FOOTBALL

GENERAL

MAILINGS: Rule books are mailed to athletic directors. Required forms for program information and financial forms can be found online.

CLASSIFICATION: A, AA, AAA, AAAA (for playoffs, classes are subdivided to 1-A and 1-AA, 2-A and 2-AA, 3-A and 3-AA, 4-A and 4-AA).

DATE OF FIRST PRACTICE: No earlier than July 30.

PRESEASON SCRIMMAGES: Seven hours of preseason scrimmage time will be allowed. There is no restriction on using live kicking situations in scrimmages when officials are present. Only eligible players may participate in any scrimmage. These scrimmages cannot occur until at least 8 separate days of practice have been completed (see Practice section for details).

Scrimmages with multiple teams are allowed, and all scrimmages must be conducted as events open to the public (no closed scrimmages allowed). NCHSAA-registered officials must be used for at least two hours of the allotted total of seven and is recommended for use for all seven hours. Officials are to work a maximum of two hours per scrimmage. Junior varsity scrimmages are allowed in conjuction with varsity scrimmages at the same date and time.

DATE OF FIRST SCRIMMAGE: No earlier than August 8.

DATE OF FIRST CONTEST: See chart for playing dates. The date of first varsity contest will be August 17 (junior varsity August 16).

BODY PAINT: No body paint is allowed during regular season or playoffs.

FOOTBALL CALENDAR

1st Practice: ..... July 30
Earliest first scrimmage (after eight days of practice) ..... Aug. 8
1st date (regular season) ..... Aug. 17
2nd date (regular season) ..... Aug. 24
3rd date (regular season) ..... Aug. 31
4th date (regular season) ..... Sept. 7
5th date (regular season) ..... Sept. 14
6th date (regular season) ..... Sept. 21
7th date (regular season) ..... Sept. 28
8th date (regular season) ..... Oct. 5
9th date (regular season) ..... Oct. 12
10th date (regular season) ..... Oct. 19
11th date (regular season) ..... Oct. 26
Seeding Date ..... Oct. 27
12th date (1st Round Playoff) ..... Nov. 2
13th date (District Playoff) ..... Nov. 9
14th date (Sectional Playoff) ..... Nov. 16
15th date (Regional Playoff) ..... Nov. 23

16th date (State Championships) ..... Dec. 1
1-A, 1-AA, 2-AA ..... Carter-Finley Stadium, Raleigh
4-A, 4-AA ..... Kenan Stadium, Chapel Hill
3-A, 3-AA, 2-A ..... BB&T Field, Winston-Salem

NUMBER OF REGULAR SEASON CONTESTS: No more than one may be scheduled per week. Total, 10 games. An individual is limited to only one game per day, per week (exception: "eight-quarter" rule).

EIGHT QUARTER PARTICIPATION: In emergency or "lack of depth" situations only, freshman and/or sophomore junior varsity football players will be allowed a maximum of 8 quarters per season of "on the field" play as a varsity football player. This is an allowable exemption from the rule counting dressing for a game as participation in a varsity contest and will enable a junior varsity player to be available for emergency or lack of depth participation in the varsity contest. The intent of the rule is to give coaches some alternatives for junior varsity players to continue to gain value game experience at the junior varsity level and still be available as a backup player in the varsity game. The following conditions must be met:

- A maximum of 12 different players may be 8-quartered during the regular season.
- Such players must be pre-determined prior to dressing for participation—completion of the 8 Quarter Pre-Approval Form containing signatures of a licensed athletic trainer or medical doctor, principal, athletic director, and parent/legal custodian. (If a designated player or players participated in the junior varsity contest, medical information shall include evidence that player(s) is adequately hydrated and void of injury that would render player(s) unfit to play.) The form must be filed at the school and with the conference president on the day of the scheduled game.
- Following the game, a status report on the designated players must be completed which shall include the names of all freshman and sophomore junior varsity football player(s) designated and dressed as emergency players and report the number of quarter(s) in which each athlete actually played. Any portion of a quarter equals a quarter played. If a player dresses out but does not play, record as "0" quarters played. Form must be signed by coach, athletic director and principal and faxed to the NCHSAA and conference office the first school day after the varsity contest.
- Anytime a JV player must be used as a starter on the varsity team, that player is eligible for either the next JV game or varsity game.
- $500 fine for failure to submit follow-up form to NCHSAA.
- If your school's JV Football game is:
  - Cancelled - you may not use the 8-quarter rule for Friday's varsity football game. If a JV player participates in the varsity game, it will count towards the maximum allowed 11 games per for an individual; therefore no 8-quarter paperwork would need to be filed
  - Postponed - you may use the 8-quarter rule for the Friday varsity fooball game. Submit 8-quarter paperwork as usual

ENDOWMENT GAMES: An Endowment game may be played, which does not count against the season limit. A school may schedule more than one endowment game provided it does not exceed the season limitation of eleven games, with NCHSAA approval.

ELIGIBILITY SHEETS: Should be kept on file at the local school. Must be made available to NCHSAA upon request, and are required to be shared among conference members.

CAMPS: No body-to-body contact is allowed. This includes clinics, combines and camps during the school year or summer.

RESTRAINING BARRIERS: At all varsity football games there shall be restraining barriers on both sides of the field. These barriers shall run the entire length of the field and shall be at least five yards (preferably more) from the sidelines. The restraining barrier may be a fence, cable or strong rope. No one is permitted within these barriers except coaches, players and persons officially connected with a team. It is highly recommended that all schools completely surround their football field with a substantial four-foot restraining fence, constructed a minimum of five yards from any sidelines or end line.

REQUIRED EQUIPMENT: Schools must provide yardage clip for down and distance chains. Balls must have the authenticating NFHS ball mark.

FILMING AND VIDEOTAPING: Filming or videotaping of games by non-participating schools is considered unsportsmanlike conduct, subject to a $300 fine, unless agreed upon by the competing teams.

JUNIOR VARSITY TIEBREAKER: Junior varsity football teams may break ties in games if both coaches mutually agree prior to the game.

OFFICIALS: Five-man officiating crews are used in all regular-season contests; post season

varsity football contests will be determined by the NCHSAA. It is recommended that junior varsity games have a five-man crew.

PAYMENT OF OFFICIALS: Officials are to be paid based on local fiscal policy as soon as possible.

EJECTIONS: Failure to file an ejection report for a player or coach (form found online) is subject to a $50 fine. Reports must be filed within 48 hours or two working days, of the ejection. An ejection is a judgment call; therefore, there are no appeals. If the wrong player is identified, a correction can be made through the booking agent and the NCHSAA.

SUSPENDED GAME RULE: The NCHSAA plays by the suspended game rule on all sports (see Game Administration section).

SCHEDULES: Schools are required to submit varsity and junior varsity schedules to their appropriate booking agents by May 15.

PRACTICE AND CONDITIONING

STATE MEDICAL REQUIREMENTS: A licensed athletic trainer or sports medicine first responder is required by state law (not NCHSAA guidelines) to be at practice and at games.

CONDITIONING REQUIREMENTS: The first five (5) days of practice are required to be used for physical conditioning according to the following provisions: The NCHSAA emphasizes the importance of these regulations for safety.

- On the first two (2) days, headgear, shorts and football shoes constitute acceptable dress. On days, (3) three, (4) four and (5) five, shoulder pads may be added, but ABSOLUTELY no body-to-body contact is permitted (see Penalty Code for Violations). Practice during the first (5) five-day period shall be limited to (3) three hours, **INCLUDING** flex time (stretching) and breaks. On day (6) six, full uniforms may be worn, and body-to-body contact is allowed.
- This conditioning period may include calisthenics, kicking, throwing, running and similar exercises. Arm shields, tackling or blocking dummies, charging sleds or similar devices may also be used during these five days. Squad meetings, skull sessions, film study and the like are allowed during the five-day period.
- **ALL** football players, with the exception of soccer players who play only as kickers must follow the preceding conditioning requirements. Any student, who is late coming out for the team, must still undergo (5) five days of physical conditioning as outlined prior to beginning regular practice and workouts.

PRACTICE OPTIONS: There are set practice options that can be utilized during the football preseason period:

- Option A - One, (3) three hour practice (which includes "flex time")
- Option B - One, (3) three hour practice, followed by a MANDATORY (3)three hour cool down period, followed by a (1) one hour walk-through
- Option C (Double Practice) - One (3) three hour, or (2) two hour practice, followed by a MANDATORY (3)three hour cool down period, followed by a (2) two hour, or (3) three hour practice (Maximum of (5) five hours of practice time per 24 hour period)

*Option C days **MUST** be followed by Option A, Option B, or off-day
*Under no circumstances may you have back-to-back Option C days
*The mandatory cool-down period must be held in an air-conditioned environment

PRACTICE SCHEDULE: Listed are the various options available for each preseason practice day:

- July 30th - August 3rd
  - o Option A or Option B
- August 4th (1st Day of Contact) - August 11th (or start of 185-day school year, whichever comes first)
  - o Option A, Option B, or Option C (refer to practice options for stipulations)
- August 13th - End of Season
  - o Option A ONLY (One 3 hour practice, which includes flex time)

DEFINITIONS:

o PRACTICE: That period of time a participant engages in a coach-supervised, school-approved, sport or conditioning-related physical activity; each practice should last no more than 3 hours. Warm-up, stretching, conditioning/weight room activities are included as part of the 3-hour practice time.

Practices are timed from the time the players report to the field until they leave the field.

- o REQUIRED PRACTICE: A player must/shall have participated in at least eight (8) separate days of team practice, three of which must be in full pads and included body to body contact, before participating in a football contest or scrimmage with outside competition (exception: athletes from other sports who play only as kickers). No exceptions, to fulfill this requirement, these must be football practices (not military training, summer track, etc.).
- o CONTACT PRACTICE: The time when players may "hit" or have body to body contact; these drills may begin the day following the (5) five days used for acclimatization and physical conditioning; the use of all football protective equipment is permissible.
- o SCRIMMAGE: Informal sports contest or practice match engaged in for practice purposes; may occur on Day 9 of the pre-season period. During this time, players may engage in hitting
- o WALK-THROUGH: A teaching opportunity with the athlete not wearing protective equipment (e.g. helmets, shoulder pads, catcher's gear, shin guards) or using other sport-related equipment. The walk-through is not part of the 3 hour practice period, can last no more than 1 hour per day, and does not include conditioning or weight room activities. In football, a (1) one hour maximum walkthrough is permitted during the 1st (12) twelve days of pre-season practice.
- o COOL DOWN PERIOD: The (3) three hour time period between the end of (1) one practice or walk-through and the beginning of the next practice or walk-through. During this time, athletes should rest in a cool environment—helmets off, not in direct sunlight—with no sport or conditioning related activity permitted (e.g. speed or agility drills, strength training, conditioning, or walk-through). Treatment with the athletic trainer is permissible.

INCLEMENT/HOT WEATHER GUIDELINES: Precautions must be taken to prevent heat-related problems. The following should be considered when scheduling practice: time of day, intensity level of practice, equipment worn, and environmental conditions. High temperature and high humidity create a dangerous situation for athletes. However, a high humidity and low temperature can cause serious heat-related problems.

Water should be made available in unlimited amounts throughout practice. Water/fluid replacement breaks are recommended each 20 or 30 minutes, depending on practice conditions. Each LEA must have a written policy pertaining to practice on days of extreme heat or early dismissal due to extreme weather conditions. Schools must also have a policy in place regarding lightning. In addition to these guidelines, schools must have a plan/procedure for all emergency situations. See chart (next page) for details.

SPORTS SEASON NOTE: See item 27 under Game and Sport Administration for details on sports season concept. Football helmets are required and shoulder pads permitted during skill development. **During the entire time period between the end of football season and up through the first five days of practice for the next season, ABSOLUTELY NO body-to-body contact is allowed. This applies to workouts, combines, practices on campus, off campus 7 on 7 and includes the summer, including camps.**

PLAYOFFS

PLAYOFF DECLARATION: A school has the option to "opt out" of the playoffs, provided it fills out the Playoff Declaration Form on the website, submits it and it is in the NCHSAA offices prior to the reporting deadline for that specific sport. Proper submission means the school will not be considered for either an automatic berth or a wild card position. If the form is not submitted, then the school will be considered and may qualify for a playoff berth.

UNPAID FINES: Schools that have unpaid fines to the NCHSAA are not eligible to compete in the playoffs for that sport (i.e. baseball fine would be specific to baseball playoffs) unless the fine is paid two (2) days prior to the reporting date for that sport.

Any fine not paid at the end of the fiscal year (June 30) will carry over to the following school year making all teams at said school ineligible for playoffs until the fine is paid in full.

TIES IN STANDINGS: (1) The team leading in conference standings at the end of the season will be declared conference champion. (2) In the event two or more teams tie for a playoff position, the approved tiebreaking procedure shall be used (see Game & Sport Administration

Management and Prevention Guidelines and Recommendations

1.Measure WBGT reading if this can be done accurately onsite. If not, determine this from weather station or reliable airport site within 5 to 10 miles of practice site. If WBGT is not available, determine temperature in F/C and Relative Humidity and refer to the following Heat Index Chart:

Heat Index and Physical Exercise Chart		
WGBT Index (F)	**Color Code**	**Athletic Activity Guideline**
Less than 80	White	Unlimited activity with primary cautions for new or unconditioned athletes or extreme exertion; schedule mandatory rest / water breaks (5 min water / rest break every 30 min)
80-84.9	Green	Normal practice for athletes; closely monitor new or unconditioned athletes and all athletes during extreme exertion. Schedule mandatory rest / water breaks. (5 min water / rest break every 25 min)
85-87.9	Yellow (Amber)	New or unconditioned athletes should not practice. Well-conditioned athletes should have more frequent rest breaks and hydration as well as cautious monitoring for symptoms of heat illness. Schedule frequent mandatory rest / water breaks. (5 min water / rest break every 20 min) Have immersion pool on site for practice.
88-89.9	Red	All athletes must be under constant observation and supervision. Remove pads and equipment. Schedule frequent mandatory rest / water breaks. (5 min water / rest break every 15 min) Have immersion pool on site for practice.
90 or above	Black	SUSPEND PRACTICE

2.As temperatures increase, minimize clothing and equipment.

3.Provide unlimited drinking opportunities during hotter practices. NEVER withhold water from athletes.

4.If and when possible, pre and post-practice weigh-ins should be conducted. (NOTE: an athlete who is not within 3% of the previous pre-practice weight should be withheld from practice. These athletes should be counseled on the importance of re-hydrating.)

NOAA's National Weather Service

Heat Index

Temperature (°F)

Relative Humidity (%)	80	82	84	86	88	90	92	94	96	98	100	102	104	106	108	110
40	80	81	83	85	88	91	94	97	101	105	109	114	119	124	130	136
45	80	82	84	87	89	93	96	100	104	109	114	119	124	130	137	
50	81	83	85	88	91	95	99	103	108	113	118	124	131	137		
55	81	84	86	89	93	97	101	106	112	117	124	130	137			
60	82	84	88	91	95	100	105	110	116	123	129	137				
65	82	85	89	93	98	103	108	114	121	128	136					
70	83	86	90	95	100	105	112	119	126	134						
75	84	88	92	97	103	109	116	124	132							
80	84	89	94	100	106	113	121	129								
85	85	90	96	102	110	117	126	135								
90	86	91	98	105	113	122	131									
95	86	93	100	108	117	127										
100	87	95	103	112	121	132										

Likelihood of Heat Disorders with Prolonged Exposure or Strenuous Activity

Caution | Extreme Caution | Danger | Extreme Danger

section). (3) **Any conference ties for football playoff berths must be broken and results reported to NCHSAA by 6 a.m. on Saturday after the last regular season games**.

SEEDING AND SUBDIVIDING: Each classification will be subdivided (1-A, 1-AA, 2-A, 2-AA, 3-A, 3-AA, 4-A, 4-AA). The following steps will be followed:

PLAYOFF BERTHS/QUALIFICATION:

1. A team must finish 1st, 2nd or 3rd in the conference to qualify. In a split conference a team must finish 1st or 2nd in their division, OR
2. If not enough teams qualify using the criteria in #1 above, we would take the teams with the highest 10-game winning percentage next followed by conference winning percentage (split conferences use all conference games), OR
3. If too many teams qualify using the criteria in #1 above, we would take the teams with the best overall conference finish followed by the highest conference winning percentage to determine the qualifiers.
4. All classifications will field a full complement of 64 teams, 32 in each sub-division. There will be no byes.
5. If ties exist at any level the tie(s) will be broken by a draw conducted by the NCFBCA.

Once the 64 teams are determined they will be divided into groups of 32 (large and small groups of 32) based on their ADM for the present school year. The next step is to divide each group of 32 into the 16 eastern and western most teams. This is not done by conferences but on actual geography (location of each school).

SEEDING

a. seed all #1s by overall records – ties will be broken by a draw. Conference champions tied for first will be seeded as number ones if they are going into different subdivisions (A or AA).
b. if school finishes first in its part of a classification in a split conference, it is seeded as a number one and not actually where it finished overall in the conference.
c. seed all #2s by overall records – ties will be broken by a draw
d. seed all #3s by overall records – ties will be broken by a draw
e. seed all other qualifying teams (those with four or more wins) based only on their overall won/loss record, regardless of conference finish
f. After seeding the 16 teams, the teams will be placed geographically by longitude in "pods"– East, Mideast, Midwest, and West. The teams will be placed by seeds within the pods.

GENERAL INFORMATION FOR ALL CLASSIFICATIONS: Each school will only report a record indicating a total of 10 games and must drop a non-conference game, provided they played an 11th game.

If teams in any 'tier' of the seeding process have identical records, head-to-head competition will be used. If they have played one another, the winner receives the higher seed. If they haven't played one another, a draw is made for the higher seed.

The non-conference game that is dropped for seeding purposes may still be used in breaking a tie as described above, i.e. two teams in the same half of a bracket (both in the large, west 4AA bracket) are equal seeds from their individual conferences (both #2s) and have identical records (both 9-1). We will first try to break the tie(s) by looking at head-to-head competition. If these schools played each other in a non-conference game, but one of them didn't count that game for seeding purposes, the game will still be used to break the tie, with the team that lost getting the lower seed.

Since teams that finish 1st, 2nd or 3rd are seeded in separate 'tiers' the overall record of a number two or even a number three team may be better than the record of a number one team. But under no circumstances will a team that finished as a #2 or #3 be seeded higher than any #1, nor will a #3 team ever be seeded higher than a #2. However, since all teams that finish lower than #3 are seeded in the same 'tier' regardless of conference finish, it will be possible for a team that finishes as a #5 to be seeded higher than a #4, or a #6 to be seeded higher than a

#5, since the only consideration in that 'tier' is overall record.

Once seeding is complete, 1 plays 16, 2 plays 15, etc. In football the higher seed will always play at home.

REPORTING: Every effort should be made to play the final regular season game as scheduled. Saturday is the makeup day in the event of inclement weather on Friday (game time no later than 1 p.m.). There will be no exceptions because of the importance of the seeding process. **The conference president must report the berths, conference standings and overall records as required by the NCHSAA by 11:30 p.m. on the 11th playing date.** Postponements should also be reported. Preliminary brackets may be posted by 4 p.m. Any corrections should be reported to the NCHSAA immediately, no later than 5 p.m. Final brackets will be posted thereafter.

Failure to comply with the initial reporting procedure will result in a $400 fine to the conference.

After schools have qualified for the playoffs, it is their responsibility to report advancement by the appropriate method and deadline as designated by the NCHSAA. Failure to report a playoff advancement will result in a $400 fine to the school. Teams advancing must contact the NCHSAA no later than 8 am the day following each win. Postponements should also be reported.

Check website for additional information.

It is the duty of the competing schools to confer with respect to the wishes of their school. The principal of the host school should contact by telephone the principal of the other school within 24 hours after knowledge of the playoff. Arrangements must be made for designated school representatives to meet to discuss arrangements and fix responsibility for various details. All financial arrangements must be made prior to the contest.

Games in other sports may be rescheduled when participation in the football playoffs would affect those games (e.g., early-season men's basketball games if the football team is involved in playoffs).

REQUIRED PLAYOFF INFORMATION: Fact sheet, roster forms, two-deep depth chart forms and other required information for football playoff qualifiers may be found online. Note deadlines for submission of material. **This is mandatory for playoff qualifiers.**

FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

Rate of expense reimbursement for visiting team: First-round, Second-round, and Third-round

0-75 miles one-way	school receives meal reimbursement ($6 x 45 people=$270)
76-149 miles one-way	school receives meal reimbursement ($6 x 45 people=$270), plus mileage (.75/mile, round trip)
150 plus miles one-way	school receives meal reimbursement ($6 x 45 people=$270), plus mileage (.75/mile, round trip), plus motel ($8x45=$360)

Note: if over 300 miles one way, contact NCHSAA for approval of allowable expenses.

First Round, Second Round and Third Round Games

(1) Game report–The principal of the host school, or appointed game manager, will forward a copy of the financial report and ticket accountability form to the North Carolina High School Athletic Association within 10 days after the contest. Forms are online.

(2) Division of receipts–the Association is to receive 15 percent of the gross gate. After paying expenses, the competing teams are to divide the remainder equally.

(3) The host school will get concession and program rights. **No charge is to be made by the host school for field use, lights, lining off the field, etc., if the field is school-owned or is owned by the board of education.** Any use of a neutral facility must be approved by the NCHSAA.

(4) Admission to games–The price is $6.00 (includes one dollar surcharge for Endowment).

Regional Games

(1) Game report–The principal of the host school, or appointed game manager, will forward a copy of the financial report and ticket accountability form to the North Carolina High School Athletic Association, within 10 days after the contest. Forms are online.

(2) Division of receipts–In the regional games, the Association is to receive 25 percent of the gross gate. After paying expenses, the competing teams are to divide the remainder equally.

(3) In the regional games, the host-school will get concession and program rights. **No charge is to be made by the host school for field use, lights, lining off the field, etc., if the field is school-owned or is owned by the board of education.** Any use of a neutral facility must be approved by the NCHSAA.

(4) Rate of expense reimbursement: see above.

(5) Admission to games–$6.00 presale, $7.00 at gate (includes one dollar surcharge for Endowment).

(6) Regional awards–Team plaques will be presented to the regional champion and regional runner-up.

Championship Games

(1) Championship games will be held under the direction of the NCHSAA; this is to include approval of game sites.

(2) Team expenses–The visiting team receives a maximum of $1.50 per mile, round trip, for transportation; the home team, none. For neutral site championships, both teams receive travel and lodging, if applicable. If the distance is over 75 miles (one way), the visiting team will be allowed a dinner meal for those dressed, up to 45 persons. Meal allowance consists of $5.00 for each person for breakfast, $6.00 for lunch, $8.00 for dinner. Motel expenses will be allowed for one night if visiting team is more than 150 miles from play-off site. Two nights will be allowed if over 300 miles. Schools will pay their motel bill, and the NCHSAA will reimburse the schools up to an $11.00 rate per person, for up to 45 persons.

(3) Division of receipts–In the championship games, after the game and team expenses have been deducted, the Association will receive 60 percent of the net receipts and the participating teams will divide the remainder.

(4) Admission to games–$9.00 for all presale and $10.00 at the gate (includes one dollar surcharge for Endowment).

(5) Awards–The winning and runner-up teams will receive plaques. Members of the winning and runner-up teams will also receive individual awards. (50 medals for 3A and 4A and 40 medals for 1A and 2A)

(6) Game ball–The Wilson football (GST/F1003B-NCHS) is the official ball of the NCHSAA championship (with NFHS authenticating ball mark).

GENERAL

MINIMUM SEATING REQUIREMENTS ARE AS FOLLOWS: Class 1A — host 1000, visitors 500; Class 2A — host 1450, visitors 750; Class 3A — host 2000, visitors 1000; Class 4A — host 2500, visitors 1500. The Executive Committee has authority to move a play-off game when the circumstances are perceived to warrant such action even if the host school meets the minimum seating requirements.

If additional seating is required to meet the above standards, the expense shall be that of the host school. A $1000 penalty shall be imposed on schools failing to meet seating requirements.

If the visiting team has a complaint regarding the playing facility, it shall be registered by noon on the Monday preceding the game. In the event of such a complaint, the President of the Board of Directors shall have the authority to appoint a committee of three members of the Board to investigate the facilities. This committee shall be vested with the full authority to set the site for the game.

If a neutral site is selected, the representatives of the two playing schools shall meet with a representative of the school furnishing the neutral field to agree on game management.

CHECKLIST FOR NCHSAA FOOTBALL PLAYOFF GAMES:

(1) Date and place of game. **GAME TIME WILL BE 7:30 P.M.**
(2) Adequate seating facilities.
(3) For field rental, team expenses, program rights and concession rights, refer to Financial Arrangements in this section.
(4) Police protection.
(5) Ticket sellers, ticket takers and cost of this service.
(6) Field marking and preparation.
(7) Public address system and announcer.
(8) Dressing facilities, including soap and towels.
(9) Scoreboard and clock operator (host school must secure both).
(10) Parking and traffic.
(11) Adequate medical attention to be agreed upon by the school.
(12) Arrangements for officials. See selection of officials below.
(13) A tie in *any* playoff game will be broken by the overtime procedure.
(14) Game ball — responsibility for securing and disposition after game.
(15) The selection of field sides for fans and schools.
(16) Reserve sections for bands; band expenses shall be the responsibility of the individual schools. Marching units in uniform and cheerleaders in uniform are admitted free.
(17) Admission prices for students and adults, advance sales and game site sale.
(18) Consecutively numbered tickets to be used.
(19) Ample change for ticket sellers.
(20) Adequate facilities for representatives of the competing schools to meet for the purpose of counting money, checking tickets with money, and dividing money. Police protection is to be provided at this facility, and time and place of check-up predetermined. Unstamped money wrappers shall be furnished.
(21) Checks for all game officials are to be furnished by one school and this school to be reimbursed from the gate receipts.
(22) Responsibility for pre-game publicity.
(23) Policy with respect to live radio broadcasts. The fee for a broadcast at any playoff game is set at $50. All live or tape-delayed telecasts must be approved by the NCHSAA.
(24) Which team to wear light and which dark uniforms.
(25) Tickets will be sold through the conclusion of the contest.
(26) Team personnel to be admitted with coach.
(27) Number of passes to be made available to each school to be used for administrative personnel, staff, school board, etc. (10 maximum). Other passes acceptable include NCCA, NCHSAA, Senior Tar Heel, football officials passes and media passes.
(28) Select alternate date and time in case of bad weather.
(29) Each team will be afforded equal facilities in the press box.

SELECTION OF OFFICIALS: For the first two rounds of the state playoffs, officials are to be assigned by the local booking agent of the higher seeded team. The NCHSAA Supervisor of Officials will assign a booking agent to assign crews to games in the quarterfinals and NCHSAA regionals. Clock operators may be assigned starting with the second round, but this is strictly optional for schools. The Supervisor of Officials will assign crews to all state championship games. A seven-man crew will be used in the championship games.

CHAMPIONSHIP PRESS CONFERENCE: A press conference and information session preceding the football championships will be held on Monday, November 26, 2012 at Vaughn Towers at N.C. State. All regional champions who qualify for the state finals are asked to bring

their superintendent, principal, athletic director, head football coach and members of the media who cover their team. This information session/press conference is mandatory; at least one of the aforementioned personnel from the school must be in attendance. Failure to comply will include a fine and forteiture of complimentary tickets/VIP passes for the event.

STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS: The state championships are scheduled for December1, 2012at Kenan Stadium, Carter-Finley Stadium, and BB&T Field. The Eastern teams will be designated as home. Game times TBA.

NCHSAA SPORTS BRACKETS

For the most up-to-date information on brackets in various sports, including conference playoff berths, seeding priorities and qualifiers, consult the NCHSAA web site at www.nchsaa.org, and use the Playoff Brackets link on the homepage.

Since brackets sometimes undergo changes during the course of an academic year, the decision has been made to omit them in printed form in the Handbook and make them available only on line. This eliminates confusion between brackets printed in some cases many months before the playoffs begin, and the actual updated online versions that may contain changes from the original version.

OFFICIATING

OFFICIALS: Each school must use only NCHSAA-registered officials in all competition.

CLINICS: Head coaches are required to attend one of the NCHSAA clinics in their sport, or in conjunction with the rules sessions at the North Carolina Coaches Association clinic held in Greensboro in July.

GAME FEES: for all classifications:

Varsity	
Regular season	$70 flat fee
Playoff games (first round thru regionals)	$80 flat fee
Clock Operator	$80 flat fee (starting 2nd round--optional)
State championship games	$80 flat fee (seven-man crew)
Junior varsity and ninth grade	$65 (4-man crew) $60 (5-man crew)

Note: if clock operator is requested through booking agent for regular season varsity game, the game fee is $70 flat fee.

There is a $25 fee per hour (or any fraction of an hour) for officials per field for scrimmages.

BOOKING FEE: School booking fee to officials' association is $125.00 per booking and $100.00 for each additional booking in that sport.

2012-13 NCHSAA State Football Clinic Dates: See NCHSAA website.

2012-2013 NCHSAA APPROVED FOOTBALL BOOKING AGENTS

NAME	ASSOCIATION	PHONE
Phillip Allen 1024 Highland Ave Hendersonville, NC 28792-3735	WNCOA phillip@wncoa.org	B: 828-696-4990 Fax: 509-693-5001 Cell: 828-777-1978
Kellum Fipps 5110 Hampton Road Fayetteville, NC 28311	Southeastern kgfipps@embarqmail.com	910-488-2855 Fax: 910-488-2855
Rodney Burnette PO Box 1240 Pineville, NC 28134	Metrolina admin@rcbfootball.com	B: 704-900-2743 Home: 704-930-0282 Cell: 704-301-8901 Fax: 704-625-3916
Bill Kelly 1405 Valley Drive Raleigh, NC 27603	Triangle bkellytoa@nc.rr.com	B: 919-772-6575 Home: 919-772-4924 Fax: 919-772-8568
Curtis Lambert PO Box 66 Dillsboro, NC 28725x	Southwestern ref1989@yahoo.com	Cell: 828-226-0061
Len Reynolds 4609 Hanberry Dr. Greensboro, NC 27410	North State lreynolds9@triad.rr.com	Home: 336-282-5509 Fax: 336-282-5509 Cell: 336-327-6800
Jim Rouse 2735 Pinewood Dr. Kinston, NC 28504	East Carolina jorouse@suddenlink.net	Cell: 252-560-9833 Home: 252-523-2298 Fax: 252-527-5779
Mike Webster 3206 Quinn Dr. Wilson, NC 27896	Coastal Plains mwebster@coastalnet.com	Cell: 252-292-1248 Home: 252-206-8551