Section VI 2026-27 Boys Basketball Handbook

NYSPHSAA Boys Basketball

Section VI Boys Basketball Page

Official Website: Section VI Boys Basketball Website

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2026-27 Boys Basketball Calendar

Winter Post Season Schedule

Event	Site/Location	Date/Time
First Practice		Mon, 11/16/26
Practices required to represent school	6 Individual Practices	
Pre-season League meeting		Tthur., 11/12/25 5pm league - 6pm Section
Inadequate Gym Size notification deadline (see Site Info page 10		Fri, 1/15/27
Last regular season game		Monday 2/16/26
Declaration of Non-Participation	NOTE: The Sectional Chairman and the League President **MUST be notified by this date** if your school is not going to participate. See page 4 for the Playoff Schedule. AD Opt Out Form	Wed., 2/11/27 6pm
Seeding Meeting	**Erie 1 BOCES**	**Wed., 2/18/26 6pm**
Final rosters		Thur., 2/19/26
Scholar Athlete	Link to application	Mon, 3/16/26 5 PM
Post Season Meeting	Depew HS	7 PM Wed 4/1//26 Tentative

Winter Post Season Schedule

Section 6 Boys Basketball Website:

Public: http://www.section6boysbball.com/

***PLEASE NOTE: As per Section VI policy, use of the Section 6 Boys' Basketball website is *mandatory for all coaches* .**

The following was approved at the January 20, 2016 Athletic Council meeting:
Institute the following protocol when contest results (needed for seeding purposes) are not entered on sport specific websites: The sport chairman will contact the athletic director, giving 48 hours, from the time of contact, to enter the contest results. If the results are not entered within that time frame, Executive Director, will contact both the athletic director and superintendent giving 48 hours, from the time of contact, to fulfill the website requirement otherwise their school's team will not be able to participate in post season play.

Coaches need to include the Rating of officials as well as minimal statistics uploaded or added to the Boys Basketball Website

2026-27 NFHS Boys Basketball Rule Changes and Points of Emphasis

Boys Basketball Committee

Committee voting privileges: As per the Section VI Constitution item 7.6, "The representative members on each sport committee will be appointed by each league and have only one vote per league. Other non-voting members may be selected by the Sport Chairperson. Federated sport representative members that are appointed by their division, league or school will have only one vote. The Sport Chairs of Federated Sports that have divisions will verify that among division representatives each participating league is represented. The Sport Chair may only vote when the vote is tied. A Sport Chair who also represents a league can serve in both capacities but will have only one vote." The voting members of the committee are indicated below with an asterisk.

Roll	Name	Schools	email
			retiredlj58@gmail.com>
Chair	**Larry Jones**	Retired	ljones@depewschools.org
Asst. Chair	Erik O'Bryan	Niagara-Wheatfield	eobryan@nwcsd.org
			erikobryan@yahoo.com
Buffalo Large	*Zaire Dorsey	McKinley	zdorsey@buffaloschools.org
Buffalo Small	Scott Kirsch	MST Prep	skirsch@buffaloschools.org
CCAA Div 3	Adam Bennett	Salamanca	abennett@salamancany.org
CCAA Div 2	Cory Emory	Sherman	cemory@shermancsd.org
CCAA Div 1	Nick Bertrando	Fredonia	nbertrando@fcsd.wnyric.org
CCAA Div 4	*Dave McCann	Ellicottville	dmccann@ecsny.org
ECIC	*Chris Kensy	Amherst	ckensy@amherstschools.org
ECIC 1	Chris Frankowski	Orchard Park	cfrankowski@opschools.org
ECIC 2	Brandon Woods	Sweet Home	bwoods@sweethomeschools.org
ECIC 3	Brian Ellsworth	Pioneer	bellsworth@gmail.com
ECIC 4	Chris Koselny	East Aurora	ckoselny@eak12.org
ECIC 5	Matt Krotz	Holland	MKrotz@buffaloschools.org
NFL	*Erik O'Bryan	Niagara-Wheatfield	eobryan@nwcsd.org
NO	*Justin Gerstung	Akron	jgerstung@akronk12.org

Definition of a Scrimmage

A scrimmage is a practice that is a **SIMULATED CONTEST**. In scrimmages: (a) both squads use the same field simultaneously with both coaches making corrections and giving instructions, (b) **GAME RULES MUST BE ALTERED – SEE SPORT SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS NYSPHSAA Handbook,** (c) no official score is kept, (d) time period(s) are defined in the Sport Standards section of the NYSPHSAA Handbook , (e) no admission is charged. The use of officials would be permitted and encouraged whenever possible for the purpose of instruction regarding the rules and proper application of rules.

A basketball scrimmage must include 10 minute time periods with running time (except time-outs) and unlimited time outs. The score will be cleared at the end of the time period and the time will be reset. Scrimmages must also include one or more of the following:http://www.nysphsaa.org/

1. Optional shot clock.
2 Shoot only fouls against the shooter with free throws awarded in a one plus one.
3. At the end of the 1st and 3rd quarters, each team will run five (5) special plays. Example: out-of-bounds play underneath the basket; sideline out-of-bounds.

NYSPHSAA Sports Standard 4. Basketball Boys

https://s3.amazonaws.com/nysphsaa.org/documents/2023/8/21/NYSPHSAA_Handbook_Aug_2025.pdf#page=63

General Regulations

School's Responsibilities

1. Athletic Directors of participating schools (or their designees) are responsible for assigning adequate faculty supervision for all their students attending playoff games. The general rule is one supervisor for every fifty (50) presale tickets sold. The financial responsibility of these assignments lies with the participating schools.
2. Five (5) supervisors will be allowed at neutral sites for semi-finals, finals and special playoffs. Supervisors will be issued a game ticket at the site.
3. These supervisors are to report to the Game-Site Chairperson for their supervisory assignment.
4. Athletic Directors (or their designees) shall instruct their faculty supervisors and students that the following items are NOT ALLOWED at any playoff game:
   a. Sirens, noise makers, whistles, megaphones, or any other distractive device.
   b. Confetti, streamers,....
   NOTE: THESE REGULATIONS WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED!

Coaches' Responsibilities

1. The official representative and leader of each team is the participating coach. He is a certified coach who, presumably, understands youth.
2. It is not his responsibility to demonstrate against officials, nor to intimidate them. This is a rule infraction in basketball, and as the team leader, he should set "the example" for spectators by conducting himself as a gentleman and a good sportsman at all times.
3. Recommendations for all coaches are listed below and it is the intent of the Executive Committee that they be honored:
   a. Dress — Each coach is encouraged to dress appropriately.
   b. Appearance — Each coach shall be neat, clean and well-groomed.
   c. Speech— Each coach shall address all people including officials with respect, courtesy and understanding.
   d. Decisions—Each coach will not attempt to influence the decisions of officials.
   e. Acting— Each coach must be careful of his gestures and mannerisms so as not to incite the crowd.
   f. Sportsmanship— Coaches and players are requested to meet on the playing floor directly after the game to exchange "congratulations." This creates a good image.
   g. Smoking— There will be no smoking by anyone on the bench during any game or warm-up.
   h. Violation – Violation of any of the regulations outlined in this section may not only affect the outcome of any one game but may seriously jeopardize the future of sectional playoffs.
4. Transportation – If this is the coach's responsibility, he must be sure to be on hand to supervise his players.
5. Valuables – Each coach is to make definite arrangements for care of team valuables during a contest. Valuables are not to be left unprotected. Section VI will take no responsibility for lost or stolen articles.

Admittance Forms (All Sectional games Quarters, Semi's & Finals)

1. Each Athletic Director (or designee) of a participating team will submit the Admittance Form (appendix H) to the Game Site Chairperson. The Admittance Form will contain:
   a. Name, address, phone number of school
   b. Names of Principal, Athletic Director, Coaches
   c. Names and/or number of supervisors
   d. Names of players (maximum 15)
   e. Names of statisticians and managers (maximum 2)
   f. Names and/or number of bus drivers
   USE APPENDIX H (see forms page 2) MAKE EXTRA COPIES FOR LATER USE
2. The bench will be reserved for coaches, dressed players, managers, statisticians, A.D., principal and superintendent. Under no circumstances shall the number of persons on the bench exceed twenty-five (25).

Team Eligibility

1. No team may have more than 15 players in uniform.
2. If a higher seeded teams' gymnasium is determined to be inadequate by the Basketball Committee, that school may select an adequate facility as its home court and will be allowed to practice on it.

Site Information

1. If a gymnasium is inadequate, that school must inform its basketball representative prior to Fri, 1/16/26 **see page 3** so that it may select the site it wants as its home court. Once this selection is made, the school may practice on this court prior to **OPENING ROUNDS** and quarterfinals only. If a school does not notify its basketball representative the game will be scheduled at the discretion of the basketball Chairperson.

   NOTE: Adequate site: Court Dimensions: 43' x 84'

2. In general all opening round through quarter final games are to be played at 7:00 p.m. Exceptions will be listed in the basketball handbook. Each school involved is asked to reserve their gym for these games. See **NOTES** of the Seeding Policy regarding start times. (page 10)

Incident Report

This report is necessary only when unusual or exceptional circumstances are encountered at or during the game. If nothing out of the ordinary occurs no report need to be filed.

1. The Basketball Committee asks that Incident reports be filed by the following people:
   a. Athletic Director or coach of participating teams
   b. Game-Site Chairperson
   c. Game Officials
2. These reports will evaluate the conduct of the:
   a. Crowd
   b. Coaches
   c. Players (specific number and/or name)
   d. Game Officials
3. These report forms will be provided by the Game Site Chairperson and should be returned to him/her. Will add link here - use evaluation report & rename to incident

Any disqualifications - the officials complete a Disqualification report

Postponement

See Section VI Contingency Plan for Sectional Competition (weather or illness) on page 16.

Basketball Committee Responsibilities

Qualifiers

1. Each Basketball Committee League Representative shall submit a copy of each league's schedule to the Basketball Chairperson (Section VI) at the beginning of the basketball season.
2. Power Rating will be taken directly from the sectional website **Wednesday, February 18, 2026**

Seeding

All teams may take part in Sectional play. A school may choose not to have their team participate and must notify the Sectional Basketball Chairman before **Wednesday, February 11, 2026** . The seeding will be done according to the teams power rating of league games. If tied, see the tiebreakers in the Seeding Policy below. Once seeded, a team is expected to participate. See Section VI Policy on "No Shows at Sectionals" page 16. Refer to the Calendar Page 3 for date/time of Boys Seeding Meeting.

Section VI Seeding Policy (Policy #212 in the Section VI Policy Manual on the website)

The Section VI Seeding Policy shall be followed:

1. A team's power rating is the sole method of determining where a team is seeded. These rating will come directly from the sectional website prior to the seeding meeting.
2. Team power ratings are determined by dividing total League/Division points accumulated by the total number of League/Division games originally scheduled.

$$\text{Power Rating} = \frac{\text{Total League/Division Points Accumulated}}{\text{Total Number League/Division Games Originally Scheduled}}$$

Coaches and League/Division Representatives should check website for accuracy for each team and notify Basketball Chair if there is a discrepancy in power ratings.

3. Total League/Division points are determined by applying the point chart. Teams receive points for League/Division victories.

POINT CHART

Winning Points All 6 Class Sports						
	AAA	AA	A	B	C	D
AAA	5	4	4	4	4	4
AA	6	5	4	4	4	4
A	6	6	5	4	4	4
B	6	6	6	5	4	4
C	6	6	6	6	5	4
D	6	6	6	6	6	5

Tie Breaker Procedure- Approved at 11/13/24 AC meeting

Four steps as follows:

1. League winning percentage (already in place)
2. Head to head in league (already in place)
3. Overall winning % WITHIN YOUR CLASS (new) - so if team A played 11 games is Class A, and team B played 14, the team with the higher winning % would be the higher seeds. This would allow teams to play difficult schedules against larger schools without being "punished"
4. Overall winning % of ALL 20 GAMES (

5. A team who is seeded is required to participate. See "No shows at Sectionals" Policy#211 (page 11).
6. Any school who has not submitted adequate information to the sport chair in time for the seeding meeting will be excluded from the sectional tournament.
7. *Changes to the seeding are not allowed after the conclusion of the seeding meeting*

NOTE: Start times for sectional contests are standardized, however if a legitimate need for a time change arises within a district, a request must be submitted in writing to the chairperson before the seeding meeting.

8. *Seeding of Charter Schools with approved Independent Schedules. As per past practice, Charter Schools that have competed with an approved independent schedule in a team sport will have the entire schedule counted towards seeding. Power Points will be calculated based on the classification of the school they have defeated. The Classification used will be the classification the school has been assigned by the section in which they participate.*
9. ***WEBSITE PROTOCOL***
   Results required for seeding purposes are not entered on sport specific websites: The chairman will contact the athletic director, giving 48 hours from the time of contact to enter the contest results. If the results are not entered within that time from, Executive Director, will contact both the athletic director and superintendent giving 48 hours, from the time of contact to fulfill the website requirements otherwise their school's team will not be able to participate in post season play.
   Coaches need to include the Rating of officials as well as minimal statistics uploaded or added to the Boys Basketball Website

Publicity & Media

1. Media request for approval -all radio/TV stations must fill out and submit a media contract application to the Section VI Media Chairman, Mark DiFilippo. Media form on http://www.section6.e1b.org/Media
2. At the conclusion of the game, the winning coach may give results to radio and television;. Media are on Section VI website. Media Link

Play-off Procedure

1. Each Basketball Committee Representative is responsible for notifying teams in his league of their

playoff seeding position.
2. Each Basketball Committee Representative shall notify the qualifying team of the following:
   a. Place of the game
   b. Opponent for his league representative
   c. Time of game
   d. Admittance Policy
   e. Supervision responsibilities
   f. Equipment- Including play-off ball
   g. Game jersey- Coaches should come prepared with two sets in case of emergency. *Note: The highest seeded team shall be the home team and will wear the white colored uniforms!
3. Please refer to the Section VI policy on "No shows at sectionals"

Game-Site Chairperson

General Responsibilities

1. The Game Chairperson will make himself / herself accessible and visible to supervisors, coaches, players, spectators, and officials by wearing identifiable insignia.
2. He/she will station all supervisory personnel assigned to the game.
3. He/she should greet supervisors at the door and make assignments immediately.
4. He/she will assign the following adults:
   a. Scorekeeper
   b. Timekeeper
   c. Others as necessary
5. He/she shall collect the "Admittance Forms" from participating Athletic Directors (or their designees). No one is to enter the gymnasium unless his/her name appears on this form.
6. At the gate, he/she shall check the names that appear on the "Admittance Form" with the participating Athletic Directors (or their designees).
7. The Game-Site Chairperson is to destroy the tickets at the end of the game.
8. SAFETY: During post-season play, the site chairperson will be responsible for:
   a. Enforcing the Section VI Safety Policy on Cheerleading (see page 17) by stopping squads that are performing stunts which are prohibited.
   b. Securing an AED for the certified trainer's use as per the AED policy on page 16.
9. SCOREBOOK: The **home** team scorebook is designated as the official scorebook.
10. GAMEBALL:
    a. For opening rounds and quarter finals the game ball will be provided by the home team.
    b. For semi-finals, finals and special play-offs, the game ball will be provided by Section VI.
11. He/she will provide suitable horns and time pieces.

School Supervisors

1. All school supervisors are to report to the Game-Site Chairperson for supervisory assignments. This includes supervisors from both participating teams as well as host school supervisors.
2. Supervisors are to display insignia (ribbons) that will make them readily visible and accessible to the crowd and to the Game-Site Chairperson.
3. It is highly recommended that each school participating in sectionals provide supervision to assist Section VI supervisors as needed.
4. If more participating school supervisors are available, they will be stationed discriminately throughout "their" stands.
5. The Game Chairperson will also station his host school supervisors with discretion.
6. Unless necessary, supervisors are strongly admonished NOT to sit together.

Special Responsibilities

1. The Game-Site Chairperson will inform participating coaches that both home and visiting teams will be given one hour on the game court prior to play to ensure a reasonable and safe warm-up period.
2. Provision shall be made for a simple "Flag Ceremony" or Star-Spangled Banner prior to game time.
3. Starting teams and game officials should be introduced to the spectators.
4. Each Game-Site Chairperson will fill out the "three-part" Game Report provided by the Basketball Chairperson as follows:
   a. Financial Report

b. Conduct of crowd/coach/players
c. Game Officials performance

5. Payments:
   a. Administrative personnel are to be paid as indicated on the Financial Report (See forms page 2.)
   b. Officials are to paid as per the Officials Contract https://www.section6.e1b.org/OfficialsContract Fee schedule posted see above link

Basketball Protest

1. At the earliest possible time out following an alleged rule or regulation infraction, the coach must inform the referee and game Chairperson that the game is being played under protest. The specific rule or regulation must be stated at this time and then entered in the score book. The signatures of both coaches, both officials and the game Chairperson shall be entered in the scorebook along with the game score and time remaining.
2. Within forty-eight (48) hours of the alleged violation, a formal written protest must be submitted to the basketball Chairperson, and copies forwarded to parties involved including the principals of both schools, the basketball officials and the game-site Chairperson
3. Before a protest is formally initiated, it should be carefully considered, and then, signed by the Superintendent, the Principal and the Athletic Director.
4. As soon as possible but not later than the next scheduled playoff game affecting the schools involved, the Basketball Chairperson (or his designee) and no less than eight (8) members of his Protest Committee, will meet with the parties involved in the protest.
5. The Basketball Chairperson (or his designee) will conduct a hearing and a transcript (or tape) of the proceedings will be taken.
6. Involved parties will have the right to bring witnesses, listen to all testimony and cross examine all witnesses.
7. Witnesses will testify voluntarily. If this is not possible, a written signed statement will be admissible.
8. All documents submitted in the hearing will be retained by the Protest Committee.
9. It shall be understood that involved parties may be accompanied by their Superintendent, Principal and Athletic Director.
10. The Basketball Chairperson (or his designee) will notify the parties involved of the Protest Committee's decision as soon as possible but no later than the next scheduled contest affecting the teams involved.

NOTE #1 In basketball, because of the time constraints, it is recommended that the Protest Committee's decision is final.

NOTE #2 Time periods may be waived by mutual consent or if deemed necessary by the Basketball Chairperson.

NOTE #3 In an effort to conduct the fairest hearing possible, the Protest Committee will consist of members of the Basketball Committee and the Executive Committee.

NOTE #4 It is hereby understood that if a protest involves a school of a member of the Protest Committee, that member will be disqualified from serving on the Protest Committee.

Section VI Policies LINKS

Section VI Policy Manual

Winter Scholar Athlete

Coaches and Athletic Directors are encouraged to nominate athletes for selection to the All-WNY Scholar Athlete **Boys Basketball** Team. Applications must be completed on-line. Deadline Deadline 4 PM Mon., 3/15/27 . The team will be honored by both Section VI and the Buffalo News. https://www.section6.e1b.org/SA

Section VI AED Policy #430 page 16

No Shows at Sectionals #211 page 9 *

211.1 A school team that does not show or refuses to play in a Sectional contest after the seeding is finalized, spoils the integrity of the tournament.Schools shall declare their intent to play or not play by the determined sport specific opt out deadline. The athletic director will complete the opt out form to indicate their schools decision. Schools failing to fulfill their tournament commitment shall be subject to the following sanction: "Ineligibility for sectional play in that sport during the next season. An appeal of this sanction must be submitted in writing to the Executive Director of Section VI within 14 days after receipt of violation notification from the Section VI office."

Winter Sectional Opt Out Form

Seeding Policy #212 page 9

Neutral Sites #221 page 11

Travel to State Competition Policy #310 page 13

Subdividing a Classification #160 page 7

Protest Procedure Policy #820 page 38

At-Large Pathway Determination #222 page 12

Contingency Plan for Sectional Competition (weather or illness) #223 page 13

Sportsmanship Policy #720 page 29

NYSPHSAA Sportsmanship Pledge

Helpful Links

https://www.section6.e1b.org/GOFAN

MEDIA LINK

https://www.section6.e1b.org/officialscontract

2022-2027 Fee Schedule