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March 2015

FOOTBALL CONTACT LIMITATION PROPOSAL:

Sections should be prepared to vote on the following NYSPHSAA Football Committee proposal, at the **May 1, 2015** Executive Committee meeting:

Consider approval to limit contact in the sport of football for high school and modified football teams to no more than two “Full-Contact practices” per week during the season; with no “Full-Contact” session to exceed 90 minutes. “Full-contact” means a practice where drills or live action is conducted that involves collisions at game speed, where players execute tackles and other activity that is typical of an actual tackle football game.

Note: Limitation of “Full-Contact practices” would begin with the 13th day (high school) and 14th day (modified).



NFHS BASEBALL HELMET RULE REVISION:

UPDATE: The NFHS baseball rules committee approved a change in Rule 1-5-1, to take effect for the 2015 season, regarding the batting helmet to be consistent with the rule for helmets used by defensive players. As is the case with head protection worn by field players, the batting helmet now must have a non-glare surface (**cannot be mirror-like in nature**) and meet the NOCSAE standard at the time of manufacture.



As per NFHS Baseball rules, this mirror-like helmet **will not be permitted** for play, beginning with the 2015 baseball season.

NYSPHSAA- SPALDING BALL ADOPTION:

Each Section has been sent information detailing their Section's offer to become part of the statewide NYSPHSAA ball adoption program. This program marks the first of its kind for our association. The program's intention is to provide consistency amongst the state for student-athletes and member schools, while also generating revenue for Sections to use at their desecration.



On February 12, the NYSPHSAA staff and officers evaluated and thoroughly reviewed nine proposals from national ball manufactures. With careful examination and consideration of all aspects of the bids, the Association is recommending Spalding to be the Official Ball of NYSPHSAA for a five year period, beginning with the 2016-2017 school year.

If Sections agree to use the Spalding ball for their Sectional soccer, volleyball, football, basketball, baseball and softball tournaments, the Section will receive a guaranteed rights fee and product credit for five years.

Below is an outline of the Spalding products being recommended for Section adoption:

Football – Alpha Football

The Spalding Alpha football is taking the football category by storm. In over 2 years in development Spalding has worked with players and coaches throughout the country to design a football from the inside out to fit all of their needs and wants. Shape, feel, and durability are the cornerstones of the new Alpha which was used by the #3 ranked passing offense in Division 1 football in 2014, Western KY University. The Alpha is going to be the official ball for 10 states (including Florida, Connecticut, Southern California, NYSPHSAA Sections 3, 6, 11), as well as the NJCAA in 2015.

Soccer – TF-5000

Spalding TF-5000 Soccer ball is a traditional hand stitched Latex bladder game ball preferred by high school and college players. Made in the same factories as other top soccer brands, the TF-5000 is a game ball construction that is proven on the fields of play. The soccer ball pictured below is the current graphic; Spalding will be updating the graphics for the fall of 2015. Spalding is the official soccer ball for 5 state associations (including NYSPHSAA Section 11).

Volleyball – VB5

The Spalding VB5 is Spalding's top of the line leather game ball. With a select grain Japanese Leather cover and V Seam construction it is the ball of choice for Hawaii, Marshall, the University of Florida, and 12 state associations (including NYSPHSAA Sections 3, 6, and 11).

Basketball – TF-1000 Classic

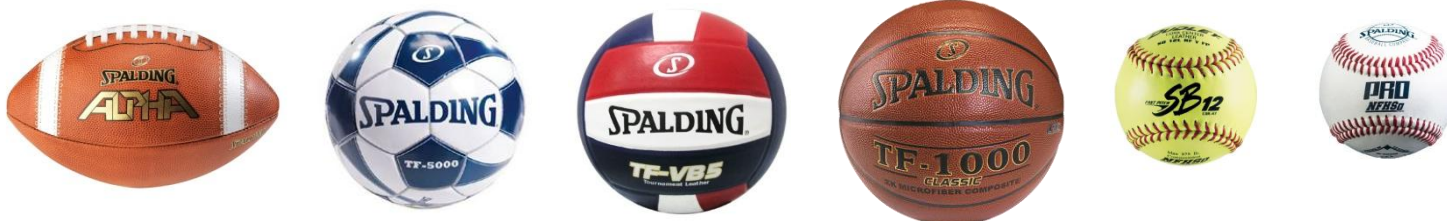
The TF-1000 has been a staple in the competitive High School and College levels for over 20 years. It is the official ball for 20 states (including NYSPHSAA Sections 3, 6, and 11, Wisconsin, Maryland, North Dakota, District of Columbia and six Sections in California) and the NJCAA. The Classic is designed to provide the ultimate in durability and feel.

Softball – SB12

The Dudley SB12 softball has been the preferred ball in New York for years. Its construction and durability are second to none in the category. Dudley is the official ball for 22 states as well as the NJCAA.

Baseball – Pro Series

The Pro series baseball is a Premium Full Grain Leather cover with cushioned cork center and is used in all of Spalding's adoptions and college programs. Spalding was founded as a baseball company over 120 years ago. Five years ago Spalding reentered the market with a full line of baseballs focused on making the highest quality game products. Spalding is the official ball for the Little League World Series, the NJCAA, & 5 state associations (including NYSPHSAA Sections 3, 6, and 11).



NYSED ATHLETIC PLACEMENT PROCESS:

The NYSED Athletic Placement Process is scheduled to be fully implemented for the Fall 2015. For the past three years, NYSED has been reviewing their Selection Classification process; at the end of December changes were approved by NYSED. Members of the NYSPHSAA staff recently met with the leadership of NYSED to express concerns with the newly approved process pertaining to the lack of waivers, mixed competition testing and tanner scores.



The major differences between the current Selection Classification Process and the soon to be implemented Athletic Placement Process (APP) are:

- There are no waivers available in the APP. A student must meet the appropriate standards of physical and emotional maturity, size, fitness, and skill, in order to qualify. If a student does not meet the maturation or physical fitness test, the process stops; the student cannot go any further.
- Students will now be required to receive administrative approval to selectively classify. Under APP the athletic administrator should confirm that the student is suitable for consideration, which includes the likelihood that the student would play in at least 50% of the games. Additionally, because of the increased time demands of participation at the high school level, the student's academic performance (as determined at the local level) should be at or above grade level.
- The district medical director will determine a student's physical maturity level, **AND** compare the physical size of the student in relation to that of the students against whom the student wishes to compete. If the student is determined to have attained the appropriate physical maturity level and comparable physical size for the desired sport and level (see Appendix C and H), the student may proceed with step 5.
- The President's Physical Fitness Test has been selected as the test for this process (there is no longer sport specific test components), and the student must meet the 85th percentile level for their age in 4 out of 5 test components. If the student does not meet 4 of 5, the student cannot apply for a waiver.



NYSPHSAA RULE INTERPRETATION:

Question (Athletic Director)

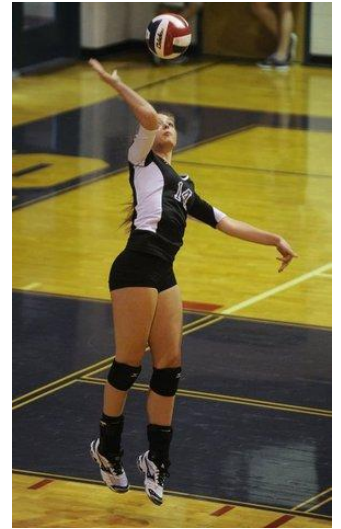
Can a company make a donation to a school for every homerun hit during a softball or baseball season?

Answer:

No; NYSPHSAA Definition for Conducting a Contest states: "Donations may not be made based on the outcome of student performance."

MODIFIED VOLLEYBALL SERVING ROTATION PROPOSAL:

The Modified Committee will be voting on a "Modified Volleyball Serving Rotation Proposal." The motion reads, *"With section/league approval, the boys' and girls' modified volleyball rotation may be adjusted so that when a modified athlete successfully serves five (5) consecutive serves that are not returned, that team rotates to its next server."* Please contact your section's modified representative if you have any questions or concerns. The Modified Committee will meet on March 27th.



LOOKING AHEAD:

March 14-15	Ice Hockey Championships (<i>Utica Memorial Auditorium, Section III</i>)
March 18-20	NYSAAA Conference (<i>Saratoga</i>)
March 20-22	Girls Basketball Championships (<i>Hudson Valley Community College- Section 2</i>) <i>Presented by American Dairy Association and Dairy Council</i>
March 20-22	Boys Basketball Championships (<i>Glens Falls Civic Center- Section 2</i>) <i>Presented by American Dairy Association and Dairy Council</i>
March 27-29	NYS Federation Basketball Championships (<i>University of Albany- Section 2</i>)
April 13	Executive Committee Meeting Packet Released
April 24	Section Commitment for Ball Adoption Program Due
May 1	Executive Committee Meeting
May 28-30	Boys Tennis Championships (<i>Flushing- NYC</i>)
May 30-June 1	Boys Golf Championships (<i>Cornell University- Section IV</i>)
June 5-6	Girls Lacrosse Championships (<i>SUNY Cortland- Section III</i>)
June 6	Boys Lacrosse Championships (<i>Vestal High School- Section IV</i>)
June 12-13	Girls/ Boys Track & Field Championships (<i>University of Albany- Section 2</i>)
June 12-14	Girls Golf Championships (<i>SUNY Delhi- Section IV</i>)
June 13	Softball Championships (<i>Moreau State Park- Section 2</i>)
June 13	Baseball Championships (<i>Binghamton- Section IV</i>)
July 28-30	NYSPHSAA Central Committee Meeting (<i>Tarrytown- Section I</i>)



QUOTE TO REMEMBER:

*"There may be people that have more talent than you,
but theres no excuse for anyone to work harder than you do."*

– Derek Jeter



NYSPHSAA SPONSORSHIP RECOGNITION

