



2025-26 NJSIAA Girls Volleyball Tournament

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, SATs, unless agreed upon by both schools. During the spring tournament season, we will make every effort to accommodate schools that have a conflict with their graduation.

Member schools will not be eligible to participate in any NJSIAA Tournaments if it has violated the NJSIAA Constitution, Bylaws, Rules, Regulations, Guidelines, Policies, or Procedures. Any student-athlete who transfers after the competition start date will not be eligible for this tournament (Bylaws, Article V, Section 4.K. 5).

Schools are to be reminded of the 3-team DQ rule for state tournament eligibility, which states “Any varsity team accumulating three or more player or coach disqualifications prior to the team’s participation in the state tournament will not be permitted to participate in the state tournament. The 3-team DQ rule is not applicable during participation in the state tournament.

The NJSIAA will follow the procedure below for schools that are disqualified from state tournament competition:

1. If a school is disqualified, either for the use of an ineligible player or violating the 3-team DQ rule, from state tournament competition after the tournament has been seeded but prior to the bracket being final, then the bracket will be reseeded and the next ranked school who entered the tournament will be included.
2. If a school is disqualified, either for the use of an ineligible player or violating the 3-team DQ rule, from state tournament competition after the tournament has been seeded and after the bracket is final, then the bracket will not be reseeded, and no additional school will be included.
3. If a school is disqualified from state tournament competition due to the use of an ineligible player during the state tournament, then the school will be removed from the tournament immediately and their last opponent will advance in their place.

Schools participating in any NJSIAA tournament are responsible for the actions and behaviors of their spectators. Schools are required to provide adequate staff security to ensure there is proper oversight of their spectators. In addition, schools are financially responsible for any damage to the property or premises caused by their student-athletes, staff, or spectators (spectators include, but are not limited to, cheerleaders, marching band participants, students, and other fans).

NJSIAA requires Certified Athletic Trainers at all its tournament events. The ATC must document all injuries on an injury report form. This form must be available to the NJSIAA upon request.

Member schools that are not willing or able to comply with NJSIAA tournament regulations and any relevant procedures found in the state tournament operating procedures handbook should not enter the tournament. Member schools are encouraged to review NJSIAA tournament regulations with the school administration. Coaches must have a copy of the tournament regulations as well as a copy of the rule modifications (if any) available at all contests. Copies of these documents are available on the NJSIAA website.

NJSIAA Girls Volleyball Tournament Staff

NJSIAA Director of Volleyball

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Tournament Director

Linda Ionta
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NJSIAA Rules Interpreter

Paul Aiello
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State Tournament Assignor

Ken Reynolds
(609) 915-5254
Kenny4155@yahoo.com

Regional Assignors

The following regional assignors will assign the first three (3) rounds of the tournament. If you are the home team, please reach out to the appropriate assignor as to the game date, time and location ASAP.

North I, North II & NP-North Schools

Paul Aiello
(201) 232-7613
paulaiello2@aol.com

Central, South & NP-South Schools

Ken Reynolds
(609) 915-5254
Kenny4155@yahoo.com

Sectional Assignor

The following sectional assignor will assign all sectional finals, please reach out to the assignor as to the game date, time and location ASAP.

All Sections

Ken Reynolds
(609) 915-5254
Kenny4155@yahoo.com

New for This Year's State Tournament

1. All state tournament games will be the best of 5 games.
2. The power points for volleyball will go back to calculating the 16 best power-pointed games from opening day to the cutoff date regardless of how many games were played. We will no longer average all the games as we did last year.
3. For contests against out-of-state or non-member opponents, we will use the actual record of the opponent as of the cutoff date. It is imperative that coaches continue to update their out of state/non-member opponents records in highschoolsports.com throughout the season.

Volleyball Important Dates

| Event | Dates |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| First Practice: | August 18, 2025 |
| Competition Start: | August 25, 2025 |
| Entry Form Opens: | October 1, 2025 |
| Entry Form Closes: | October 15, 2025 |
| Conflict of Interest Form Due: | October 15, 2025 |
| Cutoff: | October 25, 2025 |
| PowerPoints Close at Noon | October 26, 2025 |
| Tournament Seeding: | October 28, 2025 |
| Regular Season Competition Ends: | November 23, 2025 |

Girls Volleyball Tournament Dates

| Public Tournament | Dates | Location |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| Round 1 – Groups 2 & 4: | November 3, 2025* | Higher Seed |
| Round 1 – Groups 1 & 3: | November 4, 2025* | Higher Seed |
| Round 2 – Groups 2 & 4: | November 5, 2025* | Higher Seed |
| Round 2 – Groups 1 & 3: | November 6, 2025* | Higher Seed |
| Round 3 – Groups 2 & 4: | November 7, 2025* | Higher Seed |
| Round 3 – Groups 1 & 3: | November 8, 2025* | Higher Seed |
| Sectional Finals – All Groups | November 11, 2025* | Higher Seed |
| State Semifinals – All Groups | November 13, 2025* | Power Points |
| State Finals – Groups 2 & 4: | November 15, 2025 | Franklin |
| State Finals – Groups 1 & 3: | November 16, 2025 | Franklin |
| | | |
| Non-Public Tournament | Dates | Location |
| Round 1 – Non-Public A: | November 5, 2025* | Higher Seed |
| Round 1 – Non-Public B: | November 6, 2025* | Higher Seed |
| Round 2 – Non-Public A: | November 7, 2025* | Higher Seed |
| Round 2 – Non-Public B: | November 8, 2025* | Higher Seed |
| Round 3 – Non-Public A & B: | November 11, 2025* | Higher Seed |
| Sectional Finals: | November 13, 2025* | Higher Seed |
| State Finals - Non-Public A: | November 15, 2025 | Franklin |
| State Finals - Non-Public B: | November 16, 2025 | Franklin |

* These dates listed for Volleyball can be moved only upon mutual agreement by both schools. The earliest a tournament game can be moved to is October 30, 2025. If schools do not agree, then it must be played on the date listed. If any date is moved by mutual agreement, the potential next round opponents must be notified ASAP.

Teams will rotate after each set for all rounds of the tournament. There will be no mutual agreement not to rotate.

Tournament Schedule

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| State Semifinals |
| November 13, 2025 |
| North I vs. North II – Central vs. South |
| Host Teams: Highest Power Point |

Match times for the state semifinals will be 4:30pm. Matches may be played at an alternate time if both schools agree. If schools cannot agree, the start time will be 4:30pm.

| State Finals | | State Finals | |
|----------------------|----------|----------------------|----------|
| Franklin High School | | Franklin High School | |
| November 15, 2025 | | November 16, 2025 | |
| | | | |
| Non-Public A | 11:00 AM | Group 3 | 11:00 AM |
| Group 2 | 1:00 PM | Non-Public B | 1:00 PM |
| Group 4 | 3:00 PM | Group 1 | 3:00 PM |

Home Teams

For the state finals, all non-public south teams and all public central & south teams will be declared the home team for this year. The home team will choose the team bench for the first set, and the visiting team calls the coin toss. Teams will switch sides after each set.

Tournament Eligibility

1. Teams must be competing on a varsity interscholastic basis.
2. Sixty percent (60%) of the games played on or before the cutoff date must be against New Jersey schools.
3. 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.
4. 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.

To Qualify for the Tournament

1. The top 16 teams from each section and each group will qualify for this tournament using the PowerPoint system.
2. Games played after the cutoff date will not count toward the PowerPoint calculation even if they were started before the cutoff date.
3. If there is a tie in power points, the current NJSIAA tie-breaking procedure will break all ties.
4. The volleyball minimum number of games to be played by the cutoff date is 16.

PowerPoint Procedure

The NJSIAA power point system will be used for all qualifying and seeding purposes.

1. The PowerPoint procedure for volleyball will be using the 16 best power-pointed games from opening day to the cutoff date regardless of how many games were played.
2. The residual points earned from opponents will be calculated using your opponent's first 16 games played.
3. Teams that play less than 16 games will still be eligible for the tournament based on their total power points achieved at the cutoff.

Out of State / Non-Member Opponents (OOS / NM)

Contests against out-of-state or non-member opponents will count for power points and will follow the same calculation procedure as games against member schools. We will use the actual record of the OOS/NM opponent as of the cutoff date. It is imperative that coaches continue to update their OOS/NM opponents records in highschoolsports.com throughout the season.

Entry Procedure

1. The entry form must be completed online by the date listed above.
2. All varsity schedules & rosters must be entered in njschoolsports.com by the start of the season. Rosters must be checked and updated, if necessary, by the start of the tournament. We cannot guarantee any roster changes made after the start of the tournament will make it into the tournament program.
3. All varsity scores must be reported to www.njschoolsports.com as soon as possible after each contest. If you encounter problems, please contact hssupport@njadvancemedia.com.
4. PowerPoints will be downloaded from the njschoolsports website on the date listed above at noon. Coaches are reminded that all team information must be totally up to date and checked for accuracy.
5. The officials conflict of Interest form must be completed by the date listed above. If there is no conflict of interest, you do not have to complete this form.

Entry Fee

\$90.00 per team, Payable to the NJSIAA (Please note Girls Volleyball Tournament).
Forward all entry fees to: NJSIAA, 1161 Route 130 North, Robbinsville, NJ 08691

Tournament Seeding

1. The qualifying schools in each group and each section will be seeded by the tournament staff.
2. Teams will be seeded based on their PowerPoint totals.
3. If there is a tie in power points for seeding, we will use the current NJSIAA tie-breaking procedure.
4. Seed jumping will be used, please see the procedure below.

The media may post brackets following the completion of the seeding meeting. Brackets do not become official until 12:00pm on the day after seeding.

Seed Jumping Procedure

1. The seed jumping procedure will start from seed # 1 and work downward.
2. Seed jumping will take place when a lower-ranked team has defeated the team ranked immediately above them.
3. Any split of head-to-head matches will be dropped from the discussion.
4. Movement in the seed may occur one step at a time on the basis of the head-to-head criterion (i.e., If 6th in rank has defeated 5th in rank/seed, then they switch positions; if 6th in rank defeats both #5 and #4 then a double jump.

PowerPoint Tie Breaking Procedure

1. Head-to-Head Competition. Any ties involving 3 or more teams, move to step #2
2. Average quality points per game.
3. Average residual points per game.
4. Average OOWP for all opponents.
5. Common opponent winning percentage
 - a. Example: Team A is 3-0 (100%) vs. team C and team B is 2-0 (100%) vs. team C, go to #6
 - b. Example: Team A is 2-1 (.667%) vs. team C and team B is 1-1 (.500%) vs. team C, Team A wins Tiebreaker
6. Team total winning percentage
7. Coin Toss

The tie breaking procedure above includes all contests from the competition start date to the cutoff date.

Tournament Rules & Information

1. The NFHS volleyball rules along with any NJSIAA volleyball rule modifications will govern this tournament.
2. All tournament rounds are **PLAY ON** dates. Schools can mutually agree to move tournament dates except for the state finals. If schools do not agree, then it must be played on the date listed. If any date is moved by mutual agreement, the potential next round opponents must be notified ASAP.
3. Match times for all rounds up to and including the sectional finals will be designated by the higher-seeded team. The recommended start time is 4:30 on school days. For non-school days, times will be established by the home team.
4. The NJSIAA may need to establish the start times if there is any disagreement between schools.
5. All match times are pending the official's availability. Athletic Directors must communicate consistently throughout all rounds up to and including the sectional finals regarding start times and field locations.
6. Match times for the state finals will be established by the NJSIAA.
7. If any circumstance causes postponement, the match must be played on the next day. If the next day is a Sunday, the match may be played if both schools agree; otherwise, the match must be played on Monday. Teams must adhere to the deadline of the succeeding round, even though matches may be played on consecutive days. Non-NJSIAA tournament games must be moved.
8. When conditions prevent a match from being played at the site of the higher seeded team in a reasonable amount of time, the tournament director may choose an alternate site, which may include the lower seeded teams' gym.
9. Higher-seeded schools hosting tournament games must provide an athletic trainer for both teams. Each school will be asked to provide its own athletic trainer when tournament games are not held at a higher-seeded school.
10. The winning school must notify njschoolsports.com immediately after each match, and the competing schools must notify the local newspapers to keep the media informed as to the tournament progression.
11. Participating schools must assign adequate supervision for all matches, home and away.
12. All matches in the tournament will be three (3) out of five (5) sets and will be determined by rally scoring.
13. Warm-up time will be 21 total minutes: 7 minutes general warm-up, 7 minutes full court (higher seed), and 7 minutes full court (lower seed).
14. The higher seeded team chooses the team bench, and the visiting team calls the coin toss.
15. Only players who are on the submitted roster will be allowed in with the team(s).
16. Only uniformed players and/or team personnel are allowed on the playing court during the team warmups.
17. The higher seeded team will provide an NFHS regulation match ball.
18. The Wilson NOVA volleyball is the official ball of the NJSIAA tournament. The NJSIAA will provide Wilson volleyballs to be used in all state finals games.

Officials Assignments

The NJSIAA will assign all officials for all rounds of the tournament.

Rounds 1, 2 & 3

- NJSIAA will assign two (2) game officials for each game.
- Higher seeded schools will pay all officials at the area agreed-upon rate.
- Two (2) certified official line judges are recommended but not required for these rounds.

Sectional Finals & Public Semifinals

- NJSIAA will assign two (2) game officials & two (2) line judges for each game.
- NJSIAA will pay for all four (4) officials.

State Finals

- NJSIAA will assign two (2) game officials, two (2) line judges & one (1) libero tracker for each game.
- NJSIAA will pay for all five (5) officials.

Awards

Sectional Champions:

A team trophy and twenty-five (25) certificates to each Sectional Championship in each Group.

State Champions:

A team trophy and twenty-five (25) certificates to the State Champion in each Group.