



To: NJSIAA Program Review Committee

From: Colleen Maguire, Executive Director

Date: June 5, 2023

RE: Boys and Girls Bowling Tournament Proposal

Background:

NJSIAA is continuing to see an increase in the number of boys and girls bowling teams – this past year there were 252 boys teams and 224 girls teams. Traditionally, NJSIAA has hosted a team state tournament that starts with sectional tournaments that are open for any team to enter. However, given the growth in the number of teams in recent years, NJSIAA has been outgrowing its capacity to host sectional tournaments at available bowling alleys. Therefore, NJSIAA staff propose the following restructuring of the team tournament to bring it in line with almost all other NJSIAA team-based tournaments which rely on classifications and seeded brackets that advance to the state championships.

Proposal:

Schools will be classified into four groups (I – IV), based on enrollment, and four sections (NI, NII, Central and South) based on northing number. For the boys, this will be approximately 16 schools per section. For the girls, this will be approximately 14 schools per section. The top 12 schools per section will qualify for the state tournament. The qualification criteria will be based on data that will be required to be reported to njschoolsports.com after every match – a similar reporting requirement to most other sports.

New to this sport, the first three rounds will be hosted by the higher seed while the sectional championships will be held at four sectional sites. The sectional winners will advance to the team state championships – the state semifinals and state championships will be bowled on the same day.

Below is a summary of dates for 2023 – 2024:

Sectional Championships – Saturday, February 26, 2024 (4 Sectional Sites)

State Semifinal/State Championships – Tuesday, February 28, 2024 (Bowlero – North Brunswick)

State Individual Championships – Thursday, March 1, 2024 (Bowlero – North Brunswick)

For all tournament dates listed above, both the boys teams and the girls teams will be participating on the same date at the same venues.

Lastly, there will still be 100 boys and 100 girls competing at the state individual championships – the top 100 for each gender will be based on the average of their scores during the season up to the cut-off date.