



## **NSAA Mission and Purpose**

***The public and non-public high schools of Nebraska voluntarily agreed to form the Nebraska School Activities Association for the following purposes:***

- **To formulate and make policies which will cultivate high ideals of citizenship, fair competition, sportsmanship and teamwork which will complement the member schools' curriculum programs.**
- **To foster uniformity of standards in interscholastic activity competition**
- **To organize, develop, direct and regulate an interscholastic activity program which is equitable and will protect and promote the health and physical welfare of all participants.**

***Who is the NSAA?***

### ***The Other Half of Education***

- The NSAA is a non-profit organization, comprised of 309 public and non-public member high schools in the State of Nebraska. Member schools voluntarily agree to conduct NSAA-sanctioned activities consistent with the rules established locally and the rules established collectively as members of the NSAA.
- The NSAA sanctions 24 sports and 5 performing arts activities and directs 28 State Championships for nearly 100,000 student-activity participants annually.
- The NSAA Constitution and Bylaws, Activity Manuals and policies form the governance structure of the organization. These regulations are approved and changed only by member schools and a member-elected Board of Directors through the legislative process initiated and driven by member schools. Unless otherwise noted, NSAA rules and regulations apply to current 9<sup>th</sup> thru 12<sup>th</sup> grade students.
- NSAA rules set baselines for participation such as: academic requirements; attendance requirements; transfer eligibility; sportsmanship.
- The primary functions of the NSAA Staff are to: assist member schools with compliance questions related to eligibility, transfers and playing rules; enforce the rules established by the member schools; and administer NSAA State Championship events.
- The NSAA honors and recognizes students, coaches and volunteers for their excellence and achievements through multiple awards programs.
- The NSAA annually registers officials and judges. Member schools are responsible for hiring officials and judges during the regular season.
- When parents, families, students, or community members have questions or concerns related to NSAA-sanctioned activities, those must be directed first to the administration of the member school.
- Staffing, playing time, and team rules are decisions made by the member school, not the NSAA. The NSAA has no authority to interfere with these member school decisions.

## **2024-25 NSAA Changes**

**The largest 65 schools registered for girls basketball will be in Classes A & B. The largest 65 schools registered for boys basketball will be in Classes A & B.**

**Classes C1, C2, D1 & D2 will utilize the shot clock in regular season and postseason play.**

**All head and assistant coaches are required to be CPR/AED certified once every two years.**

**Classes C1 & C2 Sub-District Assignments - Each class will be divided into 4 regions, based on geography. The westernmost region will consist of 1 sub-district of 5 or 6 teams. The other 3 regions will have 15-18 teams. Those 3 regions will then serpentine into 3 sub-districts of 4-6 teams, based on wildcard points. 10 sub-district winners + 6 wildcards qualify for district finals.**

**In Class C1 & C2, the higher seed will host district finals.**

**In Class A, schedules can accrue 22 points. Single game = 1 point. Tournament = 2 points.**

**7th and 8th grade team managers are allowed to participate in practice.**

This BASKETBALL MANUAL has been prepared and designed to provide general information for use in the administration of NSAA Basketball competition. It will serve as a guide to the participating schools and will provide for greater consistency between games. The regulations in this manual shall be considered official unless the schools are notified of a change. All coaches and athletic directors are urged to read the instructions in this manual thoroughly and save it for future reference.

Assistant Director, Jon Dolliver, is the NSAA staff member responsible for administering Basketball and is the contact person for schools with questions regarding this activity. He can be reached at (402) 489-0386 or [jdolliver@nsaahome.org](mailto:jdolliver@nsaahome.org) or Administrative Assistant, Alicia McCoy, [amccoy@nsaahome.org](mailto:amccoy@nsaahome.org).

### **Internet Information**

The Nebraska School Activities Association's home page on the Internet is: <http://www.nsaahome.org>.

The NSAA website includes a sub-page for each of the NSAA's sponsored activities. Administrators, coaches and others involved in this activity should familiarize themselves with this website and the school login page, as the NSAA uses it extensively to distribute information.

You are encouraged to check the NSAA home pages where your activity is involved. Here are some of the topics on this activity:

- Schedules
- Classifications
- Wild Card Averages
- District Assignments
- All-time Records
- State Championship Records
- State Championship Ticket Information
- Sub-district & District Pairings & Game Times
- District Results
- State Championship Seedings & Pairings, Maps & Information
- State Championship Results
- Nebraska Basketball History

### Key Dates

<b>Date of First Practice</b>	Monday	Week 20	Nov. 18, 2024
<b>Date of First Contest</b>	Thursday	Week 22	Dec. 5, 2024
<b>5-Day Competition/Practice Moratorium</b>	Sunday-Thursday	Week 25	Dec. 22-26, 2024
<b>District Entries Due:</b>			
<b>Girls</b>	Monday	Week 32	Feb. 10, 2025
<b>Boys</b>	Monday	Week 33	Feb. 17, 2025
<b>Girls C1, C2, D1, D2 Sub-Districts</b>	Monday-Thursday	Week 33	Feb. 17, 18, 20, 2025
<b>Girls B Sub-Districts</b>	Monday-Wednesday	Week 34	Feb. 24, 25, 26, 2025
<b>Boys C1, C2, D1, D2 Sub-Districts</b>	Monday-Thursday	Week 34	Feb. 24, 25, 27, 2025
<b>Boys B Sub-Districts</b>	Wednesday-Friday	Week 34	Feb. 26, 27, 28, 2025
<b>Girls A Districts</b>	Tuesday-Friday	Week 34	Feb. 25, 26, 27, 28, 2025
<b>Girls C1, C2, D1, D2 District Finals</b>	Friday	Week 34	Feb. 28, 2025
<b>Girls B District Finals</b>	Saturday	Week 34	Mar. 1, 2025
<b>Boys A Districts</b>	Friday-Tuesday	Weeks 34 & 35	Feb. 28, Mar. 1, 3, 4, 2025
<b>Boys C1, C2, D1, D2 District Finals</b>	Saturday-Tuesday	Weeks 34 & 35	Mar. 1, 3, 4, 2025
<b>Boys B District Finals</b>	Monday- Tuesday	Week 35	Mar. 3, 4, 2025

### Future Dates

<b>Year</b>	<b>First Practice</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>First Contest</b>	<b>Date</b>
2025-2026	Monday, Week 20	November 17	Thursday, Week 22	December 4
2026-2027	Monday, Week 20	November 16	Thursday, Week 22	December 3
2025	December Moratorium	December 24-28		
2026	December Moratorium	December 23-27		

### NSAA Bylaws and Approved Rulings Overview

For a complete listing of NSAA Bylaws and Approved Rulings, please refer to the [NSAA Constitution & Bylaws](#).

**Rules Meetings.** The NSAA presents rules meetings in order to inform and educate coaches, officials, and judges about NFHS playing rules and rules changes, NSAA guidelines and approved rulings, and to discuss health and safety issues related to activities participation. All head coaches are required to attend an NSAA Rules Meeting or complete an NSAA Rules Meeting online annually. Online rules meetings are initially offered at no cost to coaches or officials followed by a period with a \$50 “Late” Fee. Failure to complete the rules meeting will result in possible late fees and suspension penalties, as stated below. Additional sanctions and fees are applicable to those coaches who fail to complete the rules meeting by the expiration of the “Late” Fee period, as detailed in the [Constitution & Bylaws](#).

**2024-25 Basketball Online Rules Meeting Schedule**  
 October 28-November 20 – No Charge to Head Coaches  
 November 21-22 – Late/Penalty \$50 Fee – Head Coaches

## **Bylaws and Approved Rulings Governing Basketball**

All persons involved with basketball have the responsibility to know the NSAA Bylaws and Approved Rulings, which pertain to this activity.

### **APPROVED RULING 2.1.2 - Medical Personnel at Regular Season Games**

*It is important for every school to have an emergency action plan (EAP) for administrators, faculty, coaches and staff members to follow should emergencies occur. Due to lack of universal availability of medical coverage and other logistical reasons, NSAA does not require that schools have a physician, trainer or ambulance on-site at regular season activities.*

### **APPROVED RULING 2.12 – Required NFHS Courses for Coaches & CPR/AED Certification**

*All coaches, activity sponsors, and volunteers are required to complete the NFHS [Concussion in Sports](#), [Heat Illness Prevention](#), and [Sudden Cardiac Arrest Training](#) courses at least once every three years. These courses should be taken prior to any preseason or regular season physical workouts that the respective coach would be present for or involved in administering. Any course taken after May 1 would be considered valid for the following school year. **All first-year coaches are required to complete all three courses prior to the start of the activity season which they are to coach.***

#### **CPR/AED Certification**

*All head coaches/sponsors and assistant coaches/sponsors are required to be CPR/AED certified once every two years. Certification should be completed prior to any pre-season or regular season physical workouts that the respective coach/sponsor would be present for or involved in administering. All first-year head coaches/sponsors and assistant coaches/sponsors are required to complete certification prior to the start of the activity season which they are to coach. Coaches aides and volunteer coaches are not required to be CPR/AED certified.*

### **Accommodations for Students with Disabilities**

Each state association may, in keeping with applicable laws, authorize exceptions to NFHS playing rules to provide reasonable accommodations to individual participants with disabilities and/or special needs, as well as those individuals with unique and extenuating circumstances. In order to determine if the NSAA can authorize such an accommodation, the school administration should contact the NSAA to request an accommodation hearing.

### **APPROVED RULING 3.1.1, C. - End of Season for Outside Participation**

*Students who are not listed on the NSAA District entry form may participate in outside group instruction or competition of the same sport before the varsity school team has been completely eliminated from postseason competition. Those students who have participated in outside group instruction or competition following their regular season schedule would not be eligible to be placed on the district or state entry form of the same sport and would not be allowed to practice with the varsity team.*

### **3.2.1 – School-Year, Out-of-Season Programs**

A member school shall not provide support, hold an organized practice or enter students in any non-high school competition in NSAA sponsored sports outside of the defined NSAA season.

#### **APPROVED RULING 3.2.1**

*Faculty vs. student, alumni vs. student, or parent vs. student contests are not permissible during the season of the sport involved. If such contests are held out-of-season, the organized practice rule must be followed.*

### **3.2.2 – “School-Year, Out-of-Season” Definition**

“School-year, out-of-season” is defined as that period of time during the school year in which no organized practice can be conducted. The “school-year, out-of-season” period begins on the first day of fall practice and runs until the first allowable date of practice in that sport, and the period after a team or individual has been eliminated from further competition during the championship series of district and state tournaments/meets through Memorial Day or the end of the school year, whichever is later. For non-varsity competition, “school year, out-of-season” begins the day following the last date of interscholastic competition or the last date of the varsity season, whichever is later.

### **3.2.3 – “School-Year, Out-of-Season” Participation**

Except during the season of the sport involved, a student may be a member of a non-high school team and compete unattached in non-high school competition. Students are prohibited from wearing high school uniforms during non-high school sponsored competition.

### **3.2.4, B. - Organized Practice**

No organized practice in any sport shall be held during the “school-year, out-of-season” period. An organized practice shall be defined as follows:

B) An organized practice shall mean more than four students under direct supervision of a sponsor. If more than one group is practicing at the same time, it shall be called an organized practice.

### **APPROVED RULING 3.2.4**

*Any individual who served as a school’s head coach, assistant coach, coach’s aide, or volunteer coach shall not coach athletes from that member school in non-high school competition if the number of athletes from the school which the individual served exceeds the number permitted for an organized practice in the sport involved.*

### **3.2.5 - Conditioning Program**

A member school may organize and supervise a “school year, out-of-season” conditioning program to include weightlifting, running, and exercising for its members in accordance with the following provision:

- A) Such a conditioning program shall be general in nature and may include only exercises designed to promote physical fitness.
- B) Sport-specific drills are not allowed, and sport-specific equipment may not be used.
- C) The conditioning session shall be no longer than 60 minutes in length, and no student shall participate in more than one such session per day.
- D) Conditioning programs shall be voluntary. No coach or school representative may directly or by implication direct a student to attend conditioning sessions as a prerequisite for membership or restrict the level of team participation within the high school program.

### **APPROVED RULING 3.2.5**

*Conditioning sessions organized and run by members of the school’s coaching staff are subject to the 60-minute limitation. Students, for example, who work out on their own at the school facility in weight lifting, general calisthenics, running, or agility-type exercises shall not be considered to be involved in an organized conditioning program.*

### **3.2.6 - Open Gym**

It is permissible for students to be involved in NSAA activities of a school’s open gymnasium program during the “school year, out-of-season” period under the following conditions:

- A) The gym is open for all individuals and all activities.
- B) Schools may not designate sport specific times.
- C) Coaching or instruction is not provided.
- D) School employees who are present shall restrict their duties to supervision of the facility.
- E) Open gym shall be voluntary. No coach or school representative may directly or by implication direct a student to attend open gym as a condition for membership or restrict the level of team participation within the high school program.

### **3.2.7 - Camps & Clinics Definitions**

**Camp Definition:** Camps include planned physical participation that is of a competitive nature where actual games are played or simulated by camp attendees. Participation shall mean physically taking part in the sport activity in which instruction is offered in the camp or school.

**Clinic Definition:** A clinic includes planned activities of instruction or demonstration directly related to the teaching of individual skills. There shall be no competition between athletes who are in attendance.

#### **3.2.7.1 – “School-Year, Out-of-Season” Camps & Clinics**

Athletes and coaches may attend professional or commercial sports camps/clinics sponsored by non-member high schools. During the “school-year, out-of-season” period, the organized practice rule for the sport in which

instruction is being given shall apply. No more than the limit permitted for organized practice may attend and receive instruction. Attendance to “school-year, out-of-season” clinics shall be voluntary. No coach or school representative may directly or by implication direct a student to attend a clinic as a condition for membership on the high school team or restrict the level of team participation within the high school program.

#### **APPROVED RULING 3.2.7 and 3.2.7.1**

*The athlete and/or his/her parents shall pay the fees and expenses for attendance to such camps or schools. The school, booster clubs, individuals and/or other organizations shall not provide expenses, or support for individuals participating in clinics. Team fundraisers may be used to finance summer league and camp/clinic activities. The school may provide transportation for individuals participating in camps/clinics with prior approval from the district’s Board of Education.*

#### **3.2.8 - Summertime Participation**

“Summertime” shall be defined as the Tuesday following Memorial Day to July 31. During the “summertime” there shall be no restrictions on the amount of contact between students and high school coaches. Attendance shall be voluntary, and coaches/school representative may not directly or by implication require a student to attend “summertime” activities as a condition for membership on a high school team or restrict the level of team participation within the high school program.

**3.2.8.1** - NSAA Catastrophic Insurance does not cover coaches/students/schools during the summertime period.

#### **3.2.8.2 - Summertime School-Sponsored Camps/Clinics**

A school may organize a camp or clinic in any sport from the Tuesday following Memorial Day through July 31. The camp shall be limited to no more than ten days starting with the first date of the camp/clinic.

#### **3.2.8.3 - Summertime Conditioning Program**

A member school may organize and supervise a summer conditioning program to include weightlifting, running, and exercising. Conditioning sessions shall be no longer than 75 minutes in length per day or no more than 5 hours per week, and no student shall participate in more than one such session per day.

#### **APPROVED RULING 3.2.8.3**

*Conditioning sessions organized and run by members of the school’s coaching staff are subject the 75-minute limitation. Students, for example, who work out on their own at the school facility in weightlifting, general calisthenics, running, or agility-type exercises shall not be considered to be involved in an organized conditioning program.*

#### **3.2.8.4 - Summertime Open Gym/Facilities**

It is permissible for students to be involved in NSAA activities of a school’s open training program during the summertime. Permitting the participation by non-high school students (graduates, adults, or individuals not a member of the school) shall be determined by the district’s Board of Education policy.

#### **3.2.8.5 - Summertime Regulations for Athletes and Coaches**

From the Tuesday following Memorial Day or final day of school (whichever is later) until July 31, there shall be no restrictions on the contact between students and high school coaches.

#### **3.2.8.6 - Summertime Leagues/Competitions**

High school coaches are permitted to coach students from their school in summer league competition and games, provided there is no direct support from the school.

#### **3.2.8.7 - Summertime Use of School Facilities**

Member schools may permit the use of their facilities in accordance with the district’s Board of Education policy.

#### **3.2.8.8 - Summertime Use of School Equipment**

Member schools may permit the use of school equipment, other than school-issued game uniforms in accordance with the district’s Board of Education policy.

#### **3.2.9 - Summertime College/Professional/Commercial Team Sport Camps/Clinics**

High school coaches are permitted to accompany students from their school to college, professional, or commercial sports specialized team camps/clinics during the summer.

### **3.2.10 - Summertime Individual Commercial Camps/Clinics**

During the summer, students may attend any individual skill/technique camps or clinics.

### **3.3.2 – Scrimmage**

Prior to the first contest date for the fall season, only intra-squad matches or scrimmages are permitted. After the first contest date for fall sports, a school may have inter- or intra-squad matches and scrimmages.

*Note: Any inter-squad scrimmage shall count as one of the 30 allowed competition points.*

*Note: Alumni matches/scrimmages or matches/scrimmages with non-high school teams are not allowed.*

### **APPROVED RULING 3.3.7 - Eligibility for Sub-District/District/State Competition**

- A) *In all athletic activities, teams wishing to enter a sub-district, district, or state contest shall have participated in a minimum of five interschool varsity contests prior to the sub-district, district, or state contest.*
- B) *In order to participate in a sub-district, district or state tournament, a student is required to have been a member of the school's team for at least twenty school days prior to the first day of the sub-district, district, or state tournament.*
- C) *To be eligible to participate in a sub-district, district and/or state contest, a student shall have been a member of a school's team and shall have been "available to participate" in at least thirty percent (30%) of the school's scheduled interschool contests.*
  - 1) *Exceptions to the requirements for a student who has not been available to participate in at least (30%) of the school's varsity interschool contests would be considered if an individual was unable to participate because of illness, injury, transfer from another high school, or if weather conditions forced a cancellation of scheduled contests.*
  - 2) *When determining whether a student has been available for (30%) of the school's varsity interschool contests, one would divide the number of varsity interschool contests for which the student was available by the school's total number of varsity interschool contests; all decimals .1 or above would be rounded up to the next higher whole number.*
  - 3) *The term "available to participate" means that the student was a bona fide member of the team eligible to participate for the school at some level of competition in the sport and is not suspended from participation in activities by virtue of NSAA rules.*
- D) *For situations pertaining to eligibility to participate in district or state contests that are not specifically addressed by these guidelines, the Executive Director shall have the authority to waive membership and participation requirements on a case-by-case basis.*
- E) *If a school takes its team off the playing field prior to the completion of a contest or prior to the suspension or termination of a game by the game officials, and the contest is forfeited because of the refusal of the school's team to continue play, the school shall be subject to a penalty set by the Board of Directors. The penalty may be the exclusion from participation in sub-district, district, playoffs, or state contests.*

*Note: If a match between two Nebraska schools is not completed (i.e. deciding set in best of 3 is not played to 25 points), it shall be considered an incomplete match and no wildcard points will be awarded.*

### **3.5.2 – Individual Instruction**

During the basketball season, a student is permitted to take individualized instruction from a person other than the high school coach. Individualized instruction shall not take the place of the high school practice. Group instruction, practices with outside teams, and tryouts for outside teams other than as a part of a college or university-recruiting visit, however, are not permitted.

### **3.7.1 – Amateur Rule**

A student shall be an amateur in all sports sponsored by the Nebraska School Activities Association. A student may be declared ineligible if he/she:

- A) *Accepts merchandise, compensation of any nature, or illegal awards for competing in Association-sponsored activities.*
- B) *Enters into any agreement or contract to compete in professional sports.*

- C) Permits, with or without actual endorsement, the use of name, picture, and/or personal appearance as an athlete in the promotion of a commercial or profit-making event, item, plan, or service (this does not prevent a student's picture or name from being included in programs); or,
- D) Receives merchandise or compensation of any nature for coaching any NSAA approved sport during the season of the sport in his/her school.

**APPROVED RULINGS AND INTERPRETATIONS FOR 3.7.1, C – Name, Image & Likeness (NIL)**

Under Bylaw 3.7.1.c, the term “with or without actual endorsement” requires that the student or the student’s parent(s) or guardian(s) have knowledge that the student’s name, picture, and/or personal appearance are being used by another person or entity.

*Note: For commonly asked NIL Questions, [view these NIL Q&A’s](#).*

**Bylaws and Approved Rulings Affecting Basketball**

**3.2.8.7 - Summertime Use of School Facilities**

Member schools may permit the use of their facilities in accordance with the district’s Board of Education policy.

**3.3.7.2 - State Championship Travel**

The Executive Director is granted the authority to require schools to alter travel plans to arrive the day prior to the scheduled state contest if weather conditions so warrant.

**APPROVED RULINGS AND INTERPRETATIONS FOR 3.11.1.3&3.11.1.4** All games in a three-team or a four-team basketball tournament must be played within a seven-consecutive-day period of time with no other games played within the interim, except weather postponements. The only exception to the seven-consecutive-day period shall be when weather forces postponement of one or more contests in that four-team tournament.

**Bylaw 3.3.9** No high school that is a member of the NSAA shall be permitted to engage in any interschool contest on Sunday. When weather conditions and facilities cause a change in a state tournament schedule, Sundays may be used for competition after 12:00 noon local time as determined by the Executive Director.

**3.11.1.5** - No varsity team representing a member school may participate in more than one basketball game per day in either tournament or regularly scheduled play. A non-varsity team may play two games per day provided: A) The length of quarters is six minutes or less; B) There is at least one hour rest between games.

**3.11.1.5.1** - If the weather conditions require a change in state basketball tournament format, the schedule may be changed to permit a school to play multiple state tournament games per day.

**3.11.1.6** - No student shall participate in more than two basketball games per day.

A) If a student participates in varsity and non-varsity basketball games, the student shall be limited to seven quarters of participation per day.

B) If a student participates in two non-varsity basketball games, the student shall be limited to eight quarters of participation provided the length of a quarter in any game does not exceed six minutes and there is at least one hour of rest between games.

C) Any participation during a quarter shall count as a quarter of participation under this rule. Participation in any overtime period or periods is considered as participation during the fourth quarter of the game.

D) Penalty for exceeding the limitations in the above rule shall be a technical foul and the player shall be removed from the game.

**APPROVED RULINGS AND INTERPRETATIONS FOR 3.11.1.6**

If a student participates in two non-varsity games on the same day, and if the length of the quarters of at least one of those non-varsity games exceeds six minutes, the students shall be limited to six quarters of participation per day.



**3.11.1.7** - No contest shall be held with any team not belonging to the NSAA or to its own State High School Association. No game or scrimmage may be held with any team prior to the first date permitted for winter sports contests.

**3.11.1.8** - A school may permit 7th and 8th grade student managers to practice with high school teams. A student manager is defined as a 7th or 8th grade student in good academic standing who carries out duties for their high school team on a daily basis. These individuals will need to have an pre-participation physical, an NSAA Student & Parent Consent Form and be entered on the school's eligibility list.

The Board of Directors approved in August 2017 that the coach's box beginning with the 2017-18 basketball season will be extended from 14 feet to 28 feet in length.

The Board of Directors approved in April 2013 that the 40-Point, Running Clock Rule – All Classes  
A running clock will be used for all regular season games and tournaments and all NSAA sub-district, district, and state tournament games whenever a 40-point differential in score is reached after the first half of play. The clock will run continuously except at the following times: During a called time-out; during a break between the third and fourth quarters; and for safety reasons, such as injuries, the clock will restart with the procedure that would normally re-start these instances. Once the 40-point differential is reached, normal clock operating and time procedures will not be resumed even if the point differential falls below 40 points.

### Contests Permitted

**3.11.1.3** - In Classes B, C1, C2, D1 and D2, no team representing a member school may participate in more than eighteen basketball games and two tournaments in addition to the state-sponsored series of tournaments from the date of the first permitted contest to the close of the State Basketball Tournament.

[If a team participates in an additional tournament other than the two allowed tournaments, each game played shall count towards the eighteen-game limit. Schools may also play nineteen games plus one tournament or twenty games and no tournaments.]

**3.11.1.4** - Class A basketball schedules will be based on a point system. Teams can accrue 22 points. Single games are worth one point and tournaments are worth two points. Teams in Class A can participate in a maximum of three tournaments.

1. Prior to the first contest date for the winter sports season, only intra-squad games or intra-squad scrimmages are permitted. **Exception, Nebraska High School Sports Hall of Fame Jamboree Week 21 and Monday and Tuesday of Week 22.**

#### Nebraska High School Sports Hall of Fame Jamboree

Each school is permitted to participate in one Jamboree event during **Week 21 and Monday and Tuesday of Week 22**. Do **NOT** enter the Hall of Fame game on your NSAA regular season schedule.

2. After the first contest date for winter sports, a school may have inter- or intra-squad games and scrimmages.
  - a. However, alumni games or scrimmages, or games/scrimmages with non-high school teams are not allowed.
  - b. During the basketball season, a school shall not permit a student who is not a member of the high school's team, an adult, a college student, or alumni to participate in any practice session, drill, scrimmage, or game in which a school team is involved (e.g., boys' basketball team member cannot participate with girls' basketball team members, etc.). This does not prevent a coach from being involved for the primary purposes of teaching and demonstrating skills, methods, or techniques.
  - c. Any inter-squad scrimmage shall count as one of the eighteen plus 2 tournaments permitted games.

### Game and Student Limitations

1. No team representing a member school shall participate in more than eighteen games plus two tournaments, exclusive of the district and State Championship. Conference tournaments must be counted in those contest limitations. **Schools may participate in eighteen games and two tournaments in addition to the state sponsored series of tournaments (If a team participates in an additional tournament other than the two allowed, then each game counts towards the eighteen game limit).** Schools may also play nineteen games plus one tournament or twenty games and no tournaments.
2. A tournament is defined as a contest involving four or more teams in which the winner continues to advance and compete until a single winner is determined. Schools may participate in one triangular and this would count as one of the two tournaments. A triangular is defined as a contest involving three teams and a winner will be determined.

(Typical round-robin events do not meet the definition of a tournament.) Schools are requested to send a copy of each tournament bracket to the NSAA.

3. A student may participate in no more than two basketball games per day (*only one varsity game*).
  - a. If the two games are varsity and non-varsity, a student is limited to seven quarters per day. (Any overtime period(s) is an extension of the fourth quarter.)
  - b. If the two games are non-varsity, the student may participate in eight quarters provided the quarters are six minutes or less in length and there is at least one hour of rest between games.
  - c. If a student participates in two non-varsity games on the same day, and if the length of the quarters of at least one of those non-varsity games exceeds six minutes, the student shall be limited to seven quarters of participation per day.
  - d. In non-varsity competition playing time and number of quarters may be reduced by mutual agreement of opposing coaches.
    - i. No quarter can exceed eight minutes in length.
    - ii. If a game is to be played in fewer than four quarters, the opposing team and officials should be notified in advance.
4. If the school exceeds the games limitation, the school shall be excluded from district and/or State Championships.
5. Once the basketball season has begun, schools CANNOT add games to their regular season schedules.
6. All scheduled contests shall be played. Postponed contests shall be rescheduled by all participating schools if possible.

### Classification of Schools

1. Schools shall be divided into six classes for basketball competition.
2. This classification is based on grades 9-11 enrollment from September of the year that immediately precedes the one-year classification period. Class A will be classified based on a total enrollment of 850 and above. Class B, C1, C2, D1 & D2 will be classified using girl only and boy only enrollment.
  - a. **The top 65 largest schools registered for basketball shall be in Classes A & B.** Schools with a combined enrollment of 850 and above will be placed in Class A. The remaining schools will be placed in Class B.
  - b. The remaining schools registered for basketball are split evenly into four classes; C1, C2, D1, D2, with any additional school(s) being placed in the lower class.
3. Classifications will be done on a yearly basis, except for Class A, which is classified for a two-year period. **2024 is the 1<sup>st</sup> year of the two-year Class A classification period. No schools will be added or removed to Class A during this period, regardless of enrollment in the subsequent year.**
4. If schools are tied in enrollment for the last position or positions of a class, the following tie-breaker will be applied:
  - a. The first tie-breaker will be a three-year average of enrollment which includes the year on which the current year's classification is based and the two previous years. The higher three-year average will be in the larger class.
  - b. If the tie still exists, then the school with the higher immediate previous year's enrollment will be placed in the larger class.
  - c. If a tie still exists, it will be decided by a coin flip in the NSAA office.
5. Due to some schools not registering to play either boys or girls basketball, some schools' boys and girls basketball teams may not be in the same class.
6. Schools have the opportunity to petition to play up a class in all activities. No replacement is made in that class vacated (no team will move up to fill that void).
  - a. The deadline for submitting a request to the NSAA to opt up one classification, is one week from when classifications are released.

### Inter-State Competition

When a Nebraska team plays an opponent in another state and that state's quarter limitation is less than seven quarters, the Nebraska team shall follow that state's rule. If an out-of-state opponent is played in Nebraska, the Nebraska school may use the seven-quarter rule.

### Team Warm-ups

Some states permit varsity teams to warm-up or shoot around during halftime of the preceding game; in Nebraska, such warm-ups are not permitted.

### Non-High School Participation

**3.5.1** Any student who participates in an athletic contest other than as a representative of his/her high school during the basketball season shall become ineligible to represent his/her school in basketball for one or more games or the remainder of the season. **This rule applies to church league games, town team games, independent games, free-throw and shooting contests, 3-3 contests, shooting contests where contestants are selected at random, etc.**

### Approved Rulings and Interpretations for 3.5.1

H. Halftime free-throw or three-point contests or other such halftime skill contests used as fundraisers by a school-related group shall no longer impact the eligibility of students out for the sport, providing the award is not in the form of cash, merchandise certificates or any negotiable instruments, and providing that the full retail value of the symbolic or merchandise award does not exceed the value set by the Board of Directors (currently \$50).

### Last Date for Playing Regular Season Games

All scheduled and postponed regular season varsity contests must be played prior to the start of Sub-district, District, or State competition. Once Sub-district, District, or State competition begins, no regular varsity contests shall be permitted.

### Forfeited Contests

1. A contest that is forfeited because of extenuating circumstances between schools shall count as a loss for the team forfeiting, and the forfeiting team shall receive wild card points for the forfeited loss.
2. Schools that are required to forfeit a game or games by the Executive Director or the Board of Directors shall count such contests as one of the permissible contests under the contest limitation requirement of that sport, and such mandated forfeitures will be counted as loss wild card points.
3. When a school's varsity team is unable to complete the season, those remaining teams on that school's regular season schedule may either:
  - a. Receive forfeit wins for those scheduled contests and shall be awarded wildcard points for those forfeit wins. Wildcard points will be determined by the forfeiting team's record at the time of seeding for post-season competition. If a team declares to participate in the postseason and does not participate, forfeit wins will be issued to their opponents for those postseason contests.
  - OR
  - b. If more than seven days remain before any level of postseason seeding is to take place in that sport, a school may replace the forfeited contest on their schedule with another opponent/contest. Replacements that may be added to the schedule are limited to either teams similarly affected by the forfeiting team, or, teams that have an unfilled, allowable contest opening on their schedule. Replacement contests must be scheduled a minimum of seven days in advance of any postseason seeding and will count towards postseason/wildcard seeding.

### Official Rules

National Federation Basketball Rules shall govern all competition.

### Shot Clock Guidelines

Class A, B, C1, C2, D1 and D2 schools will use the shot clock per NFHS Rules. Rule 2-14 states that the NSAA may establish a shot clock in which the team in control shall attempt a try for field goal within 35 seconds after gaining team control.

### December Moratorium

#### 3.1.2 - December Moratorium.

For five consecutive days in December, there shall be no practice and no interschool competition by individuals or teams in any athletic activity sponsored by the Nebraska School Activities Association. The specific dates for each five-day period will be set by the Board of Directors three years in advance.

[Modifications of set dates requires NSAA Board of Directors approval. The moratorium is to include December 24 and 25 and the 5 days must be consecutive for each activity.]

**APPROVED RULINGS AND INTERPRETATIONS FOR 3.1.2** The intent of the December Moratorium is to provide coaches, athletes, and other school personnel a five-day break from the activity season. This rule is to be interpreted as a five-day dead period without organized practices, structured conditioning sessions, or meetings of any type. It is the member school's responsibility to monitor and enforce this rule.

School-owned facilities shall be closed to all grades 9-12 workout activities during the moratorium (team or athletic meetings, practice, competition, weight-training, conditioning, open gym, or other physical activities). The term "no practice and no interschool competition by individuals or teams" shall be interpreted to mean that a grades 9-12 student who is a participant in an NSAA activity shall not be permitted:

- A) To practice or compete in that activity in-season during the moratorium in a school-owned facility that is used by the school for such activity, whether or not a coach, sponsor, or other adult associated with the program is present.

B) To participate in practice, team meeting, or activity for the sport in season, directly or indirectly organized by the coach; the school coach, sponsor, or other adult associated with the school activity program may not supervise, direct, plan, or encourage any workout, practice, or competition during the moratorium by students participating in activities; and

C) To participate in a student-organized practice, team meeting, or activity for the sport in season. Students may:

- 1) Continue to work out/condition on their own in facilities not owned by the school, including workouts or activities with family members;
- 2) Receive individualized instruction from an individual who is not the school coach, sponsor, or other adult associated with the school activity program; and
- 3) Receive physical therapy or rehabilitation services at facilities not owned by the school.

D) Waivers of the December Moratorium may be considered by the NSAA Board of Directors on a case-by-case basis; however, if competition or travel infringes on the designated December Moratorium dates, the Moratorium for such teams shall be readjusted to include five consecutive days to include December 24 and 25. Schools must submit a timely waiver request to the executive director, and the waiver request will be placed on a subsequent NSAA Board meeting agenda.

### **Games Not Permitted During The State Championship**

1. No basketball games in any class or at any high school level of play, other than the State Championship games, are permitted during the dates of March 5-8, 2025 and March 12-15, 2025.
  - a. This includes regular season games, non-varsity tournaments, and conference tournaments or playoffs.
  - b. If a district championship must be postponed due to inclement weather, the Executive Director may schedule the postponed game during the dates of the State Championship.

### **Videotaping and Filming**

1. A school may videotape or film the game(s) in which its team plays.
2. Prior permission should be received from the host school.
3. Videotaping or filming a game in which the recording school is not playing is not permitted.
- 4.

### **Bands & Artificial Noisemakers**

1. Bands are permitted at contests.
2. The use of artificial noisemakers is prohibited. (Examples: air horns, whistles, bells, balloons, Thunder Stix, etc.) Megaphones are to be used by cheerleaders only. Band instruments, including drums, are not to be played at any time other than when the entire band is playing. Bands should not be permitted to play except prior to the game, at intermissions and time-outs.
3. Due to the fact that balloons have become a distraction and are being abused as noise makers, **balloons will not be allowed at NSAA sub-district, district, and state championships** in basketball.

**Music Licenses.** Generally, music used for contests (warm-up, half-time, video production, cheer/dance etc.) needs to be licensed. Some music may be in public domain; however, most music is not and will require a license. This season, take the necessary time to verify your music is licensed through the proper entities. Visit [NFHSLearn.com](http://NFHSLearn.com) to view the video course: *Understanding Copyright and Compliance*.

**In the realm of good sportsmanship, it is the expectation that all student spectators wear shirts for all sub-district, district, and state events. Each individual school shall be responsible for assuring that student spectators are appropriately attired. Participants must keep their uniforms on while in the competition area.**

## Sub-district/District Assignments

1. Schools that submitted the basketball declaration form to the NSAA were assigned to sub-districts and districts in the manner given below. These assignments, sites, directors, and dates are listed on the NSAA web page, and depending on timing of the printing of this manual, may be found on the last pages of this manual.
2. Class A schools will be divided into seven districts. The teams with the highest wild card point averages will have the opportunity to host districts. Class A districts in girls will be Tues through Fri. and boys districts will be Fri, Sat, Mon or Tues. Districts with five teams will start on Tues for girls and Fri for boys with the lower seeds playing on that day at the higher seed. The other 2 districts will start on Wed for the girls or Sat for the boys All seven districts will be determined using a serpentine method (not modified), based upon the NSAA wild card point system within one week prior to the first district.
  - a. The winning boys' team and the winning girls' team in each district will qualify for the State Championship.
  - b. One additional boys' team and one additional girls' team will also qualify for the State Championship on the basis of the wild card team selection procedure.

District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	District 5	District 6	District 7
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
14	13	12	11	10	9	8
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
28	27	26	25	24	23	22
29	30	31	32	33	34	35

The top 14 teams and seeds 24-28 will have the opportunity to host the first night of district competition. The district championship would be hosted by the highest remaining seed. District dates and times would be established before district competition starts. Top seeded team in each district would be responsible for in establishing district schedules.

3. Class B schools are divided into eight sub-districts. The schools were assigned to sub-districts on a geographical basis starting with the schools in western Nebraska and working east. North to south direction was used in some cases in order to decrease the distance between the schools within a sub district. The highest seeded team will host the sub-district. **Girls will play Monday and Tuesday with Wednesday being the weather date. Boys will play Wednesday and Thursday with Friday being the weather date.**
  - a. The winning team in each sub-district will qualify for the district final.
  - b. The next eight non-sub-district winners with the highest wild card point averages will qualify for the district final.
  - c. The sixteen (16) teams qualifying for the district final will be placed on a 16-team bracket based on wild-card point averages through districts. The higher seeded team will host the district final game. The boys' and girls' teams winning the district final will advance to the State Championship.
4. **Classes C1 & C2** schools are divided into 4 regions, based on geography. The westernmost region will consist of one sub-district of five or six teams. The other three regions will consist of 15-18 teams. Those three regions will then serpentine into three sub-districts of 4-6 teams, based on wildcard points. The highest seeded team will host the sub-district.
  - a. The winning team in each sub-district will qualify for the district final.
  - b. The six non-sub-district winners with the highest wildcard point averages will qualify for the district final.
  - c. The 16 teams qualifying for the district final will be placed on a 16-team bracket based on wildcard point averages through sub-districts. The higher seeded team will host the district final match. **The winner of the district final match will advance to the state championship.**
4. Classes D1 & D2 schools are divided into twelve four- or five-team sub-districts on the geographical basis starting with the schools in western Nebraska and working east. North to south direction was used in some cases in order to decrease the distance between the schools within a district. The highest seeded team will host the sub-district.
  - a. In Classes D1 and D2, the boys' team and girls' team winning the championship in each sub-district will advance to the district final.
  - b. The next four (4) non-sub-district winners with the highest wild card point averages will qualify for a District Final. The non-subdistrict winners qualifying must have played a minimum of 4 teams/contests at their classification or above to be eligible for the district final.
  - c. The sixteen (16) teams qualifying for the District Finals will be matched up using a serpentine method based on wild card averages through sub-districts.
  - d. The sixteen (16) teams qualifying for the district final will be matched up using a serpentine method and placed on a 16-team bracket based on wild-card point averages through sub-districts. The higher seeded team will host the district final game unless the two schools are more than 180 miles apart, then a neutral site will be used. If the higher seed cannot host, the two schools will agree upon a site for the district final.

If the two schools involved cannot agree, the NSAA will select the site. The boys' and girls' teams winning the district final will advance to the State Championship.

- e. The boys' and girls' teams winning the district final will advance to the State Championship.
5. In Classes B, C1, C2, D1, and D2, because of the method used in classification, the girls' team from a school and the boys' team from the same school may not be in the same class. This may also cause the girls' and boys' teams of some schools, even though the two teams were in the same class, to be assigned to different districts.
6. If a school decides not to compete after district assignments are made, no change will be made in district assignments. If two or more schools decide not to compete, or two or more schools close, consolidate, or enter into a cooperative agreement, the districts may be adjusted to restore a near equal number of schools or to take advantage of a reduction in travel distance.

### If the Higher Seed Cannot Host

If the higher seed cannot host at their facility for any reason, then the next highest seed will be determined as the host site.

### Seeding and Pairings

1. The NSAA shall be responsible for the seeding and pairings of teams assigned to the sub-district or district, based on wild card point averages.
2. A varsity team from a school may play a junior varsity team of any classification and must count that game toward the total number of permitted contests, but schools may not count such game toward wild card points or sub-district, district, and state competition seeding.
3. The win/loss records of all out-of-state opponents will be included through the dates listed in the seeding dates chart below. Member schools are required to report records of their out-of-state opponents to help guarantee that the records are correct at the time of the seeding.
4. Sub-district, District, and District Final competition for all classes shall be seeded based on wild card point averages. The most recent point average computed on the seeding date set prior to the first contest of the district/sub-district/district final competition shall be the points used. (See dates below).
  - a. If two teams are tied with identical point averages and have played each other, the results of the competition between these schools will be considered and the team winning the majority of contests between the two teams tied will be given the higher seed.
  - b. If a tie still exists, or if more than two teams are tied, the team or teams playing the greatest number of first division teams will be selected. If two teams are still tied, criteria 1) will apply before going to step (3). **In Class A, if a tie still exists, or if more than two teams are tied, the team or teams playing the greatest number of first division teams in their classification will be selected. If two teams are still tied, criteria 1) will apply before going to step (3).**
  - c. If the tie still exists, total the sum of the tied team's opponents' wins and losses. The team whose opponents have the higher winning percentage will receive the higher seed. If two teams remain tied, criteria 1) will apply before going to step 4).
  - d. If a tie still exists, the higher seed will be decided by a coin flip in the NSAA office.
5. The records of all schools available to the NSAA on the date of the seeding shall be used to calculate wild card averages, even if an error on the record is discovered after the fact or the NSAA imposes a forfeit.
6. Seeding Dates.

Subs Classes C1, C2, D1, D2 Girls	--February 13, 2025	(games through Feb. 11)
Subs Classes C1, C2, D1, D2 Boys	--February 18, 2025	(games through Feb. 15)
Subs Class B Girls	--February 20, 2025	(games through Feb. 18)
Class A Girls (Assign & Seed)	--February 21, 2025	(games through Feb. 20)
Subs Class B Boys	--February 24, 2025	(games through Feb. 22)
Class A Boys (Assign & Seed)	--February 25, 2025	(games through Feb. 24)
Class B Girls District Finals	--February 27, 2025	(or day after all B subs completed)
Class B Boys District Finals	--March 1, 2025	(or day after all B subs completed)
Girls State Championships (all classes)	--March 1, 2025	
Boys State Championships (all classes)	--March 5, 2025	

## District and Sub-district Information

### Admission

1. Admission prices for sub-district and district basketball championships shall be:
  - a. \$5.00 for students per session.
  - b. \$6.00 for adults per session.
2. Admission prices for all district finals shall be:
  - a. \$5.00 for students.
  - b. \$6.00 for adults.
3. Sub-district and District contests are considered NSAA activities (not local activities). Student admission waivers under the Student Fees statutes will not be permitted.

### Bands, Artificial Noisemakers, Warmup Music, and Fan Attire

1. Bands are permitted at sub-district and district championships.
2. The use of artificial noisemakers is prohibited. (Examples: air horns, whistles, bells, balloons, Thunder Stix, etc.) Megaphones are to be used by cheerleaders only. Band instruments, including drums, are not to be played at any time other than when the entire band is playing. Bands should not be permitted to play except prior to the game, at intermissions and time-outs.
3. Due to the fact that balloons have become a distraction and are being abused as noise makers, **balloons will not be allowed at NSAA sub-district, district, and state championships** in basketball.
4. The use of recorded music by a team during warm-up for sub-district and district games must be approved by the host of the district. Music used for contests (warm-up, half-time, video production, cheer/dance etc.) needs to be **licensed**. Some music may be in public domain; however, most music is not and will require a license. Take the necessary time to verify your music is licensed through the proper entities.
5. Teams/Fans shall not throw items into the crowd. (e.g.: sports balls, candy, etc.)
6. It is the expectation that all student spectators wear shirts for all sub-district and district events. Each individual school shall be responsible for assuring that student spectators are appropriately attired.

### Cheerleaders and Drill Teams

1. Due to potential liability in case of injury, stunts and pyramids by cheerleaders and lifts by dance teams during the sub-district, district, and state tournaments are prohibited unless the supervising coach/sponsor has successfully completed the AACCA Safety Course, a cheer risk management and safety course. If the coach/sponsor has successfully completed the AACCA Safety Course, stunts and lifts shall be allowed in accordance with NFHS Spirit Rules. The following restrictions shall be in effect at NSAA sub-district, district and state tournaments and events: stunts/lifts shall be limited to shoulder height or below; all vertical shoulder level stunts/lifts must have an additional spotter; all vertical shoulder level stunts/lifts must remain on two feet except during the mount or dismount of the stunt/lift; twisting mounts and dismounts are limited to ½ twist; and all cradle dismounts, tosses, and inversions are prohibited.

### Complimentary Passes

1. The host school shall provide complimentary passes to the competing schools.
2. Coaches', players', and student manager passes SHALL NOT exceed twenty-four. (Twenty-four passes shall be provided unless a lesser number is agreed to by all competing schools.)
3. Extra passes for administrative and supervisory personnel from each school shall be as follows:
  - a. Class A, 10 passes.
  - b. Class B, 8 passes.
  - c. Classes C1 and C2, 6 passes.
  - d. Classes D1 and D2, 4 passes.
4. Complimentary passes will be allotted for band members, cheer teams and dance teams as indicated below. Tickets must be purchased for members in excess of the allotted amount.
  - a. Bands
    - i. Class A – 50, Class B – 40, Classes C1/C2 – 30, Classes D1/D2 – 20
  - b. Cheer Teams
    - i. Class A – 16, Class B – 14, Classes C1/C2 – 10, Classes D1/D2 – 8
  - c. Dance Teams
    - i. Class A – 14, Class B – 12, Classes C1/C2 – 10, Classes D1/D2 – 8

### Basketballs

The championship ball shall be the Baden BX6E-PRO for girls and the Baden BX7E-PRO for boys.

## Uniforms

The home team shall wear white (not light-colored) jerseys, and the visiting team shall wear dark jerseys.

## Determination of Home Teams

1. In all championships, the higher seeded team of the paired bracket shall be considered the home team and shall wear white jerseys.
2. The other team shall be considered the visiting team and shall wear dark-colored jerseys.
3. Each team's basket for pre-game warm-up and for the first half shall be the basket farther from its bench.
4. The team benches shall be assigned as follows:
  - a. The "home" team shall occupy the players' bench to the left as you face the scorer's table.
  - b. The "visiting" team shall occupy the players' bench to the right as you face the scorer's table.

## Director's Responsibilities

1. Authority.
  - a. The director of the championship is granted full authority for the conduct and management of the championship and is responsible for the administration of rules and regulations and accounting of all finances.
  - b. The director of the championship should assign the responsibilities of coordinating ticket sales and accounting for receipts to persons of integrity with sound money-management and ticket-accounting skills.
  - c. The director of the championship must assure that reasonable accommodations are made for handicapped and special needs.
2. Report.
  - a. The financial report should be completed immediately following the close of the championship; that financial report will be provided in an electronic format for sub-district and district directors.
  - b. Directors should have the following information available before completing the electronic financial form: gross receipts; approximate attendance; cost of officials' fees; cost of officials' mileage; one-way mileage of competing schools, and the number of games each school played.
  - c. The electronic financial form will compute all of the calculations for the Director. Once calculations are completed, approval will be granted and the form will show how much should be paid to the NSAA and how much should be paid to each competing school. Checks (and a copy of the electronic financial form) should be mailed by the Sub-district/District Director to the NSAA and competing schools immediately.
  - d. Sub-district and District contests are considered NSAA activities (not local activities). Student admission waivers under the Student Fees statutes will not be permitted.

## Division of Gate Receipts

1. In sub-district and A-B districts the division of gate receipts shall be as follows:
  - a. Game officials.
  - b. Host school's allowance (cost of site rental and cost of championship workers to be paid from Host School's allowance).
  - c. 10% of gross receipts to NSAA for catastrophic insurance.
  - d. 25% gross receipts to host school.
  - e. 25% gross receipts to NSAA.
  - f. Team expenses, mileage allowance only.
  - g. Balance for bonus.
    - i. If the championship site is the home floor of, or a site rented by, a participating school, then the host school shall receive a per-game share of the bonus equal to the per-game share received by each participating school. The bonus shall be divided as follows:
      - (a) 10% NSAA.
      - (b) 90% participating schools.
    - ii. If the host school is not a participating school, the bonus shall be divided as follows:
      - (a) 15% host.
      - (b) 10% NSAA.
      - (c) 75% participating schools.
  - h. The host school allowance shall be \$30 per team
  - i. Team expenses are for mileage only and shall be \$1.70 per mile per trip one way.
  - j. If the schools participating in a district championship wish to have a dinner meeting, conference calls, or other special meetings for planning the championship, the expenses of these special meetings must come from each school's share of the bonus.
    - i. If there is no bonus, each school may be assessed a proportional part of the expenses.
    - ii. These expenses may not be listed as championship expenses.



### **Inclement Weather**

1. Snowstorms or other inclement weather conditions may force the postponement of a sub-district or district contest.
2. The championship director has the sole responsibility for the postponement and rescheduling of such contest(s).
3. In determining whether to postpone or to hold the contest(s) as scheduled, the director should consider the following factors:
  - a. The weather and road conditions at the site of the contest.
  - b. Existing weather and road conditions at the location of the schools, which are to compete that day.
  - c. Road conditions between championship site and the competing schools.
  - d. The forecasted weather conditions immediately prior to, during, and following the contest, as reported by the weather bureau.
4. If after considering the various factors, the championship director determines that competition is to go on as scheduled, all schools are to be notified early enough so as to allow each team sufficient time to travel to the contest site.
5. Once the decision has been made to hold the event as scheduled and any team has begun to travel, the contest(s) shall be played.
6. If the Championship director feels a postponement is necessary, he/she shall get permission from the Executive Director before postponing the day's activities.
7. Once the championship has been postponed, the director shall be responsible for setting the new time, date, and site, if necessary, for the continuation of the championship.
8. The previously agreed upon schedule may have to be changed to allow the contest(s) to be completed by the required dates.
9. Neither championship receipts nor funds from the NSAA are to be used to reimburse any school for additional expenses incurred because of a postponed contest.

### **Plaques and Awards**

1. No plaques are awarded in sub-district competition.
2. In Class A, plaques for the runner-up and championship teams will be shipped to the district director.
3. In Class B, C1, C2, D1, and D2 plaques for the runner-up and championship teams will be shipped to the district final director or the schools that participate in that game depending on the timeframe between sub-districts and district finals.
4. Plaques will be awarded to the Wild Card Qualifier in Class A.

### **Protests**

1. A protest based upon the eligibility of a player will be honored by the NSAA office.
2. If the protest is allowed and a forfeit is necessary, the last game the team played will be forfeited.
3. Protests based on decisions of officials during a game will not be accepted.
4. The director has full authority to make final settlement of all protests not covered above.

### **Media - Student Media, Media Credentials & Broadcasting**

1. All media operations (admission, access and accommodations) for Regular Season contests are at the Host School discretion.
2. The NSAA Media Manual outlines policies for Media Credentials, Student Media, Broadcasting Policies and other specifics surrounding NSAA post-season contests.
3. Post-season contests include: Districts, Sub-districts, District Finals, Playoffs and State Championships.
4. The Media Manual is posted on the NSAA website's Media Page. <http://nsaahome.org/media-info/>

Please visit the NSAA Media page and review the current Media Manual for any further questions.

### **Responsibility of Host**

The host school is responsible for:

- a. The entertainment of the championship.
- b. Assuring that reasonable accommodations are provided for persons with special needs.
- c. Providing the following from its share of receipts:
  - i. Playing floor.
  - ii. Advertising.
  - iii. Tickets.
  - iv. Ticket takers.
  - v. Postage.
  - vi. Telephone calls.
  - vii. Scorers.
  - viii. Timers.

ix. Other such incidentals as the local director may deem desirable to properly conduct the championship.

### **Team Entries**

1. **NSAA Entry Forms are accessed and exclusively submitted online.** The Athletic/Activities Director has been given the school coach's login identification to access the entry form on the NSAA web page. Go to the NSAA web site ([www.nsaahome.org](http://www.nsaahome.org)) and click on "School Login." Enter your login and go to "View/Edit Your Form" to complete your entry form (detailed instructions can be obtained from the web site). It will not be necessary to send a hard copy of the entry form to the NSAA.
2. It will be necessary, however, to submit an e-mailed copy of the form to your sub-district or district director.
3. Changes may be made in the online entry form up until the due date; following the due date, the electronic entry form will be locked to prevent further changes or entries. If you should have necessary changes, you will need to call the NSAA office to get such changes approved and added.
4. All girls' entries are due February 10, 2025.
5. All boys' entries are due February 17, 2025.
6. Be certain to send a copy of the entry to the championship director via e-mail; a copy does not need to be sent to the NSAA office.

### **Team Practice On The Championship Floor**

1. Championship directors of neutral site games should prohibit teams from practicing at championship sites between the time locations of championships are announced and the time the championships take place.
2. This does not prohibit the continuation of scheduled games.
3. A school is not permitted to practice on the championship site floor prior to the scheduled warm-up time for its game. This does not prevent a team from holding a shoot around the day of the game on their home floor.

### **Time Schedule**

1. The time schedule for all championships will be set by the championship director.
2. Once the starting time of a game or session has been set, the time shall not be changed to an earlier time unless mutual consent is received from all schools involved in that contest, session, or round of competition.

### **Championship Officials and Fees**

1. Only officials registered with the NSAA will be hired.
2. The following fees have been established for all sub-district and district championships.
  - a. Each of the three officials for sub-district and district championships shall receive \$70.00 per game.
  - b. Mileage shall be paid at a rate of \$1.00 per mile one-way for one automobile, per set of officials. If a set of officials travels from different locations, mileage shall be paid to the official traveling the greater distance.
3. The NSAA office will hire and write contracts for all officials.
4. The director will pay the officials from the championship receipts.

### **Championship Roster**

1. No basketball team may use more than fourteen boys/girls in any championship.
2. No more than fourteen boys/girls may be suited up for any championship game.
3. Prior to the first game, the team's coach shall designate to the championship director the fourteen players who are the certified team for that championship. This shall be the championship roster.
  - a. There shall be no substitution or addition to this certified roster except for injury or illness.
  - b. In case of a physician-verified player injury/illness, the use of more than fourteen players may be approved by the championship director.
  - c. Once one of the original fourteen players has been replaced because of injury or illness, that player cannot be dressed for that championship.
4. If a coach fails to certify the fourteen players, the 14 names entered in the official scorebook prior to the first game that the team plays shall be the certified roster.
  - a. Substitution for the players whose names are entered in the book may be made in case of physician-verified injury/illness.
5. In case of substitution for illness or injury, the substitute must remain on the roster for the remainder of the championship.
  - a. The original player, once substituted for, may not be returned to the original roster during that championship.
6. On the entry form submitted to the NSAA and the championship director, no more than fourteen players shall be listed.
  - a. Substitution may be made in case of illness or injury.

7. Teams that qualify for a district final in Classes B, C1, C2, D1, D2, or the State Championship for all classes, may make substitution in their original roster provided the students are eligible in all respects and provided the substitutions are made in the list prior to the playoff game or first game in the State Championship.

### **Withdrawal from the Championship**

Teams that withdraw from a sub-district, district, or State Championship after pairings have been made are subject to penalty by the Board of Directors unless such withdrawal is authorized by the Executive Director for sufficient cause.

## **Classes B, C1, C2, D1, and D2 District Finals Information**

### **Admission**

1. Admission for all district finals shall be:
  - a. \$5.00 for students.
  - b. \$6.00 for adults.

### **Complimentary Passes**

1. Coaches', players', and student manager passes SHALL NOT exceed 24. (Twenty-four passes shall be provided unless a lesser number is agreed to by both competing schools.)
2. Administrative and supervisory passes.
  - a. Class B, 8 passes.
  - b. Classes C1 and C2, 6 passes.
  - c. Classes D1 and D2, 4 passes.
3. Complimentary passes will be allotted for band members, cheer teams and dance teams as indicated below. Tickets must be purchased for members in excess of the allotted amount.
  - a. Bands
    - i. Class A – 50, Class B – 40, Classes C1/C2 – 30, Classes D1/D2 – 20
  - b. Cheer Teams
    - i. Class A – 16, Class B – 14, Classes C1/C2 – 10, Classes D1/D2 – 8
  - c. Dance Teams
    - i. Class A – 14, Class B – 12, Classes C1/C2 – 10, Classes D1/D2 – 8

### **Financial Arrangements**

1. Officials.
2. Host school allowance--\$50.00.
3. 10% of gross receipts to NSAA for catastrophic insurance.
4. 25% gross receipts to host school.
5. 25% gross receipts to NSAA.
6. Visiting schools' expenses--\$1.70 per mile one-way.
7. Bonus.
  - a. 15% to host.
  - b. 10% to NSAA.
  - c. 75% to participating schools.

### **District Finals Pairings**

The pairings for the district finals are as follows and apply to **Classes B, C1, C2, D1 & D2**:

#1 seed vs. #16 seed  
 #2 seed vs. #15 seed  
 #3 seed vs. #14 seed  
 #4 seed vs. #13 seed  
 #5 seed vs. #12 seed  
 #6 seed vs. #11 seed  
 #7 seed vs. #10 seed  
 #8 seed vs. #9 seed

*Note: After the brackets are seeded and released no corrections will be made if an error is to be found on a schedule.*

### **Dates of District Finals Games**

Classes C1, C2, D1, D2 Girls	Friday, February 28, 2025
Class B Girls	Saturday, March 1, 2025
Classes C1, C2, D1, D2 Boys	Saturday, March 1, Monday, March 3 or Tuesday, March 4, 2025
Class B Boys	Monday, March 3 or Tuesday, March 4, 2025 (if both teams can agree)

\*\*\*In Classes B, C1, C2, D1, D2 Boys ONLY, if the two teams can agree, they have the option of playing on either Monday, March 3 or Tuesday, March 4, 2025. The NSAA office must be notified of the decision by noon on Friday the day after the subdistrict finals. If neither team can agree or the office is not notified by noon on Friday, then the game will default to the Saturday immediately following the sub-district.

1. In Class B, the higher seeded team will host the district final game. Game time shall be 7:00 P.M. for night games, unless teams mutually agree to a different time. Other games may be played during the afternoon with the approval of the NSAA Executive Director and the mutual agreement of the competing schools. However, if both schools do not agree on the afternoon game, it shall be played at 7:00 P.M. If the visiting team is required to travel 120 miles or more to the game site, the traveling team shall have the choice of playing the game in the afternoon or evening. Game time of afternoon games will be 1:30 P.M., unless teams mutually agree to a different time. When two high schools located in the same city use the same facility for home basketball games, qualify for the basketball district final and are designated home teams on the same date, one school shall play in the afternoon and the other during the evening. The afternoon game shall not begin prior to 1:30 P.M. and the evening game shall not begin after 8:00 P.M. These times may be adjusted for emergency situations.
2. In Classes C1 & C2, the 10 sub-district winners qualify for the district final in addition to the six non-sub district winners with the highest wildcard point averages. Those 16 teams will be placed on a 16-team bracket and seeded on wildcard point averages through sub-districts. The higher seeded team will host the district final match. The winner of the district final match will advance to the state championships. District Final seeding will be completed once all of the sub-districts and Class A districts are completed.
3. In Classes D1 & D2, the higher seeded team will host the district final match unless the two schools are 180+ miles apart then a neutral site will be used. If the higher seed cannot host, the two schools will agree upon a site for the district final. The winner of the district final match will advance to the state championships. District Final seeding will be completed once all of the sub-districts and Class A districts are completed.
  - a. The higher seeded team will be responsible for initiating plans for the district final match.
  - b. If the two schools can't agree on a location, the NSAA Office will select the site.
  - c. District finals may not be played at state tournament sites.
  - d. As soon as these decisions are made, the NSAA office shall be notified.

### **Plaques, Balls, Financial Forms, and State Championship Report Forms**

The directors of sub-district championships (B, C1, C2, D1 & D2) will be sent the following:

- a. District Finals financial report form.
- b. Information and forms pertaining to the State Basketball Championship.

### **Designated Home Team**

1. The higher seeded team shall be designated as the "home" team. (seeds 1-8 will be the home team)
2. Each team's basket for pre-game warm-up and for the first half shall be the basket farther from its bench.
3. The "home" team bench shall be to the left of the scorer's table as you face the scorer's table.

### **Officials**

1. The officials' fee shall be the same for all districts and shall be \$70.00 per game for three officials plus \$1.00 per mile, one-way distance for one car.
2. The officials will be hired and assigned by the NSAA office.
3. Officials' contracts will be posted on the district director's AD web page at nsaahome.org.
4. Colleges assigned as District Hosts will be given a temporary password to gain access to the NSAA School Log-in page to find game officials. This password will be sent directly to the colleges via e-mail.
5. The officials' fees will be paid by the championship director from the championship receipts.

### **Programs**

If the competing schools and district final director wish to print programs, the schools should send program information to the director.

### **Handicap Accessibility**

All facilities that host District Finals must provide reasonable accommodations for persons with special needs.

### **Qualifying For State**

#### **Wild Card Criteria**

All results of those games played against varsity teams of schools in Nebraska and varsity teams from other states will be used:

- a. To calculate wild card point averages.
- b. To determine the win and loss record for designating a team as a first, second, third, or fourth division team.

All games played by a school's varsity team regardless of the location of the opposing school or whether the team is varsity or non-varsity will count toward the number of permitted contests in a particular sport.

### All Classes

1. In Class A, seven teams will qualify for the State Championship by winning their respective district tournament.
2. In Classes B, C1, C2, D1 and D2 the eight district final winners will qualify for the State Championship.
3. One additional team in Class A that fails to qualify through district championship competition, will be chosen as a wild card qualifier to complete the eight-team State Championship field.
4. The one wild card qualifying team will be selected in the following manner:
  - a. Only the contests between varsity Nebraska teams and varsity teams from other states will be considered when calculating the wild card point averages.
  - b. Points will not be awarded for playing non-varsity teams. Such games, however, shall count as one of the total number of contests permitted.
  - c. The results of all contests played through the district championships shall be used.
  - d. Out-of-state records will be included through February 28, 2025 for girls and March 3, 2025 for boys.
  - e. This includes regularly scheduled contests, tournament contests, intra-conference playoffs, and district contests.
5. The following point evaluation scale will be used to determine a team's total points:

	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Division</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Division</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Division</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Division</b>
	Team	Team	Team	Team
Victory Over	50	47	44	41
Loss To	39	36	33	30

A first division team is a team, which has won at least 75% of its games played.

(Examples: 20-0, 19-1, 18-2, 17-3, 16-4, 15-5.)

A second division team is a team, which has won at least 50% but less than 75% of its games played.

(Examples: 14-6, 13-7, 12-8, 11-9, 10-10.)

A third division team, which has won at least 25% but less than 50% of its games played.

(Examples: 9-11, 8-12, 7-13, 6-14, 5-15.)

A fourth division team is a team, which has won less than 25% of its games played.

(Examples: 4-16, 3-17, 2-18, 1-19, 0-20.)

6. No points are deducted for playing teams that are classified below your classification.
7. Class A schools will be awarded 2 bonus points when competing against other Class A schools.
8. In competition with schools one classification above yours, 2 bonus points will be awarded.
9. In competition with schools two classification above yours, 3 bonus points will be awarded.
10. In competition with schools three classification above yours, 4 bonus points will be awarded.
11. In competition with schools four classification above yours, 5 bonus points will be awarded.
12. A team's wild card point average will be determined by dividing the total number of points by the number of contests played.
13. If a tie exists for the qualifying spot, the following procedure will be used to select the team.
  - a. If only two teams have identical point averages and are tied for one of the qualifying spots and the teams have played each other, the team that won the contest or the majority of contests between the two teams in question will qualify for the State Championship.
  - b. If the two teams have not played each other or if more than two teams are tied, step "c" will be used to determine which team qualifies for the State Championship.
  - c. If two or more teams have identical wild card point averages and are tied for one or both of the remaining qualifying spots, the team or teams playing the greatest number of games against first division teams in their class will be selected. If only two teams remain after this step and the two teams tied have played each other, step "a" will be used to determine the qualifier for the State Championship.
  - d. If a tie still exists, the team's opponents' wins and losses, counting all varsity games, will be totaled and the winning percentages calculated. The team whose opponents have the highest winning percentage based on this calculation will be chosen.
  - e. If a tie still exists, the representative will be decided by a coin flip in the NSAA office.

## Classification of Out-of-State Schools for Wild Card Consideration

When determining the classification of an out-of-state school for wild-card purposes, if the school's three-grade enrollment is less than the lowest enrollment in a particular class, the out-of-state school shall be classified in the immediate lower class. The enrollment of Nebraska schools opting up to play in a higher class will not be considered when comparing out-of-state schools for classification purposes.

### Classification of Out-of-State Schools for Wild Card Consideration When Enrollment is Identical to Schools in Two Different Classes

In determining classifications for NSAA activities, if two or more schools are tied for the final place in a particular class, the tie is broken by using the schools' three-year average enrollment for the most recent three years. When determining the classification of an out-of-state school for wild-card purposes, if the out-of-state school's three-grade enrollment is identical to the enrollments shared by schools in two different classes, the out-of-state school shall be placed in the higher class.

## NSAA State Basketball Championship

### Bands, Artificial Noisemakers, & Spectators

1. Bands are permitted at the State Championship.
2. The use of artificial noisemakers is prohibited. (Examples: air horns, whistles, bells, balloons, Thunder Stix, etc.) Megaphones are to be used by cheerleaders only. Band instruments, including drums, are not to be played at any time other than when the entire band is playing. Bands should not be permitted to play except prior to the game, at intermissions and time-outs.
3. ***Balloons will not be allowed at NSAA sub-district, district, and state championships*** in basketball.
4. We cannot guarantee the accommodation of instruments requiring electrical power, nor will floor space be provided for any instruments if the placement of the instruments interferes with the movement of players, officials, or spectators.
5. Teams/Fans shall not throw items into the crowd. (i.e. sports balls, candy)
6. It is the expectation that all student spectators wear shirts for the NSAA Basketball Championships. Each individual school shall be responsible for assuring that student spectators are appropriately attired.

### Confetti

1. Schools are to prohibit the use of confetti, thin paper strips, computer card punch outs, etc., by their pep club and student supporters.
2. This type of material is a safety hazard, and the city and state fire marshals have stated the materials should not be allowed in a building.

### Drill Teams and Cheerleaders

1. Drill teams from schools competing in the State Championship may perform during the half-time of the game in which their team plays.
2. Each drill team will be limited to a three-minute performance.
3. Each drill team must notify an NSAA staff member one day prior to their performance of their intent to perform.
4. Due to potential liability in case of injury, stunts and pyramids by cheerleaders and lifts by dance teams during the sub-district, district, and state tournaments are prohibited unless the supervising coach/sponsor has successfully completed the AACCA Safety Course, a cheer risk management and safety course. If the coach/sponsor has successfully completed the AACCA Safety Course, stunts and lifts shall be allowed in accordance with NFHS Spirit Rules. The following restrictions shall be in effect at NSAA sub-district, district and state tournaments and events: stunts/lifts shall be limited to shoulder height or below; all vertical shoulder level stunts/lifts must have an additional spotter; all vertical shoulder level stunts/lifts must remain on two feet except during the mount or dismount of the stunt/lift; twisting mounts and dismounts are limited to ½ twist; and all cradle dismounts, tosses, and inversions are prohibited.

### Complimentary Passes

1. Complimentary passes will be allotted for band members, cheer teams and dance teams as indicated below. Tickets must be purchased for members in excess of the allotted amount.
  - d. Bands
    - i. Class A – 50, Class B – 40, Classes C1/C2 – 30, Classes D1/D2 – 20
  - e. Cheer Teams
    - i. Class A – 16, Class B – 14, Classes C1/C2 – 10, Classes D1/D2 – 8
  - f. Dance Teams
    - i. Class A – 14, Class B – 12, Classes C1/C2 – 10, Classes D1/D2 – 8

## Lodging

Schools are responsible for their own lodging arrangements.

## Game Ball

The official Championship ball is the Baden BX6E-PRO for girls and the Baden BX7E-PRO for boys.

## Officials

Officials will be assigned to each game, including scorers and timers.

## Instant Replay at the State Championships

Instant replay will be used in accordance of Rule 2-2-1 of the NFHS Basketball Rules Book. The NSAA permits game or replay officials to use a replay monitor during the NSAA State Championships (all games of the state championship series) to determine if a scored goal at the expiration of time in the fourth quarter or any overtime period (0:00 on the game clock) should be counted, and if so, determine if it is a two-point goal or a three-point goal. Note: the game must be televised or streamed for replay to be used. Due to availability circumstances not all games may fit this criteria during the state championship series.

## Pairings

1. Seeding.
  - a. In all classes, the State Championship shall be seeded based on wild card point averages. The most recent point average computed through and including district competition shall be the points used.
    - i. If only two teams have identical point averages and are tied and the teams have played each other, the team that won the contest or the majority of contests between the two teams in question will get the higher seed.
    - ii. If the two teams have not played each other or if more than two teams are tied, step "iii" will be used to determine which team or teams get the higher seed.
    - iii. If two or more teams have identical wild card point averages and are tied, the team or teams playing the greatest number of games against first division teams will be selected. If only two teams remain after this step and the two teams tied have played each other, step "i" will be used to determine the higher seed. In Class A the team or teams playing the greatest number of games against first division teams in their classification will be selected.
    - iv. If a tie still exists, the team's opponents' wins and losses, counting all varsity games, will be totaled and the winning percentages calculated. The team whose opponents have the highest winning percentage based on this calculation will get the higher seed.
    - v. If a tie still exists, the higher seed will be decided by a coin flip in the NSAA office.
  - b. The No. 1 seed will play No. 8; No. 2 vs. 7; No. 3 vs. 6; and No. 4 vs. 5.
2. Seeds are placed on the bracket using the following procedure:
  - a. Game 1 shall be the #1 seed vs. the #8 seed
  - b. Game 2 shall be the #4 seed vs. the #5 seed
  - c. Game 3 shall be the #2 seed vs. the #7 seed
  - d. Game 4 shall be the #3 seed vs. the #6 seed
  - e. The higher seed shall be considered the home team throughout the tournament
3. Pairings for the State Championship will be confirmed by the Association on Sunday, March 2, 2025 for the Girls' Championship and Wednesday, March 5, 2025 for the Boys' Championship.
4. The records of all schools available to the NSAA on the date of the seeding shall be used to calculate wild card averages, even if an error on the record is discovered after the fact or the NSAA imposes a forfeit.

## Team Pass List

1. Each competing team will be allowed to enter 2 coaches and 18 competitors and managers on the team pass list.
2. The form for the list will be sent to the school in an email and must be filled out by the date indicated in the email.

## Reimbursements to Teams

1. The number to receive expenses shall be number of participants (qualifiers, number on roster) and one coach. (Note: Student Managers will not be included.)
2. Each school shall receive \$300.00 per game for each game in which the school participates during the State Championship.
3. Mileage. Mileage reimbursements will be based on the number of participants (qualifiers, number on roster) and one coach. A school's mileage reimbursement will be figured using the following formula: [(#miles **one way** x # trips) – 50 miles] x appropriate amount listed below:

Amount per mile	Number of participants/coaches
\$0.85	1-6
\$1.70	7-12
\$2.55	13-18

4. Lodging. If lodging is used, \$20 per participant and one coach will be paid based on the following criteria: (Note: **Times listed are scheduled competition start times.**)
- a. Night before competing—
    - i. Before 10:00 a.m., 76 + miles away
    - ii. Between 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., 150+ miles away
    - iii. At or after 3:00 p.m., 250+ miles away
  - b. Night of (still competing in State Championship)—
    - i. 76+ miles away
  - c. Final Night (Day eliminated) —
    - i. 5:00 p.m. or later, 200+ miles away

### Reporting for First Contest

1. Report to the floor manager at the site of your first game.
2. The coach is to notify the floor manager as to where the team is staying during the Championship.
3. You will be given two complimentary programs prior to your first contest; additional programs will be available for purchase.

### Signs

1. Signs that are to be affixed to a wall are only permitted in the Lincoln Public Schools facilities, provided they are in good taste, not political, and are not derogatory toward an opponent. **NOTE:** Signs are not permitted at the Bob Devaney Sports Center or Pinnacle Bank Arena.
2. Signs should be used to encourage a team, not degrade the opposition.

### Spectators' Tickets

1. Individual session tickets are \$8.00 for adults and \$6.00 for students.
2. All tickets must be purchased online. Specific ticket information will be released closer to the Championship.

### NSAA Policy on Comments and Negative Actions Against Officials and Judges.

The National Federation of State High School Associations has devised Code of Ethics guidelines for high school coaches. The function of a coach is to educate students through participation in interscholastic competition. The coach or sponsor shall respect and support contest officials and judges. The coach or sponsor shall not indulge in conduct that would incite players or spectators against the officials. Public criticism of officials, judges or players is unethical. The Nebraska School Activities Association has embraced that Coaches Code of Ethics and has established policies and standards that will cultivate the ideals of good sportsmanship, professionalism and conduct. It shall be the responsibility of each member school to ensure that all individuals directly associated with the interscholastic program conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike and professional manner.

The high school coach or director is a representative of the school at interscholastic activity events. It is the responsibility of all coaches and directors to serve as role models for students and the public.

It is the expectation that all coaches, directors, administrators and student participants shall refrain from negative criticism of NSAA member institutions, officials, adjudicators, judges, etc. in public statements before, during or after interscholastic events. The appropriate public response to media questions at all venues regarding officiating/judging is "per NSAA policy, I am unable to comment." Any other response is a violation of this board policy and is subject to penalty. It would be considered a violation of this NSAA policy to include, but are not limited to the following:

- a. Making degrading and/or critical remarks about officials or adjudicators or the officiating or judging before, during or after an event either on or off-site, via social media, or through any public means.
- b. Detaining the officials/adjudicators/judges during or following the event to request a ruling or explanation of actions or evaluation by the official(s)/adjudicator(s)/judges.
- c. Entering the officials dressing area following the contest.

Negative actions by an individual directly associated with the program shall be reported to the NSAA office by the school and/or by the head contest official, adjudicator, judge, or manager. The school shall document the results of their investigation and actions taken, where necessary and appropriate. The NSAA Executive Director shall determine the appropriate penalties for violation of this board policy.



## **NSAA SPORTSMANSHIP GUIDELINES AND EJECTIONS**

1. Enforcement of the “sit-out rule” for ejections from high school contests for unsportsmanlike conduct is a responsibility of the member school. Failure to properly enforce this rule could result in other sanctions by the NSAA.
2. Administrators will be expected to promptly file a report with the NSAA whenever a participant or coach from their school has been ejected from any high school contest. Such filing must be done online under the AD login section of the NSAA webpage.
3. A participant or coach ejected from a contest for unsportsmanlike conduct shall be ineligible for the next athletic contest at that level of competition and any other athletic contest at any level during the interim.
4. Enforcement of the “sit-out rule” is expected to begin immediately, regardless whether it is regular-season or tournament play.
5. Any participant ejected a second time during a season from a contest for unsportsmanlike conduct shall be ineligible for the next two contests at that level of competition and all other athletic contests at any level during the interim, in addition to other penalties the NSAA or school may assess.
6. Any participant ejected a third time during a season from a contest for unsportsmanlike conduct shall be ineligible for the next three contests at that level of competition and all other athletic contests at any level during the interim, in addition to other penalties the NSAA or school may assess.
7. During the time of their “sit-out” suspension, athletes who are ejected for unsportsmanlike conduct may not suit up or participate, but it is the school’s discretion whether such athlete is able to travel with the team or sit on the team bench.
8. Coaches who are ejected for unsportsmanlike conduct may not coach in any contest or be present at the contest site during the time of their “sit-out” suspension. Coaches who are ejected will also be required to successfully complete the NFHS Teaching & Modeling Behavior online course within 10 days of the ejection. Failure to successfully complete the course will result in a suspension from coaching for the remainder of the season. In those situations in which the ejection of the coach occurs near the end of the season or during the NSAA end-of-season play, the coach will be required to successfully complete the NFHS Teaching & Modeling Behavior online course before being able to coach the following season or year.
9. Coaches who are ejected a second time in a season will be required to sit-out the next two contests at that level, plus all other contests at other levels during the interim. Coaches may not be present at the contest site during the time of their “sit-out” suspension. Any coach ejected a second time will also be required to successfully complete the NFHS Fundamentals of Coaching online course within 10 days of the ejection. Failure to successfully complete the course will result in a suspension from coaching for the remainder of the season. In those situations in which the ejection of the coach occurs near the end of the season or during the NSAA end-of-season play, the coach will be required to successfully complete the NFHS Fundamentals of Coaching online course before being able to coach the following season or year.
10. If the ejection takes place in the final game of the season, the suspension will carry over to the following season.
11. When schools have students or coaches with multiple ejections, the school shall submit to the NSAA a written management plan on how they plan to remediate the problem.
12. Officials will be expected to file with the NSAA an ejection report for any ejection of a player or coach from a contest online. Any unusual situation that occurs prior to, during, or after a contest should also be reported.
13. Prompt reporting to the NSAA office by the official is necessary. Officials are asked to submit their electronic report or call the NSAA office by the day following the ejection.
14. Officials are asked to be specific in listing the reason(s) for an ejection.
15. Affiliated officials (officials registered from contiguous states) will also be required to perform this reporting function.
16. There is no appeal process for ejections for unsportsmanlike conduct.
17. The Executive Director shall reserve the right to consider the length of suspensions when some levels of competition are scheduled on an irregular basis (e.g., three weeks between regularly scheduled non- varsity contests).

*In the realm of good sportsmanship, it is the expectation that all student spectators to wear shirts for all sub-district, district, district final and state events. Each individual school shall be responsible for assuring that student spectators are appropriately attired. Participants must keep their uniforms on while in the competition area.*

### **Expected Behaviors at Awards Ceremonies**

Education-based activities give students the ability to train, participate and compete in a structured setting. With that, students often learn lessons that are sometimes not taught in the traditional academic classroom. Some of those lessons include learning to win and lose with dignity and grace. As such, the following guidelines have been developed for awards ceremonies at the conclusion of sub-district, district and state contests.

Only one team can win a district or state championship, yet the NSAA provides trophies, plaques and medals to the losing teams in many of the postseason activities. It shall be the expectation that both teams shall accept their medals and trophies in a sporting and willing manner. Some losing teams have been reluctant to step forward and accept their awards, and coaches and administrators need to assure sporting behaviors for their students. It is natural to be disappointed in losing the contest, but stepping forward at this time of disappointment is a life lesson that helps mold proper and sporting behaviors. It is the expectation!

The executive director or the NSAA Board of Directors shall determine the type and severity of sanctions to schools that do not comply with these expectations.



## Fan/Spectator Support Items

In the Chart below, ONLY those items marked “Yes” will be allowed as fan/spectator support items at all NSAA Sub-district, District, State Playoffs and State Championships.

Sportsmanlike vocal cheering and support from the team bench area are encouraged. The items indicated on this page are for use by fans/spectators.

**Prohibited items:** Confetti/shredded paper, powder (baby, talc, etc.), Laser light/pointer, flashing objects, miniature sports balls, objects or candy thrown into the crowd, Artificial noise makers, (included but not limited to horns, cow bells, bells, buzzers, clickers, thunder sticks, rattles, instruments not part of a band), whistles, air horns, sirens, cannons/muskets/guns/fireworks, live animals

The use of unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV), also known as drones, is prohibited for any purpose by any person at any NSAA post-season tournament venues. For purposes of this policy, a UAV is any aircraft without a human pilot aboard this device. This prohibition applies to all fields of play, courts, arena, mats, gym floor or pool, and includes a ban on the entire facility being used as part of the NSAA event, including the spectator areas and parking areas. Tournament management shall refuse admission or entry to anyone attempting to use a UAV; and if necessary, Tournament management shall remove anyone attempting to use a UAV and/or confiscate the UAV. An exception to this policy, in writing, may be made in specific cases for NSAA broadcast partners, provided the Management of the tournament facility permits the presence of UAVs for broadcast purposes under the control of the NSAA (2015).

**Regulations listed are subject to facility restrictions.**

<b>SPORT</b>	<b>BA</b>	<b>BB</b>	<b>CC</b>	<b>FB</b>	<b>GO</b>	<b>SO</b>	<b>SB</b>	<b>SW</b>	<b>TE</b>	<b>TR</b>	<b>VB</b>	<b>WR</b>
Balloons	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	No
One School Banner per school	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Hand held signs	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Megaphones (school recognized cheerleaders only)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	NA	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Shirts on student spectators (required) AR 3.3.11	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Shirts on general spectators	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Team Introduction Run-throughs or Break Away Banners	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	NA	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Pompoms, spirit towels	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Prerecorded music that has been approved by the Host Administration may be played during pre-contest warm ups provided that a high school band is not available to play during that time.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	NA	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
School bands	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	NA	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	NA	Yes	Yes
Carried school flags <b>(Running/taunting prohibited)</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

**Key:** BA-Baseball, BB-Basketball, CC-Cross Country, FB-Football, GO-Golf, SO-Soccer, SB-Softball, SW-Swimming & Diving, TE-Tennis, TR-Track & Field, VB-Volleyball, WR-Wrestling, NA-Not Apply



**SITES, DATES, AND TIME SCHEDULES**

**2025 Girls State Basketball Championship Schedule**

<b>Wednesday, March 5</b>			<b>Thursday, March 6</b>			
<u>Pinnacle Bank</u>		<u>Devaney</u>	<u>Pinnacle Bank</u>		<u>Devaney</u>	
9:00 A.M.	Class D1	Class C1	9:00 A.M.	Class D2	Class C2	
10:45 A.M.	Class D1	Class C1	10:45 A.M.	Class D2	Class C2	
1:30 P.M.	Class A	Class C1	1:30 P.M.	Class B	Class C2	
3:15 P.M.	Class A	Class C1	3:15 P.M.	Class B	Class C2	
6:00 P.M.	Class A	Class D1	6:00 P.M.	Class B	Class D2	
7:45 P.M.	Class A	Class D1	7:45 P.M.	Class B	Class D2	
<b>Friday, March 7</b>			<b>Saturday, March 8</b>			
<u>Pinnacle Bank</u>		<u>Devaney</u>	<b>Championship</b>		<b>Third Place</b>	
9:00 A.M.	Class C1	Class D1	<u>Pinnacle Bank</u>		<u>Lincoln Standing Bear</u>	
10:45 A.M.	Class C1	Class D1	9:00 A.M.	Class D1		
1:30 P.M.	Class A	Class C2	11:00 A.M.	Class C1	9:00 A.M.	Class D1
3:15 P.M.	Class A	Class C2	1:00 P.M.	Class A	11:00 A.M.	Class C2
6:00 P.M.	Class B	Class D2	4:15 P.M.	Class C2	1:00 P.M.	Class C1
7:45 P.M.	Class B	Class D2	6:15 P.M.	Class B	3:00 P.M.	Class D2
			8:15 P.M.	Class D2		

**2025 Boys State Basketball Championship Schedule**

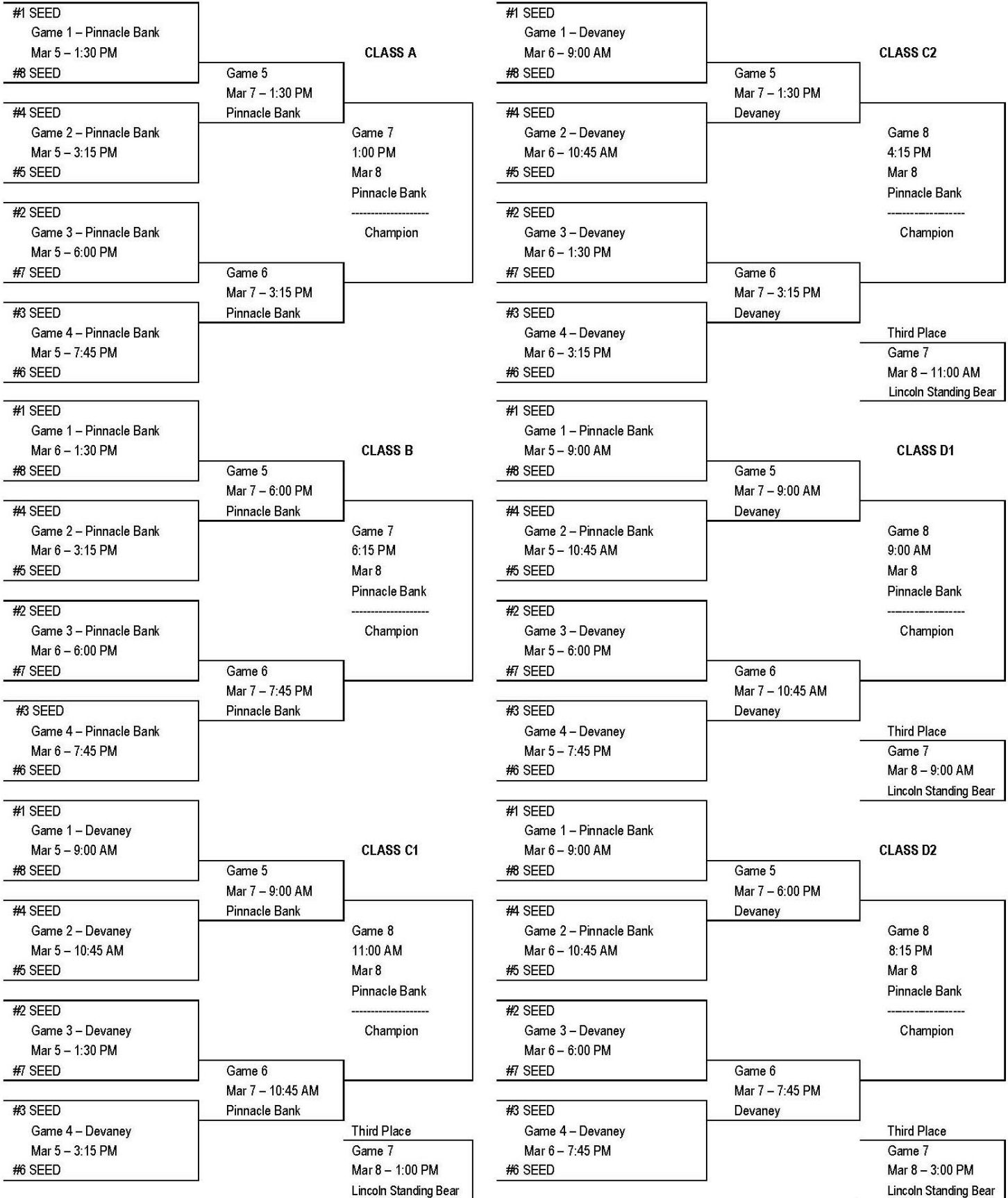
<b>Wednesday, March 12</b>			<b>Thursday, March 13</b>			
<u>Pinnacle Bank</u>		<u>Devaney</u>	<u>Pinnacle Bank</u>		<u>Devaney</u>	
9:00 A.M.	Class D1	Class C1	9:00 A.M.	Class D2	Class C2	
10:45 A.M.	Class D1	Class C1	10:45 A.M.	Class D2	Class C2	
1:30 P.M.	Class A	Class C1	1:30 P.M.	Class B	Class C2	
3:15 P.M.	Class A	Class C1	3:15 P.M.	Class B	Class C2	
6:00 P.M.	Class A	Class D1	6:00 P.M.	Class B	Class D2	
7:45 P.M.	Class A	Class D1	7:45 P.M.	Class B	Class D2	
<b>Friday, March 14</b>			<b>Saturday, March 15</b>			
<u>Pinnacle Bank</u>		<u>Devaney</u>	<b>Championship</b>		<b>Third Place</b>	
9:00 A.M.	Class C1	Class D1	<u>Pinnacle Bank</u>		<u>Lincoln Southwest</u>	
10:45 A.M.	Class C1	Class D1	9:00 A.M.	Class D1		
1:30 P.M.	Class A	Class C2	11:00 A.M.	Class C1	9:00 A.M.	Class D1
3:15 P.M.	Class A	Class C2	1:00 P.M.	Class A	11:00 A.M.	Class C2
6:00 P.M.	Class B	Class D2	4:15 P.M.	Class C2	1:00 P.M.	Class C1
7:45 P.M.	Class B	Class D2	6:15 P.M.	Class B	3:00 P.M.	Class D2
			8:15 P.M.	Class D2		



# NSAA GIRLS BASKETBALL STATE CHAMPIONSHIP BRACKETS

## March 5-March 8, 2025

All Finals at Pinnacle Bank Arena





# NSAA BOYS BASKETBALL STATE CHAMPIONSHIP BRACKETS

## March 12-March 15, 2025

All Finals at Pinnacle Bank Arena

