



To: NJSIAA Program Review Committee

From: Tony Maselli, Chief Operating Officer

Date: May 12, 2025

RE: Restructuring of the Gymnastics Tournament

Proposal

At its postseason meeting in December, the Gymnastics Committee discussed ways to improve the efficiency and sustainability of the state tournament structure. On behalf of the committee, NJSIAA staff recommend the following changes to the current structure of the state gymnastics tournaments.

Proposed Tournament Structure

1. Team Sectional Tournament
 - The top 32 teams statewide will qualify.
 - There will be 4 sectional tournaments – consistent with current practice.
 - No individual entries will be permitted at the sectional tournaments.
 - This change is expected to greatly improve time efficiency and organization.
2. Team Championships
 - Each sectional champion and the next 4 teams with the highest team score across all sectional tournaments will advance – a total of 8 teams will participate in the team championships – consistent with current practice.
3. Individual Championships
 - The top 35 individual scores per event statewide will qualify, regardless of section.
 - Qualifying scores will no longer be required.

This new structure mirrors other NJSIAA sports that feature both team and individual championships.

Rationale

Under the current format, sectional championships combine both individual and team competitions, resulting in events that last 4 to 5 hours. Additionally, efforts to evenly distribute gymnastics programs across four sections have proven inconsistent and overly reliant on manual placements. This lack of standardization has created inefficiencies and potential inequities.

Participation in high school gymnastics has declined by approximately 30% over the last ten years among NJSIAA member schools. This proposal will make the tournament more efficient, scalable, and equitable, allowing it to better accommodate the changing landscape of the sport. Furthermore, the new format models that of the NCAA gymnastics tournament providing a familiar and proven structure.