

SECTION VIII OFFICIALS CONTRACT

Preamble

Agreement made this July 1, 2022, by and between the Section VIII Athletic Council, hereinafter referred to as the AC, the Executive Director of Interscholastic Athletics, hereinafter referred to as the ED and Section VIII Officials' Coordinating Council, hereinafter referred to as the OCC.

Whereas the AC is made up of the member schools of the NYSPHSAA in Nassau County; and

Whereas the ED is the executive arm of the AC; and

Whereas the OCC is made up of the officials' associations serving Section VIII/BOCES those schools in Nassau County; and

Therefore, in the best interests of Interscholastic Athletics in Nassau County, it is agreed that the AC, the ED, and the OCC shall:

1. Accept and abide by the Statement of Principles for officiating and the Constitution of the New York State High School Officials' Coordinating Federation (NYSHSOFC) as written in the NYSPHSAA Handbook:
2. Accept and abide by the provisions of the Officials' Agreement as written in the above handbook.
3. Agree upon a contract, the term of which shall extend from July 1, 2022, up to and through June 30, 2025, and which shall be subject to renewal thereafter, in accordance with procedures defined within the Officials' Agreement in the NYSPHSAA Handbook. Said contract shall consist of the following articles:
 - a. Article I - Non-Monetary Conditions and Procedures, and
 - b. Article II - Officiating Fees Schedule. The fees schedule shall define all fees or expenses relating to the officiating of interscholastic athletics including all conference, league and sectional tournament competition sponsored by the Section VIII AC.
 - 1) Discussion and negotiation for all officiating fees or changes in complement of officials, other than those already stated in this contract, shall take place between a joint conference of representatives from the Fees Negotiating Committees of the AC and OCC (Consisting of an equal number of representatives from each group but not to exceed two representatives each.) Said joint conference will be chaired by the designated representative of the Section VIII Superintendents' Board. (The chair will not be counted in the number of representatives).
 - 2) If playing rules for a regular season contest change by either shortening or extending the length of the contest during the contract period, the officials' or AC may appeal to the Section VIII joint AC/OCC Committee on Officials for an increase or decrease in fee. For any other playing rule(s) change a one-year evaluation period will be required before an appeal is requested.
 - 3) An ad hoc committee for recruiting new officials shall be established. It will be composed of three members, one each from the Office of ED, the AC, and the OCC. The committee shall make specific and concrete recommendations to each of these groups for recruiting new officials in each sport, especially in the sports where the number of officials (general membership or availability) is insufficient to cover all levels with a full complement of officials. This committee shall meet at least twice a year.

- 4) Notwithstanding any other provisions to the contrary, each approved official shall be acting in his/her capacity as an official who is an independent contractor regarding his/her relationship to the NCPHSAA, Section VIII, Inc., Nassau BOCES and the NYSPHSAA, Inc. or any of its subdivisions and in no way does an employer-employee relationship exist. Each official shall perform services in accordance with currently approved methods and practices in his or her professional capacity and in accordance with the standards of the Officials' Coordinating Council, the Officials' Coordination Federation and of the NCPHSAA, Section VIII, Inc., Nassau BOCES and the NYSPHSAA, Inc. Such services include any reporting requirements established by the NCPHSAA, Section VIII, Inc., Nassau BOCES and of the NYSPHSAA, Inc., or its subdivisions concerning student/athlete and/or coach misconduct.

ARTICLE I - NON-MONETARY CONDITIONS & PROCEDURES

Section A - Assignment and Recruiting Procedures

1. The Office of the ED shall make the officiating assignments for all interscholastic athletics contests on all levels for the member schools of the AC. Only those Section VIII/BOCES officials who are approved and certified by the OCC Section VIII/BOCES recognized officials' association in that sport will receive assignments. After consultation with the president of the OCC, the president of the official's association, the Section reserves the right to remove assignment(s) at any time for just cause.
2. The Officials' associations shall supply a list of current approved and certified officials that will work for Section VIII for the assignors no later than June 1st of each year. The list will include the following: The names, addresses (home and email), phone numbers (home, cell, and business) and indicate the officers of the organization. The associations must also provide the Section with known active/inactive status of members of the association working Section VIII contests by July 1st working Fall sports, September 1st working Winter sports and January 1st working Springsports.
3. A conference shall be held prior to and after the completion of each sport season to review concerns related to that sport. The conference shall be requested by the President of the Sport Officials Association. Included in this conference shall not exceed:
 - a. Representatives of the Office of the ED and respective assignor. The Section VIII sport coordinator and their assistant.
 - b. No more than two representatives from the officials' association and one representative from the OCC.
 1. Items for discussion and resolution shall include, but are not limited to, assignment procedures including post season), recruitment of new officials, DASA presentation, application of rating results to regular season assignments and post schedule assignments.
4. Availability shall be submitted to the Office of the ED no later than eight (8) weeks (for the winter and spring seasons) prior to the first scheduled contest for that sport. The deadline for submission of availability for the fall season will be determined by the Office of the ED. These dates will be specified when the availability is distributed to the officials. Upon the first sport contest, no additional dates may be closed by an official. Once the assignment process has begun if an official wants to close any additional dates during this period, he/she must notify the assignor in writing.
5. Original assignments shall be received by the officials no later than two weeks prior to the first scheduled league contest for that sport. Officials shall confirm the acceptance of their original assignments within five days of receipt.