

# SPORTS COMMITTEE

**Committee Members:** Tanya Turner (Chair), Bryan Tyson (Vice Chair), Sam Jones, Larry Williford, Jim Butler, Joe Franks      **Staff:** Tra Waters and Rhonda Dreibelbis

AGENDA ITEM	RECOMMENDATION	SUPPORTING INFORMATION
<b>1. Lacrosse Season Length Increase</b>  <b>[NCLCA]</b>  <b>[Attachment S1]</b>	To extend the regular season for both men's and women's lacrosse to match the length of other spring sports with 24-game limitations.	<b>Rationale:</b> See Attachment S1 <b>Budget Impact:</b> See Attachment S1 <b>Educational Impact:</b> See Attachment S1 <b>Equity Impact:</b> See Attachment S1 <b>Effective Date:</b> Immediately or 24-25 School Year
<b>2. 2024-25 Sports Calendar</b>  <b>[Attachment S2]</b>	To approve the 2024-25 NCHSAA sports calendar.	<b>Rationale:</b> N/A <b>Budget Impact:</b> N/A <b>Educational Impact:</b> N/A <b>Equity Impact:</b> N/A <b>Effective Date:</b> 2024-25 School Year
<b>3. Tennis – Regional Berth Formula</b>  <b>[NCTCA]</b>  <b>[Attachment S3]</b>	To change the formula for the distribution of berths to the individual regional tennis tournaments.	<b>Rationale:</b> See Attachment S3 <b>Budget Impact:</b> See Attachment S3 <b>Educational Impact:</b> See Attachment S3 <b>Equity Impact:</b> See Attachment S3 <b>Effective Date:</b> Spring, 2024
<b>4. Tennis - Alternate Match Formats</b>  <b>[NCTCA]</b>  <b>[Attachment S4]</b>	To authorize alternate match formats for dual team matches during the regular season. Upon mutual agreement, coaches may conduct a match using 8 or 10 game pro-sets in singles, and/or use no-ad scoring in singles and doubles.	<b>Rationale:</b> See Attachment S4 <b>Budget Impact:</b> See Attachment S4 <b>Educational Impact:</b> See Attachment S4 <b>Equity Impact:</b> See Attachment S4 <b>Effective Date:</b> Spring, 2024

AGENDA ITEM	RECOMMENDATION	SUPPORTING INFORMATION
<p>5. Softball Bat Testing Policy</p> <p>[NCHSAA]</p> <p>[Attachment S5]</p>	<p>Review of policy approved by the Board of Directors in Spring, 2023 for bat testing. Procedure approved is listed below in yellow:</p> <p><i>Procedure:</i></p> <p>--The NCHSAA will provide two bat-testing machines per region and require at least one certified machine tester. The tester cannot be a coach--must be a neutral tester, i.e. County or School Athletic Director</p> <p>--Bat testers must use the USA Softball Bat List for specific bat pressures</p> <p>Note: some bats, i.e. Easton Ghost will fall in the illegal range; however, these bats can be legal based on different pressure allowances</p> <p>--Bats must pass 2 out of 3 test attempts to be legal</p> <p>--Once tested, an approved bat will receive a sticker applied by the bat tester</p> <p>--Any bat being used at the State Championship game that does not have a sticker of testing approval will need to be tested on site and may run the risk of being "thrown out" if it fails</p>	<p><b>Rationale:</b> Staff has received concerns regarding the policy and has reviewed proposed policy with other state associations. Additionally, the staff conducted a survey of the membership to inquire regarding the new policy.</p> <p><b>Budget Impact:</b> Cost to purchase the machines and payment of individuals to test.</p> <p><b>Educational Impact:</b> N/A</p> <p><b>Equity Impact:</b> N/A</p> <p><b>Effective Date:</b> TBD</p>

**AGENDA ITEM****6. Pilot Program in Soccer:  
Participation in Three Halves****[NCSCA]****[Attachment S6]****RECOMMENDATION**

To allow freshman and sophomores **only** to participate in three (3) halves of soccer on the same day (one day per week).  
--Participation in up to three halves of soccer on a single day will be considered a participation in a single game towards the daily, weekly, and seasonal limitations  
--Any participation for any period of time equals playing a full half  
--Will not be allowed in conference tournaments and state playoffs games.  
--Overtime periods will be considered an extension of the previous half  
--Schools would be required to conduct hydration checks and concussion checks. This safety check would take place between games played.

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

**Rationale:** To give coaches some alternatives for ninth and tenth graders to continue to gain valuable game experiences at the JV level and still be available as a backup in the varsity game. Detailed further in attachment S6.

**Budget Impact:** N/A

**Educational Impact:** Allow more students to participate in high school athletics, which would likely be a motivating factor for those students to attend school and engage in their academics.

**Equity Impact:** Both men's and women's programs affected equally.

**Effective Date:** 2024-25 School Year

**AGENDA ITEM****7. Boys' Volleyball**

**[Southern  
Carolina Conf.]**

**[Attachment S7]**

RECOMMENDATION	SUPPORTING INFORMATION
<p>To approve the “sponsorship” (support/recognition) by the NCHSAA of the annual North Carolina Boys’ Volleyball Invitational Tournament.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• NCBVA and the Carolina Region of USA Volleyball would continue to partner, facilitate, and financially support the event.</li><li>• NCHSAA would serve as a “sponsor” recognizing the annual invitational, in line with the same support shown to Girls’ Wrestling Invitational as that sport emerged.</li><li>• NCBVA would continue to be responsible for planning &amp; organizing the event, facility rental, tournament equipment, volunteers, and securing officials.</li><li>• NCBVA would provide awards for the event.</li><li>• Event will follow NFHS volleyball rules and guidelines.</li></ul>	<p><b>Rationale:</b> To provide a championship experience for the male volleyball players in North Carolina and help showcase the growing sport of boys’ volleyball. Having the NCHSAA support an invitational will help get more schools committed and more student-athletes participating. Several schools have intramural clubs and indicate they will compete once the sport is sanctioned.</p> <p><b>Budget Impact:</b> Each school pay \$150 for participation in the tournament. The school programs have been raising fund through participation fees, gate receipts, fundraisers and the Carolina region grant. No budget impact on the NCHSAA.</p> <p><b>Educational Impact:</b> For past events some schools have dismissed early for the Friday games depending on where they are located in the state.</p> <p><b>Equity Impact:</b> N/A</p> <p><b>Effective Date:</b> Spring, 2024</p>

# NORTH CAROLINA HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

## Meeting of the Board of Directors – Agenda Item Submission

Name(s): **North Carolina Lacrosse Coaches' Association (NCLCA)**

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

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

NCLCA requests that the regular season, for both Women's and Men's Lacrosse, be extended in such a manner that it aligns with all other NCHSAA sports which share its game-limit of 24 games.

In practice, this would expand the regular season from 10-weeks to 11-/12-weeks; maintaining the common "first practice" date and pushing back the "seeding" date to align more closely with Women's Soccer and Baseball / Softball in the spring.

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

### Safety of the Student Athlete

- Currently, a 24-game regular season would practically require a 3 games per week schedule throughout the entire season;
  - NCLCA does not believe that playing the game-limit of contests for the entirety of season is in the best interest of the sport nor safety of the athletes;
  - An extension of the season to align with like-sports would allow for more physical recovery time between contests for student-athletes, reducing the risk of injury to the athletes;
    - There are 54 "playable" (non-Sunday) season days in the current iteration of the season; this would mean playing a game every 2.25 days
    - Excluding Saturdays, there are 45 playable days in the regular season; which would equate to a game every 1.85 days
    - Excluding Saturdays and the week+ of Spring Break, there are 40 (or fewer) playable days in the regular season, which would be one game every 1.67 days

### Equity

- Women's and Men's Lacrosse is currently the shortest sports season of all NCHSAA team sports by a wide margin. It is also the shortest season of those allowed 24-games in a season.
- It would be appropriate and equitable to offer Women's and Men's lacrosse players in NC similar season lengths each year; or, if logistically burdensome, to offer a rotational

schedule allowing for all spring sports to share the burden of a shortened season every few years.

Men's Tennis	Spring	10 weeks + 3 days
Men's Lacrosse	Spring	10 weeks + 3 days
Men's Golf	Spring	11 weeks
Women's Tennis	Fall	11 weeks + 1 day
Women's Golf	Fall	11 weeks + 3 days
Spring Track	Spring	11 weeks + 3 days
Softball	Spring	11 weeks + 3 days
Baseball	Spring	11 weeks + 3 days
Volleyball	Fall	11 weeks + 3 days
Cross Country	Fall	12 weeks
Women's Soccer	Spring	12 weeks + 2 days
Wrestling	Winter	12 weeks + 4 days
Men's Soccer	Fall	12 weeks + 5 days
Football	Fall	12 weeks + 5 days
Swimming / Diving	Winter	13 weeks
Indoor Track	Winter	14 weeks
Basketball	Winter	17 weeks

#### Logistical Benefits

- Field Space at most schools which carry Women's and/or Men's Lacrosse is at a premium. The extension and alignment of the season would spread the scheduling burden of the field out an additional one- or two-week
- Officiating is a concern throughout all sports. Fewer and fewer officials are being asked to do more; the reality is that across the state lacrosse games have been canceled or postponed because officials are unable to work 2- and 3- games in the same day. Again, spreading the season out and allowing for fewer overall games per week day will increase the availability of officials to meet the demand of the season.

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

- There should be no negative budget implications for athletic departments beyond those currently incurred.

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

- There should be no educational impacts to lacrosse athletes dissimilar to all other seasons of similar or greater length, which is currently every sport season except Men's Tennis.

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

- The request is to align both Women's and Men's Lacrosse seasons alike.

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

- The effective date requested could be as soon as the 2023 spring season but no later than the 2024 spring season.

Signature: Dominic Koplar, President, NCLCA    Date: October 30, 2023



# NORTH CAROLINA LACROSSE COACHES ASSOCIATION

November 8, 2023

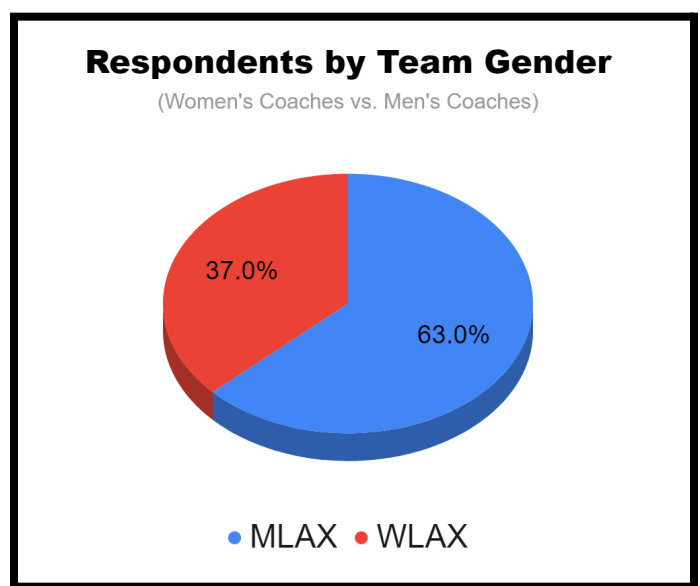
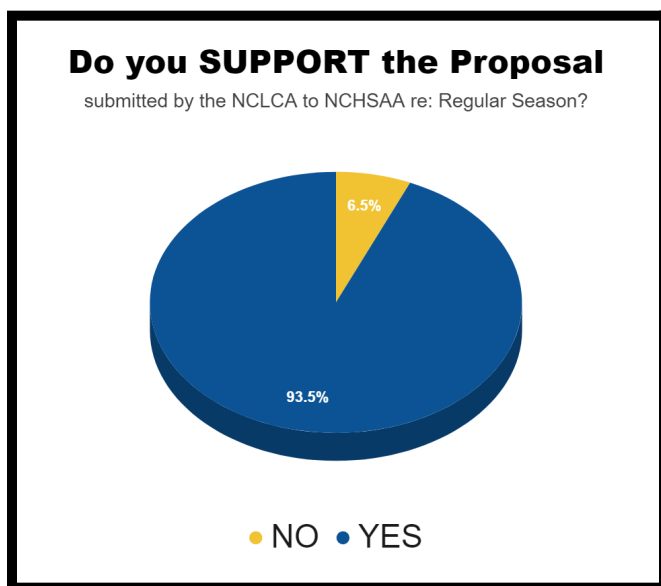
To: NCHSAA Commissioner & Board of Directors

Re: NCLCA Proposal on MLAX/WLAX Regular Season Length - Winter 2023

Madam Commissioner and Members of the Board -

Please find, below, quantitative and qualitative data in support of our proposal to align the regular season Women's and Men's Lacrosse seasons to better serve and keep safe our student athletes.

**93.5%** NCHSAA Head Coaches SUPPORT aligning / extending the regular season



NCHSAA Head Coach Respondents: 92 (WLAX = 34 | MLAX = 58)

- Data sets represent **only** NCHSAA Member Schools (other data points excluded)
- This represents approximately 40% of NCHSAA lacrosse programs;
  - 27% WLAX | 45% of MLAX
  - We *identified* almost 15% of programs are currently without a Head Coach
  - We are confident that this data, as presented, can be extrapolated and is statistically significant.
- [List of Respondents](#)

Survey Length: 6 days (November 2nd - 7th)

### **Summary of Coaches' Comments:**

#### **FOR:** (Not all responses included; all sentiments covered below)

"Expanding the season is critical for the safety of our student-athletes. ..., the sport is growing at a rapid pace which is stretching the officiating resources. ...games are in danger of being canceled as several were last year. There is also the situation where only 2 officials work games instead of three. That creates an unsafe environment ...Expanding the season would allow games to be spaced out enough so that student-athletes can physically recover and that enough officials can be assigned to each game."

"Expanding the season would allow us to not play 3 games ... Additionally, it would also allow for our athletes to have better rest/recovery during the week."

"For health and safety, at least one more week (if not two) is a better alternative than playing 3 games per week on a regular basis."

"I have had a hard time [even] scheduling 20 games in the past because several of my women student athletes are coming from basketball."

"It is important and highly necessary to extend the season because it allows the athletes to practice and properly develop their skills at a slower pace. Our high school program mostly attracts first time athletes, allowing the extension would ...increase their confidence and level of play. Having the time to thoroughly develop their game, will in turn develop stronger athletes."

"I'd love to give my girls the opportunity to play more games, because they won't have the experience of playing competitive lacrosse after high school (for many of the girls I coach), but don't feel as though for safety it's possible. Additionally as games need to be canceled due to weather it gets impossible to reschedule with the current shorter season."

"An extension would allow for fewer 3 game weeks, which will reduce player fatigue and injury, and give student-athletes more time to be...students. ...[and] would help teams and administrators re-schedule conference games that had been cancelled due to rain or snow. ...[and] allow the assigner of officials to schedule referees more effectively, considering there is currently a shortage of lacrosse officials in some areas"

"I would like to extend it to be equitable with the amount of time other spring sports receive."

"Hard to schedule when there are 3 different spring breaks. 3 games a week, especially end of season is asking for injuries."

"As it stands right now we are forced to play three games a week without playing during Spring break if we want to play the full slate of games. This means that there is less time to practice during the year and more chances for overuse injuries for players in games. ..."

"With the extension, the girls will get more rest time and get the opportunity to both heal their minds and body and improve actually skills between games."

"To grow this sport, especially in the south-eastern part of our state, we have to allow for greater practice opportunities to educate athletes on the game and prepare them for the fast pace, competitive, and amazing sport that is lacrosse....[I want all athletes] across the state to have the opportunity to play... and I want to see more schools have lacrosse. Right now, it's asking a lot of the athletes, parents, and coaches to navigate 3-game weeks with minimal practice, making the buy-in to play more difficult."

"... Lacrosse is a full-field sport that also carries, on the women's side, a high incidence of ACL injuries. With conference schedules having two games per week (we play 14 conference games due to the size of the conference) scheduling of additional games requires either a back to back, or, three games in a row scenario. ...it only increases the possibility of injuries. Since the NCHSAA expanded the schedule to 20 games only a handful of teams have actually completed that many. I believe for the growth of the sport and the safety of the players the season should be expanded by two weeks to put us in line with the other women's field sport played during the spring-soccer."

#### **AGAINST:** (All feedback included.)

"The men's Lacrosse game is full contact and physically impactful, and I believe the kids need time to recover 3 games a week in my opinion is to many. 20 games a season seems like the right number."

"Without additional compensation I would not be willing to coach additional weeks. I already lose a ton of income coaching lacrosse for high school, and I would simply not more time away from my family and work just for one or two more weeks. The benefit is zero and the burden is great. "

"1) 2 more weeks, for the same pay sort of devalues the time and effort we all put into it already. 2) 24 regular season games before playoffs is WAY too many. (See college schedules) 3) The Top 10 from East and West are pretty identifiable by Spring Break, the other 80% of teams are pretty ready to pack it in post Spring break, extending season will increase burnout and/or probably dumb injuries. 4) For those passionate about maximizing schedule, have had it. play M-W-F or use your Saturday times. 5) I would expect less coaches and OFFICIALS becoming available. 6) How many of the better kids will be double dipping between club\$ and high school workouts in May? Increase injury and/or burnout."

## 2024-2025 NCHSAA Sports Calendar

FALL 2024	
First Practice	Jul. 31
First Contest	Aug. 12

WOMEN'S GOLF	
Reporting deadline	Oct. 16; 9pm
Regional	Oct. 21 or 22
State	Oct. 28 - 29

VOLLEYBALL	
Seeding	Oct. 17
1st Round	Oct. 19
2nd Round	Oct. 22
3rd Round	Oct. 24
4th Round	Oct. 26
Regional	Oct. 29
State	Nov. 2

WOMEN'S TENNIS	
<b>Individual</b>	
Reporting deadline	Oct. 14; 3pm
Regional	Oct. 18 - 19
State	Oct. 25 - 26
<b>Dual Team</b>	
Bracketing	Oct. 14
1st Round	Oct. 16
2nd Round	Oct. 21
3rd Round	Oct. 23
4th Round	Oct. 28
Regional	Oct. 30
State	Nov. 2

CROSS COUNTRY	
Reporting deadline	Oct. 19; 11:59 pm
Regional	Oct. 26
State	Nov. 2

MEN'S SOCCER	
Seeding	Nov. 1
1st Round	Nov. 4
2nd Round	Nov. 7
3rd Round	Nov. 11
4th Round	Nov. 14
Regional	Nov. 19
State	Nov. 22 - 23

CHEERLEADING	
Invitational	Dec. 7

FOOTBALL	
First Practice	Jul. 31
First Scrimmage	Aug. 9
Week 1	Aug. 23
Week 2	Aug. 30
Week 3	Sept. 6
Week 4	Sept. 13
Week 5	Sept. 20
Week 6	Sept. 27
Week 7	Oct. 4
Week 8	Oct. 11
Week 9	Oct. 18
Week 10	Oct. 25
Week 11	Nov. 1
FOOTBALL PLAYOFFS	
Seeding	Nov. 2
1st Round	Nov. 8
2nd Round	Nov. 15
3rd Round	Nov. 22
4th Round	Nov. 29
Regionals	Dec. 6
State	Dec. 13 - 14

WINTER 2024 - 2025	
First Practice (Indoor Track, Swimming & Diving, Wrestling)	Oct. 30
First Contest (Indoor Track, Swimming & Diving, Wrestling)	Nov. 11

INDOOR TRACK	
Reporting deadline	Feb. 1; 9pm
State	Feb. 7 - 8

SWIMMING & DIVING	
Reporting deadline	Jan. 25; 11:59pm
Regionals	Jan. 30 - Feb. 1
State	Feb. 5 - 8

WRESTLING	
<b>Dual team</b>	
Bracketing	Jan. 30
1st/2nd	Feb. 1
3rd/Regionals	Feb. 5
State Championship	Feb. 8
<b>Individual</b>	
Men's/Women's Reporting deadline	Jan 30; 3pm
Women's Regional	Feb. 7 - 8
Men's Regional	Feb. 14 - 15
Men's/Women's State	Feb. 20 - 22

BASKETBALL	
First Practice	Oct. 30
First Practice (Non-FB)	Oct. 23
First Contest	Nov. 15
First Contest (Non-FB)	Nov. 8
Conference Tournament	Feb. 17 - 21
Seeding	Feb. 22
1st Round	Feb. 25
2nd Round	Feb. 28
3rd Round	Mar. 4
4th Round	Mar. 7
Regional/State	Mar. 10 - 15

SUMMER DEAD PERIODS 2024	
July 1 - 7, 2024	
July 15 - 21, 2024	

SCHOOL YEAR DEAD PERIODS	
July 31 - August 20, 2024	
October 30 - November 19, 2024	
February 12 - March 4, 2025	
Last 5 Student Days of the 1st Semester	
Last 10 Student Days of the 2nd Semester	

SUMMER DEAD PERIODS 2025	
June 30 - July 6, 2025	
July 14 - 20, 2025	

SPRING 2025	
First Practice	Feb. 12
First Contest	Feb. 24

MEN'S GOLF	
Reporting deadline	Apr. 30, 9pm
Regional	May 5 or 6
State	May 12 - 13

MEN'S TENNIS	
<b>Individual</b>	
Reporting deadline	Apr. 28; 3pm
Regional	May 2 - 3
State	May 9 - 10
<b>Dual Team</b>	
Seeding	Apr. 28
1st Round	Apr. 30
2nd Round	May 5
3rd Round	May 7
4th Round	May 12
Regional	May 14
State	May 17

TRACK	
Reporting deadline	May 3; 9pm
Regionals	May 9 - 10
State	May 16 - 17

LACROSSE	
Seeding	Apr. 28
1st Round	Apr. 30
2nd Round	May 3
3rd Round	May 6
4th Round	May 9
Regional	May 13
State	May 16 - 17

Seeding	Apr. 28	May 9
1st Round	Apr. 30	May 13
2nd Round	May 3	May 16
3rd Round	May 6	May 20
4th Round	May 9	May 23
Regional	May 13	May 28
State	May 16 - 17	May 30-31

WOMEN'S SOCCER	
Seeding	May 9
1st Round	May 12
2nd Round	May 15
3rd Round	May 19
4th Round	May 22
Regional	May 27
State	May 30 - 31

SOFTBALL	
Seeding	May 5
1st Round	May 6
2nd Round	May 9
3rd Round	May 13
4th Round	May 16
Regional	May 20 - 24
State	May 30 - 31

BASEBALL	
Seeding	May 5
1st Round	May 6
2nd Round	May 9
3rd Round	May 13
4th Round	May 16
Regional	May 20 - 24
State	May 30 - 31

# **NORTH CAROLINA HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION**

## **Meeting of the Board of Directors – Agenda Item Submission**

**Name(s) :** Vic Ramsey, Lee Matthews, Andrew Tuttle, Donald Clark

**School/LEA/Conference/Group:** NC High School Tennis Coaches Association

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

The NCHSTCA Board of Directors, at its October 14<sup>th</sup> meeting, approved a proposal to recommend changing the formula for the distribution of berths to the individual regional tennis tournaments. The proposal, if adopted, would accomplish two things:

1. It would describe the process for distributing regional berths, a process used for many years, in the handbook regulations for the individual regional tournaments, increasing transparency and reducing the potential for misunderstanding among players, parents, and coaches.
2. It would amend that formula to make the process more accurately reflect the stated goal of distributing these berths among the conferences “on a percentage basis”.

Please see the explanation of this proposal attached to this form for complete details and examples.

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

- **Rationale: (Why should the board consider and possibly pass this recommendation?)**
  - The recommended changes would more equitably distribute regional berths among the conferences in a given region. The NCHSAA staff responsible for tennis has reviewed this proposal and agrees it would result in greater fairness.
- **Budget Impact: (What does this mean to a school's/athletic department's finances?)**
  - No budget impact is anticipated.
- **Educational Impact: (Does this mean loss of school time? Does it interfere with study time?)**
  - No educational impact is anticipated.
- **Gender Impact: (Is this proposal fair to males and females?)**
  - The same process would be used for both the men's and women's tennis season.
- **Effective Date: (When would this go into effect?)**
  - NCHSAA staff had agreed to make these changes administratively, effective for the fall 2023 women's tennis season, but asked us to submit a formal proposal in light of the passage of Senate Bill 452 and the language in that bill regarding notice required for changes in NCHSAA rules. For this reason, we would request that this change be made effective starting with the Spring 2024 Men's Tennis season.

- If this is not approved, then we would anticipate an effective date beginning with the Fall 2024 Women's Tennis season.

Signature  Date 10/30/23

## Regional Berth Distribution

### Summary

The individual championships in tennis, in both singles and doubles, begin with regional tournaments, from which the 16 participants in the state tournament are determined.

The current handbook declares, in 4.11.4(d), that “Each conference will be allowed an assigned number of singles and doubles participants. This number is determined on a percentage basis.”

However, neither the size of the regional tournaments (traditionally 16 in singles and 16 in doubles), nor the process for determining this “percentage basis” is explained, leading to confusion and misunderstanding on the part of players, parents, coaches, and other stakeholders.

If adopted, this amendment would place language in the handbook describing in detail the process for distributing berths among the various conferences to the regional tournaments.

The amendment will also make a modification of the formula which has been used to determine this distribution, resulting in a more accurate distribution of berths among the conferences.

*Note: For purposes of the individual tournament, the words “region” and “regional” do not refer to “East” and “West” as in the dual-team tournament and most other sports. In the individual tennis tournaments, in 2A, 3A, and 4A, there are four regional tournaments: East, Mideast, Midwest, and West. In 1A, because there are fewer schools overall fielding tennis teams, there are only two regionals, East and West.*

### Background

The process for distributing regional berths was created administratively many years ago, but has never been published on the NCHSAA website. Each conference is given a number of berths in its regional based on the number of schools in that conference fielding tennis teams, relative to the number of teams in the region as a whole, using the following process:

1. The proportion of regional berths to which a conference is entitled is calculated using this formula:

**The number of teams in the conference divided by the number of teams in the region multiplied by 16 (the number of available berths).**

2. Each conference receives an initial distribution based on the whole number portion of the value derived above.

3. The remaining available berths, up to 16 in each event, are distributed among the conferences in a “round-up distribution” as follows:

- a. any conference which did not receive a berth in the initial distribution shall receive a round-up distribution of one berth,

- b. the conferences which have the decimal remainder closest to the next whole number receive round-up distributions until the total field equals 16.

c. If two or more conferences have the same decimal remainder, and there are not enough berths available for all of them, those berths shall be distributed by random draw.

d. In succeeding years, if the same situation presents itself, the conferences that did not receive a round-up distribution in the prior year will receive priority consideration for a round-up distribution.

### Examples

For purposes of illustration, here are four examples of how this process works, all drawn from the 2023 women's tennis season.

The 3A Midwest regional illustrates the rare situation where the initial calculation yields whole numbers for all participating conferences, and no round-up distribution is required.

3A Midwest Regional								
Conferences	Number of Teams	% of Region	x 16 berths	Initial Distribution	Round-Up Distribution	Total Berths	Singles Berths	Doubles Berths
Mid Piedmont 3A	6	.250	4.00	4		4	4	4
Mid-State 3A	6	.250	4.00	4		4	4	4
Rocky River 2A/3A	3	.125	2.00	2		2	2	2
South Piedmont 3A	9	.375	6.00	6		6	6	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>1.000</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>16</b>

When the numbers line up perfectly, and each conference calculates to a number ending in .00, then each conference receives exactly the proportion of regional berths to which it is entitled.

Unfortunately, this is a rare occurrence. It happened only once, in this instance, in the fall 2023 women's season.

The 3A Mideast regional illustrates the common situation where conferences have a "decimal remainder" (a calculation ending in something other than .00), and the remaining berths are distributed by rounding up.

3A Mideast Regional								
Conferences	Number of Teams	% of Region	x 16 berths	Initial Distribution	Round-Up Distribution	Total Berths	Singles Berths	Doubles Berths
All American 3A/4A	5	.200	3.20	3		3	3	3
Central 3A	7	.280	4.48	4		4	4	4
Northern Lakes Athletic 2A/3A	2	.080	1.28	1		1	1	1
Sandhills 3A/4A	4	.160	2.56	2	1	3	3	3
The Big East 2A/3A	4	.160	2.56	2	1	3	3	3
United 8 3A/4A	3	.120	1.92	1	1	2	2	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>1.000</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>16</b>

Notice in this instance, the extra berths were awarded to the conferences with the largest decimal remainder, and that there were enough remaining berths such that the two conferences with identical decimal remainders each received a round-up berth.

The three conferences with the high decimal remainders received a slightly larger proportion of bids than they deserved, mathematically, and the three other conferences received a slightly small proportion of bids than they deserved.

This is the “problem of the fractions”. When forced to round up (or down), as is almost always the case, some conferences benefit and other conferences are disadvantaged.

Here’s an example of a regional where two conferences with the same number of teams were tied for the final berth available.

2A Mid-east Regional								
Conferences	Number of Teams	% of Region	x 16 berths	Initial Distribution	Round-Up Distribution	Total Berths	Singles Berths	Doubles Berths
Mid-Carolina 1A/2A	5	.217	3.48	3		3	3	3
Northern Lakes Athletic 2A/3A	4	.174	2.78	2	1	3	3	3
Southeastern Athletic 2A	5	.217	3.48	3	1	4	4	4
Super Six 1A/2A	4	.174	2.78	2	1	3	3	3
The Big East 2A/3A	3	.130	2.09	2		2	2	2
Waccamaw 1A/2A	2	.087	1.39	1		1	1	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>1.000</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>16</b>

In this case, thirteen bids were awarded in the initial distribution. The Super Six and Northern Lakes Athletic conferences each received a round-up bid, based on their calculated value of 2.78.

That left one bid remaining, and two conferences, the Mid-Carolina and the Southeastern Athletic each had five teams, and each had a calculated value of 3.48. The tie was broken by a random draw, and the Southeastern Athletic received the final berth.

However, that final berth is actually two berths: one in singles and one in doubles. Would it not have been more equitable to split that berth between the two conferences in question, with one receiving an extra singles berth, and the other the extra doubles berth?

Finally, here’s an example of multiple conferences tied for the final available berths.

3A East Regional								
Conferences	Number of Teams	% of Region	x 16 berths	Initial Distribution	Round-Up Distribution	Total Berths	Singles Berths	Doubles Berths
Big Carolina 3A/4A	5	.208	3.33	3		3	3	3
Coastal 3A	6	.250	4.00	4		4	4	4
Mid-eastern 3A/4A	3	.125	2.00	2		2	2	2
Northeastern Coastal 2A/3A	2	.083	1.33	1		1	1	1
Quad County 3A	8	.333	5.33	5	1	6	6	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>1.000</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>16</b>

In this case, three conferences were tied in terms of their decimal remainder, x.33. By random draw, the final available berth was awarded to the Quad County conference.

Again, would it not have been more equitable to split the berth, and award the singles berth to one conference, and the doubles berth to another? Granted, the third conference would be left out entirely, but that cannot be helped.

But, in this case, why should one conference get the benefit of the round-up in both draws?

## Our Proposal

Our proposal is based on an observation, demonstrated by the examples above, that the current process is based on a fundamental error: **there are not 16 berths in the regional tournament; there are 32, sixteen in singles and sixteen in doubles.**

We propose, therefore, to amend the formula cited above, by changing the initial multiplier from 16 to 32. This, we assert, will yield a calculation that more accurately reflects the proportion of bids that each conference should receive.

We readily admit that our proposal does not eliminate “the problem of the fractions”, and that some random draws will still be necessary (see the addendum).

However, we believe the formula we propose will be more accurate, and thus, more fair, mitigating “the problem of the fractions” to a great degree.

## Proposed Reading

### 4.11.4 – Playoffs (Regionals-Individual Competition)

(d) Number of Entries – There shall be 16 entries in singles, and 16 entries in doubles, at each regional individual tennis tournament. Each conference will be allowed an assigned number of singles and doubles participants. This number is determined on a percentage basis, as follows:

(1) The proportion of regional berths to which a conference is entitled is calculated using this formula:

**The number of teams in the conference divided by the number of teams in the region multiplied by 32 (the number of available berths).**

(2) Each conference receives an initial distribution based on the whole number portion of the value derived above.

(3) The remaining available berths, up to 32, are distributed among the conferences in a “round-up distribution” as follows:

(i) Any conference which received zero or one berth in the initial distribution shall receive the round-up distribution necessary for that conference to receive two berths. No conference shall receive fewer than two berths.

(ii) The conferences which have the decimal remainder closest to the next whole number receive round-up distributions until the total field equals 32.

(iii) If two or more conferences have the same decimal remainder, and there are not enough berths available for all of them, those berths shall be distributed by random draw.

(iv) In succeeding years, if the same situation presents itself, the conferences that did not receive a round-up distribution in the prior year will receive priority consideration for a round-up distribution.

(4) The number of berths assigned to each conference shall be divided into berths for singles and doubles as follows:

(i) If the total number of berths is even, then those berths shall be divided equally between singles and doubles.

(ii) If the total number of berths is odd, then those shall be divided between singles and doubles such the number of singles berths is either one more or one less than the number of doubles entries. NCHSAA staff shall make these determinations by random draw among all conferences in a regional with an odd number of berths, such that both the singles and doubles draws have 16 entrants each.

(5) NCHSAA staff shall post the number of qualifiers assigned to each conference, as well as the location, regional director, and other information relevant to the regional tournament, on the NCHSAA website at least three weeks prior to the end of the regular season.

(e) Each conference will determine who its qualifiers are to the individual regional tournament in the manner of its own choosing. Refer to NCHSAA website for regional information and number of qualifiers. Conference qualifiers are expected to compete throughout individual tournament.

*Renumber following paragraphs as (f) to (l).*

## Examples

Let's revisit the four examples cited earlier, and see how the amended formula would address the issues identified.

3A Midwest Regional								
Conferences	Number of Teams	% of Region	x 32 berths	Initial Distribution	Round-Up Distribution	Total Berths	Singles Berths	Doubles Berths
Mid Piedmont 3A	6	.250	8.00	8		8	4	4
Mid-State 3A	6	.250	8.00	8		8	4	4
Rocky River 2A/3A	3	.125	4.00	4		4	2	2
South Piedmont 3A	9	.375	12.00	12		12	6	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>1.000</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>16</b>

In the 3A Midwest, where all the numbers all lined up perfectly, there's no change whatsoever.

3A Mideast Regional								
Conferences	Number of Teams	% of Region	x 32 berths	Initial Distribution	Round-Up Distribution	Total Berths	Singles Berths	Doubles Berths
All American 3A/4A	5	.200	6.40	6		6	3	3
Central 3A	7	.280	8.96	8	1	9	5	4
Northern Lakes Athletic 2A/3A	2	.080	2.56	2	1	3	1	2
Sandhills 3A/4A	4	.160	5.12	5		5	3	2
The Big East 2A/3A	4	.160	5.12	5		5	2	3
United 8 3A/4A	3	.120	3.84	3	1	4	2	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>1.000</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>16</b>

In the 3A Mideast, the All American and United 8 were unchanged.

The Central and the Northern Lakes Athletic each received an additional berth, and the Sandhills and The Big East each received one fewer. Note that these two conferences received six bids, three in singles in the current process, even though their calculated value was only 5.12. So, this adjustment is entirely justified by the math.

2A Mideast Regional								
Conferences	Number of Teams	% of Region	x 32 berths	Initial Distribution	Round-Up Distribution	Total Berths	Singles Berths	Doubles Berths
Mid-Carolina 1A/2A	5	.217	6.96	6	1	7	4	3
Northern Lakes Athletic 2A/3A	4	.174	5.57	5	1	6	3	3
Southeastern Athletic 2A	5	.217	6.96	6	1	7	3	4
Super Six 1A/2A	4	.174	5.57	5		5	3	2
The Big East 2A/3A	3	.130	4.17	4		4	2	2
Waccamaw 1A/2A	2	.087	2.78	2	1	3	1	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>1.000</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>16</b>

In the 2A Mideast, The Big East was unchanged.

The Mid-Carolina and the Southeastern split the extra berth which, in the current process, was awarded to the Southeastern alone. So the Mid-Carolina got an extra singles berth, and the Southeastern got the doubles berth. Note that both conferences had a 6.96 calculated value, meaning that seven berths each is an almost perfect result.

The Waccamaw got an extra doubles berth on the strength of a 2.78 calculated value.

That left the Super Six and the Northern Lakes Athletic to draw for the final berth, which the Northern Lakes Athletic received. If the same situation were to take place the following year, the Super Six would get that extra berth.

3A East Regional								
Conferences	Number of Teams	% of Region	x 32 berths	Initial Distribution	Round-Up Distribution	Total Berths	Singles Berths	Doubles Berths
Big Carolina 3A/4A	5	.208	6.67	6	1	7	4	3
Coastal 3A	6	.250	8.00	8		8	4	4
Mideastern 3A/4A	3	.125	4.00	4		4	2	2
Northeastern Coastal 2A/3A	2	.083	2.67	2		2	1	1
Quad County 3A	8	.333	10.67	10	1	11	5	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>1.000</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>16</b>

Finally, in the 3A East, where we had a three-way tie for the final berth under the current process, that berth (really two berths) is divided by random draw between the Quad County and the Big Carolina, instead of both the singles and the doubles berth being awarded to the Quad County.

If the same situation were to occur the following year, the Northeastern Coastal would receive one of the two round-up berths automatically, and the final berth would be awarded by random draw to one of the two other conferences involved in the tie.

## **Summary**

We assert that the proposed amendment will serve two purposes.

1. By placing a description of the process for distributing regional berths in the handbook, coaches, athletic directors, parents, and players will understand how these berths are assigned, and understand that math, not politics, is the reason that the berths are distributed as they are.
2. By changing the formula to reflect 32 berths, the conferences, and by extension, the student-athletes, will be treated more fairly when it comes to the opportunity to participate in the regional and state individual tournaments.

## **Addendum**

So long as the regional tournaments are capped at 16 entries in each event, there is no perfect solution to “the problem of the fractions”. Some form of rounding up and rounding down will be required.

In order to eliminate “the problem of the fractions”, it is necessary to expand the regional draws, such that each conference receives a berth in each event for each school fielding a tennis team. That would yield regional draws of between 20 and 30 participants, which poses logistical problems regarding court space and time available.

We recognize that, with the change to seven or eight classifications starting in 2025-26, awarding regional berths based on conference affiliation may become more problematic, and that this process may need additional modifications at that time.

We are monitoring the work of the bylaw implementation task force, and would like to be consulted regarding changes to the individual tournaments that may be necessary moving forward.

# **NORTH CAROLINA HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION**

## **Meeting of the Board of Directors – Agenda Item Submission**

**Name(s) :** Vic Ramsey, Lee Matthews, Andrew Tuttle, Donald Clark

**School/LEA/Conference/Group:** NC High School Tennis Coaches Association

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

The NCHSTCA Board of Directors, at its October 14<sup>th</sup> meeting, approved a proposal to authorize alternate match formats for dual-team matches during the regular season.

The recommendation is that coaches, upon mutual agreement, may conduct a regular season match using 8- or 10-game pro sets in singles, and/or use no-ad scoring in singles and in doubles.

Please see the explanation of this proposal attached to this form for complete details and examples.

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

- **Rationale: (Why should the board consider and possibly pass this recommendation?)**
  - Currently, the handbook calls for a regular season match to be played with a “best two-of-two sets” format in singles, with a 10-point match tiebreak in the event the players split sets. While this format is used in most matches, on some occasions, coaches agree to shorten the match by playing pro sets in singles.
  - There are several reasons why shortening the format might be in the best interest of the student-athletes participating in a given situation:
    - limited court space and time
    - approaching inclement weather
    - excessive heat
    - scheduling conflicts with other school activities
  - Moreover, a number of coaches have expressed to us that they are concerned about the length of high school tennis matches and would like an option to play them in a more condensed fashion.
  - The recommended change would keep the format described in the handbook as the “default” format, but allow the coaches to agree to an alternate format if they wish. If there’s no agreement between the coaches, then the default match format would be used.
- **Budget Impact: (What does this mean to a school’s/athletic department’s finances?)**
  - No budget impact is anticipated.
- **Educational Impact: (Does this mean loss of school time? Does it interfere with study time?)**

- No adverse educational impact is anticipated. On those occasions when an alternate match format is used, the student-athletes would be returning home at an earlier time.
- **Gender Impact: (Is this proposal fair to males and females?)**
  - The same process would be used for both the men's and women's tennis season.
- **Effective Date: (When would this go into effect?)**
  - Given that using these alternate match formats is common, and that the only real change contemplated is bringing the handbook in line with that common practice, we would request that this change be made effective starting with the Spring 2024 Men's Tennis season.
  - If this is not approved, then we would anticipate an effective date beginning with the Fall 2024 Women's Tennis season.

Signature  Date 10/30/23

## **Summary**

The proposed amendment offers alternate formats that may be used in NCHSAA regular season matches.

If adopted, this amendment to regular season rules would allow teams to use alternate match formats if both coaches agree. Absent an agreement between the coaches to the contrary, the default format must be used.

No change is recommended with regard to the match format during the dual-team playoffs.

## **Justification**

A strict reading of the rules for a regular season match, found in 4.11.2(c) of the NCHSAA handbook, does not permit coaches to use alternate match formats, even if both coaches agree to do so.

There are circumstances where an alternate match format is in the best interest of student-athletes, such as excessive heat, approaching inclement weather, limited court space, and scheduling conflicts with other school activities.

Moreover, using 8-game pro sets in singles is a common practice, and NCHSAA staff lacks the resources to police this matter. Historically, these matches have been included in teams' records, and counted toward playoff selection and seeding.

Finally, in tennis, there is a principle that "points played in good faith stand". If the coaches agree on a format that both teams consider fair and reasonable, then they've accepted the format as a condition of play, and the "points" are played in good faith.

## **Amendment to Handbook Regulations**

### **Current Reading**

#### **4.11.2(c) Format**

- (1) Singles - Two out of three sets in singles. If players split sets in singles, a 10-point tiebreaker (first to 10, win by two) will be played to decide the outcome of that match. A three-minute break is allowed before the tiebreaker, and player(s) may NOT leave the court during this time to confer with their coach.
- (2) Doubles - Doubles matches are played after singles competition and a 15-minute break [See 4.11.2 (a)] and the format is an 8-game pro set. In a tie at the end of the doubles pro set, the set tiebreaker (first to seven and win by two) will be played.
- (3) If mutually agreed, the match may conclude as soon as one team wins by five points.

## **Proposed Reading**

4.11.2(c) Default Match Format – Unless agreed to by both head coaches, a regular season dual-team match will be played in the following format.

(1) Singles - Two out of three sets in singles, using standard scoring. If players split sets in singles, a 10-point tiebreaker (first to 10, win by two) will be played to decide the outcome of that match. A three-minute break is allowed before the tiebreaker, and player(s) may NOT leave the court during this time to confer with their coach.

(2) Doubles - Doubles matches are played after singles competition and a 15-minute break [See 4.11.2 (a)] and the format is an 8-game pro set, using standard scoring. ~~In a tie at the end of the doubles pro set, At 8-all,~~ the set tiebreaker (first to seven and win by two) will be played.

(3) If mutually agreed, the match may conclude as soon as one team wins by achieving five points.

4.11.2(d) Alternate Regular Season Match Formats – If both head coaches agree, any of the following modifications may be used in a regular season dual-team match.

(1) The use of 8-game pro sets in singles, with a 7-point tiebreak at 8-all.

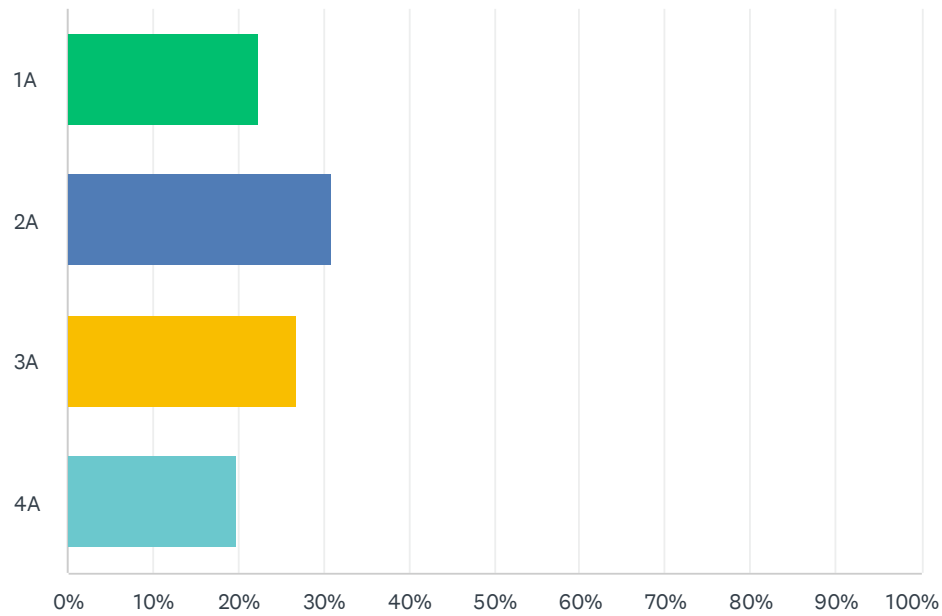
(2) The use of 10-game pro sets in singles, with a 7-point tiebreak at 10-all.

(3) The use of no-ad scoring in singles and/or doubles. (No-ad scoring may be used in conjunction with the default format described in 4.11.2(c), or in conjunction with the use of pro sets described in 4.11.2(d)(1) and 4.11.2(d)(2) above.)

*Renumber remaining paragraphs of 4.11.2 as (e), (f), and (g).*

## Q3 School's Classification

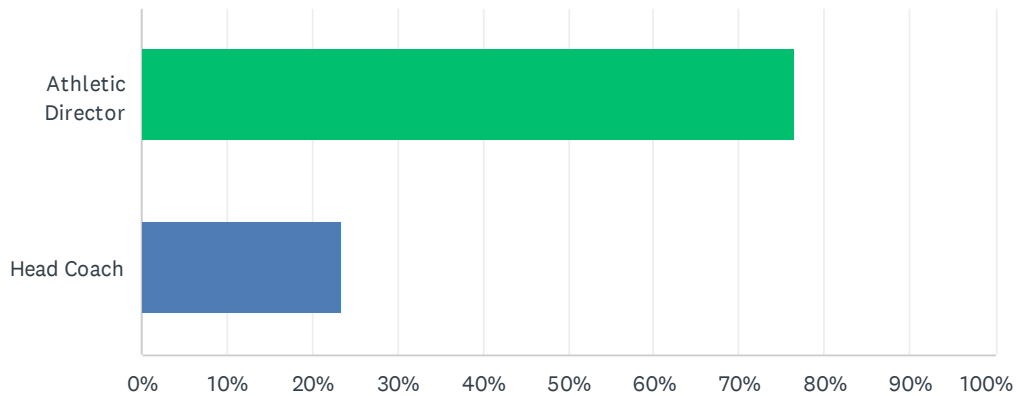
Answered: 201 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
1A	22.39%	45
2A	30.85%	62
3A	26.87%	54
4A	19.90%	40
TOTAL		201

## Q4 Position:

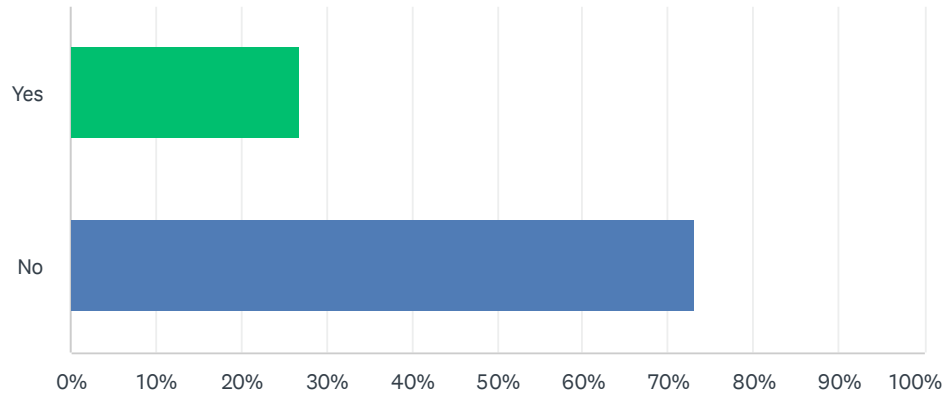
Answered: 201 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Athletic Director	76.62%	154
Head Coach	23.38%	47
TOTAL		201

## Q5 Do you believe the use of illegal softball bats is an issue with member schools of the NCHSAA?

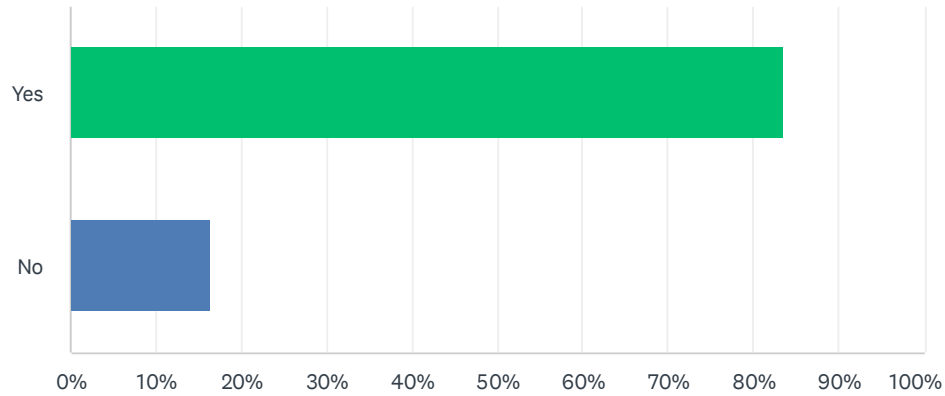
Answered: 201 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	26.87%	54
No	73.13%	147
TOTAL		201

## Q6 Would you favor bat checking of every JV and Varsity softball bat used by your team prior to each season?

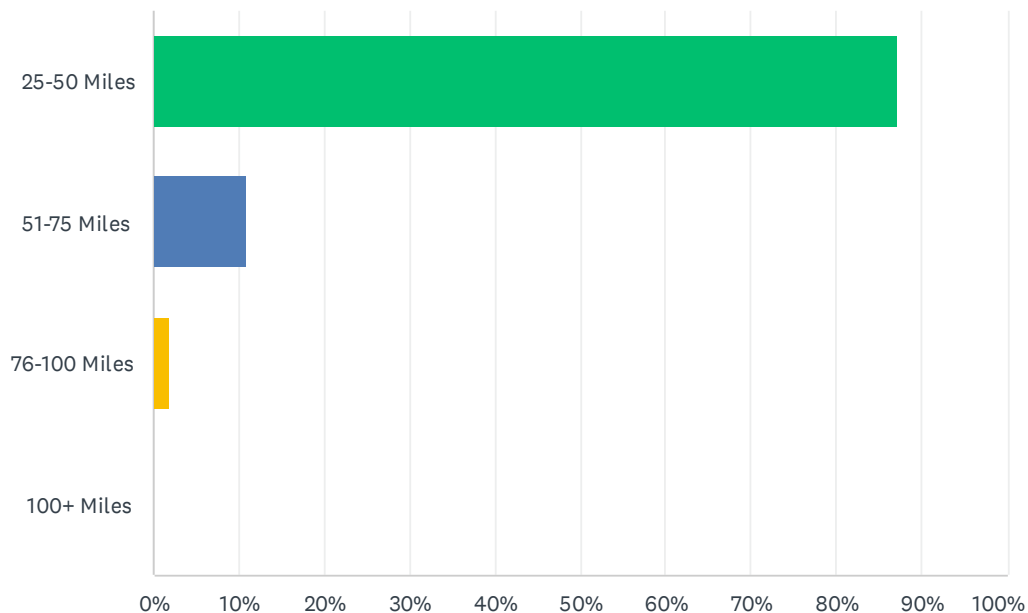
Answered: 55   Skipped: 146



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	83.64%	46
No	16.36%	9
TOTAL		55

## Q7 What is the furthest distance your school would be willing to travel to have your bats checked prior to the start of each season?

Answered: 55   Skipped: 146



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
25-50 Miles	87.27%	48
51-75 Miles	10.91%	6
76-100 Miles	1.82%	1
100+ Miles	0.00%	0
TOTAL		55

## NORTH CAROLINA HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

## Meeting of the Board of Directors – Agenda Item Submission

Name(s): North Carolina Soccer Coaches Association

LEA/Conference/Group: NC High School Soccer Coaches request that the following items be placed on the agenda for the next meeting of the NCHSAA Board of Directors:

## Recommendation/Proposal #1:

Three Halves Participation Pilot Program - Freshmen and sophomores only will be allowed to participate in three (3) halves of soccer on the same day. A player may only participate in 3 halves one time per week (Monday through Saturday). Participation in up to three halves of soccer on a single day will be considered a participation in single game toward the daily, weekly, and seasonal limitations for a student-athlete. The three (3) halves rule does not apply to conference tournaments and state playoff games. Participation for any length of time in a half will constitute the student-athlete having played a full half. Overtime periods will be considered an extension of the previous half.

Schools would be required to conduct hydration checks and concussion checks. This safety check would take place between games played. It would be at the discretion of the school to address how this takes place and what tools would be used to assess potential concussion and dehydration.

## Rationale:

The intent of the rule is to give coaches some alternatives for ninth and tenth graders to continue to gain valuable game experience at the junior varsity level and still be available as a backup in the varsity game.

Detailed Rationale is as follows:

- The current one game per day rule limitation hinders the player development in smaller high school programs.
- The current rule provides a challenge and nuisance in conferences with mixed program sizes, leaving the larger schools without a JV game. The JV games that are scheduled on different days are a challenge due to the availability of buses, drivers, dates, field space, and availability of referees.
- Schools with larger programs do not have trouble filling two full team rosters (28-30 player minimum for two teams). This rule change would not affect them.
- Schools with smaller programs can only field Varsity teams (14-15 player minimum). The rule change could help those on the cusp of being able to field JV teams be able to have the number of players necessary.
- Schools with medium size programs with numbers in the mid 20's can currently only field a Varsity team or perhaps a JV team, knowing that it will be barely viable. This rule change would help these programs and their players.
- The rule change will allow for more high school soccer players to get quality playing minutes at a developmentally appropriate level. The current rule puts mid-sized programs in the position of cutting more players or having players on the roster that do not have the opportunity to get quality playing minutes close to their level.
- The proposed rule change can be implemented wisely by coaches, providing more playing opportunities for players. This would be a win-win for all of the sized programs because coaches can better manage the games and player environment.
- The proposed rule change can be implemented safely by not exceeding the gameday or seasonal limits already in place for any of the student athletes.

**Budget Impact:**

There is no budgetary impact as there are no games added, and no extra official bookings for the game date.

**Educational Impact:**

This rule change would allow more students to participate in high school athletics, which would likely be a motivating factor for those students to attend school and engage in their academics, as research shows that the students that are involved in extracurricular activities perform better academically.

**Gender Impact:**

Both men's and women's programs could utilize and benefit from this rule change.

**Effective Date:**

Men's Soccer—Fall 2023

## Meeting of the Board of Directors – Agenda Item Submission

### Boys' Volleyball – Agenda Item Submission

- **Name(s):** Nelson Garner
- **School/LEA/Conference/Group:** Southern Carolina Conference (Union County Public Schools)

**Recommendation/Proposal:** To approve the “sponsorship” (support/recognition) by the NCHSAA of the annual North Carolina Boys' Volleyball Invitational Tournament.

- The NCBVA (North Carolina Boys' Volleyball Association) and the Carolina Region of USA Volleyball would continue to partner, facilitate and financially support the event.
  - NCHSAA would serve as a “sponsor” recognizing the annual invitational, in line with the same support shown to Girls' Wrestling Invitational as that sport emerged.
  - NCBVA would continue to be responsible for planning & organizing the event, facility rental, tournament equipment, volunteers, and securing officials.
  - NCBVA would provide awards for the event.
  - This invitational will continue to use all NFHS volleyball rules and guidelines.
- **Rationale:** To provide a championship experience for the male volleyball players in North Carolina and help showcase the growing sport of boys' volleyball (see addendum for data showing the growth both nationally – over 16% last year and in North Carolina – up nearly 500% in the last two years. Over 1500 young men will compete in volleyball across the state in Spring 2024). Having the NCHSAA support an invitational will help get more schools committed and more student-athletes participating. Several schools have intramural clubs and indicate they will compete once the sport is sanctioned.
  - **Budget Impact:** Each school pays \$150 for participation in the tournament. The school programs have been raising funds through participation fees, gate receipts, fundraisers and the Carolina region grant. No budget impact on the NCHSAA.
  - **Educational Impact:** For past events some schools have dismissed early for the Friday games depending on where they are located in the state.
  - **Gender Impact:** None
  - **Effective Date:** Spring 2024

### Boys' Volleyball Addendum

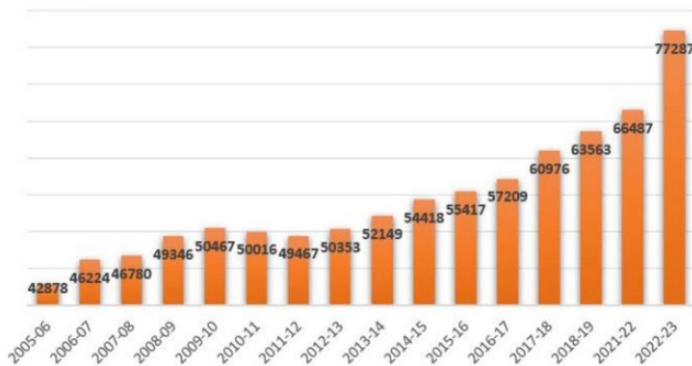
- There are currently 29 states that have sanctioned boys' volleyball with 8 of those sanctioning within the last two years.
  - This growth aligns closely with data gathered showing the growth of the sport when looking at the percentage change in Men/Boys sports participation from 2015/16 to 2021/22 compared to other sports.

Sport	High School	NCAA
<b>Volleyball</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>44%</b>
Golf	1%	-3%
Soccer	-1%	9%
Skiing	-1%	1%
Lacrosse	-2%	19%
Baseball	-2%	11%
Track & Field (Outdoor)	-4%	7%
Basketball	-5%	3%
Ice Hockey	-6%	8%
Tennis	-7%	-8%
Wrestling	-7%	18%
Swimming & Diving	-8%	6%
Fencing	-9%	-1%
Football	-10%	5%
Cross Country	-10%	3%
Water Polo	-12%	14%
Track & Field (Indoor)	-15%	8%
Rifle	-23%	-37%
Gymnastics	-47%	-14%

- The data from NFHS also supports this growth with growth in 2022-23 up over 16% from the prior year. This growth significantly outpaces the national growth among all sports of 3%. If that growth continues this year, that would mean that 90,000 Boys are expected to participate in high school volleyball this year.



### High School Boy's Volleyball Participants 2005-06 to 2022-23 (data from NFHS)



- In the state of North Carolina, the number of schools with a boys' volleyball team has grown from 12 in 2022 to 46 in 2023 to an estimated 89 in 2024 (this number includes 18 schools that will have an intramural team).

	Committed Schools	NCHSAA Schools	Still Considering for 2024 (All NCHSAA)	Additional Intramural Clubs (All NCHSAA)
2022	12	7		
2023	46	28		2
2024	71	49	35	18

- While the current number of participating schools is well short of the required number for sanctioning, the path towards achieving the required number is close with the reclassification coming in 2025.
  - Of the 67 NCHSAA schools that will have a boys' volleyball team this spring, 26 will be part of the new 7A classification in 2025. There are 9 other schools that could potentially be 7A depending on the 2024 ADM numbers as well as the final count of schools in the 7A Classification.
    - There are an additional 4 schools considering playing in 2024 that will also be 7A schools in 2025.
    - 26 - 7A schools in 2024 would be a 73% increase from 15 schools in 2023.
      - That growth (along with the other committed schools that might be 7A) makes achieving 50% by the Spring of 2025 (when the new conferences and classifications are finalized) achievable.
      - There is also a chance that more schools could join this year meaning 2025 could potentially be the 2<sup>nd</sup> year with 50% of a class participating. New schools are committing each week, so the number this year is expected to be above the current 71 schools.
      - *If there were more than 7 classifications, the percentage of the largest classification would be comparable to these estimates.*