



2021 Field Hockey Sports Committee Meeting: December 2, 2021 at 10 am
NJSIAA Office, 1161 Route 130 North, Robbinsville, NJ 08691

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Janet Schillig, Tournament Director and Tournament Assignor
Linda Alimi, Tournament Staff and North Assignor
Maureen Dzwil, Tournament Staff and South Assignor
Charlotte Heenan, State Rules Interpreter
Jason Miller, South Hunterdon HS Athletic Director and NJSIAA Executive Committee Representative
Dave Huguen, Boonton HS Athletic Director
Anne Marie Mercado, St. Joseph's Academy Athletic Director
Lindsay Kocher, Haddonfield HS Coach
Sarah Pallino, Milburn HS Coach
Kimberly Clark, Ridge HS Coach

Minutes:

1. Season in Review

Everyone agreed the season went well and it was great to have a full season of games, including the state tournament. The biggest issue for all high school sports is the challenge of transportation which often impacts the sub varsity levels of play. Some of the schools find independent scheduling challenging which can be especially difficult for the better programs to secure games. In some areas of the state, schools are locked into a conference schedule which hinders independent play.

Discussion of time delays during corners and Char Heenan will make it a "Point of Emphasis" next season in her discussions with the officials. The officials should make sure both the defense and the offense are not delaying the game and need to quickly be ready to execute the corner play.

Discussion of quarters as opposed to halves and the key issue was the ability to call a time out. Hopefully the NFHS reconsiders based on feedback from the Coaches Survey-Questionnaire.

Discussion of free substitution after the goal, Char explained that it is essential that substitutes move from the substitute table so there is accountability, one on one off.

2. Tournament in Review

Tony Maselli explained the revision of the Tournament Regulations for all sports. At the present time, the NJSIAA will be examining the power point structure to determine if any revisions are warranted. The NJSIAA will be looking at group size, top 10 power points and other such parameters to determine if there is a better way to calculate power points for seeding purposes. If anyone has any suggestions regarding power points, please feel free to share with the NJSIAA.

Tournament in Review continued

The intent of seeding in a 16-team bracket is to get the best 16 in each section and then it is up to the school to win and make it to the Sectional Final.

There was a discussion of the utilizing the local assignor to secure officials for the first 3 rounds of play which was put into place this year. The NJSIAA is using this model across all sports to provide maximum flexibility to schools to schedule date, times and reschedule if necessary. The NJSIAA did compensate the local assignors at a rate of \$3/assignment. The NJSIAA assigned and paid for all officials and clock personnel beginning at the Sectional Final games to the conclusion of the tournament of champions finals. Janet Schillig, Linda Alimi and Maureen Dzwil handled the official's assignments from the sectional finals to the conclusion of the tournament.

Joe Cramp, Haddon Heights athletic director submitted a request to remove the requirement of Sectional Finals being played on a Turf Field. The committee unanimously endorsed the requirement that all Sectional Finals be played on a turf field. These are featured games of state tournament play and must be played on a turf field both preparing for the State Championship game and the need to keep the tournament moving if adverse weather becomes a factor.

Tournament Regulations (Tournament Rules & Information): Removal of the #10 and modify #9, any reference to overtime in the Tournament of Champions Final with a different overtime procedure and will eliminate co-champions as well. Motion my Charlotte Heenan, second by Anne Marie Mercado, 8-0 passed.

There was some discussion of a return to 4 sections in the field hockey classifications, however based on the number of schools that sponsor field hockey it is not warranted. This year the brackets in all the public sections were filled with 16 in each and therefore no byes were needed in the opening round of the tournament. In the past with the 4 sections there were only 13 or 14 teams per section, and every team could get in the tournament. The NJSIAA will maintain the North and South structure in all 4 public groups and North and South in the Non-Public Group.

3. Modifications and Overtime for 2022

The modifications were reviewed and what is most noteworthy is that in the 2022 Post Season Tournament Overtime if the score remains tied after the two 10-minute sudden victory overtimes, the One-on-One Tie Break Procedure will replace the Penalty Stroke Tie Breaker. This was voted on at the 2019 Field Hockey Sports Committee and re-affirmed by the present committee on 12/2/21.

4. Suspended/Interrupted Game

Tournament Regulations (Tournament Rules & Information): Removal of #11 Interrupted Game. Motion by Jason Miller, second by Dave Hughen, 8-0, to follow the NFHS Field Hockey Rules Book, page 26, below

Rule 4, Section 1, Article 4: Any tournament game interrupted due to events beyond the control of the responsible administrative authority shall be completed as follows:

- a. If interrupted prior to the completion of the second quarter, the game shall be resumed at the point of interruption,
- b. If interrupted at halftime, or after the start of the third quarter the game could be resumed at the point of interruption, or by mutual agreement be considered a completed game.

5. Sportsmanship

There was a lengthy discussion regarding "running up the score" and that it is really the responsibility of the athletic administrator and the coach to have a plan in place to deal with lopsided victories. Some conferences have a goal limit and may be worthy of exploration.

Sportsmanship (continued)

NJSIAA has the 5-goal running clock in the modifications, however, there certainly are strategies to be sure that teams are not running up the score to set records or keep varsity starters in the game. In the spirit of educational athletics, all coaches should have a plan in place to deal with such games and to be considerate of all our student-athletes.

6. NJSIAA Positions Application-December 1- open applications on the NJSIAA website under Officials for the positions of Field Hockey Tournament Director, FH Tournament Assignor, FH Rules Interpreter.
7. Coaches worthy of recognition-please e-mail kcole@njsiaa.org with any worthy candidates.
8. 2022 Field Hockey: as per NJSIAA Executive Committee Amendments-Calendar and Game Max
 - Practice Start Date: August 22, 2022
 - Regular Start Date Games: September 8, 2022
 - Intent Form Period: October 1 to October 10, 2022
 - Post Season Start Date: October 28, 2022*
 - Post Season End Date: November 13, 2022
 - 49 Days-Regular Game Season
 - Maximum Game Limitation: 18, plus one county or league-based tournament (not to exceed 32 teams, with five games), plus the state tournament
 - No maximum games per week, but may not play on three consecutive days

*Possible adjustment to Post Season Start Date so that all sports are not starting on the same date.

9. For the Good of the Sport & Thanks

A huge thanks to the Field Hockey Tournament Staff of Janet Schillig, Linda Alimi, and Maureen Dzwil for their outstanding commitment to the Field Hockey Tournament for their many years of service. Thanks to Charlotte Heenan for continuing to elevate the official's performance on the field and for her participation in reviewing proposals and submitting rules changes to the NFHS. Thanks to Tony Maselli and Colleen Maguire for their guidance and assistance. This year was probably one of the most exciting finishes to the Tournament of Champions. It is noteworthy that the officials did a tremendous job in officiating throughout the tournament. Thanks to Bordentown High School and Kean University for serving as host sites and making this year's tournament memorable.

10. Champions-Sectional & Group

North Jersey Sectional Champions

- Group 1: **Shore Regional (Group Champion)**
Group 2: **West Essex (Group Champion)**
Group 3: **North Hunterdon (Group Champion)**
Group 4: Phillipsburg
Non-Public: **Oak Knoll (Group Champion)**

South Jersey Sectional Champions

- Woodstown
Seneca
Moorestown
Eastern (Group Champion)
Camden Catholic

Tournament of Champions: Eastern defeated Oak Knoll, 4-3.