

BY-LAW ARTICLE XVIII

Football

Boys

Sect. 1: Football shall be administered by the NHIAA Football Committee and the rules of the National Federation will govern the sport when applicable.

Sect. 2: Medical Coverage

- A. A **licensed** physician, trainer, or emergency medical technician must be provided by the host school and in attendance and on duty for all interscholastic football jamborees, scrimmages, and games for all levels, varsity and sub-varsity, during the regular season and all tournament round games.
- B. Medical coverage, as stated under By-Law Article I, Section 17, must be provided for all levels of practice (varsity and sub-varsity) involving player contact.
- C. The medical person shall be responsible for both teams unless the visiting school has its own physician, trainer, or emergency medical technician.
- D. The judgment of the medical person will be final with regard to the medical condition of a player. No player may continue to play against the medical person's advice.
- E. The penalty for violation of this provision is forfeiture of the game and possible disciplinary action by the Football Committee.

Note: Student trainers, high school or college, cannot be used to meet the provisions of this By-Law.

Sect. 3: General Regulations

- A. Football will not be permitted in the NHIAA member schools from the Saturday following Thanksgiving until the opening date of practice in the fall. A player must participate in five (5) practice days before participating in a football game, scrimmage, or jamboree.
- B. All fall schedules shall be submitted to the Executive Director by May 1st. Schedule forms will be provided by the NHIAA.
- C. The NHIAA and the Football Committee shall be notified at the first opportunity concerning postponement of a regularly scheduled football game, together with the intention to reschedule or cancel.
- D. The home team in all football games will accept responsibility for the organization and administration of the half-time program. This program shall be conducted within the time limits established by the rules of the game.
- E. Playing Rules:
 - 1. All high school football games played in New Hampshire will be played in accordance with the National Federation playing rules.
 - 2. Uniforms: The higher seeded team will wear dark colored uniforms and the lower seeded team will wear light colored uniforms.
 - 3. Scrimmages: It is recommended that all interschool football scrimmages, (freshman and sub-varsity included) be officiated by at least one certified football official.
- F. Practice Requirements:
 - First 3 calendar days of practice: Shoes, helmets and shoulder pads. No contact.
 - Calendar days 4 and 5 of practice: Full pads permitted, contact with sleds and dummies allowed, and limited player-to-player contact i.e., contact within drills; no scrimmages.
 - Calendar day 6 of practice: Full contact.

Sect. 4: Classification of Football Schools

Football shall be classified into six divisions based upon enrollments and petitions subject to the approval of the Classification Committee. If the number of schools in a division is six or less after petitions, then schools will be reclassified.

2009-10 Football Classification					
Division I (1800+) 9 Schools		Division II (1290-1799) 9 Schools		Division III (950-1289) 9 Schools	
Pinkerton	3331	Spaulding	1768	Goffstown	1289
Nashua South	2287	Keene	1762	Bedford	1172
Salem	2263	Dover	1671	Con-Val	1087
Man. Memorial	2165	Exeter	1654	Portsmouth	1067
Man. Central	2159	Merrimack	1593	Pembroke	1045
Nashua North	2054	Timberlane	1590	Souhegan	970
Concord	1877	Alvirne	1518	Hollis/Brook.	952
Londonderry	1827	Winnacunnet	1324	*John Stark	890
Man. West	1809	*Bishop Guertin	885	*Milford	872
Division IV (740-949) 9 Schools		Division V (660-739) 9 Schools		Division VI (1-659) 11 Schools	
Kingswood	947	Epping-Newmarket	736	Fall Mountain	656
Kennett	945	St. Thomas	721	Campbell	575
Merr. Valley	884	Pelham	700	Gilford	572
Laconia	822	Bow	669	Winnisquam	567
Plymouth	817	Stevens	667	Raymond	522
Monadnock	787	Kearsarge	665	Farmington	487
Lebanon	761	*Somersworth	605	Franklin	477
Hanover	746	*Trinity	470	Mascoma	471
Sanborn	743	*Bishop Brady	443	Newfound	465
				Newport	461
				Inter-Lakes	441

Sect. 5: Criteria of Play

No school may play another school more than once during the regular season except when the number of schools in a division is eight (8) or less after petitions, then a school may play one other school twice during the regular season. Thanksgiving Day games are to be submitted on your original schedule. However, these games will not count toward your maximum/minimum number of games nor will they be counted in the standings. Thanksgiving Day games are to be submitted on your original schedule. However, these games will not count toward your maximum/minimum number of games nor will they be counted in the standings.

Sect. 6: Football Rating System

The point rating system that will be used to break ties for playoff seeding purposes:

10 points per win

Out-of-state games and out of Division will not be rated

Opponents' Value earned as a result of wins or ties by opponents who were beaten or tied by a school:

	WIN	TIE
Beaten opponent	2	1
Tied opponent	1	.5

The point rating of a school will be determined by adding the total of "own value" plus "opponents' value" and dividing by the number of games played by the school.

Division I – VI will use the win/loss record to determine rating. Non-divisional and out-of-state games DO NOT count in the standings for all divisions.

Sect. 7: Playoff Qualifiers

The four schools with the highest win/loss rating shall qualify for the playoffs.

Sect. 8: Tie Breaking Procedure

In the event of a tie for a position, the Football Committee shall resolve the tie by using the following criteria:

- A. If two schools are tied for the final tournament position:
 - 1. The winner of head-to-head competition will be selected.
 - 2. The Football Point Rating System will be applied.
 - 3. The NHIAA Tie Breaker Procedure will be applied.
- B. If three or more schools are tied for the final tournament position:
 - 1. The rating in head-to-head competition will be used if all schools involved in the tie have competed against each other.
 - 2. The Football Point Rating System will be applied.
 - 3. The NHIAA Tie Breaker Procedure will be applied.
- C.
 - 1. If two or more schools tie for any other tournament position, the same criteria will be used, in order of priority to determine tournament seeding. Once a school is selected, the procedure will be repeated from the start of criteria A for the remaining tied schools.
 - 2. The NHIAA Tie Breaker will be applied.

Sect. 9: Playoff Game Sites and Officials

- A. All playoff games in each division will be played at the site of the higher seeded school. In the case of a tie or other conditions, playoff games will be played as determined by the Football Committee.
- B. Officials for all playoff games will be selected by a committee composed of the Chairman of the Football Committee, the Supervisor of Football Officials and the Executive Director of the NHIAA.

Sect. 10: Awards

Official NHIAA championship and runner-up plaques, in addition to forty-five (45) individual medals, will be awarded to the respective champion and runner-up teams in each division.