

**SECTION XI**  
**NEW YORK STATE PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION**  
1 Independence Hill, Suite 201  
Farmingville, NY 11738

THOMAS COMBS  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

PETE BLIEBERG  
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

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**CONFERENCE/COUNCIL AGENDA**  
**January, 2024**

**I. NOTICES**

Meetings & Significant Dates

Jan.	5	DEADLINE for Spring Schedule Corrections, V/JV/JV2 Levels
Jan.	8	Executive Board, 4 PM, Section XI Office
Jan.	9	Conference IV, 9 AM, Section XI Office
Jan.	10	Conference II, 9 AM, Section XI Office
Jan.	11	Conference III, 9 AM, Section XI Office
Jan.	12	Conference I, 9 AM, Section XI Office
Jan.	16	Wrestling Seeding, 10 am, Section XI Office
Jan.	16	First Practice – All Modified Late Winter Sports
Jan.	16-19	Coaches' Mtgs. – Modified Late Winter Sports and Girls' Golf, 7:30 pm
Jan.	17	Athletic Council - 9 AM, Section XI Office
Jan.	20	CONSIDERED "NEXT AVAILABLE DATE" and every Saturday thereafter
Jan.	25	Athletic Directors - 9 am, Section XI Office
Jan 31- Feb 1		NYSPHSAA Executive Committee, Saratoga
Feb.	5	Modified Committee – 9 AM, Section XI Office
Feb.	5	Policy Committee – 10 AM, Section XI Office
Feb.	6	Tournament Committee – 9 AM, Section XI Office
Feb.	6	Sportsmanship Committee – 10 AM, Section XI Office
Feb.	7	Placement Committee – 9 AM, Section XI Office
Feb.	7	Safety Committee - 11 AM, Section XI Office
Feb.	14	DEADLINE for spring Eligibility data
Feb.	15	Athletic Directors - 9 am, Section XI Office
Feb.	16	Basketball Seeding, 11 AM, Section XI Office
Feb.	28	Eligibility Committee - 9 AM, Section XI Office
Feb.	28	Executive Board – 4 PM, Section XI Office
Mar.	1	DEADLINE for Modified Spring Schedule Corrections
Mar.	4-8	Coaches' Mtgs. -all V/JV/JV9 Spring Sports, except S Track and G Golf, 7:30 PM
Mar.	5	Conference IV – 9 AM, Section XI Office
Mar.	6	Conference III – 9 AM, Section XI Office
Mar.	7	Conference I – 9 AM, Section XI Office
Mar.	8	Conference II – 9 AM, Section XI Office

**II. NYSPHSAA DISCUSSION ITEMS****Modified Committee**

(D) Consider approval of removing language regarding one-arm swings in Boys Lacrosse.

(D) Consider approval of removing language prohibiting metal cleats in Softball.

(D) Consider approval of Cathleen Dnyprowsy as Modified Volleyball Coordinator.

**Safety Committee**

(D) Consider approval to add the use of My Lightning Tracker App to the NYSPHSAA Thunder & Lightning Policy.

(D) Consider approval to waive the NYSPHSAA Representation Rule to allow Unified Athletes to compete in two seasons in the same sport.

**Fall Sports**

(D) Consider approval to revise the state tournament format to include all sections in the state tournament and increase the length of competition to two days.

**Winter Sports**

(D) Consider approval to add a second division for the 4 x 200, 4 x 400 and 4 x 800 relays at the State Championships (does not include intersectional relay).

**Spring Sports**

(D) Consider approval to permit Boys Lacrosse to request an experiment for a shot clock to the NFHS.

(D) Consider approval of establishing a third (3rd) Class in Outdoor Track & Field.

(D) Consider approval to adopt the NFHS suggested speed up rule permitting courtesy runners as written in the NFHS rule book.

(D) Consider approval adding the following language to the NYSPHSAA Flag Football Rules regarding the flag belts.

1. The "pop" type flag belts will be used by all schools.

2. All flag belts will have a minimum of two flags on the belt.

(D) Consider approval of the 2024 Flag Football Classification Cut-Off Numbers.

(D) Consider approval of the 2024 Flag Football Regional Assignments/Rotations.

**III. SECTION ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS****A. Conference Presidents**

1. Update Section XI Conference and Organization Representatives for 2024-25.

Elwood moved from III to IV and SWR moved from IV to III. (See attached Basic Conference placement for 2024-25)

**B. Modified**– The Modified Committee met on December 4, 2024, at 9 am, in the Section XI office. In attendance: Co-Chair: K. Masterson, D. Ferry; Conference I: G. Beutel, B. Sacks; Conference II: J. Mercado, D. Fontana; Conference III: B. Denniston, R. Franco; Conference IV: M. DeJoseph. Also in attendance: P. Blieberg, T. Combs. (abs M. Reda)

**Discussion Items:**

1. Tennis - recommended that middle school tennis scoring be the same as varsity.

After conferring with Mark Mench (Sports Chair) they should be following what the High School Does - 3 singles / 4 doubles

2. Basketball - implementation for the modified zone defense in 24/25.

3. Softball

a. Walk Run

b. Run Rule

c. 10 batters per inning

- C. **Policy** - The Policy Committee met on Dec 4, 2023 at 10 am, in the Section XI office. In attendance: Chair: R. Cox; Conference I: K. Finnerty, A. Amesti; Conference II: J. Friesen, J. Mercado; Conference III: B. Denniston, R. Franco; Conference IV: G. Wormuth. As in attendance: T. Combs and P. Blieberg. (Absent S. Flanagan).
- D. **Tournament** - The Tournament Committee met on December 5, 2023, at 9 am in the Section XI office. In attendance: Chair: D. Butler; Conference I: P. Friel, C. Agostino; Conference II; J. Lambert, J. Mercado; Conference III: B. Denniston, J. Sparacio; Conference IV: D. Phillips, A. Sherrard. Also in attendance: P. Blieberg, T. Combs.
1. **Wrestling**

The wrestling coaches have asked that we wrestle back from the quarterfinals in the league tournament instead of the semifinals. Placement would remain the top four per weight class. It would add approximately 1 hour and 30 minutes to each tournament as you would have an additional 52 total matches 4 per weight class. The rationale is it is unfair for those that draw a top seed in the quarterfinals that more likely than not will not make the Section XI individual championship as only the top four advance.
  2. **Bowling**
    - a. Allowing bowlers to compete in both the team state bowling championship and the composite event (All-Star event). Currently if an athlete qualifies with his/her team, they are not allowed to compete in the composite event. If approved this will allow them to compete in both events.
    - b. Pacer Team in State Championships.
  3. **Swimming**
    - a. 12 place scoring because we now use a 6-lane pool. This is according to NFHS rules.
    - b. Scoring of Independent Swimmers  
Coaches in Section XI would like to eliminate Independent Swimmers from scoring points in the Section XI Championship.
  4. **Cross Country Qualifying Procedure** - Due to the number of cancelled Invitationals at Sunken Meadow this fall and our reliance on utilizing a 5-person average to qualify for the state qualifier meet, the following is now proposed:
    - a. Class A  
The top 2 teams from each league auto-qualify (8 teams)  
Teams that do not auto-quality can still get in as an "at large" based on Division Meet results. 5 teams can qualify by having the fastest 5 person averages from Class A that did not qualify based on their league standings. As a catch all, any team that meets the 5-person average standard from the past: 19:30 boys/23:15 from girls will gain entry to the state qualifier meet.

- b. Class B
  - The top 2 teams from each league auto-qualify (6 teams)
  - Teams that do not auto-quality can still get in as an "at large" based on Division Meet results. 2 teams can qualify by having the fastest 5 person averages from Class B that did not qualify based on their league standings. As a catch all, any team that meets the 5-person average standard from the past: 19:30 boys/23:15 from girls will gain entry to the state qualifier meet.
- c. Class C/D
  - All teams eligible, no change
- d. Individual Qualifying
  - Boys Individual must have run 18:30 or better on the Sunken Meadow 5K course in any race up to and including Divisions.
  - Girls Individual must have run 22:30 or better on the Sunken Meadow 5K course in any race up to and including Divisions.

E. **Sportsmanship** – The Sportsmanship Committee met on December 5, 2023 at 10 am in the Section XI office. In attendance: Chair J. Thode; Conference I: A. Smith, C. Agostino; Conference II: J. Lambert, D. Fontana; Conference III: S. Davis, J. Rufa; Conference IV: D. Phillips. Also in attendance: T. Combs, P. Blieberg. (Absent S. Flanagan).

- 1. Review of Fall Season
- 2. Lopsided Suggestions
- 3. Student Leadership conference

F. **Safety** – The Safety committee met on December 6, 2023 at 11 am in the Section XI office. In attendance: M. Mensch, K. Finnerty, G. Beutel, D. Ferry, B. Bennett, B. Denniston, R. Petrie, J. Thode, D. Shanahan, M. Mensch, P. White, via zoom, J. Paci, A. Rizzi. Also in attendance: T. Combs, P. Blieberg. (Absent A. Donatelli, P. Schrank, P. Underwood and T. Mullins)

Winter

- 1. State championship Medical Concerns

Spring

- 1. Athletic Training Promotion and Recruitment (March Athletic Training Month)

G. **Finance**

The Committee met on Thursday December 7, 2023 at 4:00 pm at the Section XI Office. In attendance were:

Lance Lohman	Abs	Don Murphy	Abs
Gary Beutel	X	Kathy Masterson	X
Robert Hauser	X	Deb Ferry	X
Francisco Herrera	Abs	Dennis O'Hara	Abs
Chris Agostino	X	Pete Pramantaris	X
Roberta Gerold	X	Timothy Hearney	X
Matt DeVincenzo	X	Jeremy Thode	X
Steve Restivo	Abs	Todd Gulluscio	Abs
Tim Horan	X	Anthony Mauro	X
Chrisopher Hender	Abs	Mike DeJoseph	Abs

Also in Attendance:

- A. Groveman, Chairman
- T. Combs, Executive Director
- P. Blieberg, Assistant Director
- S. Leister, Treasurer
- M. Leone, Cullen & Danowski, LLP

1. The meeting was called to order at 4:02 pm by Committee Chairman Alan Groveman.
2. Alan Groveman reviewed the role of the Finance Committee.
3. Executive Director Tom Combs presented to the Committee the services provided by Section XI.
4. Kevin O'Reilly presented the status of the sponsorship program.
5. Mike Leone, auditor, reviewed our financial status in a positive manner.
6. Alan Groveman reviewed the proposed 2024-25 budget including
  - a. Dues and Service charges increase of 3%.
  - b. Officials' fees – increase of 6%.
7. The Committee unanimously approved the 2024-25 budget.
8. Meeting was adjourned at 5:03 pm.

<b>Expenditures</b>	<b>2024-25 Proposed</b>	<b>2023-24 Adopted</b>	<b>2022-23 Actual</b>
General Services	\$1,534,825	\$1,541,630	\$1,453,584
Sport Expenses	690,500	600,500	717,829
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,225,325</b>	<b>\$2,142,130</b>	<b>\$2,171,413</b>
<b>Revenues</b>			
Dues & Service Charges (1)	1,188,825	\$ 1,179,425	\$ 1,112,574
Sport Receipts	650,000	483,205	589,493
Interest	2,500	2,000	33,080
Self-Sustaining	175,000	160,000	166,804
Other Income	204,000	315,500	230,546
Officials Penalties & Fees	5,000	2,000	1,426
Appropriated From Fund Balance	0	0	37,489
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,225,325</b>	<b>\$2,142,130</b>	<b>\$2,171,412</b>

<b>General Services</b>	<b>2024-25 Proposed</b>	<b>2023-24 Adopted</b>	<b>2022-23 Actual</b>
Payroll & Benefits	\$908,381	\$887,930	\$827,505
Professional Services	90,500	100,000	72,970
Meetings & Staff Travel	25,000	20,000	19,883
Sport Chair	70,000	90,000	67,267
Insurance	55,000	35,000	54,401
Postage	3,500	15,000	2,824
Telephone	7,500	12,000	7,269
Printing	10,000	8,500	9,186
Rent, Maint. & Lipa	70,000	70,000	65,920
Interest Expense	-	-	3,036
New Facility- Moving Costs	-	-	-
Leased Equipment	12,500	13,000	11,415
Purchased Equipment	5,000	10,000	-

Office Supplies	10,000	15,000	9,410
Computer Services	62,000	90,000	60,909
Misc Expenses	5,444	6,000	1,736
Self-Sustaining	175,000	160,000	166,802
Depreciation	25,000	8,000	27,326
Bad Debt Expense	-	-	44,975
Dasa	-	1,200	749
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,534,825</b>	<b>\$1,541,630</b>	<b>\$1,453,584</b>

<b>Sports Receipts</b>	<b>2024-25 Proposed</b>	<b>2023-24 Adopted</b>	<b>2022-2023 Actual</b>
<b>Individual Sports</b>			
Bowling - Boys & Girls	3,500	3,000	3,148
Fencing - Boys & Girls	2,000	1,000	1,667
Gymnastics - Girls	2,500	2,500	1,945
Swimming - Boys	5,000	2,400	4,196
Swimming - Girls	4,500	3,000	3,770
Track - Boys & Girls	12,500	8,500	9,294
Winter Track - Boys & Girls	6,000	5,000	5,334
Wrestling - Boys & Girls	55,000	60,000	47,021
<b>Team Sports</b>			
Baseball	25,000	10,000	24,753
Softball	8,000	10,000	5,354
Basketball - Boys	125,000	80,000	120,251
Basketball - Girls	45,000	40,000	41,374
Field Hockey	10,000	15,000	5,664
Football	140,000	120,805	137,323
Lacrosse - Boys	61,000	20,000	63,351
Lacrosse - Girls	25,000	25,000	22,675
Soccer - Boys	35,000	25,000	25,266
Soccer - Girls	20,000	15,000	13,276
Volleyball - Boys	15,000	6,000	10,303
Volleyball - Girls	25,000	20,000	30,711
Cheerleading	10,000	6,000	9,641
Game Day Cheer	10,000	-	-
Unified Basketball	-	5,000	-
Girls Flag Football	5,000	-	3,176
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$650,000</b>	<b>\$483,205</b>	<b>\$589,493</b>

Regionals Incorporated Into Team Sports

**DUES AND SERVICE CHARGES**

2024-25

**I. Membership Dues**

- A. High School \$2278.00
- B. Junior High/Middle School \$1645.00

**II. Service Charges**

- A. Each Varsity team \$309.00
- B. Each JV/JV9 team \$227.00
- C. Each Junior High/Middle School team \$227.00
- D. Individual Competitors (one or more) \$309.00

**Payments**

**A. Dues and Service Charges**

Annual dues and service charges are due September 1st. Schools not having paid these fees by October 15th will not be considered members. Teams and athletes representing these schools will not be eligible for Section XI competition (regular season and Section/State Tournaments).

Any school which is unable to commit district funds for the athletic program but complies with the Section XI Austerity Policy by notifying of its intent to compete by the prescribed deadline will be fully liable for payment of dues and fall season team service charges by the October 15th deadline. The deadlines for winter and spring season team service charges respectively are December 30th and April 15th.

**B. Officials Fees**

Officials fees as estimated for each district by Section XI will be billed in two equal amounts. Payments are due by October 15th and February 1st of each school year.

**BASIC CONFERENCE PLACEMENT  
2024-25**

<b>CONFERENCE I (15)</b>		<b>CONFERENCE II (15)</b>	
Brentwood	4577	Newfield	1191
William Floyd	2285	North Babylon	1178
Longwood	2202	Northport	1140
Central Islip	1842	Smithtown East	1103
Patchogue-Medford	1770	Huntington	1098
Riverhead	1691	Half Hollow Hills East	1089
Walt Whitman	1523	Bellport	1037
Sachem East	1506	Centereach	1032
Ward Melville	1445	Deer Park	980
Sachem North	1421	West Islip	908
Bay Shore	1415	West Babylon	891
Lindenhurst	1380	Smithtown West	885
Connetquot	1314	East Islip	863
Commack	1271	Comsewogue	836
Copiague	1194	Eastport-S Manor	786
<b>CONFERENCE III (15)</b>		<b>CONFERENCE IV (16)</b>	
* Half Hollow Hills West	762	Elwood-J Glenn	486 *
Hauppauge	761	Bayport Blue Point	482
Harborfields	756	Southampton	438
Amityville	746	Center Moriches	402
East Hampton	744	Babylon	332
Westhampton	725	Mattituck	282
Wyandanch	707	Port Jefferson	245
Rocky Point	704	Pierson	240
Islip	654	Greenport	206
Kings Park	632	Southold	203
Sayville	615	Ross	127
Miller Place	600	Riverhead Charter	90
Hampton Bays	552	Smithtown Christian	71
Mount Sinai	543	Bridgehampton	54
Shoreham-Wading River	491	Shelter Island	44
		Our Savior New America	25

Enrollment figures reflect the total number of students in grades 9, 10 and average of 9/10 as of SIRS (Student Information Reporting System) data reports and calculated using NYSPHSAA formula.