

NEW JERSEY STATE INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

1161 Route 130 North, Robbinsville, NJ 08691

2021 NJSIAA/WILSON BASEBALL 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 baseball rules along with any NJSIAA baseball rule modifications, including pitching limitations, will govern all tournament games.

Baseball Tournament Director & State Rules Interpreter: Craig Yetman

Cell Phone: 732-690-7532, Email: cy5126@optonline.net

Baseball Important Dates

Event	Dates	
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 23, 2021	
Cutoff:	May 23, 2021	
Team Records Updated by (12:00pm):	May 24, 2021	
Seeding:	May 27, 2021	
Competition Ends	June 20, 2021	
Post-Season Committee Meeting:	June 24, 2021	
Non-Public Tournament	Dates	Location
Round 1:	June 1, 2021	Higher Seed
Round 2 by:	June 4, 2021	Higher Seed
Round 3 by:	June 7, 2021	Higher Seed
Sectional Finals:	June 10, 2021	Higher Seed
Group Finals:	June 16, 2021	Veterans Park, Hamilton
Group Finals (rain date):	June 17, 2021	Veterans Park, Hamilton
Group Finals (rain date):	June 18, 2021	Veterans Park, Hamilton
Public Tournament	Dates	Location
Round 1:	June 2, 2021	Higher Seed
Round 2 by:	June 5, 2021	Higher Seed
Round 3 by:	June 8, 2021	Higher Seed

Sectional Finals:	June 11, 2021	Higher Seed
State Semifinals:	June 14, 2021	North 1 & Central
Group Finals:	June 19, 2021	Veterans Park, Hamilton
Group Finals (rain date):	June 20, 2021	Veterans Park, Hamilton
Group Finals (rain date):	June 21, 2021	Veterans Park, Hamilton

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 1 & Central Schools.
2. Game ending procedure has been clarified. Please see this document on our baseball web page.
3. Games that end in a tie will be counted in the power point system.
4. Revised tie breaking procedure
5. Because of COVID-19 and the uncertainty of the number of games that will be played, the power point system will be adjusted to better accommodate schools dealing with challenging game schedules.

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 NJSIAA power point system will be used for all qualifying and seeding purposes.
4. The power point procedure for baseball 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. Teams that play less than 10 games will still be eligible for the tournament based on their total power points achieved at the cutoff.
7. Games completed after the cutoff date will not count even if they were started before the cutoff date.
8. The 16 highest team power point totals from each section and each group will qualify into the tournament.
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 above.
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 by the start of the season.
2. All varsity scores must be reported to www.njschoolsports.com as soon as possible after each contest.
3. All team records 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 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.

Tournament Seeding

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.

Team Tournament Brackets will not be official until 12:00pm the day after Seeding.

Entry Fee

- \$90.00 Payable to the NJSIAA (Please note Baseball 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. 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.
2. Schools hosting games must notify their assignors within a timely fashion prior to any change of game time and or site location.
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, 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 baseball 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. A recommended bench area, if space allows, should be sixty (60) feet from the foul line. It should be a rectangular box no longer than forty (40) feet and no wider than six (6) feet. Where space may be a restriction, a bench area must be provided similar to the above measurements
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 baseballs 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 A1010 baseballs 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, which must include the pitch count information.

Public State Semifinals

1. The sectional champions in the North I & Central 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 will be played @ Veterans Park, Hamilton Township
 - Non-Public Group Finals: 4:00pm-NP-B & 7:00pm-NP-A.
 - Public Group Finals: 10:00am-Group 4, 1:00pm-Group 1, 4:00pm-Group 2, 7:00pm-Group 3.
2. All times are subject to change as deemed necessary by the NJSIAA.
3. The NJSIAA will provide for and pay all umpires and the pitch counter.
4. The tournament director will conduct the coin toss. The team that has traveled the farthest will call the coin toss.
5. The winner of the coin toss will designate the home and visiting team and the loser of the coin toss will choose the dugout/bench area.

Tournament Pitch Count Enforcement and Recording

The Home School shall provide an "Official Adult Pitch Counter" and this person shall count pitches for both schools. This count is official. Preferably, the Official Pitch Counter shall be seated in an area near the backstop and equally accessible to both teams.

- Pitch counts **must** be verified with representatives of both teams **after each half-inning**.
- If there is a discrepancy between the Official Pitch Counter and one or both team's representatives, the following process shall be followed:
 1. If both teams agree on a pitch number, that number shall be recorded in place of the Official Pitch Counter.
 2. If both teams disagree on a pitch number, the Official Pitch Counter's number shall be recorded.
 3. In the event an Official Adult Pitch Counter does not show or must leave because of illness or other emergency, both coaches must confer after each inning to confirm the pitch count(s). In the event of discrepancy, the Home Team count shall be official.

Home schools must provide an "Official Adult Pitch Counter" for NJSIAA tournament games up to and including the Sectional Finals and the public semifinals. **Official Adult Pitch Counter shall not be part of the coaching staff and dressed in apparel that is considered neutral during the state tournament.** NJSIAA will provide "Official Adult Pitch Counter" at all neutral site games (State Group Final games).

Once the umpires leave the confines of the field, the pitch counts are final. The Home Coach shall report the Home and Visitor pitch counts on the njschoolsports.com website within 24 hours of the game's conclusion.

Official Adult Pitch Counter shall inform both coaches and the Plate Umpire when a pitcher reaches the 110-pitch count threshold. The Plate Umpire shall momentarily stop the game and resume immediately when he is certain both coaches are notified. In the event this is not done, there is no basis for protest. **Coaches are responsible for their pitcher's pitch count at all times.**

Suspended Game Rule

All NJSIAA post season tournament baseball 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 baseball game that is suspended at any time during the game shall be picked up at the point of interruption and then completed as the above paragraph states.

In a NJSIAA State Tournament game suspended by darkness, weather or other cause resumed the next day, the pitcher of record may continue to pitch to the extent of his eligibility provided he has pitched less than 50 pitches.

1. If the pitcher has thrown 50 or less pitches before the game was suspended, that pitcher's count shall carry over to the next day and pitcher may pitch until the maximum of 110 pitches in a game is reached.
2. If the pitcher has thrown more than 50 pitches before the game was suspended, that pitcher shall be required to meet the rest period as per pitch count limits above.

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.
3. From Round 3 to the Finals, neutral/mixed crews (umpires from more than one chapter) will be assigned.
4. Two (2) NJSIAA registered baseball 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

- North 1: Jack Venezia - 973-857-2282
- North 2 & Non-Public North: Vic Dudka - 732-541-2706
- Central: Craig Yetman - 732-690-7532
- South & Non-Public South: Paul Reagle - 856-287-2136

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 (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.

Baseball Power Point Calculation Procedure:

The NJSIAA power point system will be used for all qualifying and seeding purposes. The power point procedure for baseball 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 played. 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 or tie:

- Win = 6 points
- Tie = 3 point
- Lose = 0 points

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

- 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 three 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 or tie your opponent has from the first 10 games, you will receive the following:

- Win = 3 points
- Tie = 1.5 points
- Lose = 0 points

b. Each school will receive the following residual points from a team they tied. For each win or tie your opponent has from the first 10 games, you will receive the following:

- Win = 1.5 points
- Tie = .75 points (See note below)
- Lose = 0 points

Note: No points will be rewarded when calculating residual points when your game is the opponent's only tie, since you already have been awarded points for that tie.

c. 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
- Tie = 0 point
- 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