Attachment S1

Sports Committee

Adopting Shot Clock - Lacrosse

Submitted by: Dominic Koplar - NC Lacrosse Coaches Association

Request:

Discussion Only (The item is submitted for Board discussion, information, or feedback. No formal Board action is requested.)

Consideration:

NFHS allows for state associations to adopt the shot clock for both/either Men's and Women's lacrosse.

Specific Request:

New Addition (The request proposes a new rule, policy, regulation, provision, or requirement rather than a change to an existing provision.)

Basis:

New Addition (The request proposes a new rule, policy, regulation, provision, or requirement rather than a change to an existing provision.)

Current Language / Proposed Language:

Effective Date:

Rationale:

Discussion around steps expected/required to move to adopt the shot clock for either/both Men's and Women's lacrosse.

Educational Impact: None

Student Safety Impact: None

Equity Impact: None

Financial Impact: Unsure; would schools need to implement an on-field shot clock? could it be kept at the table? What would this look like?

Operational and Administrative Impact: Would need someone capable of staffing / running it.

Legal or Compliance Considerations: None

Changing The Number Rounds Used For Regional Qualification

Submitted by: Matthew Dawson - NC Golf Coaches Association

Request:

NCHSAA Board Action (The Board is requested to take formal action on the matter.)

Consideration:

Proposed Change to Minimum Scores for Regional Qualification and IWR Rankings

Players and teams must have a minimum of five posted nine-hole scores to receive an IWR ranking.

- Until a player or team has posted 12 scores, the IWR ranking will be calculated using the five lowest scores.
- Once 12 or more scores have been posted, the IWR ranking will be calculated using the best 50% of all posted scores.
- This calculation will continue to use the lowest 50% of posted scores as additional rounds are completed.

Specific Request:

Current NCHSAA Rule, Policy, Regulation, or Handbook Provision

Basis:

Current NCHSAA Rule, Policy, Regulation, or Handbook Provision

Current Language / Proposed Language:

Rankings for regional qualification: Regional qualifiers will be ranked using the IWannamaker 9-hole rankings. Those rankings will be based on the five best scores. Teams and individuals with fewer than five scores are not eligible for qualification. Teams that qualify for the post season can choose to bring players with fewer than 5 scores.

Proposed Change to Minimum Scores for Regional Qualification and IWR Rankings

Players and teams must have a minimum of five posted nine-hole scores to receive an IWR ranking.

- Until a player or team has posted 12 scores, the IWR ranking will be calculated using the five lowest scores.
- Once 12 or more scores have been posted, the IWR ranking will be calculated using the best 50% of all posted scores.

- This calculation will continue to use the lowest 50% of posted scores as additional rounds are completed.

Effective Date: Beginning of the next applicable sport season

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Rationale:

To create fairness and equity between schools with differing access to golf courses and matches. Creates a more accurate view of a team and individuals' performance throughout the season. We believe this will also reduce manipulation of team's schedules late in the season.

Educational Impact: None

Student Safety Impact: None

Equity Impact: None

Financial Impact: None

Operational and Administrative Impact: Only change would be for Iwannamaker to change the way the software calculates the IWR ranking.

Legal or Compliance Considerations: No

Attachment

Additional Individuals From Regionals To State Championship

Submitted by: Matthew Dawson - NC golf coaches association

Request:

NCHSAA Board Action (The Board is requested to take formal action on the matter.)

Consideration:

Allow for additional individuals be added to the state championship from regionals if open slots are available. I.E. a qualifying team does not have 5 players.

Specific Request:

Current NCHSAA Rule, Policy, Regulation, or Handbook Provision

Basis:

Current NCHSAA Rule, Policy, Regulation, or Handbook Provision

Current Language / Proposed Language:

State championships have a maximum field size of 36, 48 or 72 depending on class.

Allowing additional individuals from regionals into the state championship if an advancing team has less than 5 players.

Effective Date: Beginning of the next applicable sport season

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Rationale:

When a qualifying team advances with fewer than five players, the unused individual spots could be filled by the next eligible individuals in the regional standings. This would allow the state championship field to more fully utilize the available qualifying positions while providing additional opportunities for teams and individuals to compete at the state level.

For example, if a regional site has 24 available positions to advance to the state championship, the regional should have the ability to fill all 24 positions rather than sending only 22. Due to one of the advancing team only having 3 players. Likewise, if 16 positions are available, the regional should not be limited to sending only 14.

This change would maximize the number of eligible competitors at the state championship and create a larger, more competitive field without exceeding the established maximum field size.

Educational Impact: No more time missed than advancing teams.

Student Safety Impact: None

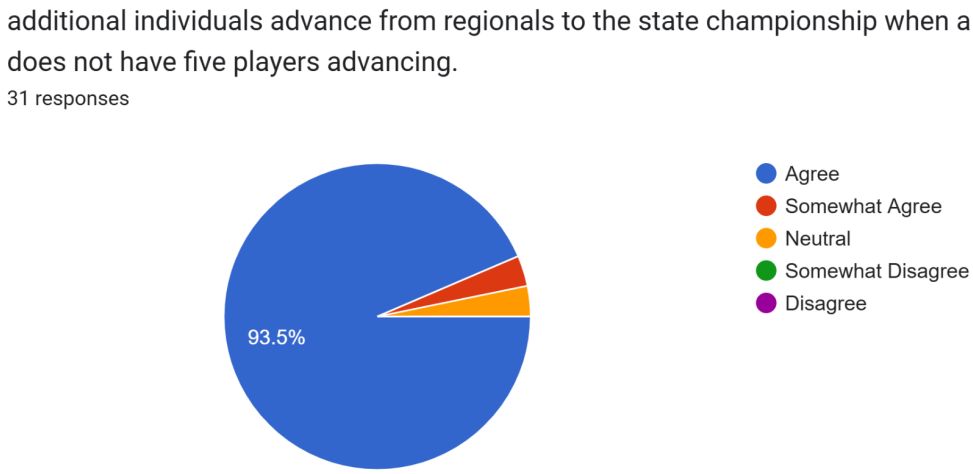
Equity Impact: None

Financial Impact: Some schools may gain entry into the state championship or an additional player. In general, budget impact would be minimal

Operational and Administrative Impact: None

Legal or Compliance Considerations: None

Attachment Yes



Limiting The Scheduling Of Last Minute/Last Chance Matches For Regional Qualifiers

Submitted by: Matthew Dawson - NC Golf Coaches Association

Request:

NCHSAA Board Action (The Board is requested to take formal action on the matter.)

Consideration:

All matches added into Iwanamaker system 2 weeks before the reporting deadline, all matches scheduled in the last two week window must be approved by the NCHSAA golf director.

Specific Request:

New Addition (The request proposes a new rule, policy, regulation, provision, or requirement rather than a change to an existing provision.)

Basis:

New Addition (The request proposes a new rule, policy, regulation, provision, or requirement rather than a change to an existing provision.)

Current Language / Proposed Language:

Effective Date:

Rationale:

To limit the amount of schedule manipulation at the end of season. This is to be done to create fairness at the end of the season.

Educational Impact: None

Student Safety Impact: None

Equity Impact: None

Financial Impact: None

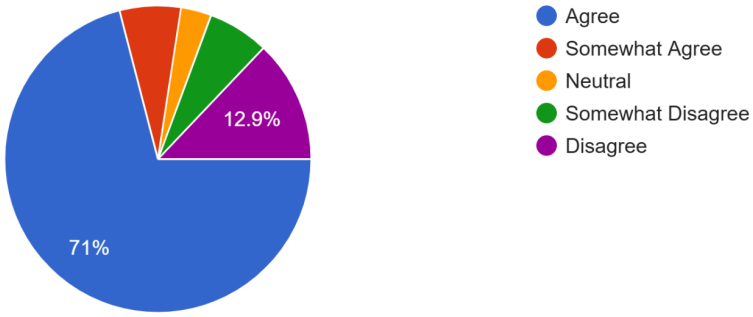
Operational and Administrative Impact: None

Legal or Compliance Considerations: None

Attachment Yes

All matches must be added into Iwanamaker system 2 weeks before the reporting deadline. All matches added after this point must be approved by the NCHSAA golf director

31 responses



Change Regional Golf Requirement from "Best Five Rounds" to "Overall Average" with 5 round minimum

Submitted by: Red Dutta - Raleigh Charter High School

Request:

NCHSAA Board Action (The Board is requested to take formal action on the matter.)

Consideration:

The current "Best 5 Rounds" while accommodating, it allows schools to take advantage by playing 20, 30, or more rounds. Effectively, for every round they play, they take 4, 5, or even 6 "do-overs" to get a better score. "Do-overs" is not in the spirit of golf and they knock out better teams from qualifying for regionals. Often, these same schools perform poorly at the regional tournament. Taking the "Overall Average" better reflects a team's actual golf abilities and solves the "do-over" problem.

Specific Request:

Current NCHSAA Rule, Policy, Regulation, or Handbook Provision

Basis:

Current NCHSAA Rule, Policy, Regulation, or Handbook Provision

Current Language / Proposed Language:

4.7.2(e)(3) & 4.7.2(g)(3)

... Those rankings will be based on the best five scores. ...

Those rankings will be based on the average of all the qualifying match scores.

Effective Date: Beginning of the next school year

Rationale:

It makes the qualifications for regionals true to the actual spirit of golf, ensures the top teams actually qualify for regionals, and keeps some teams from "gaming the system" as some coaches have called it.

Educational Impact: None

Student Safety Impact: None

Equity Impact: None

Financial Impact: It'll save some schools money by not paying for so many "do-over" golf matches.

Operational and Administrative Impact: It'll free up time from organizing so many "do-over" golf matches.

Legal or Compliance Considerations: None

Attachment

Proposal to Increase and Maintain JV SB Participation

Submitted by: Dustin Kerley - Watauga County Schools

Request:

NCHSAA Board Action (The Board is requested to take formal action on the matter.)

Consideration:

Recommendation/Proposal: (State in detail the recommendation/proposal)

Proposal to increase and maintain JV Softball Participation

• Rationale: (Why should the board consider and possibly pass this recommendation?)

o Budget Impact: (What does this mean to a school's/athletic department's finances?)

None

o| Educational Impact: (Does this mean loss of school time? Does it interfere with study time?)

No

Gender Impact: (Is this proposal fair to males and females?)

Yes

o Effective Date: (When would this go into effect?)

Feb 2027

Concern for Low Participation Numbers in Softball 5/12/26

Concern

Softball participation numbers are declining, which has led to fewer teams being able to field Junior Varsity (JV) teams. Each year, more programs are unable to maintain a JV roster due to low participation. Additionally, many teams are forced to cancel JV games because players are moved up to Varsity to serve as substitutes

or courtesy runners. In many cases, those players do not actually enter the Varsity game, yet their participation still counts against them since they are listed on the lineup card as a potential substitute.

Proposal

If a player does not enter a Varsity game as a substitution, it should not be counted as a game played towards their weekly or season game(s) limitation. Furthermore, if a player is used solely as a courtesy runner for a pitcher or catcher, that appearance should not count as a game played toward the players weekly or season game(s) limitation.

Rationale

Implementing this rule would allow more teams to maintain JV rosters and reduce the number of canceled JV games. It would also ensure that players have more meaningful opportunities to participate in games rather than being counted for minimal or non-playing roles at the Varsity level.

Specific Request:

New Addition (The request proposes a new rule, policy, regulation, provision, or requirement rather than a change to an existing provision.)

Basis:

New Addition (The request proposes a new rule, policy, regulation, provision, or requirement rather than a change to an existing provision.)

Current Language / Proposed Language:

Effective Date:

Rationale:

To help maintain JV SB pariticipation due to lowe numbers.

Educational Impact: Noted ealrier

Student Safety Impact: Notes ealrier

Equity Impact: Notes ealrier

Financial Impact: Notes ealrier

Operational and Administrative Impact: Noted earlier

Legal or Compliance Considerations: No

Attachment Yes

NORTH CAROLINA HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

Meeting of the Board of Directors – Agenda Item Submission

Name(s): Nathan Robinson (Alexander Central AD), Rob Scott (Freedom AD), Ethan James (South Caldwell AD), Nathan Fredericks (St. Stephens AD), Joe Cash (McDowell AD), Dustin Kerley (Watauga AD)

School/LEA/Conference/Group: Northwestern 6A/7A Athletic Conference

We/I request that the following item be placed on the agenda for the next meeting of the NCHSAA Board of Directors:

Recommendation/Proposal: (State in detail the recommendation/proposal)
Proposal to increase and maintain JV Softball Participation

- Rationale: (Why should the board consider and possibly pass this recommendation?)
  Attached
- Budget Impact: (What does this mean to a school's/athletic department's finances?)
  None
- Educational Impact: (Does this mean loss of school time? Does it interfere with study time?)
  No
- Gender Impact: (Is this proposal fair to males and females?)
  Yes
- Effective Date: (When would this go into effect?)
  Feb 2027

Signature Dustin Kerley Date 5/19/26

Concern for Low Participation Numbers in Softball 5/12/26

Concern

Softball participation numbers are declining, which has led to fewer teams being able to field Junior Varsity (JV) teams. Each year, more programs are unable to maintain a JV roster due to low participation. Additionally, many teams are forced to cancel JV games because players are moved up to Varsity to serve as substitutes or courtesy runners. In many cases, those players do not actually enter the Varsity game, yet their participation still counts against them since they are listed on the lineup card as a potential substitute.

Proposal

If a player does not enter a Varsity game as a substitution, it should not be counted as a game played towards their weekly or season game(s) limitation. Furthermore, if a player is used solely as a courtesy runner for a pitcher or catcher, that appearance should not count as a game played toward the players weekly or season game(s) limitation.

Rationale

Implementing this rule would allow more teams to maintain JV rosters and reduce the number of canceled JV games. It would also ensure that players have more meaningful opportunities to participate in games rather than being counted for minimal or non-playing roles at the Varsity level.

Sincerely,

Northwestern 6A/7A Conference Athletic Directors

Alexander Central – Nathan Robinson

Freedom – Robert Scott

McDowell – Joe Cash

South Caldwell – Ethan James

St. Stephens – Nathan Fredrickson

Watauga – Dustin Kerley

Women's Flag Football Weekly Game Allotment

Submitted by: Grant Williams - Union Academy Charter School

Request:

NCHSAA Board Action (The Board is requested to take formal action on the matter.)

Consideration:

Proposal to allow women's flag football teams to play 4 games within the week, and removing the language that one game must be on a non-school day. Officials are more likely to come out for multiple flag football games in as opposed to a single game.

Specific Request:

Current NCHSAA Rule, Policy, Regulation, or Handbook Provision

Basis:

Current NCHSAA Rule, Policy, Regulation, or Handbook Provision

Current Language / Proposed Language:

No more than four games may be scheduled per week provided the fourth single game is on a non-school day.

No more than four games may be scheduled per week.

Effective Date: Beginning of the next school year

Rationale:

Officials and assigners have made it clear that single games for flag football are harder to find coverage for. This allows schools to schedule multiple opponents within the school week and taking Saturday games out. A lot of girls who play flag football also play club soccer/softball during the fall season and would be less likely to play flag if the schedule interferes with their club schedules.

Educational Impact: Positive educational impact. Student athletes would only need to have two game days a week to meet scheduling requirements allowing for more practice only days. Practice only days typically allow students to get home earlier and focus on their school work.

Student Safety Impact:

Equity Impact:

Financial Impact: Anticipated savings on travel since teams would need to travel less throughout the week.

Anticipated added revenue for host schools due to larger gates/concessions by hosting multiple schools in one evening.

Operational and Administrative Impact: Officials more likely to elect to work multiple flag football games in one evening.

Scheduling allows for schools to play triple headers. Team A vs Team B. Team B vs Team C. Team A vs Team C.

Legal or Compliance Considerations:

Attachment Yes

NORTH CAROLINA HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

Meeting of the Board of Directors – Agenda Item Submission

Name(s): Grant Williams, Sean Whitley, Richard Davis, Pedro Trusdale, Brian Long, Jake Gray, Tess Palmer, Colon Moore, Bryan Tyson

School/LEA/Conference/Group: Yadkin Valley 2A/3A Conference Athletic Directors, Union County Public Schools Athletic Department, Cabarrus County Public Schools Athletic Department

We/I request that the following item be placed on the agenda for the next meeting of the NCHSAA Board of Directors:

Recommendation/Proposal: (State in detail the recommendation/proposal):

Request to increase the maximum number of allowable games for **Women's Flag Football** during the Monday-Friday school week from three games per week to four games per week, specifically permitting teams to schedule up to two doubleheaders in one school week.

- Rationale: (Why should the board consider and possibly pass this recommendation?)
    - Officiating Availability: Game officials are more willing to accept assignments for doubleheaders than one game. Assigning crews for a single-game contest presents logistical and scheduling challenges.
    - Student-Athlete Participation: Saturday games conflict with weekend club and travel sports such as softball and soccer. Allowing two weeknight doubleheaders enables schools to meet contest requirements during the Monday-Friday school week, eliminating weekend conflicts and preventing athletes from having to choose between high school and club commitments.
    - Scheduling Convenience: Teams can structure their schedules around two weeknight doubleheaders or tri-matches without scheduling weekend contests.
- Budget Impact: (What does this mean to a school's/athletic department's finances?)
    - While officiating expenses for doubleheaders are more than a single game, the cost will easily be absorbed by eliminating two single games. Additionally, hosting two doubleheaders per week is projected to increase gate receipts and concession sales. Transportation expenses will be reduced, as traveling for two doubleheader nights requires a bus and driver only two days per week instead of three.

- Educational Impact: (Does this mean loss of school time? Does it interfere with study time?)

- This proposal does not impact a loss of instructional time beyond the existing standard travel protocols. Student-athletes currently manage academic responsibilities for two game nights a week. Eliminating weekend games and holding two doubleheaders means student-athletes would get three weekdays dedicated solely to practice, academics, and study time.

- Gender Impact: (Is this proposal fair to males and females?)
  - This proposal promotes equity for female student-athletes. Officiating crews are frequently prioritized for traditional JV/Varsity football games which utilize 5-6 officials over single Girls Flag Football games. Allowing two doubleheader weeknight contests makes Girls Flag Football assignments more attractive to certified officials, directly improving game coverage and support for female athletics.

- Effective Date: (When would this go into effect?)

  - 2027-2028 Academic Year.

Signature_____ Date_____

Attachment S8

Sports Committee

Official Volleyball for Men's Season

Submitted by: Sue Moon - North Henderson High School

Request:

NCHSAA Board Action (The Board is requested to take formal action on the matter.)

Consideration:

Beginning with the spring 2027 men's volleyball season, the Molten FLISTATEC NFHS V5M5000 textured volleyball may be used in all NCHSAA-sanctioned men's volleyball contests, including regular-season matches, conference tournaments, regional competition, and the state championship.

Specific Request:

Current NCHSAA Rule, Policy, Regulation, or Handbook Provision

Basis:

Current NCHSAA Rule, Policy, Regulation, or Handbook Provision

Current Language / Proposed Language:

Mikasa VCF1000 Premium and VQ2000 are the approved balls for Men's Volleyball
Authorize the use of the Molten FLISTATEC NFHS V5M5000 textured volleyball in all NCHSAA men's volleyball contests beginning with the spring 2027 season, including regular-season matches, conference tournaments, regional competition, and the state championship. All game balls must meet applicable NFHS requirements. Direct NCHSAA staff to communicate the approved equipment specifications before the season.

Effective Date: Beginning of the next applicable sport season

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Rationale:

NFHS Rule 3-2-1 NOTE permits state associations to adopt textured volleyballs beginning with the 2026-27 school year. This proposal would align North Carolina men's high school volleyball with equipment familiar to many players through club and other competitive programs. Using a textured volleyball would also help prepare student-athletes to play with the volleyball used in men's collegiate programs. Clear statewide guidance would help schools and officials prepare for the inaugural NCHSAA season and allow participating programs to use compliant textured balls they already own.

Educational Impact: No additional loss of instructional or study time is anticipated. The proposal concerns equipment and does not change match schedules, travel requirements, or the length of the season.

Student Safety Impact: The use of a textured volleyball, such as the Molten FLISTATEC V5M5000, is anticipated to have a positive impact on the health, safety, and well-being of male student-athletes. The textured surface may improve grip, ball control, and consistency when serving, passing, and setting, particularly in competitive playing conditions. Improved ball handling may help athletes develop proper technique and confidence while potentially reducing mishandling-related impacts to the fingers and hands. No significant negative effects on student-athlete health or safety are anticipated when the ball is used appropriately and in accordance with manufacturer guidelines.

Equity Impact: The use of a textured volleyball, such as the Molten FLISTATEC V5M5000, is anticipated to have a positive impact on the health, safety, and well-being of male student-athletes. The textured surface may improve grip, ball control, and consistency when serving, passing, and setting, particularly in competitive playing conditions. Improved ball handling may help athletes develop proper technique and confidence while potentially reducing mishandling-related impacts to the fingers and hands. No significant negative effects on student-athlete health or safety are anticipated when the ball is used appropriately and in accordance with manufacturer guidelines.

Financial Impact: Costs would vary based on each school's existing equipment. Schools with compliant textured balls could use their current inventory; others may need to purchase balls. NCBVA has a grant in place for spring 2027 to provide two game volleyballs to schools in financial need. Advance notice of approved specifications would help schools plan purchases. Implementation guidance could be distributed through existing NCHSAA communication channels.

Operational and Administrative Impact: Allowing a textured volleyball for men's high school volleyball would require minimal additional administrative effort. Schools would need to purchase approved volleyballs and ensure that coaches and officials are familiar with the equipment specifications. No changes to staffing, scheduling, facilities, technology, reporting, or championship procedures are anticipated. The NCHSAA would need to establish clear guidelines identifying the approved textured volleyball, such as the Molten FLISTATEC V5M5000, and communicate the standards to member schools and officials to ensure consistency throughout the season and during postseason competition.

Legal or Compliance Considerations: None

Attachment

Attachment S9

Sports Committee

Provide A Consistent Rule For Players, Coaches And Officials On Using The Double First Base

Submitted by: Jason Mills - NCBCA/ DH Conley High School

Request:

NCHSAA Board Action (The Board is requested to take formal action on the matter.)

Consideration:

The North Carolina Baseball Coaches Association (NCBCA) respectfully requests that the North Carolina High School Athletic Association (NCHSAA) adopt the NFHS-approved double first base as a mandatory requirement for all varsity and junior varsity baseball games statewide. This initiative is designed to enhance player safety, reduce collisions at first base, and establish consistent playing conditions across North Carolina. The NCBCA recommends that the foul-territory portion of the base feature a dark, contrasting color for improved visibility and that all bases meet current NFHS specifications. A reasonable implementation timeline would allow schools adequate time to budget for and install compliant equipment. By adopting this requirement, North Carolina would strengthen its commitment to player safety, simplify rule enforcement, and promote fairness and consistency throughout high school baseball. The NCBCA believes this proposal represents a practical, cost-effective improvement that would benefit student-athletes, coaches, and officials statewide.

Specific Request:

New Addition (The request proposes a new rule, policy, regulation, provision, or requirement rather than a change to an existing provision.)

Basis:

New Addition (The request proposes a new rule, policy, regulation, provision, or requirement rather than a change to an existing provision.)

Current Language / Proposed Language:

Effective Date:

Rationale:

Provide consistency for all players, coaches and officials.

Educational Impact: See attachment.

Student Safety Impact: See attachment.

Equity Impact: See attachment.

Financial Impact: Equal for all schools. Double bases cost 250-350 dollars.

Operational and Administrative Impact: None.

Legal or Compliance Considerations: None

Attachment Yes

NORTH CAROLINA BASEBALL COACHES ASSOCIATION

To: North Carolina High School Athletic Association (NCHSAA)
From: North Carolina Baseball Coaches Association (NCBCA)
Subject: Proposal for Statewide Adoption of the NFHS Double First Base Rule

Purpose

The North Carolina Baseball Coaches Association (NCBCA) respectfully submits this memorandum requesting that the North Carolina High School Athletic Association adopt the NFHS double first base as a mandatory requirement for all high school baseball games across the state.

Background

The National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) has approved the use of a double first base as a safety enhancement. The rule is intended to reduce collisions between the batter-runner and the first baseman while maintaining fair and consistent play.

Proposal

To promote consistency, safety, and uniform rule enforcement throughout North Carolina, the NCBCA proposes that the NCHSAA require the use of the NFHS-approved double first base at every member school hosting varsity and junior varsity baseball contests.

The NCBCA further recommends that:
• The second (foul territory) portion of the double first base be a dark, contrasting color to ensure clear visibility for players and officials.
• All installations meet current NFHS specifications.
• The implementation timeline allow schools adequate time to budget for and install compliant bases.

Rationale

Making the double first base mandatory statewide will:
• Improve player safety by reducing avoidable collisions at first base.
• Create consistent playing conditions across North Carolina.
• Simplify rules education and enforcement for coaches, players, and umpires.
• Align North Carolina with current NFHS safety initiatives.

Conclusion

The NCBCA believes that statewide adoption of the mandatory double first base represents a practical, cost-effective investment in player safety and competitive consistency. We respectfully request that the NCHSAA consider this proposal for implementation beginning with a future baseball season.

Jason Mills

Jason Mills
President, NCBCA

Samuel Guy

Samuel Guy
Vice President, NCBCA

Attachment S10

Sports Committee

2028 NCHSAA Baseball Playoff Proposal

Submitted by: Jason Mills - NCBCA/ DH Conley High School

Request:

NCHSAA Board Action (The Board is requested to take formal action on the matter.)

Consideration:

The **North Carolina Baseball Coaches Association (NCBCA)** respectfully proposes improvements to the current NCHSAA baseball playoff format across all classifications to create a more competitive, equitable, and rewarding postseason experience for student-athletes and coaches. The NCBCA believes North Carolina should explore adopting a playoff structure similar to those utilized by neighboring states, particularly **South Carolina**, where multiple-game series and double-elimination formats provide teams with a greater opportunity to demonstrate their overall talent, depth, and consistency. Moving away from a postseason format that relies heavily on single-elimination games would help ensure that championships are determined through sustained team performance rather than the outcome of one contest. A revised playoff structure would also create additional opportunities for student-athlete development, increase community engagement, enhance the postseason atmosphere, and generate potential additional revenue for participating schools. The NCBCA encourages the NCHSAA to work collaboratively with baseball coaches and athletic administrators to develop a modernized playoff system that prioritizes competitive fairness, student-athlete experience, and the continued growth of high school baseball throughout North Carolina.

Specific Request:

Unsure (This distinction is important because the MOU provides different authority for State Board rules and rules adopted by NCHSAA.)

Basis:

Unsure (This distinction is important because the MOU provides different authority for State Board rules and rules adopted by NCHSAA.)

Current Language / Proposed Language:

Effective Date:

Rationale:

The NCBCA believes North Carolina should explore adopting a playoff structure similar to those utilized by neighboring states, particularly **South Carolina**, where multiple-game series and double-elimination formats provide teams with a greater opportunity to demonstrate their overall talent, depth, and consistency. Moving away from a postseason format that relies heavily on single-elimination games would help ensure that championships are determined through sustained team performance rather than the outcome of one contest. A revised playoff structure would also create additional opportunities for student-athlete development, increase community engagement, enhance the postseason atmosphere, and generate potential additional revenue for participating schools.

Educational Impact: Moving away from a postseason format that relies heavily on single-elimination games would help ensure that championships are determined through sustained team performance rather than the outcome of one contest. A revised playoff structure would also create additional opportunities for student-athlete development, increase community engagement, enhance the postseason atmosphere, and generate potential additional revenue for participating schools.

Student Safety Impact: None

Equity Impact: None

Financial Impact: Potential for more schools to host home playoff games increasing revenue.

Operational and Administrative Impact: At the school level, schools possibly would have more home playoff games. At the state level nothing would change.

Legal or Compliance Considerations: None

Attachment Yes

NCHSAA Baseball Playoff Format Change Proposal

Submitted by: North Carolina Baseball Coaches Association (NCBCA)
Submitted to: North Carolina High School Athletic Association (NCHSAA)
Date: October 22, 2026
Subject: Proposed Restructuring of the NCHSAA Baseball State Playoffs

I. Purpose

The North Carolina Baseball Coaches Association (NCBCA) respectfully submits this proposal requesting that the North Carolina High School Athletic Association (NCHSAA) consider restructuring the current baseball playoff format across all classifications.

The NCBCA believes the current single-elimination playoff system can be improved by incorporating a combination of single-elimination games, best-of-three series, and double-elimination tournaments. This proposed structure would more closely mirror postseason formats utilized in neighboring states, including South Carolina, while providing a more competitive and equitable championship experience for student-athletes, coaches, and participating schools.

The primary objective is to establish a playoff system that rewards regular-season success, emphasizes pitching depth, promotes competitive balance, and ensures that the strongest teams have a greater opportunity to advance through postseason competition.

II. Proposed Playoff Structure

The NCBCA proposes a **24-team playoff bracket per region (East and West)**, consisting of four distinct stages of postseason competition.

Round 1: Single Elimination

24 Teams Per Region

- Teams will be seeded 1–24 based on NCHSAA-approved seeding criteria.
- The top eight seeds (1–8) will receive first-round byes.
- Seeds 9–24 will compete in eight single-elimination games.
- The eight winners will advance to join the top eight seeds.
- A total of 16 teams will advance to the second round.

Rationale: This format rewards teams for outstanding regular-season performance by providing the top eight seeds with a first-round bye. It also maintains the excitement and urgency of single-elimination competition during the opening round.

Round 2: Best-of-Three Series

16 Teams Per Region

- The remaining 16 teams will compete in eight best-of-three series.
- Teams must win two games to advance.
- Higher-seeded teams will receive home-field priority, subject to NCHSAA scheduling guidelines.
- Eight series winners will advance to the next round.

Rationale: A best-of-three series reduces the impact of a single exceptional or unusually poor performance. It places greater emphasis on pitching depth, team preparation, coaching decisions, and consistent execution.

Round 3: Double-Elimination Tournament

8 Teams Per Region

The eight remaining teams will be divided into two separate four-team double-elimination brackets.

Bracket A: Four Teams

- Four teams compete in a double-elimination tournament.
- Teams advance through the winners' and elimination brackets.
- The bracket championship will be decided by one final game.
- The Bracket A champion advances to the Regional Final.

Bracket B: Four Teams

- Four teams compete under the same double-elimination format.
- The bracket championship will be decided by one final game.
- The Bracket B champion advances to the Regional Final.

Under this modified double-elimination format, the championship game will be a single contest rather than an additional game being required if the undefeated team loses.

Rationale: Double-elimination competition allows teams to recover from one loss while requiring them to demonstrate pitching depth, roster development, and consistency over multiple games. The one-game championship provides a definitive conclusion and allows for more predictable scheduling.

Round 4: Regional Finals — Best-of-Three Series

2 Teams Per Region

- Bracket A Champion vs. Bracket B Champion.
- The Regional Final will be a best-of-three series.
- The first team to win two games will be declared the Regional Champion.
- The East Regional Champion and West Regional Champion will advance to the State Championship.

Rationale: A best-of-three Regional Final ensures that advancement to the State Championship is determined through sustained performance rather than the outcome of a single contest.

Round 5: State Championship — Best-of-Three Series

East Regional Champion vs. West Regional Champion

- The State Championship will remain a best-of-three series.
- The first team to win two games will be crowned the NCHSAA State Champion.
- Championship dates, locations, and game schedules will be determined by the NCHSAA.

This format preserves the tradition and significance of the NCHSAA Baseball State Championship.

III. Proposed Playoff Format Summary

Round	Teams Per Region	Format
First Round	24	Single Elimination — Top 8 Byes
Second Round	16	Best-of-Three Series
Third Round	8	Two 4-Team Modified Double-Elimination Brackets
Regional Finals	2	Best-of-Three Series
State Championship	East vs. West	Best-of-Three Series

Total Playoff Field: 48 teams per classification, consisting of 24 teams from the East and 24 teams from the West.

IV. Benefits of the Proposed Format

1. Rewards Regular-Season Excellence

Providing first-round byes to the top eight seeds creates meaningful incentives for regular-season performance, conference success, and strength of schedule.

2. Promotes Competitive Fairness

Best-of-three series and double-elimination competition reduce the likelihood that an otherwise outstanding team's season ends because of one difficult game.

3. Emphasizes Pitching Depth and Player Development

Baseball is uniquely dependent on pitching depth, roster management, and recovery. A multi-game playoff format better reflects the demands of the sport and encourages the development of complete pitching staffs.

4. Creates a More Authentic Championship Experience

The proposed format resembles tournament structures commonly found in collegiate baseball and other established postseason competitions. Student-athletes gain valuable experience competing in series and tournament environments.

5. Increases Community Engagement

Additional playoff games create opportunities for greater attendance, increased school spirit, additional ticket revenue, and stronger community support.

6. Aligns North Carolina With Neighboring States

The NCBCA believes North Carolina should evaluate successful postseason structures in neighboring states, particularly South Carolina. Incorporating series play and double-elimination tournaments would provide an opportunity to modernize the NCHSAA playoff experience.

V. Implementation Considerations

The NCBCA recognizes that restructuring the playoffs will require careful planning and cooperation between the NCHSAA, member schools, athletic directors, and coaching staffs.

The association recommends that the NCHSAA evaluate:

- **Scheduling:** Establish a postseason calendar that accommodates multiple-game series and double-elimination tournaments.

- **Pitching Regulations:** Maintain all applicable NFHS and NCHSAA pitching limitations and required rest periods.
- **Travel:** Consider travel distances and geographic alignment when scheduling series and tournament sites.
- **Hosting:** Develop consistent hosting criteria for best-of-three series and double-elimination tournaments.
- **Financial Impact:** Evaluate additional gate receipts, officiating expenses, transportation costs, and facility requirements.
- **Competitive Equity:** Establish uniform procedures that apply consistently across all classifications.

VI. Recommendation

The North Carolina Baseball Coaches Association respectfully recommends that the NCHSAA establish a committee consisting of association representatives, baseball coaches, athletic directors, and NCHSAA leadership to evaluate the proposed postseason format.

The NCBCA further recommends consideration of a statewide implementation timeline that provides member schools adequate opportunity to prepare for the revised postseason structure.

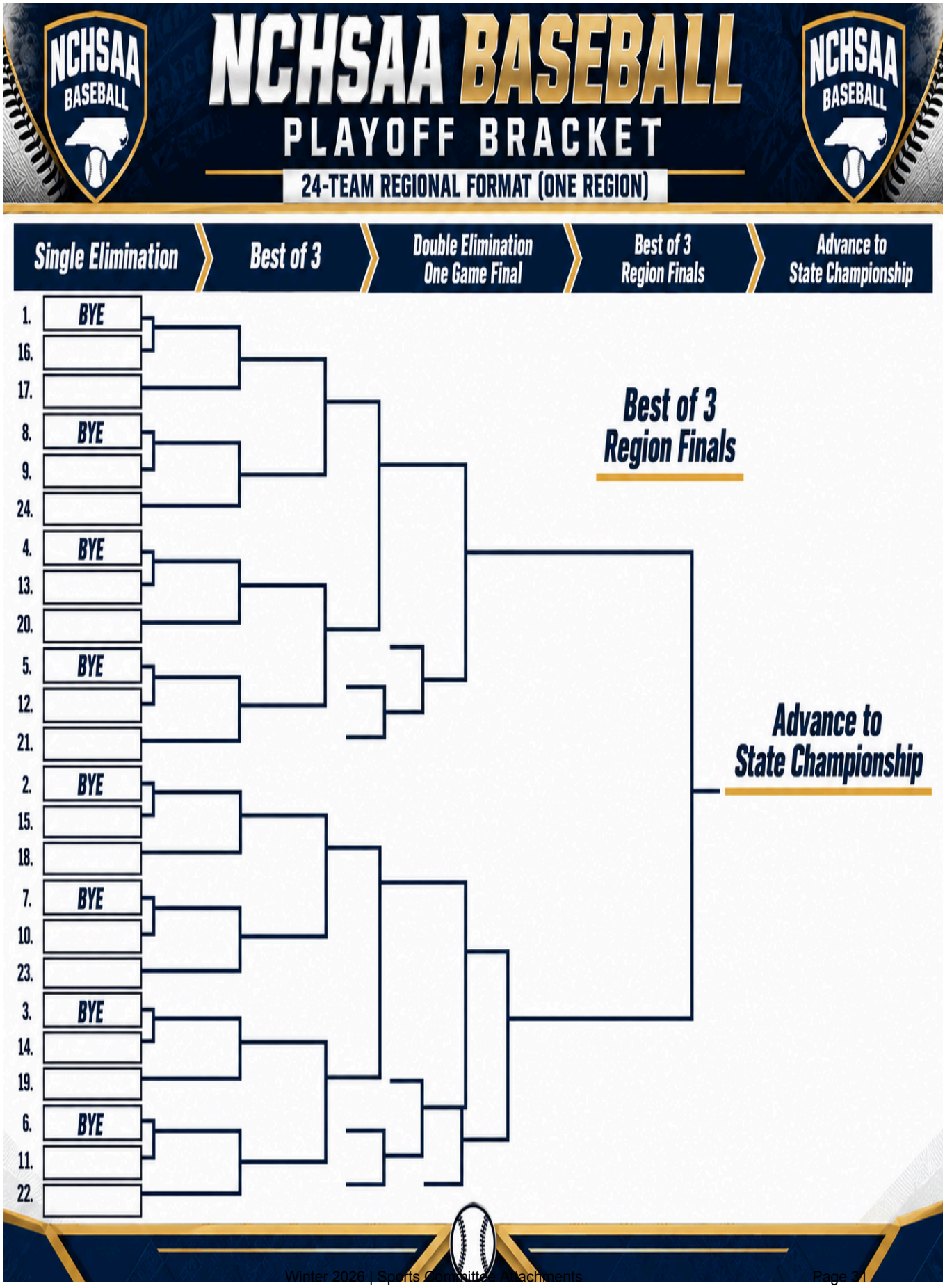
VII. Conclusion

The North Carolina Baseball Coaches Association believes the proposed playoff format represents a significant opportunity to improve high school baseball across the state. By combining single-elimination competition, best-of-three series, and double-elimination tournaments, the NCHSAA can create a postseason experience that rewards regular-season excellence, promotes competitive fairness, and more accurately reflects the unique demands of baseball.

The proposed structure would provide student-athletes with a more meaningful championship experience while preserving the excitement, tradition, and prestige associated with winning an NCHSAA State Championship.

The NCBCA respectfully requests that the NCHSAA give serious consideration to adopting this revised baseball playoff structure for all classifications.

Respectfully submitted,
North Carolina Baseball Coaches Association (NCBCA)


NCHSAA BASEBALL
PLAYOFF BRACKET
24-TEAM REGIONAL FORMAT (ONE REGION)
Single Elimination
Best of 3
Double Elimination One Game Final
Best of 3 Region Finals
Advance to State Championship
1. BYE
16.
17.
8. BYE
9.
24.
4. BYE
13.
20.
5. BYE
12.
21.
2. BYE
15.
18.
7. BYE
10.
23.
3. BYE
14.
19.
6. BYE
11.
22.
Best of 3 Region Finals
Advance to State Championship

Attachment S11

Sports Committee

Move Playoff Reporting Dates from Saturday to Friday

Submitted by: Jason Mills - NCBCA/ DH Conley High School

Request:

NCHSAA Board Action (The Board is requested to take formal action on the matter.)

Consideration:

The North Carolina Baseball Coaches Association (NCBCA) respectfully requests that the NCHSAA move the final reporting date for baseball and softball in 2028 from **Saturday, May 5, to Friday, May 4, at midnight**. This adjustment would allow playoff brackets to be finalized and released on Saturday rather than Monday, providing coaches, players, schools, and families additional time to prepare for postseason competition. Earlier bracket announcements would also improve scheduling, travel arrangements, and overall playoff planning.

Specific Request:

Unsure (This distinction is important because the MOU provides different authority for State Board rules and rules adopted by NCHSAA.)

Basis:

Unsure (This distinction is important because the MOU provides different authority for State Board rules and rules adopted by NCHSAA.)

Current Language / Proposed Language:

Effective Date:

Rationale:

This adjustment would allow playoff brackets to be finalized and released on Saturday rather than Monday, providing coaches, players, schools, and families additional time to prepare for postseason competition. Earlier bracket announcements would also improve scheduling, travel arrangements, and overall playoff planning.

Educational Impact: Would allow teachers and students to have enough time to prepare for any loss in class time.

Student Safety Impact: Would allow teachers and students to have enough time to prepare for any loss in class time.

Equity Impact: Would allow teachers and students to have enough time to prepare for any loss in class time.

Financial Impact: None

Operational and Administrative Impact: None

Legal or Compliance Considerations: None

Attachment

Reduction Of Playoffs From 48 Teams To 32 Teams In 1a-7a

Submitted by: Wes Mattera - John A Holmes - Chowan County

Request:

NCHSAA Board Action (The Board is requested to take formal action on the matter.)

Consideration:

Playoff Reduction from 48 teams with bye to 32 teams with no byes. Start this in Fall of 2027. Review the date submitted that shows seeds 17-24 are not fairing well in 1st round of playoffs. Large margin of victories, opt outs, forfiets, and mercy rule games are veery very evident. Also shortens the season by 1 week in football, and 1/2 a week in the other sports. With the right approach this could lead to less single elimination games in baseball, and more room for playoff adjustment in basketball.

Specific Request:

Current NCHSAA Rule, Policy, Regulation, or Handbook Provision

Basis:

Current NCHSAA Rule, Policy, Regulation, or Handbook Provision

Current Language / Proposed Language:

Page 78 of the Handbook 4/1/17 Classifications 1A-7A will have 48 teams placed on a 64 team bracket

Classifications 1a-7a will have 32 teams placed on a 64 team bracket

Effective Date: Beginning of the next school year

Rationale:

everything is in the letter we submitted

Educational Impact: everything is in the letter we submitted

Student Safety Impact: everything is in the letter we submitted

Equity Impact: everything is in the letter we submitted

Financial Impact: everything is in the letter we submitted

Operational and Administrative Impact: everything is in the letter we submitted

Legal or Compliance Considerations: everything is in the letter we submitted

Attachment Yes

North Carolina High School Athletic Association
Meeting of the Board of Directors – Agenda Item Submission

October 26, 2026

Names:

Albemarle Athletic Conference Principals & Superintendents

- Mrs Victoria Brinson - Principal - John A. Holmes High School
- Mr. Mickey Drew - Principal - Perquimans County High School
- Mr. Tim Lazar - Principal - Camden County High School
- Mr. Jonathan Hayes - Principal - Gates County High School
- Mr. William Peele - Principal - Bertie County High School
- Mrs. Jessica Gillespie-Johnson - Principal - Manteo High School
- Mrs. Tammi Ward - Superintendent - Edenton Chowan Schools
- Dr. Shawn Wilson - Superintendent - Perquimans County Schools
- Mrs. Angela Miller - Special Assistant - Nash County Schools
- Ms. Amber Davis - Interim Superintendent- Camden County Schools

School/LEA/Conference/Group:

Albemarle Athletic Conference

We/I request that the following item be placed on the agenda for the next meeting of the NCHSAA Board of Directors:

Recommendation / Proposal:

The Albemarle Athletic Conference respectfully recommends that the NCHSAA Board of Directors approve a change to the current playoff structure by reducing postseason playoff brackets from 48 teams to 32 teams per classification in all NCHSAA-sanctioned sports, effective beginning Fall 2027.

Rationale:

The Albemarle Athletic Conference believes returning to a 32-team playoff format better supports student-athletes, schools, and the overall mission of the NCHSAA. Specifically:

- Many member schools rely heavily on multi-sport athletes, and the expanded 48-team format has increased season overlap, contributing to physical fatigue, academic strain, and scheduling conflicts.

- The 48-team structure has resulted in an increase in playoff opt-outs, which diminishes competitive integrity and undermines the purpose of postseason play. Please see the attached chart for opt-out data on several sports: 2025-2026 NCHSAA Opt-out Data, Baseball Round 1 Data, Playoff Seeding/Score Comparison

- In sports such as basketball, the current format has created compressed playoff schedules (e.g., Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday, and Monday), presenting challenges related to recovery, travel, and missed instructional time.

- A reduction to 32 teams would allow greater flexibility in postseason design, particularly in sports such as baseball, where expanded series-based playoff rounds could be considered rather than a fully single-elimination format, similar to those used in neighboring state associations.

Budget Impact:

There would be no negative financial impact on member schools or athletic departments. A reduced playoff field may result in lower travel costs and fewer missed instructional days for participating schools.

Educational Impact:

A reduced playoff schedule would likely decrease missed class time, reduce late-night travel, and improve academic balance for student-athletes participating in postseason play.

Gender Impact:

This proposal would be applied equally to all sports and to both male and female

student-athletes, ensuring fairness and equity across programs.

Effective Date:

Fall 2027

Respectfully submitted

Coach Wes Mattera

AD: John A. Holmes High School and NCADA Region 1 Board of Directors

Signature: Date:
Coach Wes Mattera 10/28/26

ADDENDUM A

Albemarle Athletic Conference – Principal Endorsements *Proposal:*

Reduction of Playoff Brackets from 48 Teams to 32 Teams

By signing below, the undersigned principals formally endorse the Albemarle Athletic Conference proposal to reduce NCHSAA postseason playoff brackets from 48 teams to 32 teams per classification, effective Fall 2027.

Jessica Gillespie-Johnson
Principal, Manteo High School
Signature: Jessica M. Gillespie-Johnson
Date: 10/26/2026

William Peele III
Principal, Bertie County High School
Signature: William W. Peele III
Date: 10/23/26

Mickey Drew
Principal, Perquimans County High School
Signature: Mickey Drew
Date: 10/13/26

Tim Lazar
Principal, Camden County High School
Signature: Timothy T. Lazar
Date: 10/23/26

Amber Davis

Interim Superintendent.- Camden County School
Signature: Amber M. Davis
Date: 10/26/26

Jonathan Hayes
Principal, Gates County High School
Signature: Jonathan William Hayes
Date: 10/20/2026

Mrs Victoria Brinson
Principal, John A. Holmes High School
Signature: Victoria Brinson
Date: 10/15/2026

Mrs. Tammi Ward
Superintendent, Edenton Chowan Schools
Signature: Tammi Ward
Date: 10/23/2026

Dr. Shawn Wilson
Superintendent, Perquimans County Schools
Signature: Shawn Wilson
Date: 10/20/26

Mrs. Angela Miller
Special Assistant of Auxiliary Services, Operations, and Athletics
Signature:
Date:

This addendum is submitted in support of the Albemarle Athletic Conference agenda item to be presented to the NCHSAA Board of Directors.

Tim Lazar
Principal, Camden High School
Signature:
Date:

Jonathan Hayes
Principal, Gates County High School
Signature:
Date:

Mrs Victoria Brinson
Principal, John A. Holmes High School
Signature:
Date:

Mrs. Tammi Ward
Superintendent, Edenton Chowan Schools

Signature:
Date:

Dr. Shawn Wilson
Superintendent, Perquimans County Schools

Signature:
Date:

Mrs. Angela Miller
Special Assistant of Auxiliary Services, Operations, and Athletics
Signature: Angela Miller
Date: 10-14-2025

This addendum is submitted in support of the Albemarle Athletic Conference agenda item to be presented to the NCHSAA Board of Directors.

2025-2026 NCHSAA Opt-Outs and Forfeits			
Sport	**Number of Opt-Outs**	**Number of 1st Round Forfeits**	**Total**
Women's Tennis	12	21	33
Men's Tennis	19	8	27
Softball	19	0	19
Women's Soccer	8	3	11
Baseball	7	0	7
Men's Lacrosse	7	0	7
Men's Soccer	3	3	6
Women's Lacrosse	3	2	5
Football	3	0	3
Men's Wrestling DT			
Volleyball			
Women's Basketball			
Men's Basketball			
	81	37	118

Doesn't Include 4 Sports

Last Full Scores 17-24

Football

1A East

#	Seed	Team	Win/Loss	Score	Score	Point Diff
1	9	Columbia	0	0	49	-49
2	10	Weldon Stem	0	14	44	-30
3	11	North Edgecombe	0	14	49	-35
4						0
5						0
6						0
7						0
8						0
			Win %	Average Score	Average score	Margin of Victory
			0/3	9.33	47.33	-38.00

1A West

#	Seed	Team	Win/Loss	Score	Score	Point Diff
1	9	Andrews	1	42	34	8
2	10	Bonnie Cone	0	28	38	-10
3	11	Chatham Central	0	12	30	-18
4						0
5						0
6						0
7						0
8						0
			Win %	Average Score	Average score	Margin of Victory
			1/3	27.33	34.00	-6.67

Totals	W	L
1A		
2A	2	9
3A	2	14
4A	4	12
5A	5	11
6A	2	14
7A	4	12
W/L	19	72
Average MOV	-19.10	

2A East

#	Seed	Team	Win/Loss	Score	Score	Point Diff
1	17	West C	0	30	33	-3
2	18	Rosewood	1	52	26	26
3	19	Pamlico	0	28	52	-24
4	20	Union	1	20	13	7
5	21	Lejune	0	7	50	-43
6	22	Opt Out				0
7	23	Opt Out				0
8	24	Opt Out				0
			Win %	Average Score	Average score	Margin of Victory
			2/3	27.40	34.80	-7.40

2A West

#	Seed	Team	Win/Loss	Score	Score	Point Diff
1	17	Cherokee	0	15	21	-6
2	18	S Stokes	0	12	55	-43
3	19	Elkin	0	7	40	-33
4	20	High Tech	0	0	41	-41
5	21	Avery	0	10	55	-45
6	22	Langtree	0	13	51	-38
7	23	Opt Out				0
8	24	Opt Out				0
			Win %	Average Score	Average score	Margin of Victory
		0/6		9.5	43.83	-34.33

3A East

#	Seed	Team	Win/Loss	Score	Score	Point Diff
1	17	GC	0	36	37	-1
2	18	NW	0	14	26	-12
3	19	NM	0	7	53	-46
4	20	Trask	0	28	56	-28
5	21	BY	0	0	37	-37
6	22	Bedd	0	18	54	-36
7	23	WB	0	0	38	-38
8	24	SL	0	14	48	-34
			Win %	Average Score	Average score	Margin of Victory
			0/8	14.63	43.63	-29.00

3A West

#	Seed	Team	Win/Loss	Score	Score	Point Diff
1	17	NW	0	13	42	-29
2	18	Chase	0	7	14	-7
3	19	Union	1	24	14	10
4	20	Polk	0	15	35	-20
5	21	Madison	0	13	28	-15
6	22	Wheatmore	1	21	14	7
7	23	McMichael	0	14	70	-56
8	24	ED	0	0	50	-50
			Win %	Average Score	Average score	Margin of Victory
		2/6	2/8	13.375	33.375	-20

	4A East					
#	Seed	Team	Win/Loss	Score	Score	Point Diff
1	17	Red Springs	1	37	12	25
2	18	Roanoke Rapids	1	14	12	2
3	19	Little Washington	0	35	42	-7
4	20	Morehead	0	14	16	-2
5	21	Cummings	0	7	44	-37
6	22	SW Onslow	0	0	55	-55
7	23	Ledford	0	20	28	-8
8	24	Anson	0	14	21	-7
			Win %	Average Score	Average score	Margin of Victory
			2/6	17.625	28.75	-11.125

	4A West					
#	Seed	Team	Win/Loss	Score	Score	Point Diff
1	17	Forbush	0	3	39	-36
2	18	RS Central	1	48	6	42
3	19	Lake Norman	0	19	21	-2
4	20	Ashe County	0	0	45	-45
5	21	East Burke	0	6	13	-7
6	22	Salisbury	0	26	40	-14
7	23	South Rowan	0	14	71	-57
8	24	West Stanly	1	24	22	2
			Win %	Average Score	Average score	Margin of Victory
		2/6	2/6	17.5	32.125	-14.625

	5A East					
#	Seed	Team	Win/Loss	Score	Score	Point Diff
1	17	Fike	0	0	35	-35
2	18	Dixon	1	58	50	8
3	19	Oersibn	0	20	41	-21
4	20	Seaforth	1	29	28	1
5	21	Richlands	0	0	47	-47
6	22	CB Aycock	0	21	35	-14
7	23	South Granville	1	20	12	8
8	24	Orange	0	0	42	-42
			Win %	Average Score	Average score	Margin of Victory
			3/5	18.50	36.25	-17.75

	5A West					
#	Seed	Team	Win/Loss	Score	Score	Point Diff
1	17	Erwin	1	49	21	28
2	18	N Henderson	0	8	46	-38
3	19	Mont Central	1	30	7	23
4	20	Forestview	0	28	29	-1
5	21	East Rowan	0	7	42	-35
6	22	Smoky Mtn.	0	22	40	-18
7	23	North Lincoln	0	8	30	-22
8	24	S. Guilford	0	23	41	-18
			Win %	Average Score	Average score	Margin of Victory
			2/6	21.875	32	-10.125

	6A East					
#	Seed	Team	Win/Loss	Score	Score	Point Diff
1	17	South View	0	37	40	-3
2	18	White Oak	1	32	22	10
3	19	West Johnston	0	6	35	-29
4	20	Westover	0	20	21	-1
5	21	Gray's Creek	0	6	28	-22
6	22	Triton	0	10	47	-37
7	23	Vance County	0	7	47	-40
8	24	EE Smith	0	20	49	-29
			Win %	Average Score	Average score	Margin of Victory
			1/7	17.25	36.13	-18.88

	6A West					
#	Seed	Team	Win/Loss	Score	Score	Point Diff
1	17	Mount Tabor	0	23	24	-1
2	18	Western Guilford	0	7	42	-35
3	19	Alexander Central	0	3	28	-25
4	20	Central Cabarrus	1	38	10	28
5	21	Ragsdale	0	0	35	-35
6	22	Glenn	0	14	35	-21
7	23	Ben L. Smith	0	14	28	-14
8	24	South Caldwell	0	0	56	-56
			Win %	Average Score	Average score	Margin of Victory
		1/7	1/7	12.375	32.25	-19.875

	7A East							7A West					
#	Seed	Team	Win/Loss	Score	Score	Point Diff	#	Seed	Team	Win/Loss	Score	Score	Point Diff
1	17	Fuquay- Varina	1	29	7	22	1	17	West Cabarrus	1	28	27	1
2	18	South Garner	1	62	14	48	2	18	Chapel Hill	0	13	52	-39
3	19	Heritage	0	14	28	-14	3	19	McDowell	0	0	68	-68
4	20	North Brunswick	0	28	59	-31	4	20	Hopewell	0	28	42	-14
5	21	East Wake	0	6	41	-35	5	21	South Iredell	0	27	34	-7
6	22	Lumberton	0	15	61	-46	6	22	Cuthbertson	0	16	26	-10
7	23	Overhills	0	0	43	-43	7	23	Purnell Swett	0	0	63	-63
8	24	Ashley	1	14	13	1	8	24	West Meck	0	0	19	-19
			Win %	Average Score	Averag e score	Margin of Victory				Win %	Average Score	Average score	Margin of Victory
			3/5	21.00	33.25	-12.25				1/7	14	41.375	-27.375

Men's Soccer

	1A East							1A West									
#	Seed	Team	Win/Loss	Score	Score	Point Diff		#	Seed	Team	Win/Loss	Score	Score	Point Diff	Totals	W	L
1	17	Forfiet	0	0	1	-1		1	17	Forfiet	1	1	0	1	1A	1	5
2	18	Forfiet	0	0	1	-1		2	19	Winston	0	2	10	-8	2A	2	14
3	11					0		3	18	Tri County	0	0	6	-6	3A	3	13
4						0		4						0	4A	6	10
5						0		5						0	5A	4	12
6						0		6						0	6A	2	14
7						0		7						0	7A	3	13
8						0		8						0	W/L	21	81
			Win %	Average Score	Averag e score	Margin of Victory					Win %	Average Score	Average score	Margin of Victory			
			0/3	0.00	1.00	-1.00					1/2	1.00	5.33	-4.33	Average MOV		-2.48

	2A East							2A West						
#	Seed	Team	Win/Loss	Score	Score	Point Diff	#	Seed	Team	Win/Loss	Score	Score	Point Diff
1	17	Southside	0	2	7	-5	1	17	Christ	0	5	0	5
2	18	Henderson	0	2	3	-1	2	18	Swain	0	0	9	-9
3	19	EC	0	0	7	-7	3	19	Eno	0	1	2	-1
4	20	Rosewood	0	3	2	1	4	20	North R	0	1	2	-1
5	21	North Dup	0	0	7	-7	5	21	Sugar/Forfiet	0	0	1	-1
6	22	Tarboro	0	0	7	-7	6	22	Avery	0	0	6	-6
7	23	Roxboro	0	0	6	-6	7	23	South S	0	2	11	-9
8	24	America	0	1	8	-7	8	24	Cherryville	0	0	8	-8
			Win %	Average Score	Averag e score	Margin of Victory				Win %	Average Score	Average score	Margin of Victory
			1/7	1.00	5.88	-4.88			1/7		1.125	4.88	-3.75

	3A East							3A West						
#	Seed	Team	Win/Loss	Score	Score	Point Diff	#	Seed	Team	Win/Loss	Score	Score	Point Diff
1	17	Farmville	0	0	1	-1	1	17	WL	0	2	3	-1
2	18	Eastern	1	4	0	4	2	18	Chase	0	0	1	-1
3	19	HT	1	2	0	2	3	19	WD	0	0	2	-2
4	20	West B	0	3	5	-2	4	20	Wheatmore	0	1	8	-7
5	21	Goldsboro	0	0	3	-3	5	21	Bess	0	1	2	-1
6	22	Whiteville	0	1	4	-3	6	22	Mountain	0	1	5	-4
7	23	Whiteville	0	1	4	-3	7	23	ES	0	0	6	-6
8	24	Louisburg	0	2	0	2	8	24	NS	0	0	11	-11
			Win %	Average Score	Averag e score	Margin of Victory				Win %	Average Score	Average score	Margin of Victory
			3/5	1.63	2.13	-0.50			DB	2/8	0.625	4.75	-4.125

	4A East					
#	Seed	Team	Win/Loss	Score	Score	Point Diff
1	17	Cummings	1	3	1	2
2	18	Bunn	1	1	0	1
3	19	NJ	0	1	4	-3
4	20	SW	1	4	3	1
5	21	Eastern	0	1	7	-6
6	22	Central	0	0	5	-5
7	23	SW	0	0	9	-9
8	24	UC	0	1	7	-6
			Win %	Average Score	Averag e score	Margin of Victory
			3/5	1.375	4.5	-3.125

	4A West					
#	Seed	Team	Win/Loss	Score	Score	Point Diff
1	17	WS	0	0	3	-3
2	18	BH	1	1	0	1
3	19	WS	1	2	0	2
4	20	WI	0	0	5	-5
5	21	SR	1	2	1	1
6	22	Tuscola	0	1	6	-5
7	23	RSC	0	2	3	-1
8	24	Stuart	0	0	6	-6
			Win %	Average Score	Average score	Margin of Victory
			3/5	1	3	-2

	5A East					
#	Seed	Team	Win/Loss	Score	Score	Point Diff
1	17	HP	0	2	6	-4
2	18	CR	0	1	3	-2
3	19	Croatan	0	4	0	4
4	20	Rockingham	0	0	1	-1
5	21	Southern	0	1	3	-2
6	22	Eastern	0	0	3	-3
7	23	WC	1	3	0	3
8	24	SG	0	0	6	-6
			Win %	Average Score	Averag e score	Margin of Victory
			2/6	1.38	2.75	-1.38

	5A West					
#	Seed	Team	Win/Loss	Score	Score	Point Diff
1	17	NB	0	0	2	-2
2	18	Carson	0	1	2	-1
3	19	ER	1	4	3	1
4	20	North	1	2	1	1
5	21	NG	0	0	6	-6
6	22	Park	0	0	2	-2
7	23	Crest	0	0	3	-3
8	24	Oak	0	2	3	-1
			Win %	Average Score	Average score	Margin of Victory
			2/6	1.125	2.75	-1.625

	6A East					
#	Seed	Team	Win/Loss	Score	Score	Point Diff
1	17	WJ	0	0	3	-3
2	18	SE	0	0	1	-1
3	19	Swansboro	0	1	2	-1
4	20	Northern	0	0	2	-2
5	21	UP	0	1	3	-2
6	22	Scotland	0	2	7	-5
7	23	SJ	0	5	6	-1
8	24	Triton	0	0	3	-3
			Win %	Average Score	Averag e score	Margin of Victory
			0/8	1.13	3.38	-2.25

	6A West					
#	Seed	Team	Win/Loss	Score	Score	Point Diff
1	17	Statesville	1	2	0	2
2	18	Sun Valley	1	5	1	4
3	19	SC	0	0	2	-2
4	20	Piedmont	0	0	1	-1
5	21	Freedom	0	0	1	-1
6	22	BL Smith	0	0	9	-9
7	23	St Stephens	0	0	6	-6
8	24	Ashebrook	0	0	7	-7
			Win %	Average Score	Average score	Margin of Victory
		1/7	2/6	0.875	3.375	-2.5

	7A East							7A West					
#	Seed	Team	Win/Loss	Score	Score	Point Diff	#	Seed	Team	Win/Loss	Score	Score	Point Diff
1	17	Cardinal	1	4	2	2	1	17	Page	0	0	1	-1
2	18	Riverside	1	2	1	1	2	18	Reagan	0	2	3	-1
3	19	Lumberton	0	0	4	-4	3	19	McDowell	0	0	4	-4
4	20	Cleveland	1	2	1	1	4	20	Richmond	0	0	2	-2
5	21	Cary	0	0	1	-1	5	21	East	0	2	1	1
6	22	PF	0	1	2	-1	6	22	PS	0	0	3	-3
7	23	Smithfield	0	2	5	-3	7	23	ALB	0	2	3	-1
8	24	NB	0	0	9	-9	8	24	Hopewell	0	0	1	-1
			Win %	Average Score	Averag e score	Margin of Victory				Win %	Average Score	Average score	Margin of Victory
			3/8	1.38	3.13	-1.75				0/8	0.75	2.25	-1.50

BB Women's

1A East

#	Seed	Team	Win/Loss	Score	Score	Point Diff
1	17	Excelsior	0	15	31	-16
2	18	Woods	0	41	53	-12
3	19	Sallie	0	27	43	-16
4	20	Jones	0	24	69	-45
5	21	NE Prep	0	28	46	-18
6	22	Kipp	0	19	56	-37
7	23	Weldon	0	35	48	-13
						0
			Win %	Average Score	Average score	Margin of Victory
			0/8	27	49.43	-22.43

1A West

#	Seed	Team	Win/Loss	Score	Score	Point Diff
1	17	BREC	1	40	27	13
2	18	CIHS	0	26	55	-29
3	19	R. Mill	0	28	51	-23
4	20	NCSSM	0	13	55	-42
5	21	Triad	0	16	59	-43
6	22	Ascend	0	23	45	-22
7	23	Nantahala	0	18	74	-56
						0
			Win %	Average Score	Average score	Margin of Victory
			1/7	23.43	52.29	-28.86

Totals	W	L
1A	1	15
2A	4	12
3A	5	11
4A	3	13
5A	5	11
6A	2	14
7A	0	16
	20	92
Average MOV	-17.82	

2A East

#	Seed	Team	Win/Loss	Score	Score	Point Diff
1	17	Union	0	38	46	-8
2	18	ALAJ	0	40	45	-5
3	19	Cornerstone	1	28	23	5
4	20	N. Hampton	0	42	59	-17
5	21	NW Halifax	0	21	58	-37
6	22	Rosewood	0	31	57	-26
7	23	Bertie	0	40	52	-12
8	24	Voyager	0	26	60	-34
			Win %	Average Score	Average score	Margin of Victory
			1/7	33.25	50.00	-16.75

2A West

#	Seed	Team	Win/Loss	Score	Score	Point Diff
1	17	Mitchell	1	51	32	19
2	18	N Rowan	1	54	48	6
3	19	Elkin	0	25	72	-47
4	20	Swain	1	35	32	3
5	21	S. Stanly	0	42	65	-23
6	22	CCHS	0	11	59	-48
7	23	Alleghany	0	29	49	-20
8	24	Cherryville	0	10	72	-62
			Win %	Average Score	Average score	Margin of Victory
			3/5	32.125	53.625	-21.5

3A East

#	Seed	Team	Win/Loss	Score	Score	Point Diff
1	17	Whiteville	1	49	42	7
2	18	Midway	1	57	53	4
3	19	Beddingfield	1	50	41	9
4	20	E. Randolph	0	50	67	-17
5	21	McMichael	0	36	59	-23
6	22	W. Bladen	0	44	67	-23
7	23	S. Columbus	0	26	58	-32
8	24	Pasquotank	0	37	64	-27
			Win %	Average Score	Average score	Margin of Victory
			3/5	43.63	56.38	-12.75

3A East

#	Seed	Team	Win/Loss	Score	Score	Point Diff
1	17	W. Davidson	1	50	40	10
2	18	M. Airy	0	28	45	-17
3	19	P. Lake	1	43	40	3
4	20	Bess City	1	48	43	5
5	21	Trinity	0	34	65	-31
6	22	E. Davidson	0	29	60	-31
7	23	Patton	0	39	63	-24
8	24	Madison	0	36	72	-36
			Win %	Average Score	Average score	Margin of Victory
			2/6	38.38	53.50	-15.13

	4A East							4A West						
#	Seed	Team	Win/Loss	Score	Score	Point Diff	#	Seed	Team	Win/Loss	Score	Score	Point Diff
1	17	Morehead	0	42	60	-18	1	17	M. Pleasant	0	53	64	-11
2	18	W. Craven	1	53	47	6	2	18	Tuscola	0	42	58	-16
3	19	N. Lenoir	1	44	43	1	3	19	W. Stokes	0	35	49	-14
4	20	Carrboro	0	43	65	-22	4	20	Ashe	1	48	39	9
5	21	Carver	0	32	44	-12	5	21	B. Hill	0	48	67	-19
6	22	Reidsville	0	25	59	-34	6	22	R-S Central	0	34	58	-24
7	23	SW Onslow	0	23	54	-31	7	23	N. Conover	0	43	47	-4
8	24	J. Matthews	0	38	64	-26	8	24	E. Henderso	0	36	45	-9
			Win %	Average Score	Average score	Margin of Victory				Win %	Average Score	Average score	Margin of Victory
			2/6	37.5	54.5	-17				1/7	42.375	53.375	-11

	5A East							5A West						
#	Seed	Team	Win/Loss	Score	Score	Point Diff	#	Seed	Team	Win/Loss	Score	Score	Point Diff
1	17	St. Pauls	0	36	40	-4	1	17	S. Point	1	59	50	9
2	18	DSOA	1	43	34	9	2	18	Crest	1	58	55	3
3	19	Montgo	1	41	36	5	3	19	Gaston	0	44	66	-22
4	20	Person	0	55	57	-2	4	20	N. Davidson	0	49	71	-22
5	21	S. Wayne	0	37	65	-28	5	21	N. Forsyth	0	35	66	-31
6	22	Havelock	0	23	57	-34	6	22	J. Robinson	0	48	78	-30
7	23	JF Webb	0	29	49	-20	7	23	N. Lincoln	1	73	27	46
8	24	Richlands	0	19	61	-42	8	24	E. Rowan	0	19	61	-42
			Win %	Average Score	Average score	Margin of Victory				Win %	Average Score	Average score	Margin of Victory
			2/6	35.38	49.88	-14.50				3/5	48.125	59.25	-11.125

	6A East							6A West						
#	Seed	Team	Win/Loss	Score	Score	Point Diff	#	Seed	Team	Win/Loss	Score	Score	Point Diff
1	17	White Oak	0	36	46	-10	1	17	S. Caldwell	0	48	56	-8
2	18	G. Creek	1	50	43	7	2	18	Piedmont	1	55	45	10
3	19	S. Johnston	0	31	74	-43	3	19	Freedom	0	37	51	-14
4	20	Lee	0	32	56	-24	4	20	King M	0	53	67	-14
5	21	Triton	0	30	63	-33	5	21	Ashville	0	32	51	-19
6	22	N.Brunswic	0	33	40	-7	6	22	Ashboro	0	19	60	-41
7	23	Nash	0	33	73	-40	7	23	M. Tabor	0	51	60	-9
8	24	S. View	0	6	49	-43	8	24	Phillip O.	0	30	67	-37
			Win %	Average Score	Average score	Margin of Victory				Win %	Average Score	Average score	Margin of Victory
			1/7	31.38	55.50	-24.13				1/7	40.625	57.125	-16.5

	7A East							7A West						
#	Seed	Team	Win/Loss	Score	Score	Point Diff	#	Seed	Team	Win/Loss	Score	Score	Point Diff

1	17	Hillside	0	33	82	-49	1	17	B. Ridge	0	48	67	-19
2	18	P. Forest	0	35	38	-3	2	18	E. Forsyth	0	39	61	-22
3	19	Fuquay	0	48	53	-5	3	19	Reagan	0	42	60	-18
4	20	Purnell	0	34	60	-26	4	20	RJ Reynolds	0	33	54	-21
5	21	Clayton	0	45	64	-19	5	21	SW Guilford	0	36	45	-9
6	22	J. Britt	0	40	46	-6	6	22	AL Brown	0	45	71	-26
7	23	E. Wake	0	48	57	-9	7	23	Mooresville	0	59	70	-11
8	24	Cary	0	17	59	-42	8	24	R. River	0	57	74	-17
			Win %	**Average Score**	**Average score**	**Margin of Victory**				**Win %**	**Average Score**	**Average score**	**Margin of Victory**
			0/8	**37.50**	**57.38**	**-19.88**				**0/8**	**44.875**	**62.75**	**-17.875**

BB Men's

1A East							1A West									
#	Seed	Team	Win/Loss	Score	Score	Point Diff	#	Seed	Team	Win/Loss	Score	Score	Point Diff	Totals	W	L
1	17	Cape Hatteras	1	40	39	1	1	17	Bonnie	1	82	49	33	1A	4	12
2	18	Wash Co	1	71	52	19	2	18	Nant	0	50	66	-16	2A	7	9
3	19	Kipp	0	57	73	-16	3	19	Summitt	0	22	65	-43	3A	1	15
4	20	North Edge	0	70	85	-15	4	20	North S	1	63	58	5	4A	2	14
5	21	Oxford	0	40	61	-21	5	21	Asend	0	62	71	-9	5A	2	14
6	22	Sallie B	0	47	63	-16	6	22	NSSSM	0	54	74	-20	6A	3	13
7	23	Hobgood	0	30	58	-28	7	23	Blue	o	22	84	-62	7A	3	13
8	24	Jones Sr	0	44	69	-25	8	24	Rosman	0	48	72	-24		**22**	**90**
			Record	Average Score	Average score	Margin of Victory				Record	Average Score	Average score	Margin of Victory			
			2/6	49.875	62.5	-12.625				2/6	50.375	67.375	-17	Average MOV		-10.67
			25%							25%						

2A East							2A West						
#	Seed	Team	Win/Loss	Score	Score	Point Diff	#	Seed	Team	Win/Loss	Score	Score	Point Diff
1	17	Manteo	1	51	49	2	1	17	Cornerston	1	81	72	9
2	18	Lejune	1	61	57	4	2	18	Albemarle	1	64	54	10
3	19	America	0	54	56	-2	3	19	Mitchell	0	46	71	-25
4	20	Research	0	71	72	-1	4	20	East W	1	60	58	2
5	21	Roxboro	1	64	44	20	5	21	Bradford	1	60	51	9
6	22	Triangle	0	48	59	-11	6	22	Cherryville	0	55	90	-35
7	23	Gates	0	48	53	-5	7	23	South S	0	62	71	-9
8	24	Lakewood	0	47	71	-24	8	24	Starmount	0	44	58	-14
			Win %	Average Score	Average score	Margin of Victory				Win %	Average Score	Average score	Margin of Victory
			3/5	55.50	57.63	-2.13				4/4	59	65.625	-6.625

3A East							3A West						
#	Seed	Team	Win/Loss	Score	Score	Point Diff	#	Seed	Team	Win/Loss	Score	Score	Point Diff
1	17	Lousiburg	0	71	80	-9	1	17	MA	0	45	65	-20
2	18	AG	0	56	69	-13	2	18	Patton	0	53	56	-3
3	19	Princeton	0	52	72	-20	3	19	Owen	0	69	75	-6
4	20	Midway	0	55	71	-16	4	20	Wheat	0	52	69	-17
5	21	HC	0	54	76	-22	5	21	West D	0	39	57	-18
6	22	Eastern	0	61	82	-21	6	22	Surry C	0	47	59	-12
7	23	BY	0	48	68	-20	7	23	Union	0	50	62	-12
8	24	South C	1	78	75	3	8	24	West C	0	50	58	-8
			Win %	Average Score	Average score	Margin of Victory				Win %	Average Score	Average score	Margin of Victory

			1/7	59.38	74.13	-14.75				0/8	50.625	62.625	-12
	4A East							4A West					
#	Seed	Team	Win/Loss	Score	Score	Point Diff	#	Seed	Team	Win/Loss	Score	Score	Point Diff
1	17	South W	0	42	55	-13	1	17	East B	0	46	49	-3
2	18	NL	1	62	58	4	2	18	Ashe	0	83	97	-14
3	19	Clinton	1	73	60	13	3	19	Forbush	0	74	87	-13
4	20	Fairmont	0	48	50	-2	4	20	Wilkes	0	28	75	-47
5	21	NP	0	52	62	-10	5	21	Maiden	0	47	52	-5
6	22	Graham	0	53	57	-4	6	22	Brevard	0	81	83	-2
7	23	Morehead	0	51	79	-28	7	23	West S	0	28	66	-38
8	24	NJ	0	35	76	-41	8	24	Foard	0	49	74	-25
			Win %	Average Score	Average score	Margin of Victory				Win %	Average Score	Average score	Margin of Victory
			2/6	52.00	62.13	-10.13				0/8	54.5	72.88	-18.38
	5A East							5A West					
#	Seed	Team	Win/Loss	Score	Score	Point Diff	#	Seed	Team	Win/Loss	Score	Score	Point Diff
1	17	Person	1	51	46	5	1	17	Concord	0	77	87	-10
2	18	Southern G	0	64	75	-11	2	18	West R	0	60	67	-7
3	19	Rockingham	0	44	60	-16	3	19	Enka	0	64	74	-10
4	20	Webb	0	54	66	-12	4	20	North D	0	45	84	-39
5	21	Western	0	49	68	-19	5	21	Erwin	0	57	89	-32
6	22	Orange	0	61	69	-8	6	22	North G	0	67	88	-21
7	23	Dixon	0	43	63	-20	7	23	NW	1	57	55	2
8	24	Southern	0	65	73	-8	8	24	Forestview	0	63	71	-8
			Win %	Average Score	Average score	Margin of Victory				Win %	Average Score	Average score	Margin of Victory
			1/7	53.88	65.00	-11.13				1/7	61.25	76.88	-15.63
	6A East							6A West					
#	Seed	Team	Win/Loss	Score	Score	Point Diff	#	Seed	Team	Win/Loss	Score	Score	Point Diff
1	17	Southern	1	58	52	6	1	17	Phillip	1	62	53	9
2	18	Franklin	0	59	63	-4	2	18	ACR	0	43	64	-21
3	19	Westoiver	0	39	44	-5	3	19	Olympic	0	68	72	-4
4	20	Union Pines	0	49	69	-20	4	20	Sun V	1	71	66	5
5	21	Southeast	0	58	72	-14	5	21	St Stephens	0	44	67	-23
6	22	East Chapel	1	53	50	3	6	22	Central	1	72	71	1
7	23	Scotland	0	43	64	-21	7	23	Ragsdale	0	50	53	-3
8	24	Northern	0	71	76	-5	8	24	Statesville	0	55	79	-24
			Win %	Average Score	Average score	Margin of Victory				Win %	Average Score	Average score	Margin of Victory
			1/7	53.75	61.25	-7.50				2/6	58.125	65.63	-7.50

	7A East					
#	Seed	Team	Win/Loss	Score	Score	Point Diff
1	17	FV	0	51	64	-13
2	18	WF	0	52	76	-24
3	19	Cary	0	69	73	-4
4	20	SG	0	58	65	-7
5	21	CF	0	61	69	-8
6	22	DHC	0	65	86	-21
7	23	SC	0	52	60	-8
8	24	HS	0	49	59	-10
			Win %	Average Score	Average score	Margin of Victory
			1/7	57.13	69.00	-11.88

	7A West					
#	Seed	Team	Win/Loss	Score	Score	Point Diff
1	17	Cuth	1	79	63	16
2	18	JB	0	45	61	-16
3	19	West C	1	69	67	2
4	20	McDow	0	80	86	-6
5	21	LN	0	42	55	-13
6	22	SI	0	48	49	-1
7	23	Grimsley	0	58	75	-17
8	24	BR	0	74	56	18
			Win %	Average Score	Average score	Margin of Victory
			2/5	61.875	64.00	-2.13

Across all classifications there were 120 games in Round 1.

Competitive Games: Games where the final margin of victory was 3 or fewer runs

Uncompetitive Games: Games where the margin of victory was decisive (8+ runs), or a game where a team got out to a large early lead (6+ runs) and coasted, or a 5-6 run shutout victory.

Tweener Games: A bit arbitrary, but somewhere in between competitive and uncompetitive. A 7-2 final for instance. A 5-6 run margin of victory but the winning side pulled away late and the outcome of the game hung in the balance until the final 2 innings.

There were 35 "Competitive" games across all classifications in Round 1.
There were 10 "Tweener" games across all classifications in Round 1.
There were 75 "Uncompetitive" games across all classifications in Round 1.
There were 38 Shutouts.
There were ***more shutouts than there were competitive games***.

Classification by Classification Breakdown

1A: 16 Games in Round 1
Average Margin of Victory: 10.375 Runs
Upsets: 2 (9 v. 8, 10 v. 7)

2A: 16 Games in Round 1
Average Margin of Victory: 8.3125 Runs
Upsets: 2 (23 v. 10, 17 v. 16)

3A: 16 Games in Round 1
Average Margin of Victory: 8.6875 Runs
Upsets: 1 (17 v. 16)

4A: 16 Games in Round 1
Average Margin of Victory: 5.0625 Runs
Upsets: 7 (17 v. 16, 20 v. 13, 18 v. 15, 22 v. 11, 19 v. 14, 20 v. 13, 17 v. 16)

5A: 16 Games in Round 1
Average Margin of Victory: 8.0625 Runs
Upsets: 4 (20 v. 13, 17 v. 16, 20 v. 13, 17 v. 16)

6A: 16 Games in Round 1
Average Margin of Victory: 7.8125 Runs
Upsets: 2 (23 v. 10, 17 v. 16)

7A: 16 Games in Round 1
Average Margin of Victory: 5.25 Runs
Upsets: 3 (18 v. 15, 17 v. 16, 19 v. 14)

8A: 8 Games in Round 1
Average Margin of Victory: 5.75 Runs
Upsets: 1 (9 v. 8)

Across All Classifications the Average Margin of Victory was 7.525 Runs in Round 1

There were 35 games where the margin of victory was 10-14 runs, 9 games where the margin of victory was 15-19 runs, and 3 games where the margin of victory was 20+ runs.

WESTERN HIGHLANDS CONFERENCE

OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE | WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA

October 29, 2026

North Carolina High School Athletic Association
Board of Directors

RE: Western Highlands Conference Endorsement of Proposed Reduction in NCHSAA Playoff Brackets

Dear Members of the NCHSAA Board of Directors:

On behalf of the Western Highlands Conference and its member schools, I am writing to formally express our support for the October 27, 2026, letter submitted by the Mountain Athletic 5A/6A Conference endorsing the Albemarle Athletic Conference's proposal to reduce NCHSAA postseason playoff brackets from 48 teams to 32 teams per classification in all sanctioned sports, beginning with the Fall 2027 season.

The Western Highlands Conference stands alongside the Mountain Athletic Conference in recognizing the importance of maintaining a postseason structure that prioritizes competitive integrity, student-athlete welfare, academic responsibilities, and the overall mission of education-based athletics.

While postseason opportunities are an important part of the high school athletic experience, we believe those opportunities should remain meaningful and reflect competitive achievement. Expanding playoff brackets does not necessarily improve the quality of postseason competition, particularly when expansion creates additional challenges for student-athletes, coaches, schools, and athletic departments.

As a conference representing schools in western North Carolina, we understand the significant demands associated with postseason travel, missed instructional time, limited resources, and overlapping athletic seasons. Many of our schools rely heavily on multi-sport athletes, making extended postseason schedules particularly challenging for both students and athletic programs.

We also share the concerns expressed by the Mountain Athletic Conference regarding competitive balance, postseason participation, and instances of playoff opt-outs and forfeitures. These concerns deserve careful consideration when evaluating whether the current 48-team playoff format is serving the best interests of member schools and student-athletes.

We recognize and appreciate the NCHSAA's responsibility to provide equitable postseason opportunities across all classifications and geographic regions. However, we believe a 32-team playoff structure would provide a more appropriate balance between access to postseason competition and maintaining the significance, competitiveness, and integrity of the playoffs.

The Western Highlands Conference respectfully joins the Mountain Athletic 5A/6A Conference in supporting the proposal originally submitted by the Albemarle Athletic Conference and urges the NCHSAA Board of Directors to give favorable consideration to reducing postseason playoff brackets from 48 teams to 32 teams per classification, effective Fall 2027.

We appreciate the Board's continued leadership and commitment to the student-athletes and member schools of North Carolina. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this proposal and the collective support

expressed by conferences across our state.

Respectfully,

Rex Wells
President, Western Highlands Conference

On behalf of the member schools of the Western Highlands Conference:
Charles D. Owen High School · Mountain Heritage High School · Polk County High School
Hendersonville High School · Avery County High School · Mitchell High School

October 27, 2026

North Carolina High School Athletic Association
Board of Directors

RE: Mountain Athletic 5A/6A Conference Endorsement of Proposed Playoff Structure Reduction

Dear Members of the NCHSAA Board of Directors:

On behalf of the Mountain Athletic 5A/6A Conference and its six member schools, I am writing to formally express our collective support for the proposal submitted by the Albemarle Athletic Conference recommending a reduction in the NCHSAA postseason playoff brackets from 48 teams to 32 teams per classification in all sanctioned sports, beginning with the Fall 2027 season.

The Mountain Athletic Conference, consisting of A.C. Reynolds High School, Asheville High School, Enka High School, Erwin High School, North Buncombe High School, and T.C. Roberson High School, stands united in our support of this proposed change. We believe a 32-team playoff structure would better serve our student-athletes, member schools, and the overall mission of education-based athletics in North Carolina.

While we recognize the importance of providing postseason opportunities for our student-athletes, we also believe those opportunities must be balanced with academic responsibilities, student-athlete welfare, competitive integrity, and the operational demands placed upon our schools and athletic programs.

The current 48-team playoff structure has created additional challenges, particularly for schools that depend heavily upon multi-sport student-athletes. Increased overlap between athletic seasons, compressed postseason schedules, additional travel demands, and missed instructional time are all legitimate concerns that deserve thoughtful consideration.

Additionally, the supporting documentation provided by the Albemarle Athletic Conference raises important questions regarding competitive balance, playoff participation, and the increasing number of postseason opt-outs and forfeits. We believe these concerns warrant a comprehensive evaluation of whether the expanded playoff structure is accomplishing its intended purpose.

We recognize that any proposed change to the postseason format requires careful consideration of its impact across all classifications, sports, and regions of our state. However, we believe that a 32-team playoff format would provide a more balanced approach, preserving meaningful postseason opportunities while reducing unnecessary burdens on student-athletes, coaches, athletic departments, and schools.

Ultimately, our responsibility as educational leaders is not simply to provide more opportunities to compete, but to ensure those opportunities remain meaningful, equitable, and consistent with the educational mission of interscholastic athletics.

The Mountain Athletic 5A/6A Conference respectfully joins the Albemarle Athletic Conference in requesting that the NCHSAA Board of Directors give favorable consideration to this proposal and approve the reduction of postseason playoff brackets from 48 teams to 32 teams per classification, effective Fall 2027.

We appreciate the Board's continued leadership, service, and commitment to the student-athletes and member schools of North Carolina. Thank you for your consideration of this important matter.

Respectfully,

Brian Carver, CMAA
President, Mountain Athletic 5A/6A Conference
Athletic Director, Enka High School

On behalf of the member schools of the Mountain Athletic 5A/6A Conference:

A.C. Reynolds High School
Asheville High School
Enka High School
Erwin High School
North Buncombe High School
T.C. Roberson High School

Attachment S13

Sports Committee

Add The 200, 400, And 800 To Indoor Track

Submitted by: Rodney King - North Carolina Track & Cross Country Coaches Association

Request:

NCHSAA Board Action (The Board is requested to take formal action on the matter.)

Consideration:

The North Carolina High School Track & Field Coaches Association formally petitions the NCHSAA Board of Directors to update the state's indoor track championship program. Specifically, we propose replacing the traditional 300-meter dash, 500-meter dash, and 1,000-meter run with standard metric distances: the 200-meter dash, 400-meter dash, and 800-meter run.

This strategic alignment will modernize North Carolina high school athletics, align our student-athletes with national and collegiate standards, streamline meet administration, and improve athlete recruiting opportunities.

Specific Request:

New Addition (The request proposes a new rule, policy, regulation, provision, or requirement rather than a change to an existing provision.)

Basis:

New Addition (The request proposes a new rule, policy, regulation, provision, or requirement rather than a change to an existing provision.)

Current Language / Proposed Language:

Effective Date:

Rationale:

This would put North Carolina indoor track more in line with the national standard of indoor track events. Adding the 200m, 400m, and 800m would conform North Carolina to both NFHS and NCAA standards, it would make and easier transition in athletic development from indoor season to outdoor season, and makes efficiency in officiating and meet management.

Educational Impact: Aligning indoor track events with standard outdoor distances serves the core mission of interscholastic athletics by prioritizing student-athlete growth, equitable post-secondary access, and holistic physical well-being.

Student Safety Impact: Replacing the 500m dash with the standard 400m keeps maximal sprint efforts within safer physiological limits, preventing severe late-race lactic acid build-up and lowering the risk of acute muscle tears in high school athletes. Aligning indoor and outdoor event distances year-round eliminates sudden spikes in training volume, directly reducing overuse injuries like shin splints, patellar tendonitis, and stress fractures. Furthermore, shorter sprint profiles reduce total volume demands when winter weather forces teams to train on cold tracks or hard indoor surfaces, while replacing the 1000m with the standard 800m aligns with standard track geometry to eliminate lap-counting confusion, break-line congestion, and pack falls.

Equity Impact: Replacing the 500m dash with the standard 400m keeps maximal sprint efforts within safer physiological limits, preventing severe late-race lactic acid build-up and lowering the risk of acute muscle tears in high school athletes. Aligning indoor and outdoor event distances year-round eliminates sudden spikes in training volume, directly reducing overuse injuries like shin splints, patellar tendonitis, and stress fractures. Furthermore, shorter sprint profiles reduce total volume demands when winter weather forces teams to train on cold tracks or hard indoor surfaces, while replacing the 1000m with the standard 800m aligns with standard track geometry to eliminate lap-counting confusion, break-line congestion, and pack falls.

Financial Impact: There would be no additional cost to schools as all tracks already have the markings for these events.

Operational and Administrative Impact: Standardizing indoor track events to the 200m, 400m, and 800m streamlines meet administration and reduces officiating errors across facilities. Modern venues in North Carolina and neighboring states are pre-marked with permanent starting lines and staggers for standard metric distances, eliminating setup confusion for clerks and starters. Additionally, switching from the 1000m to the 800m aligns with standard lap breakdowns across varying track sizes (such as 160m, 200m, or 300m tracks), significantly simplifying lap counting for officials and reducing timing challenges for Fully Automatic Timing (FAT) operators.

Legal or Compliance Considerations: No, not that we are aware of.

Attachment Yes

TO: NCHSAA Board of Directors and Track & Field Committee

FROM: North Carolina High School Track & Field Coaches Association

DATE: October 27, 2026

SUBJECT: Proposal to Standardize Indoor Track & Field Events (Adopting 200m, 400m, and 800m)

Executive Summary

The North Carolina High School Track & Field Coaches Association formally petitions the NCHSAA Board of Directors to update the state's indoor track championship program. Specifically, we propose replacing the traditional 300-meter dash, 500-meter dash, and 1,000-meter run with standard metric distances: the **200-meter dash, 400-meter dash, and 800-meter run**.

This strategic alignment will modernize North Carolina high school athletics, align our student-athletes with national and collegiate standards, streamline meet administration, prioritize athlete health and safety, and advance educational equity across all NCHSAA classifications and regions.

Key Rationale and Arguments

1. National Alignment and Post-Season Pathway

- **Conformity with NFHS & NCAA Standards:** The 200m, 400m, and 800m are the universal indoor standards recognized by the NFHS, NCAA, World Athletics, and major national high school championships (including Nike, New Balance, and adidas Indoor Nationals).
- **Direct Seasonal Progression:** Maintaining 300m/500m/1000m leaves North Carolina as a national outlier, forcing coaches and athletes to train for non-standard events during the high school season.

2. Athletic Development & Outdoor Transition

- **Seamless Seasonal Periodization:** The 200m, 400m, and 800m are core outdoor track events. Adopting these distances indoors allows coaches to build race strategy, energy system development, and pacing models that directly transfer to the spring outdoor season.
- **Relay Pacing Calibration:** Standard open events map directly to relay legs (4x200m, 4x400m, and 4x800m). Running a standard 400m open event helps athletes master pacing and fatigue management required for the 4x400m relay.

3. Administrative and Officiating Efficiency

- **Facility Line Marking Standardization:** Modern indoor track facilities across North Carolina and neighboring states are pre-marked with permanent starting lines and staggers for 200m, 400m, and 800m events, eliminating setup confusion for clerks and starters.
- **Reduction in Timing and Officiating Errors:** Fully Automatic Timing (FAT) operators and lap counters frequently face challenges during the 1,000-meter run due to non-standard lap breakdowns across different track sizes (e.g., 160m, 200m, or 300m tracks). Standardizing to the 800m significantly reduces lap-counting complexity.

4. Student Impact and Educational Purpose of Interscholastic Athletics

- **Promoting Equitable Collegiate Access:** Higher education opportunities through athletics should be accessible to all students. Collegiate track programs evaluate recruits using standard metric distances (200m, 400m, 800m). Forcing NC student-athletes to rely on estimated "conversion tables" from 300m or 500m marks puts them at a disadvantage during recruitment compared to peers nationwide.
- **Eliminating Barriers to National Competition:** Under the current event schedule, students seeking national postseason qualifying marks must travel out of state or compete unattached at private facilities. Adopting standard distances allows all students to pursue national standards within the safe, equitable, and school-funded framework of their high school program.
- **Reinforcing Deliberate Mastery:** Learning race pacing for a 400m or 800m run is a multi-year discipline requiring tactical execution and bodily awareness. Standardizing these events year-round allows student-athletes to practice and refine the exact same skills in both winter and spring, teaching the educational value of long-term deliberate practice.

5. Health, Safety, and Injury Prevention

Replacing the 500m dash with the standard 400m keeps maximal sprint efforts within safer physiological limits, preventing severe late-race lactic acid build-up and lowering the risk of acute muscle tears in high school athletes. Aligning indoor and outdoor event distances year-round eliminates sudden spikes in training volume, directly reducing overuse injuries like shin splints, patellar tendonitis, and stress fractures. Furthermore, shorter sprint profiles reduce total volume demands when winter weather forces teams to train on cold tracks or hard indoor surfaces, while replacing the 1000m with the standard 800m aligns with standard track geometry to eliminate lap-counting confusion, break-line congestion, and pack falls.

6. Equity, Classification, and Resource Impact Analysis

Evaluating this proposal across member schools reveals significant equity benefits that directly level the playing field regardless of school size, geographic location, or local resources:

- **Lowering Barriers for Small Schools (1A/2A Classifications):** Small-school programs frequently rely on multi-sport athletes and smaller rosters without specialized winter speed-endurance conditioning. Replacing the 500m with the standard 400m reduces extreme anaerobic conditioning demands, making sprint events more accessible to non-specialized student-athletes. Furthermore, standardizing distances makes it simpler for small-school athletes to double up between open events and standard relays (4x200m, 4x400m, 4x800m) without adjusting to completely different pacing models.
- **Leveling Socioeconomic and Recruiting Disparities:** Under the current system, athletes from higher-resourced schools or affluent families can afford to travel out of state or register for private indoor meets to post standard 200m/400m/800m national qualifying times. Standardizing the NCHSAA indoor event schedule ensures that **every student**, regardless of socioeconomic status or school budget, receives equal access to official national qualifying marks within their school-funded, regular-season schedule.
- **Mitigating Geographic and Weather Disparities:** Schools in Western North Carolina and rural districts face harsher winter conditions that frequently prevent access to outdoor track facilities for weeks. Training for high-volume speed endurance (500m/1000m) on hallways, gym floors, or ice-cleared asphalt increases joint stress. Standard 200m and 400m events lower total volume demands during severe weather disruptions, ensuring equitable, safe training options for weather-impacted schools.
- **Regional and Border Interoperability:** Schools located near state lines (e.g., Charlotte metro bordering SC, Triad/Triangle near VA, Western NC near TN) regularly travel to out-of-state

competitions. Standardizing distances eliminates event scheduling friction and levels competitive opportunity when NC programs compete regionally.

Proposed Timeline for Implementation

To ensure a smooth transition for coaches, athletic directors, and meet directors, we propose the following adoption schedule:

- **Winter 2026:** Board review and formal vote.
- **Winter 2027–2028 Season:** Full implementation for the NCHSAA Indoor Track & Field Season.

Conclusion

Transitioning to the 200m, 400m, and 800m aligns North Carolina with national best practices, advances educational equity across all classifications, prioritizes student-athlete health and safety, and simplifies event administration for host schools and officials. We respectfully request the Board's consideration and approval of this proposal.

Attachment S14
Sports Committee

Proposal to Adjust Regional Qualifying Allocations for 8A Cross Country State Meet

Submitted by: Rodney King - North Carolina Track & Cross Country Coaches Association

Request:

NCHSAA Board Action (The Board is requested to take formal action on the matter.)

Consideration:

This proposal requests an adjustment to the state championship qualification structure for the 8A Classification in Cross Country. Under the current system, 8A is limited to only two regional meets, resulting in a disproportionately small state championship field and an inflated risk of leaving top-tier teams and athletes out of the state meet.

Specific Request:

Current NCHSAA Rule, Policy, Regulation, or Handbook Provision

Basis:

Current NCHSAA Rule, Policy, Regulation, or Handbook Provision

Current Language / Proposed Language:

Qualifiers to State - Top 6 teams and top 7 individuals (not on those teams) from each regional advance to the state championships

Qualifiers to State - 1A-7A - Top 6 teams and top 7 individuals (not on those teams) from each regional advance to the state championships. 8A- Top 8 teams and top 10 individuals (Not on those teams) from each 8A region advance to the state championships

Effective Date: Beginning of the next school year

Rationale:

8A is limited to only two regional cross country meets, resulting in a disproportionately small state championship field and an inflated risk of leaving top-tier teams and athletes out of the state meet.

Educational Impact: Expanding qualifying spots for teams from 6 to 8 and individuals from 7 to 10 broadens championship access for nearly 30 additional student-athletes per meet, extending classroom learning through goal setting, discipline, and leadership development. By correcting regional geographical disparities and aligning 8A standards with sports like

Track & Field, the proposal ensures high-performing athletes receive fair recognition for their hard work. Furthermore, state championship participation boosts school morale and acts as a powerful motivator for students to maintain academic eligibility, while simultaneously offering prospective collegiate athletes vital recruiting visibility and high-level competitive experience.

Student Safety Impact: The proposal poses no added physical safety risks to student-athletes, as the updated field size of 126 remains smaller and safer than all other NCHSAA cross country state meet classifications (147 runners). Furthermore, the mental health and emotional well-being benefits derived from increased inclusion and reduced qualifying pressure far outweigh the minimal logistical adjustments required for event management.

Equity Impact: The proposal poses no added physical safety risks to student-athletes, as the updated field size of 126 remains smaller and safer than all other NCHSAA cross country state meet classifications (147 runners). Furthermore, the mental health and emotional well-being benefits derived from increased inclusion and reduced qualifying pressure far outweigh the minimal logistical adjustments required for event management.

Financial Impact: Expanding the 8A Cross Country State Championship field presents minimal to slightly positive financial implications for both the NCHSAA and participating member schools. Adding 28 student-athletes (4 teams and 6 individuals) is projected to generate an estimated $1,400 to $2,800 in additional ticket revenue alongside increased championship merchandise sales. Overall, the proposal is revenue-positive to revenue-neutral, as increased gate receipts easily outweigh minor administrative expenses while member school costs remain comfortably within standard postseason budgets.

Operational and Administrative Impact: There would be very little to no operational / administrative impact.

Legal or Compliance Considerations: No

Attachment Yes

TO: North Carolina High School Athletic Association (NCHSAA) Board of Directors

FROM: Cross Country Advisory / Member School Presentation

DATE: October 27, 2026

SUBJECT: Proposal to Adjust Regional Qualifying Allocations for 8A Cross Country State Meet

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This proposal requests an adjustment to the state championship qualification structure for the **8A Classification** in Cross Country. Under the current system, 8A is limited to only two regional meets, resulting in a disproportionately small state championship field and an inflated risk of leaving top-tier teams and athletes out of the state meet.

We propose to:

1. **Increase qualifying teams** per region from **6 to 8**.
2. **Increase qualifying individuals not on advancing teams** per region from **7 to 10**.

II. RATIONALE & CURRENT DISPARITY

1. Disproportionate Field Size

Because classifications 1A through 7A feature 3 regions while 8A features only 2 regions, the current allocation framework creates a significant disparity in state meet size:

Classification	Regions	Teams / Region	Individuals / Region	Total State Meet Field Size
1A – 7A (Current)	3	6	7	**147 runners**
8A (Current)	2	6	7	**98 runners**
8A (Proposed)	2	8	10	**126 runners**

2. Regional Concentration & Competitive Fairness

Dividing 8A into only two regions (East and West) heavily concentrates powerful teams into single regional events. For example, in the **2025 8A Boys State Meet**, the top six finishing teams overall were all from the East Region, followed by the six teams from the West Region. Under the current 6-team restriction, high-caliber, state-level competitive teams are left at home purely due to regional density rather than merit.

3. Parity Across Sports

In both Indoor and Outdoor Track & Field, the NCHSAA qualifies an equal number of student-athletes across classifications to state meets. There is no competitive or administrative reason to suppress athlete participation in the 8A Cross Country State Championship.

III. PROPOSED RULE CHANGES

Rule Change 1: Team Qualification Increase

- **Current Rule:** 6 teams advance from each region (12 teams total).
- **Proposed Rule: 8 teams** advance from each region (16 teams total).
- **Impact:** Adds 4 teams (28 runners) to the championship field, bringing total team-based runners to 112.

Rule Change 2: Individual Qualifier Adjustment (Addendum A)

- **Current Rule:** Top 7 individual finishers not on advancing teams qualify per region (14 individuals total).
- **Proposed Rule:** Top **10 individual finishers** not on advancing teams qualify per region (**20 individuals total**).
- **Impact:** Aligns 8A individual qualifiers (20 total) much closer to the 21 individual qualifiers present in 1A–7A classifications.

IV. FINANCIAL & LOGISTICAL IMPACT

- **Field Size Control:** Expanding the total state meet field from 98 to **126 runners** maintains 8A as the smallest, most manageable state meet while significantly elevating competitive quality and opportunity.
- **Facility Constraints:** The proposed total of 126 athletes remains well below the 147-runner cap used for 1A–7A meets, requiring no extra heats, session changes, or expanded venue accommodations.
- **Financial Impact:** Minimal to neutral, while slightly increasing ticket sales and championship merchandise revenue due to additional participating school communities.

V. RECOMMENDATION

By adopting this adjustment, the NCHSAA will protect competitive fairness, expand student-athlete participation, and align Cross Country championship access with standards already established in Track & Field. We respectfully request the Board of Directors' approval of this proposal prior to the upcoming Cross Country season.

Consider Moving Mens Lacrosse From A Single Contest Per Day To A Multi Quarter Limit

Submitted by: Dale Oehler - South Brunswick HS, Southport, NC

Request:

NCHSAA Board Action (The Board is requested to take formal action on the matter.)

Consideration:

Currently Mens Lacrosse has a single contest per day limit for HS players. While it does not impact my program as I have a solid JV roster, it does limit the development of JV programs for many teams that have a more limited roster. Going to a daily limit on a quarter basis would allow many programs to have a JV team by allowing more flexibility to move players between Varsity and JV, (what many of us call 'bubble' kids). This would enhance playing time for a lot of kids who wouldn't get much time being only on a Varsity roster. I would suggest 6 quarters--this was done in New Jersey where I coached prior, (Im now going into my 9th season at SBHS). Both football and basketball have quarter limits instead of single game daily limits in NC. Moving to a 6 quarter daily limit again would enhance the development of more JV programs and also provide more playing opportunities for younger players.

Specific Request:

Current NCHSAA Rule, Policy, Regulation, or Handbook Provision

Basis:

Current NCHSAA Rule, Policy, Regulation, or Handbook Provision

Current Language / Proposed Language:

A student athlete is limited to one game per day

A student athlete is limited to no more than 6 quarters in any given day in season, (fair to maybe add a weekly limit).

Effective Date: Beginning of the next applicable sport season

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Rationale:

By changing the current daily in game participation limits, it would foster more JV development by allowing coaches more flexibility in roster management and promote more playing opportunities for younger players.

Educational Impact: By enhancing playing opportunities for younger players, they would be more motivated student athletes

Student Safety Impact: This has already been addressed in earlier comments about motivating more players in academics and athletics. Health and well being of our athletes are always strong considerations for HS coaches.

Equity Impact: This has already been addressed in earlier comments about motivating more players in academics and athletics. Health and well being of our athletes are always strong considerations for HS coaches.

Financial Impact: I dont have budget specifics--obviously in mens lacrosse, growing a roster would involve higher costs but this is incremental to overall budgets.

Operational and Administrative Impact: Obviously adopting changes as outlined and the resulting growth in JV programs would involve more coaching opportunities

Legal or Compliance Considerations: I dont have any insights into this...

Attachment

Attachment S16

Sports Committee

Playoff Drop to 32 and Conference Winners Places First in RPI

Submitted by: Rex Wells - Western Highlands Conference

Request:

NCHSAA Board Action (The Board is requested to take formal action on the matter.)

Consideration:

See Attachment

Specific Request:

New Addition (The request proposes a new rule, policy, regulation, provision, or requirement rather than a change to an existing provision.)

Basis:

New Addition (The request proposes a new rule, policy, regulation, provision, or requirement rather than a change to an existing provision.)

Current Language / Proposed Language:

Effective Date:

Rationale:

Educational Impact:

Student Safety Impact:

Equity Impact:

Financial Impact:

Operational and Administrative Impact:

Legal or Compliance Considerations:

Attachment Yes

Sports Committee

Playoff from 48 to 32

Submitted by: Rex Wells - Western Highlands Conference

Request:

NCHSAA Board Action (The Board is requested to take formal action on the matter.)

Consideration:

See attachment

Specific Request:

New Addition (The request proposes a new rule, policy, regulation, provision, or requirement rather than a change to an existing provision.)

Basis:

New Addition (The request proposes a new rule, policy, regulation, provision, or requirement rather than a change to an existing provision.)

Current Language / Proposed Language:

Effective Date:

Rationale:

Educational Impact:

Student Safety Impact:

Equity Impact:

Financial Impact:

Operational and Administrative Impact:

Legal or Compliance Considerations:

Attachment Yes

October 29, 2026

North Carolina High School Athletic Association
Board of Directors

RE: Request to Restore Recognition of Classification Champions in Playoff Seeding

Dear Members of the NCHSAA Board of Directors:

On behalf of the Western Highlands Conference and its member schools, I respectfully request that the NCHSAA review its current RPI-based playoff seeding procedures and restore meaningful postseason consideration for conference champions, including classification champions in split-classification conferences.

We recognize the considerable responsibility the NCHSAA carries in aligning schools across North Carolina. Enrollment, geography, travel, and competitive balance make split-classification conferences a practical necessity in many parts of the state. We appreciate the Association's efforts in establishing these alignments. Our concern is not with conference placement, but with the unintended postseason consequences that can result when championship achievement receives no independent seeding recognition.

Under a seeding approach based solely on Ratings Percentage Index (RPI), a school may win every conference contest against opponents in its own classification yet receive no preferential recognition for that accomplishment. RPI is a useful tool for comparing records and strength of schedule, but it does not separately reward a classification championship.

Consider a smaller-classification school assigned four conference games against larger-classification opponents. If that school finishes 2–2 against those larger schools and defeats every conference opponent within its own classification, it has earned its classification championship. Nevertheless, that title does not itself provide a seeding advantage. The school must accept its assigned conference schedule, but its success in winning the championship available to it carries no distinct postseason benefit.

We recognize that games against larger schools do not necessarily reduce RPI; stronger opponents may improve strength-of-schedule measures. The issue is more fundamental: a classification championship should retain meaningful value in determining postseason placement, regardless of the composition of a school's assigned conference.

Conference championships have long represented a significant achievement for student-athletes, coaches, and communities. We believe a fair postseason framework should acknowledge that achievement while continuing to account for overall performance. A consistent numerical ranking is important, but it should not be the only measure used when schools compete under different conference structures.

Accordingly, the Western Highlands Conference respectfully requests that the NCHSAA Board of Directors consider restoring defined preferential seeding consideration for eligible conference classification champions, including those in split-classification leagues, while retaining RPI as an important tool for ranking other qualifying teams. Clear, statewide eligibility standards would help preserve competitive balance and ensure consistent application.

Our request is not for special treatment or a criticism of the Association's alignment process. It is a request to recognize schools for winning the championships they are asked to compete for. When a school defeats every conference opponent within its classification, that accomplishment should carry meaningful postseason recognition.

Thank you for your continued leadership and service to North Carolina student-athletes. We appreciate your consideration and welcome further discussion of a balanced playoff seeding process that recognizes conference achievement and competitive equity.

Respectfully,

Rex Wells
President, Western Highlands Conference

Western Highlands Conference member schools: Charles D. Owen • Mountain Heritage • Polk County • Hendersonville • Avery County • Mitchell

Attachment S17

Sports Committee

Flag Football State Adoptions

Submitted by: Elbert Lassitert -

Request:

NCHSAA Board Action (The Board is requested to take formal action on the matter.)

Consideration:

A. That the NCHSAA adopt 10-minute quarters for Flag Football contests. B. That the NCHSAA adopt the following mercy rule for Flag Football - anytime after the beginning of the 3rd quarter, if a 35-point differential is obtained in the score, the clock will revert to a running clock and will only be stopped on team time-outs, injury time-outs, and on scores after the extra point ends until the ball is next legally snapped.

Specific Request:

New Addition (The request proposes a new rule, policy, regulation, provision, or requirement rather than a change to an existing provision.)

Basis:

New Addition (The request proposes a new rule, policy, regulation, provision, or requirement rather than a change to an existing provision.)

Current Language / Proposed Language:

Effective Date:

Rationale:

Schools are playing try meets to reduce travel and the games are lasting too long.

Educational Impact: Game during the week will end at a reasonable time

Student Safety Impact: Game during the week will end at a reasonable time

Equity Impact: Game during the week will end at a reasonable time

Financial Impact:

Operational and Administrative Impact:

Legal or Compliance Considerations:

Attachment Yes

Item #3

Flag Football State Adoptions

A. That the NCHSAA adopt 10-minute quarters for Flag Football contests

B. That the NCHSAA adopt the following mercy rule for Flag Football - anytime after the beginning of the 3rd quarter, if a 35-point differential is obtained in the score, the clock will revert to a running clock and will only be stopped on team time-outs, injury time-outs, and on scores after the extra point ends until the ball is next legally snapped.

Attachment S18
Sports Committee

Wrestling Coaches Association Proposals - Regionals and Postseason Girls Alignment

Submitted by: Ian Roer - Swain County High School

Request:

NCHSAA Board Action (The Board is requested to take formal action on the matter.)

Consideration:

We move to allow regional hosts the option of scheduling the girls' regional wrestling championships on the weekend immediately preceding the boys' regional championships if the girls' and boys' postseason classification structures remain unaligned. The current structure would require 3A and 4A schools to split their staffs between the boys and the girls for the regional championships. Not all schools are in a position to adequately staff this and it would leave their wrestlers at a tremendous disadvantage during the most critical point of the season.

We move to subdivide the current combined girls' 1A-4A classification. The current 1A–4A classification includes 753 wrestlers from 121 schools, with 45 teams fielding seven or more wrestlers. That is considerably larger than any of the individual 5A–8A classifications, which range from 302 to 386 wrestlers and 31 to 54 schools. The current alignment places the smaller schools at a tremendous disadvantage and creates disparate access to the post season championships. The data unequivocally supports this conclusion and is included in depth with our submission.

Specific Request:

Current NCHSAA Rule, Policy, Regulation, or Handbook Provision

Basis:

Current NCHSAA Rule, Policy, Regulation, or Handbook Provision

Current Language / Proposed Language:

Section 4.1.2(d), Classifications, page 75, which establishes the current combined 1A–4A classification for women's individual wrestling:

(d) Women's Wrestling (Individual) 1A through 4A (combined), 5A-8A will stand alone.

Section 4.15.4(a)(1), Wrestling Regionals (Individual), page 119, which establishes the dates for men's and women's regional championships: (a) Dates (1) Men's and Women's Regional - February 12-13.

(d) Women's Wrestling (Individual) 1A through 3A (combined); 4A, 5A, 6A, 7A, and 8A will stand alone

OR

(d) Women's Wrestling (Individual) 1A through 2A (combined); 3A, 4A, 5A, 6A, 7A and 8A will stand alone

(a) Dates

(1) Men's and Women's Regionals – February 12–13.

(2) At the discretion of the NCHSAA, women's individual wrestling regional championships may be conducted on the weekend immediately preceding the regularly scheduled men's regional championships. Regional directors may request approval to conduct the women's regional championship on the preceding weekend based on facility availability, tournament administration, coaching conflicts, or other logistical considerations. All such scheduling changes must receive prior approval from the NCHSAA.

Effective Date: Immediately upon approval, if permitted

Rationale:

Under the current postseason structure, girls' wrestling is divided into five classifications (1A–4A | 5A | 6A | 7A | 8A), while boys' wrestling is divided into seven classifications (1A–2A | 3A | 4A | 5A | 6A | 7A | 8A). This difference creates a significant scheduling conflict for the 3A and 4A schools. Under the current alignment, these schools would be required to compete at separate boys' and girls' regional sites on the same weekend. Because many schools utilize the same coaching staff for both programs, this creates an unnecessary logistical burden and forces schools to divide their coaching resources during one of the most important competitions of the season. Allowing girls' regional championships to be held on the preceding weekend would provide schools and regional hosts with greater scheduling flexibility while ensuring that both boys' and girls' wrestlers have access to their full coaching staff during postseason competitions.

The path to postseason competition looks very different for girls wrestling in the combined 1A–4A classification than it does for those in the other classifications. The current alignment creates a significant disparity in opportunities for wrestlers from smaller schools to compete

in regional and state tournaments. During the 2025–2026 season, only 82.7% of entries from 1A–4A schools were accepted into regional competition. That left 78 wrestlers without an opportunity to compete. In comparison, three of the other four classifications accepted every entry, while 5A had only one wrestler excluded. The difference becomes even more apparent when looking at the entries for the individual weight classes. The combined 1A–4A classification exceeded the 16-wrestler limit in 17 of its 24 regional brackets. None of the brackets in 6A, 7A, or 8A reached that limit, and only one bracket in 5A exceeded it. The NCHSAA's Mission and Core Values specifically identifies Equity, Fair Play, and Fair Competition as guiding principles of the Association. The current alignment does not provide equity for our smaller schools.

Educational Impact: Both proposals would have a positive educational impact by expanding opportunities for student-athletes, reducing unnecessary conflicts, and creating a more equitable postseason experience. We do not foresee any negative educational impact.

Student Safety Impact: Both proposals are expected to have a positive impact on student-athlete well-being. Subdividing the 1A–4A classification would provide more equitable postseason opportunities, while flexible regional scheduling would reduce coaching conflicts and help ensure athletes receive appropriate supervision, preparation, and support. Potential scheduling conflicts would be minimized through NCHSAA oversight and approval. No significant negative impacts on student-athlete health, safety, or well-being are anticipated.

Equity Impact: Both proposals are expected to have a positive impact on student-athlete well-being. Subdividing the 1A–4A classification would provide more equitable postseason opportunities, while flexible regional scheduling would reduce coaching conflicts and help ensure athletes receive appropriate supervision, preparation, and support. Potential scheduling conflicts would be minimized through NCHSAA oversight and approval. No significant negative impacts on student-athlete health, safety, or well-being are anticipated.

Financial Impact: The proposed changes may result in modest additional expenses for travel, officials, and tournament operations due to increased postseason participation. However, additional qualifiers would also generate increased gate revenue. Flexible regional scheduling is not expected to create significant additional costs, but again could generate increased gate revenue. Specific financial impacts are difficult to estimate, but the benefits of expanded postseason opportunities are expected to outweigh potential additional expenses.

Operational and Administrative Impact: Implementation could require adjustments to regional assignments, tournament brackets, and postseason scheduling. Additional regional competition opportunities may require modest increases in officiating, staffing, and facility needs. Allowing regional directors flexibility in scheduling would help accommodate available facilities and personnel while reducing conflicts for coaches responsible for both boys' and girls' programs. The Wrestling Coaches Association is committed to continue working with the NCHSAA staff and the Individual State Tournament staff to make any adjustments necessary. We have identified several ways to streamline the tournament with adjustments to weigh-in times and awards presentations that would more than compensate for any additional time needed for the additional bracket(s).

Legal or Compliance Considerations: Both proposals are consistent with the equal athletic opportunity principles of Title IX , particularly regarding access to competition, scheduling, and coaching support. Subdividing the current 1A–4A classification would address the disparities in postseason participation opportunities, while flexible regional scheduling would help ensure equitable coaching support for female wrestlers. No significant legal or regulatory, policy or compliance concerns are anticipated.

Attachment Yes

Proposed Motions for Committee Consideration

Motion 1 — The Option to Hold Girls' Regionals on the Prior Weekend

Proposed Motion

We move to allow regional hosts the option of scheduling the girls' regional wrestling championships on the weekend immediately preceding the boys' regional championships if the girls' and boys' postseason classification structures remain unaligned.

Rationale

Under the current postseason structure, girls' wrestling is divided into five classifications (1A–4A | 5A | 6A | 7A | 8A), while boys' wrestling is divided into seven classifications (1A–2A | 3A | 4A | 5A | 6A | 7A | 8A).

This difference creates a significant scheduling conflict for the 3A and 4A schools. Under the current alignment, these schools would be required to compete at separate boys' and girls' regional sites on the same weekend. Because many schools utilize the same coaching staff for both programs, this creates an unnecessary logistical burden and forces schools to divide their coaching resources during one of the most important competitions of the season.

Allowing girls' regional championships to be held on the preceding weekend would provide schools and regional hosts with greater scheduling flexibility while ensuring that both boys' and girls' wrestlers have access to their full coaching staff during postseason competitions.

This proposal would:

- Prevent 3A and 4A schools from having to send boys' and girls' wrestlers to separate regional sites on the same weekend.
- Reduce scheduling conflicts for coaching staffs who work with both programs.
- Allow schools to provide more consistent coaching support to their athletes during postseason competition.
- Give regional hosts additional flexibility without requiring a statewide scheduling change.
- Address an immediate logistical concern if the boys' and girls' postseason classification structures remain unchanged.

Motion 2 — Subdivide the Current Girls 1A-4A Division

There are two options available to alleviate the current inequities in the Girls' 1A-4A Division

The current 1A–4A classification includes 753 wrestlers from 121 schools, with 45 teams fielding seven or more wrestlers. That's considerably larger than any of the individual 5A–8A classifications, which range from 302 to 386 wrestlers and 31 to 54 schools.

Even if just 4A were separated out, a proposed 1A–3A classification would still include 477 wrestlers from 75 schools, with 28 teams fielding at least seven wrestlers. It would remain the largest classification in both total wrestlers and participating schools by quite a large margin.

A separate 1A–2A classification would include 251 wrestlers from 36 schools, while 3A would have 226 wrestlers from 39 schools. For comparison, 8A currently has 302 wrestlers from just 31 schools.

Option 1:

1A–2A | 3A | 4A | 5A | 6A | 7A | 8A

Move to adopt the above classification structure for women's individual wrestling, aligning the girls' classifications with those currently used in boys' wrestling.

This proposal would:

- Provide more equitable access to regional and state competition.
- Eliminate the unequal regional-entry exclusions experienced by 1A–4A wrestlers based on 2025–2026 participation numbers.
- Allow boys' and girls' regional tournaments within the same classification to be conducted at the same site and on the same weekend.
- Establish a classification structure that better addresses the growth of women's wrestling in North Carolina.

Option 2:

Proposed Classification Structure:

1A–3A | 4A | 5A | 6A | 7A | 8A

Move to adopt the above classification structure for women's individual wrestling as an alternative to full alignment with boys' wrestling.

Based on 2025–2026 participation numbers, this proposal would:

- Reduce the number of wrestlers excluded from regional competition based on last year's numbers from 78 to just one in the 1A-3A division.
- Maintain a larger combined 1A–3A classification with 477 wrestlers from 75 schools.
- Preserve what would still be the largest classification in both total wrestlers and participating schools by a wide margin.
- Provide a practical improvement in postseason access without full separation of the smaller classifications.

Note: The Wrestling Coaches Association Board of Directors will give any assistance necessary to facilitate approved changes.

Rationale for the Realignment of Women's Wrestling

Access to Regional Competition

The path to postseason competition looks very different for girls wrestling in the combined 1A–4A classification than it does for those in the other classifications. The current alignment creates a significant gap in opportunities for wrestlers from smaller schools to compete in regional and state tournaments.

The first table shows how many wrestlers were entered for regional competition in each classification and how many were turned away because of the 16-wrestler limit in each weight class.

During the 2025–2026 season, only 82.7% of entries from 1A–4A schools were accepted into regional competition. That left 78 wrestlers without an opportunity to compete. In comparison, three of the other four classifications accepted every entry, while 5A had only one wrestler excluded.

The difference becomes even more apparent when looking at the entries for the individual weight classes. The combined 1A–4A classification exceeded the 16-wrestler limit in 17 of its 24 regional brackets. None of the brackets in 6A, 7A, or 8A reached that limit, and only one bracket in 5A exceeded it.

A proposed 1A–3A grouping would have reduced the number of rejected entries from 78 to just one, based on last year's participation, giving that proposed classification a 99.6% acceptance rate. A proposed 1A–2A grouping would have allowed every wrestler entered to participate.

The goal is simple: Give wrestlers across all classifications a fair and equitable opportunity to compete in the postseason.

Classification	2025–26 Regional Entries	Entries Above Cap	Accepted Entry Rate
1A–4A	451	78	82.7%
5A	247	1	99.6%
6A	208	0	100%
7A	217	0	100%
8A	194	0	100%
Proposed 1A–3A	280	1	99.6%
Proposed 1A–2A	149	0	100%

Regional Bracket Sizes

The second table breaks down the number of entries in each weight class by region and classification. ***Please note the disparity for the current 1A-4A division compared to the other classifications.*** These numbers help address one of the likely concerns about realignment: whether separating the smaller classifications would create regional brackets that are too small.

Looking at the numbers, that would not be a concern.

The proposed 1A–2A West Region compares favorably with many of the existing regional brackets in the larger classifications. While the proposed 1A–2A and 3A East Regions would have smaller brackets in several weight classes, they would not be dramatically different from some brackets already found in the higher classifications.

For example, five weight classes across the 5A and 6A regional tournaments had four or fewer wrestlers entered last season. Smaller brackets already exist in other classifications and have not prevented those classifications from conducting regional tournaments.

It's also worth considering that last year's numbers may not tell the whole story. If 1A–2A and 3A competed in separate regional tournaments, coaches would likely adjust their lineups to take advantage of opportunities in less populated weight classes. That could allow more wrestlers to participate and result in more balanced brackets than the current numbers suggest.

Wt.	Region	1A–2A	1A–3A	1A–4A	3A	4A	5A	6A	7A	8A
100	West	8	17	23	9	6	13	7	6	6
100	East	5	10	16	5	6	6	7	10	9
107	West	7	15	24	8	9	14	10	10	8
107	East	6	9	17	3	8	8	12	11	9
114	West	9	15	23	6	8	14	9	10	7
114	East	7	14	21	7	7	11	13	13	10
120	West	6	14	22	8	8	15	8	10	8
120	East	7	13	24	6	11	11	15	9	12
126	West	9	16	21	7	5	16	7	11	10
126	East	5	10	18	5	8	9	15	10	8
132	West	8	14	23	6	9	14	10	8	9
132	East	6	10	21	4	11	11	11	12	10
138	West	10	14	22	4	8	12	7	9	8
138	East	4	7	14	3	7	8	9	10	7
145	West	5	8	16	3	8	16	6	6	7
145	East	4	9	15	5	6	8	12	8	7
152	West	9	15	21	6	6	8	4	6	7
152	East	3	8	14	5	6	6	9	9	9
165	West	5	12	18	7	6	11	4	8	7
165	East	5	12	17	7	5	6	11	9	10
185	West	9	13	18	4	5	9	4	8	7
185	East	3	6	13	3	7	5	7	9	6
235	West	6	8	13	2	5	11	3	5	6
235	East	3	11	17	8	6	4	8	10	7

Opportunity to Advance to the State Championships

The third table highlights another major difference between classifications: the percentage of wrestlers entered for regional competition who ultimately advance to the state tournament.

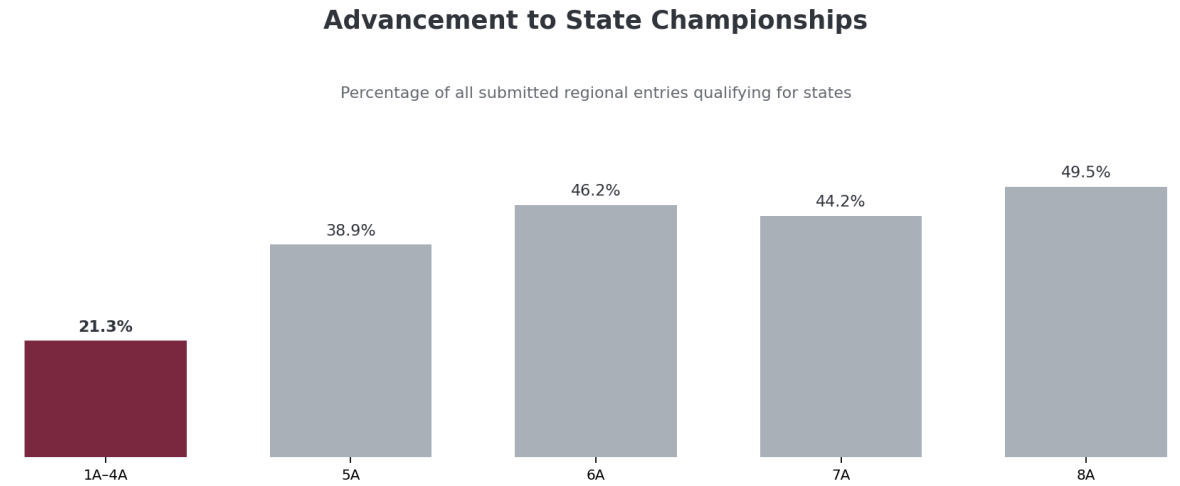
Last season, only 21.3% of the 451 wrestlers entered for 1A–4A regional competition advanced to the state championships. Compare that with 38.9% in 5A, 46.2% in 6A, 44.2% in 7A, and 49.5% in 8A.

To put it another way, nearly half of the wrestlers entered in 8A advanced to the state tournament, while fewer than one in four wrestlers entered into the 1A–4A regional had that opportunity.

Every classification received the same 96 state qualifying positions, despite the enormous differences in the number of wrestlers competing for those spots.

We understand that advancing to the state tournament should be difficult. That's part of what makes qualifying meaningful. But the opportunity to qualify should be reasonably comparable across classifications. Right now, it simply isn't.

Classification	Regional Entries	State Qualifiers	Advancement Rate
1A–4A	451	96	21.3%
5A	247	96	38.9%
6A	208	96	46.2%
7A	217	96	44.2%
8A	194	96	49.5%



Percent of all submitted regional entries that advanced to states, 2025–2026.

Participation and Team Representation

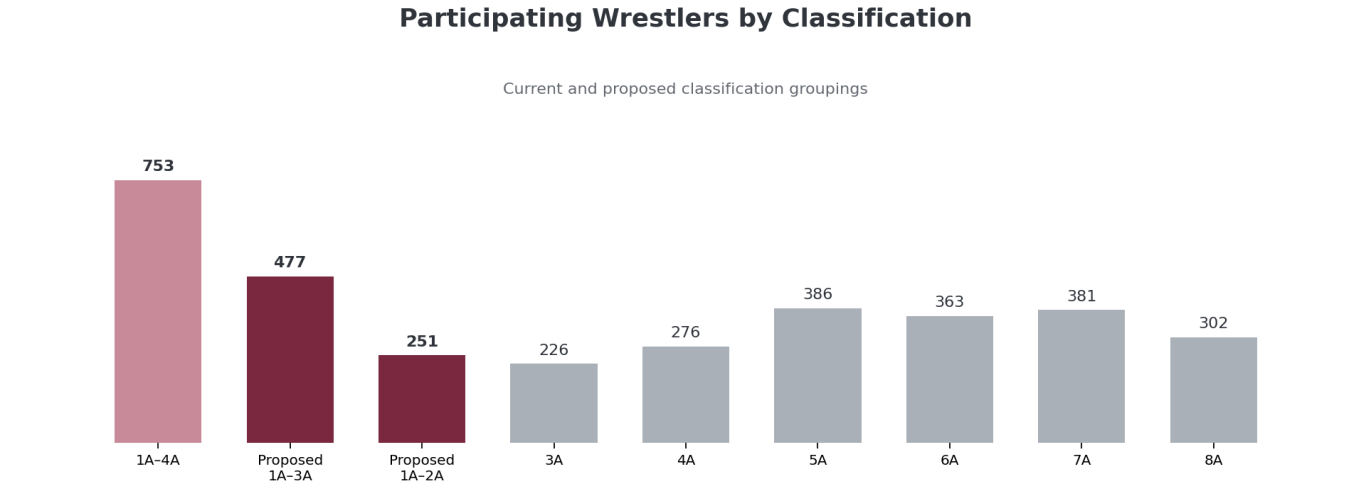
The final table looks at overall participation, including the number of wrestlers, the number of schools represented, and the number of teams with at least seven wrestlers.

These numbers are important because they show that realignment would not leave the smaller classifications without meaningful competition. A 1A–3A grouping would still be larger than any other individual classification, and separate 1A–2A, 3A, and 4A divisions would each have an established base of participating schools and wrestlers.

The current 1A–4A grouping brings together far more schools and wrestlers than any other classification. That difference is the major reason the opportunities to reach regional and state competition are so uneven.

Classification	Wrestlers	Teams	Teams with 7+
1A–2A	251	36	14
1A–3A	477	75	28

1A–4A	753	121	45
3A	226	39	14
4A	276	46	17
5A	386	54	20
6A	363	53	21
7A	381	53	22
8A	302	31	21



**Proposed classification grouping; all other groupings reflect current classifications.*

Recommendation

We believe the NCHSAA should take another look at the current 1A–4A alignment and consider changes that would provide more consistent opportunities for girls wrestling across all classifications.

A 1A–3A grouping would be a significant step in the right direction. Based on last year's numbers, it would reduce the number of wrestlers excluded from regional competition from 78 to just one. It would also remain the largest classification in both wrestlers and participating schools, so maintaining competitive regional tournaments would not be a concern.

Separating 1A–2A, 3A, and 4A would be an even better long-term solution. Based on last year's entries, a 1A–2A grouping would have eliminated rejected entries altogether. While some regional brackets, particularly in the East, would be smaller, there would still be competition in those weight classes. As coaches adjust their lineups to the new structure, participation would become more balanced.

Another benefit of separating these classifications is that it would align the girls' postseason structure with the boys'. This would make scheduling and coordinating postseason tournaments easier for schools that field both programs.

We recognize that no classification structure will produce perfectly equal numbers in every region or weight class. That isn't the expectation. But there should be a reasonable level of consistency in the opportunity for wrestlers to compete in the postseason.

When 78 wrestlers in one classification are turned away from regional competition while nearly every wrestler in the other classifications is accepted, it's difficult to argue that the current system provides equal opportunity.

The numbers show that there are workable alternatives. We believe the NCHSAA should give serious consideration to realigning the smaller classifications so that girls across North Carolina have a more equitable opportunity to compete, advance, and represent their schools in the postseason.

Attachment S19
Sports Committee

Six-Quarter Option - Lacrosse

Submitted by: Dominic Koplar - NC Lacrosse Coaches Association (NCLCA)

Request:

NCHSAA Board Action (The Board is requested to take formal action on the matter.)

Consideration:

That the NCHSAA adopt a six-quarter rule for lacrosse which would allow student-athletes to participate in up to six quarters in a single day (with an overall limit of 16 quarters per week). Akin to the adoption of the five-quarter rule in basketball, this change would provide coaches greater flexibility in managing varsity and JV rosters with the intent to increase the overall number of JV programs statewide. Having seen a 10% reduction in Varsity programs across the state and an even deeper cut in JV programs over the last 3 years, lacrosse in NC is at an inflection point and in need of the Board's support to help restore and grow the game.

Specific Request:

Current NCHSAA Rule, Policy, Regulation, or Handbook Provision

Basis:

Current NCHSAA Rule, Policy, Regulation, or Handbook Provision

Current Language / Proposed Language:

4.8.1(f)(2) "...limited to no more than one game per day"

"...limited to six-quarters per day and a maximum of sixteen quarters per week."

Effective Date: Immediately upon approval, if permitted

Rationale:

Intended to address shrinking JV rosters and teams (in addition to decline in Varsity programs). By allowing some players to contribute to both the JV and V game, it creates roster agility for mid-sized programs (28-40 players, which is where many programs throughout the state currently are). For the student-athlete, it creates an opportunity to get in-game experience at either level of play.

The NCHSAA adopted a similar pilot proposal (and then ultimately decided it was worth permanently codifying) for basketball due to similar circumstances.

Educational Impact: There would be minimal education impact on programs or players.

Student Safety Impact: The proposed rule would create the potential for increased physical demands on student-athletes by allowing participation in up to six quarters in a single day and 16 quarters per week. Lacrosse is a contact sport, although the nature and frequency of contact differ considerably from a sport such as football. The NCLCA recognizes that additional playing time must be balanced with appropriate attention to fatigue, recovery, injury prevention, and overall student-athlete well-being. Coaches, athletic trainers, players, and athletic directors must make athlete health and safety a priority when determining individual participation, with the understanding that the six-quarter limit represents a maximum allowance, not an expectation that players should participate in every available quarter. Ultimately, responsible roster management, open communication, and sound coaching judgment will be essential to implementing this rule without compromising student-athlete safety.

Equity Impact: The proposed rule would create the potential for increased physical demands on student-athletes by allowing participation in up to six quarters in a single day and 16 quarters per week. Lacrosse is a contact sport, although the nature and frequency of contact differ considerably from a sport such as football. The NCLCA recognizes that additional playing time must be balanced with appropriate attention to fatigue, recovery, injury prevention, and overall student-athlete well-being. Coaches, athletic trainers, players, and athletic directors must make athlete health and safety a priority when determining individual participation, with the understanding that the six-quarter limit represents a maximum allowance, not an expectation that players should participate in every available quarter. Ultimately, responsible roster management, open communication, and sound coaching judgment will be essential to implementing this rule without compromising student-athlete safety.

Financial Impact: Programs adopting JV games would incur a financial burden of paying officials for said games; otherwise, there the burden is minimal as infrastructure, etc already exists.

Operational and Administrative Impact: Potential for scheduling more JV games and subsequent use of faciltiies.

Legal or Compliance Considerations: None.

Attachment

Attachment S20a

2027-2028 SPORTS CALENDAR

FALL 2027	
First Practice	**Aug. 2**
First Contest	**Aug. 11**
WOMEN'S GOLF	
Reporting Deadline	Oct. 13 @ 9:00 P.M.
Regional	Oct. 18 - 19
State	Oct. 25 - 26

VOLLEYBALL	
Seeding	Oct. 14
1st Round	Oct. 16
2nd Round	Oct. 19
3rd Round	Oct. 21
4th Round	Oct. 23
Regional	Oct. 26
State	Oct. 29 - 30

WOMEN'S TENNIS	
Individual	
Pre-Regionals	Oct. 4
Reporting Deadline	Oct. 11 @ 3:00 P.M.
Regional	Oct. 15 - 16
State	Oct. 22 - 23
Dual Team	
Seeding	Oct. 8
1st Round	Oct. 11
2nd Round	Oct. 14
3rd Round	Oct. 18
4th Round	Oct. 20
Regional	Oct. 26
State	Oct. 29 - 30

CROSS COUNTRY	
Reporting Deadline	Oct. 23 @ 11:59 P.M.
Regional	Oct. 29 - 30
State	Nov. 5 - 6

FLAG FOOTBALL	
Seeding	Oct. 27
1st/2nd Round	Nov. 1
3rd/4th round	Nov. 6
Regionals	Nov. 10
State	Nov. 13

MEN'S SOCCER	
Seeding	Oct. 28
1st Round	Nov.1
2nd Round	Nov.4
3rd Round	Nov. 8
4th Round	Nov. 11
Regional	Nov. 16
State	Nov. 18 - 20

CHEERLEADING	
Invitational	Dec. 4

FOOTBALL	
First Practice	Aug. 2
First Scrimmage	Aug. 11
Week 1	Aug. 20
Week 2	Aug. 27
Week 3	Sept. 3
Week 4	Sept. 10
Week 5	Sept. 17
Week 6	Sept. 24
Week 7	Oct. 1
Week 8	Oct. 8
Week 9	Oct. 15
Week 10	Oct. 22
Week 11	Oct. 29
FOOTBALL PLAYOFFS	
Seeding	Oct. 30
1st Round	Nov. 5
2nd Round	Nov. 12
3rd Round	Nov. 19
4th Round	Nov. 26
Regionals	Dec. 3
State	Dec. 9 - 11

WINTER 2027 - 2028	
First Practice (Indoor Track,	**Nov. 1**
First Contest (Indoor Track, Swimming & Diving, BBK Wrestling)	**Nov. 10**
INDOOR TRACK	
Reporting Deadline	Feb. 3; @ 9:00 pm
State	Feb. 8 - 11

SWIMMING & DIVING	
Reporting Deadline	Jan. 22 @ 11:59 pm
Regionals	Jan. 27 - 29
State	Feb. 2 - 5

WRESTLING	
Men's Dual Team	
Seeding	Jan. 27
1st/2nd	Jan. 29
3rd/Regionals	Feb. 2
State Championship	Feb. 4 -5
Individual	
Men's/Women's Reporting Deadline	Jan 28; 3pm
Women's/Men's Regionals	Feb. 11 - 12
Men's/Women's State	Fe. 17 - 19

BASKETBALL	
First Practice	Nov. 1
First Practice (Non-FB)	Oct. 18
First Contest	Nov. 10
First Contest (Non-FB)	oct. 27
Seeding	Feb. 19
1st Round	Feb. 22
2nd Round	Feb. 24
3rd Round	Feb. 26
4th Round	Feb. 28
Regionals	Mar. 1- 4
State	Mar. 8 - 11

SCHOOL YEAR DEAD PERIODS
August 2 - August 22, 2027
November 1 - November 21, 2027
February 14 - March 5, 2028
Last 5 Student Days of the 1st Semester
Last 10 Student days of the 2nd Semester

SUMMER DEAD PERIODS 2028	
July 3 - July 9, 2028	Week of July 4th
July 17 - July 23, 2028	Week of NCCA

SPRING 2028	
First Practice	**Feb. 14**
First Contest	**Feb. 23**

MEN'S GOLF	
Reporting Deadline	May 3 @ 9:00 P.M.
Regional	May 8 - 9
State	May 15 - 16

MEN' S TENNIS	
Individual	
Pre-Regionals	Apr. 24
Reporting Deadline	May 1 @ 3:00 P.M.
Regionals	May 5 - 6
State	May 12 - 13
Dual Team	
Seeding	Apr. 28
1st Round	May 1
2nd Round	May 3
3rd Round	May 8
4th Round	May10
Regional	May 16
State	May 19 - 20

OUTDOOR TRACK	
Reporting Deadline	May 6 @ 9:00 P.M.
Regionals	May 12 - 13
State	May 17 - 20

MEN'S VOLLEYBALL	
Seeding	May 11
1st Round	May 13
2nd Round	May 16
3rd Round	May 18
4th Round	May 20
Regional	May 23
State	May 27

LACROSSE	
Seeding	May 12
1st Round	May 16
2nd Round	May 19
3rd Round	May 23
4th Round	May 26
Regionals	May 31
State	June 2- 3

WOMEN'S SOCCER	
Seeding	May 11
1st Round	May 15
2nd Round	May 18
3rd Round	May 22
4th Round	May 25
Regional	May 30
State	June 1-3

SOFTBALL	
Seeding	May 8
1st Round	May 9
2nd Round	May 12
3rd Round	May 16
4th Round	May 19
Regional	May 22-27
State	May 31 - June 3

BASEBALL	
Seeding	May 8
1st Round	May 9
2nd Round	May 12
3rd Round	May 16
4th Round	May 19
Regional	May 22-27
State	May 31 - June 3

Attachment S20b

2027-2028 SPORTS CALENDAR

FALL 2027	
First Practice	**Aug. 2**
First Contest	**Aug. 11**
WOMEN'S GOLF	
Reporting Deadline	Oct. 12 @ 9:00 p.m.
Regional	Oct. 18 - 19
State	Oct. 25 - 26

VOLLEYBALL	
Seeding	Oct. 14
1st Round	Oct. 16
2nd Round	Oct. 19
3rd Round	Oct. 21
4th Round	Oct. 23
Regional	Oct. 26
State	Oct. 29 - 30
WOMEN'S TENNIS	
Individual	
Pre-Regionals	Oct. 4
Reporting Deadline	Oct. 11 @ 3:00 P.M.
Regional	Oct. 15 - 16
State	Oct. 22 - 23
Dual Team	
Seeding	Oct. 8
1st Round	Oct. 11
2nd Round	Oct. 14
3rd Round	Oct. 18
4th Round	Oct. 20
Regional	Oct. 26
State	Oct. 29 - 30

CROSS COUNTRY	
Reporting Deadline	Oct. 23 @ 11:59 P.M.
Regional	Oct. 29 - 30
State	Nov. 5 - 6
FLAG FOOTBALL	
Seeding	Oct. 20
1st/2nd Round	Oct. 23
3rd/4th round	Oct. 30
Regionals	Nov. 3
State	Nov. 6

MEN'S SOCCER	
Seeding	Oct. 28
1st Round	Nov.1
2nd Round	Nov.4
3rd Round	Nov. 8
4th Round	Nov. 11
Regional	Nov. 16
State	Nov. 18 - 20

CHEERLEADING	
Invitational	Dec. 4

FOOTBALL	
First Practice	Aug. 2
First Scrimmage	Aug. 11
Week 1	Aug. 20
Week 2	Aug. 27
Week 3	Sept. 3
Week 4	Sept. 10
Week 5	Sept. 17
Week 6	Sept. 24
Week 7	Oct. 1
Week 8	Oct. 8
Week 9	Oct. 15
Week 10	Oct. 22
Week 11	Oct. 29
FOOTBALL PLAYOFFS	
Seeding	Oct. 30
1st Round	Nov. 5
2nd Round	Nov. 12
3rd Round	Nov. 19
4th Round	Nov. 26
Regionals	Dec. 3
State	Dec. 9 - 11

WINTER 2027 - 2028	
First Practice (Indoor Track,	**Nov. 1**
First Contest (Indoor Track, Swimming & Diving, Wrestling)	**Nov. 10**
INDOOR TRACK	
Reporting Deadline	Feb. 3; @ 9:00 pm
State	Feb. 8 - 11

SWIMMING & DIVING	
Reporting Deadline	Jan. 22 @ 11:59 pm
Regionals	Jan. 27 - 29
State	Feb. 2 - 5

WRESTLING	
Men's Dual Team	
Seeding	Jan. 27
1st/2nd	Jan. 29
3rd/Regionals	Feb. 2
State Championship	Feb. 4 -5
Individual	
Men's/Women's Reporting Deadline	Jan 28; 3pm
Women's/Men's Regionals	Feb. 11 - 12
Men's/Women's State	Fe. 17 - 19

BASKETBALL	
First Practice	Nov. 1
First Practice (Non-FB)	Oct. 18
First Contest	Nov. 10
First Contest (Non-FB)	Oct. 27
Seeding	Feb. 19
1st Round	Feb. 22
2nd Round	Feb. 24
3rd Round	Feb. 26
4th Round	Feb. 28
Regionals	Mar. 1- 4
State	Mar. 8 - 11

SCHOOL YEAR DEAD PERIODS
August 2 - August 22, 2027
November 1 - November 21, 2027
February 14 - March 5, 2028
Last 5 Student Days of the 1st
Last 10 Student days of the 2nd

SUMMER DEAD PERIODS 2028	
July 3 - July 9, 2028	Week of July 4th
July 17 - July 23, 2028	Week of NCCA

SPRING 2028	
First Practice	**Feb. 14**
First Contest	**Feb. 23**
MEN'S GOLF	
Reporting Deadline	May 2 @ 9:00 P.M.
Regional	May 8 - 9
State	May 15 - 16

MEN' S TENNIS	
Individual	
Pre-Regionals	Apr. 24
Reporting Deadline	May 1 @ 3:00 P.M.
Regionals	May 5 - 6
State	May 12 - 13
Dual Team	
Seeding	Apr. 28
1st Round	May 1
2nd Round	May 3
3rd Round	May 8
4th Round	May10
Regional	May 16
State	May 19 - 20
OUTDOOR TRACK	
Reporting Deadline	May 6 @ 9:00 P.M.
Regionals	May 12 - 13
State	May 17 - 20
MEN'S VOLLEYBALL	
Seeding	May 4
1st Round	May 6
2nd Round	May 9
3rd Round	May 11
4th Round	May 13
Regional	May 16
State	May 20
LACROSSE	
Seeding	May 12
1st Round	May 16
2nd Round	May 19
3rd Round	May 23
4th Round	May 26
Regionals	May 31
State	June 2- 3

WOMEN'S SOCCER	
Seeding	May 11
1st Round	May 15
2nd Round	May 18
3rd Round	May 22
4th Round	May 25
Regional	May 30
State	June 1-3

SOFTBALL	
Seeding	May 8
1st Round	May 9
2nd Round	May 12
3rd Round	May 16
4th Round	May 19
Regional	May 22-27
State	May 31 - June 3

BASEBALL	
Seeding	May 8
1st Round	May 9
2nd Round	May 12
3rd Round	May 16
4th Round	May 19
Regional	May 22-27
State	May 31 - June 3