



2025-26 NJSIAA GIRLS LACROSSE TOURNAMENT

NJSIAA reserves the right to adjust, change or cancel dates, times, and locations for any round of competition during an 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.

Girls Lacrosse Tournament Staff

NJSIAA Director of G. Lacrosse

Sandy Mamary
(609) 259-2776
smamary@njsiaa.org

Tournament Director

Cindy Beradino
(201) 323-3577
cber2@mac.com

NJSIAA Rules Interpreter

Maureen Dzwil
(609) 472-9103
modzwill@hotmail.com

State Tournament Assignor

Lisa McCarthy
(609) 216-3827
lmccarthy6@gmail.com

Important Dates

Event	Date
First Practice:	March 9, 2026
Competition May Begin:	March 16, 2026
Entry Form Opens:	May 1, 2026
Entry Form Closes:	May 11, 2026
Conflict of Interest Form:	May 11, 2026
Cutoff:	May 19, 2026
PowerPoints Close (12:00pm):	May 20, 2026
Seeding:	May 21, 2026
Regular Season Competition Ends:	June 14, 2026

Tournament Dates

Public Tournament	Date	Location
Round 1:	May 28, 2026*	Higher Seed
Round 2:	June 1, 2026*	Higher Seed
Round 3:	June 4, 2026*	Higher Seed
Sectional Finals:	June 9, 2026*	Higher Seed
State Finals:	June 12 or 13, 2026	TCNJ
Non-Public Tournament	Date	Location
Round 1:	May 27, 2026*	Higher Seed
Round 2:	May 30, 2026*	Higher Seed
Round 3:	June 2, 2026*	Higher Seed
State Semifinals:	June 5, 2026#	Higher Seed
State Finals:	June 9, 2026	Kean University

*These tournament dates listed above can be moved only upon mutual agreement by both schools. 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 opponent must be notified ASAP. No tournament game may be scheduled on or before Memorial Day. Schools may play on Sunday only if both schools agree.

For the public state semifinals, the game date may be moved upon mutual agreement. If schools cannot agree on the date, the game will be played on the scheduled date above. Game time for the state semifinals will be set at 4:00pm. The game time cannot be moved unless approved by the NJSIAA.

Schools that did not qualify for the tournament, have been eliminated, or have a bye should not schedule any non-tournament games on the dates listed above.

State Championship Schedule

<u>Group</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
Non-Public	June 9, 2026	4:00pm	Kean University
Group 1	June 12, 2026	1:00pm	TCNJ
Group 3	June 12, 2026	3:30pm	TCNJ
Group 4	June 13, 2026	11:00am	TCNJ
Group 2	June 13, 2026	1:30pm	TCNJ

New for This Year's State Tournament

1. The power points for lacrosse will go back to calculating the 12 best power-pointed games from opening day to the cutoff date regardless of how many games were played.
2. 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.
3. Officials' fees for the first three (3) rounds of the state tournament will be determined by the State Officials Fee Committee recommendations. Starting with the Sectional Finals, the fees will be established by the NJSIAA.
4. State finals will be played at The College of New Jersey.

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.

Tournament Qualifications

1. The top 16 public schools from each section & group will qualify for this tournament using the PowerPoint system.
2. The top 24 non-public schools statewide will qualify for this tournament using the PowerPoint system.
3. Games played after the cutoff date will not count toward the PowerPoint calculation even if they were started before the cutoff date.
4. The minimum number of games to be played by the cutoff date is 12.
5. Teams that play less than the minimum number of games will still be eligible for the tournament based on their total power points achieved at the cutoff divided by 12.
6. If there is a tie in power points, the current NJSIAA tie-breaking procedure will break all ties.

Tournament Entry Procedure

1. The entry form must be completed online during the time listed above. If you do not wish to enter the tournament, you don't need to do anything.
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](https://njschoolsports.com) 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 before the data is downloaded.
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.

LaxNumbers Entry Procedure

1. All head coaches must sign up for a LaxNumbers team official account for the current season. New head coaches or head coaches without an existing LaxNumbers team official account will need to sign up and create one by clicking on this link <https://laxnumbers.com/teamofficial.php>.
2. Head coaches with an existing team official account can simply login at <https://laxnumbers.com/login.php> using their username and password from last season. Head coaches with existing team official accounts will be asked to select their (new) team for the 2022 season.
3. Once you have created an account, the team official portal will act as your home base in LaxNumbers. You can add, edit, and delete scheduled and played games. You can update teaminfo as well as add team websites and social media accounts.
4. Throughout the season, all schools must monitor their LaxNumbers and nj.com information to ensure that the game scores are correct.
5. LaxNumbers rankings will be downloaded from the LaxNumbers website on the date listed above at noon. The seeding committee will use this information to seed the tournament.

Entry Fee

- \$90.00 Payable to the NJSIAA (Please note Boys Lacrosse Tournament).
- Forward all entry fees to the NJSIAA, 1161 Route 130 North, Robbinsville, New Jersey 08691

Withdrawal Policy for Tournament Participation

1. Schools that withdraw from the tournament before seeding will not be subject to any penalty.
2. Schools that withdraw from the tournament after having been seeded will be subject to a fine, unless truly extraordinary circumstances are present.
3. Schools that withdraw from the tournament after the brackets have become official will be subject to a fine, unless truly extraordinary circumstances are present. In addition, the program will be placed on probation for one year.
4. Schools that withdraw from the tournament at any point while on probation will be fined and barred from participating in the tournament for the following school year, unless truly extraordinary circumstances are present. In addition, the program will be placed on additional year of probation.
5. Schools that repeatedly withdraw from tournaments across multiple sports may be referred to the NJSIAA for review and may be subject to Athletic Department probation.

Tournament Seeding

1. The qualifying schools in each group and each section will be seeded using a seeding committee.
2. The seeding committee will use the following criteria: PowerPoints, Lax numbers, head-to-head, common opponents, out-of-state opponents, winning percentage, the strength of the schedule, and any other factors pertinent to the sport if needed to seed the teams into the brackets.
3. Seed Jumping:
 - a. The seed jumping procedure will start from seed # 1 and work downward.
 - b. Seed jumping will take place when a lower-ranked team has defeated the team ranked immediately above them.
 - c. Any split of head-to-head matches will be dropped from the discussion.
 - d. Movement in the seeds may occur one step at a time based on head-to-head criterion.
 - Example - If the 6th seed has defeated the 5th seed, then they switch positions.
 - Example - if the 6th seed has defeated both the 5th & 4th seeds, then a double jump will occur.

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.

Tournament PowerPoint Procedure

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

1. The PowerPoint procedure for this tournament 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 boys games played.
3. Teams that play less than the minimum number of games will still be eligible for the tournament based on their total power points achieved at the cutoff divided by 16.
4. In League, Conference, County or Cup tournament games that require a team to advance, regardless of the overtime procedure used, the winning team will receive all the PowerPoints.

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. When entering records for OOS/NM opponents, only enter the opponents' first 12 games. The system will not let you enter any games above 12.

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. All current NFHS rules along with any NJSIAA rule modifications will govern all tournament games.
2. The tournament dates listed can be moved only upon mutual agreement by both schools 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. Schools may play on Sunday only if both schools agree.
3. All game times for all rounds up to and including the sectional finals will be designated by the higher seeded (home) team. The recommended start time for school days is 4:00pm. For non-school days, times will be established by the home team.
4. For the non-public state semifinals, the game date may be moved upon mutual agreement. Game time for the state semifinals will be set at 4:00pm. If schools cannot agree on the date, the game will be played on the scheduled date above. The game time cannot be moved unless approved by the NJSIAA.
5. All game times are pending the official's availability. Athletic Directors must communicate consistently through all rounds of the tournament regarding start times and field locations.
6. The NJSIAA may need to determine the start times if there is any disagreement between schools.
7. Game times for all state group championship games will be established by the NJSIAA.
8. Regular season or league/conference tournament games cannot replace NJSIAA tournament games.
9. If any circumstance causes postponement, the game must be played on the next day. If the home team cannot get their field ready the next day, the home team has to either find a neutral site or move to the opponent's field if playable. 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 regular season or tournament games must be moved.
10. After a second consecutive postponement of a game because of field conditions, and either team cannot get their field ready, the NJSIAA may designate an alternate site as the home field.
11. In the case of multiple days of bad weather, the first school to get their field ready will be the site of the game unless NJSIAA has secured a field.
12. 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 buses if possible.
13. The NJSIAA assignors must be notified of any postponement in a timely fashion.
14. All bench personnel for this tournament must be approved by the school district. Bench personnel are limited to uniformed players, coaches, managers, and athletic trainers. Under no circumstances are fans, private coaches or club coaches permitted in the dugout.
15. The winning school must notify njschoolsports.com immediately after each game, which must include the pitch count information.
16. Fields must be lined in accordance with the National Federation Rules.

17. 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. However, NJSIAA staff reserves the right to move a game to another site if the field conditions are not considered to be suitable for competition.
18. The host school must provide an adequate amount of crowd control/security as needed based on the host school's facility and magnitude of the event.
19. 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 maintain control of visiting spectators.
20. All schools hosting games must provide a scorer and a timer for each game. An adult would be preferred but at a minimum a person that knows the sport. If an adult is not used, the host team's coaching staff must provide oversight of the timer and scorer.
21. The higher seeded team will wear the dark color jersey.
22. Each school must provide six (6) new NOCSAE white lacrosse balls that have been approved by the NFHS for each game, up to the state finals. The NJSIAA will provide all game balls for the state finals.
23. Each school must provide one (1) horn, and one (1) clock for all tournament games up to the state finals. The NJSIAA will provide all horns and clocks for the state finals.
24. Each school must provide two ball runners, who must wear protective gear, for all state tournament games.

Suspended Tournament Game Procedure

When weather or other circumstances prevent the completion of a tournament game, the following modifications shall be in place:

1. If the third quarter has been completed and the score is tied, and the game cannot be resumed within an hour of the stoppage, the game will resume the following day from the point of interruption.
2. If the third quarter has been completed and the score is NOT tied, and the game cannot be resumed within an hour of the stoppage, the score at the time of interruption shall stand.
3. If the game has not completed the third quarter and the game cannot be resumed within an hour of the stoppage, the game shall be picked up at the point of interruption 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. The game may also be terminated by mutual agreement of the opposing coaches.

Overtime Procedure:

1. When the score is tied at the end of regular playing time, both teams will have a five (5) minute rest and toss a coin (visiting captain calls) for choice of ends. (The alternate possession shall continue from regulation)
2. The game will start with a center draw. The winner will be decided by "sudden victory". The team scoring the first goal wins the game.
3. Each overtime period shall be two three-minute halves. The clock stops on official time-outs or fouls in the critical scoring area. After the first half of the overtime period, teams shall change ends with no delay for coaching. The game will be restarted by a center draw.
4. If the teams are still tied after six minutes have elapsed, the teams will have a 3-minute rest and change ends.
5. Play will continue with "sudden victory" until a winning goal is scored.
6. There is one time-out per team during overtime play.

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 for the first three (3) rounds (see fees below).

State Semis-Finals (Non-Public Only)

- NJSIAA will assign three (3) game officials for this game.
- Higher seeded schools will pay all officials for this round (see fee below).

Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Non-Public State Semifinals
\$104	\$104	\$104	\$120

Sectional Finals (Public Only)

- NJSIAA will assign four (4) officials for each game. Three (3) game officials & one (1) table official.
- NJSIAA will pay for all officials.

State Finals

- NJSIAA will assign five (5) officials for each game. Three (3) game officials, one (1) table official & one (1) clock official.
- NJSIAA will pay for all officials.

Awards

Sectional Champions:

A team trophy and thirty-five (35) certificates to each Sectional Championship in each Group.

State Champions:

A team trophy and thirty-five (35) certificates to the State Champion in each Group.