

**Section One, Inc.**  
Center for Interscholastic Athletics



**Section One Operational Standards**

**Overview:** The rules governing play, eligibility, and participation shall be those outlined by the NYSPPHSAA Handbook. Specific Sport Standards are subject to change based upon the rules of the Association governing the game. The National Federation (NFHS) or other such rules which govern a sport shall prevail.

1. Athlete Eligibility - JV to varsity, varsity to JV: Follow NYSPPHSAA standard *regarding no* restriction on movement between levels (Freshman, JV, and Varsity) but cannot exceed maximum number of contests and must follow nights rest. *(adopted 09/2020)*
  - Based on their ability and with Conference approval, seniors are eligible to compete and participate at the JV/Novice levels in team/individual and individual sports as defined by NYSPPHSAA. *(adopted 09/2020)*
2. Yellow card policy: In the event that a player or coach receives two yellow cards in the same game resulting in a red card, the two yellow cards will not count towards the season total since the player/coach receives a 1 game suspension. *Section 1 has a more restrictive accumulation policy.*
3. Athletes are prohibited from using eye black/face paint in any way other than the traditional use of a single line of eye black (one single bar under each eye.)
4. It is recommend that the basketball shot clock be operated by an adult.
5. Baseball coaches are not required to be in uniform.
6. An ejected athlete may attend the next game and sit on the bench but may not be in uniform.
  - A forfeited game does not fulfil the prescribed penalty of a game suspension.
  - Schools can be more restrictive and withhold an athlete from attending the game.
  - The penalty must be served during the next regularly scheduled game.

7. A student may participate in only one sport during a season, including FALL cheerleading.
  - Students (partners) who participate in Unified Sports are eligible to participate in an interscholastic team during the same season. Participation in the Unified Sports program does not conclude that participation in both the Unified Sports and interscholastic team during the same season would violate the intent of a student participating in two interscholastic teams in the same season. *(Adopted 04/2019)*
8. In case of postponement, contests should be re-scheduled on the next day if possible. If not, the first open date for both schools must be used for the make-up. Some schools may play on Sundays if feasible, and should be done with mutual agreement. LEAGUE games take precedence over non-league games.
9. Site determination for all home contests is determined by the hostschool.
10. All attempts should be made to avoid forfeiture of a contest. However, in the event of this occurrence, it will count in the final league standings.
11. Only Varsity Championships are recognized.
12. League Championships will be determined by the team with the most amount of League wins.
  - If identical records exist there will be Co-League Champions. Individual leagues can vote on league championship format (i.e., double round, single round, etc.)
  - If a **double round** is selected and a team asks for the schedule to be adjusted for competitive reasons they forfeit their right to a league title and post season awards.
  - If the league selects a **single round** then the first contest counts towards the league championship and no rights are forfeited.
  - In sports with ties, if teams are tied in wins, the league championship will then be determined by the teams that have fewest losses.
13. It is recommended for all field sports (except football) that, whenever possible, both teams should be on the same side opposite the spectator area.

For VARSITY ONLY - It is recommended that if a contest which is cancelled due to unplayable conditions cannot be rescheduled at the home site or a neutral site prior to the Sectional Seeding Meeting, then the contest should be played at the site of the "visiting" school.

**Game rescheduling protocol:**

- Regular Season: The next available day for both teams.
  - Post Season: *(all options must be exhausted)*
    - Home team hosts at their site
    - If unplayable, host needs to find an alternate site
    - If host cannot secure an alternate site but the "visiting" team can the game is to be played at the visitor's site but Home and Visitor team designation remains.
14. If a school drops a varsity team on/after the first day to play all league opponents will be granted a win and may not replace those games, however, all non-league opponents have the opportunity to replace the games or accept a forfeit.
    - Prior to the first day to play all teams can replace all games in the event a school drops their varsity team.
  15. It is recommended that the visiting team provide supervisors.
  16. Noisemakers of any kind are prohibited from all Section 1 activities.
  17. Spectators may not single out any athlete during a contest. This includes derogatory comments including the use of a player's name or uniform number.
  18. Spectator remarks that are deemed inappropriate must be addressed independently by school officials.
  19. Filming is prohibited from the bench and team designated areas.
  20. Signs that obstruct a view, are offensive in nature and/or deemed inappropriate by an Athletic Director or Site Coordinator are not permitted.
  21. The use of film is allowed for scouting purposes. No special arrangements will be made for filming when scouting. Scouting may be done only in the spectator area. No end zone scouting permitted.
  22. No one may scout any scrimmage in any sports, other than football. A scrimmage is a practice. Please refer to football standards for specific scouting guidelines.
  23. Forfeiture or no contest must be reported to the Section One office and

mutually agreed upon in writing by both member schools.

24. During a regular season/playoff football games, if you use an end zone camera, you must provide a copy of the film to your opponent after the game. See Section 1 Football Standards for additional details.
25. Ice Hockey - SEE ADDENDUM IN ICE HOCKEY BOOKLET.
26. Section One policy is more restrictive than NYSPHSAA and requires the school to remain at their BEDS classification as per the respective sport.
27. The standard starting time for regular season contests (other than football) played on school days shall be 4:30 P.M.; weekend games will be 11:00 A.M.
  - Where sports play back to back (i.e. basketball, volleyball, etc.) the host school determines the order of the games (i.e. varsity, JV).
  - Ice Hockey start times are subject to rink availability.

***In the event that a standard or ethics violation is willfully violated the school will be reported to the Section One office for further action by the Athletic Council.***