4 points
- Group III = 3 points
- Group II = 2 points
- Group I = 1 points

3. **Residual Points** – Each school will receive residual points from one of the two categories below based on the result of the game.

- a. Each school will receive the following residual points from a team they defeated. For each win your opponent has from the first 10 games, you will receive the following:
  - Win = 3 points
  - Lose = 0 points
- b. Each school will receive the following residual points from a team they lost to. For each win your opponent has that defeated you (not including your game) from the first 10 games, you will receive the following:
  - Win = 1 points
  - Lose = 0 points

### **Tie Breaking Procedure:**

1. Head-to-Head Competition (any games up to and including the cutoff date)
2. Common Opponent(s) (any games up to and including the cutoff date)
3. Winning % (any games up to and including the cutoff date)
4. Total number of quality points earned from the first 10 games.
5. Coin Toss

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## 2021 NJSIAA/WILSON SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT

HIGH SCHOOL \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ SECTION \_\_\_\_\_ GROUP \_\_\_\_\_

The umpire's chapter that services your school: \_\_\_\_\_

LIST ANY UNACCEPTABLE UMPIRES WHO ARE FORMER STUDENTS, OR WHO ARE, OR HAVE BEEN, IN ANY WAY AFFILIATED WITH YOUR SCHOOL OR WHO ARE COACHES IN YOUR CONFERENCE.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

LIST ANY UNACCEPTABLE UMPIRES WHO YOU WOULD NOT LIKE TO SEE IN THE STATE TOURNAMENT.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Head Coach)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Cell Phone)

This form must be emailed to Kim DeGraw-Cole [kcole@njsiaa.org](mailto:kcole@njsiaa.org) or fax to (609) 259-3047 by May 21, 2021.