



2025-26 NJSIAA BOYS VOLLEYBALL 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.

NJSIAA Boys Volleyball Tournament Staff

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Boys Volleyball Important Dates

<u>Event</u>	<u>Dates</u>
First Practice:	March 9, 2026
Competition Start:	March 16, 2026
Entry Form Opens:	May 1, 2026
Entry Form Close:	May 11, 2026
Conflict of Interest Form:	May 11, 2026
Cutoff:	May 16, 2026
PowerPoints Close (12:00pm):	May 17, 2026
Seeding:	May 20, 2026
Regular Season Competition Ends:	June 14, 2026

Boys Volleyball Tournament Dates

<u>State Tournament</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Location</u>
Round 1:	May 27, 2026*	Higher Seed
Round 2:	May 29, 2026*	Higher Seed
Round 3:	June 2, 2026*	Higher Seed
Sectional Finals:	June 5, 2026*	Higher Seed
State Finals (Groups 1 & 3):	June 9, 2026	South Brunswick H.S.
State Finals (Groups 2 & 4):	June 10, 2026	South Brunswick H.S.

*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.

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.

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

State Championship Schedule

Group 1	June 9, 2026	4:00pm	South Brunswick H.S.
Group 3	June 9, 2026	6:00pm	South Brunswick H.S.
Group 2	June 10, 2026	4:00pm	South Brunswick H.S.
Group 4	June 10, 2026	6:00pm	South Brunswick H.S.

Home Teams

For the state finals, all 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.

New for this year's state tournament

1. All state tournament games will be the best of 5 games.
2. The power points for baseball 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.
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.
4. 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.

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 teams from each section & 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. The minimum number of games to be played by the cutoff date is 16.
4. 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.
5. 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.

Tournament Entry Fee

- \$90.00 Payable to the NJSIAA (Please note Baseball 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 16 qualifying schools in each group and each section will be seeded using the NJSIAA power point system.
2. Teams will be seeded based on their power point 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.

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 16 games. The system will not let you enter any games above 16.

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 match is 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 two (2) out of three (3) 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. Wilson High-Performance volleyballs will be provided for use in the State Final matches.
18. Wilson volleyball is the official ball of the NJSIAA tournament. The NJSIAA will provide Wilson volleyball 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

- Two (2) game officials will be assigned by NJSIAA.
- Higher seeded schools will pay all officials for the first three (3) rounds (see fees below).
- Two (2) certified official line judges are recommended but not required for these rounds. If assigned, the line judges will be paid \$70.

Round 1	Round 2	Round 3
\$115	\$115	\$115

Sectional Finals

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

Rounds	Referees	Line judges
Sectional Finals	\$130	\$70

State Finals

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

Rounds	Referees	Line judges
State Finals	\$130	\$70

Awards

Sectional Champions:

A team trophy and twenty-five (25) certificates to each Sectional Champion.

State Champions:

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