



***MODIFIED ATHLETIC  
COUNCIL***

***HANDBOOK***

## **SECTION ONE MODIFIED PHILOSOPHY**

It is extremely important that ALL students involved at this initial level of the interscholastic program have a positive, meaningful, and productive experience. It is also important that ALL students have reasonable opportunity to test learned skills in a competitive situation, and that such competition be as equitable as possible.

### **IT IS THE DUTY OF ALL CONCERNED WITH THE MODIFIED PROGRAM OF ATHLETICS**

1. To provide as broad and varied an athletic program as is possible with an opportunity for competition on an equal basis for all students. A desirable modified interscholastic program will encourage participation at several achievement levels. Interschool competition in a modified sports program should encourage participation for as many children as possible.
2. To realize that the individual schools have the final responsibility to equalize competition and must administer the program so that no overmatching of teams or individuals shall be permitted.
3. To conduct the athletic program so that educational objectives shall be achieved; so that the highest ideals of sportsmanship are upheld; so that no single phase of the educational program is promoted at the expense of other equally important programs.
4. To realize that the athletic program should be balanced with all other activities essential to youth, including those which may be conducted by out-of-school groups, to avoid an excessive load for any student.
5. To administer the program in such a manner that participants are properly examined, approved, equipped, insured, selected, classified, instructed, and supervised so that as safe a program as is possible is conducted.
6. To administer the educationally based athletic program in its proper perspective, with minimal loss of school time, limited publicity, competent officiating, and limited awards focused on participation.
7. To provide qualified leadership that understands the teaching of sports to the age group, the objectives of this modified sports program, and the emphasis on safety procedures.
8. To cooperate with schools in the area in providing an interscholastic athletics administrative organization within your section that will achieve the objectives and will aid in the development of the highest type of cordial interschool relationships.
9. To conduct the program so that proper respect for authority is achieved. All participants, coaches, parents, spectators and interested individuals will demonstrate appropriate conduct at all times.
10. To promote sportsmanship by competing within the spirit of the rules, to give every opponent due credit and respect, and to win honorably and to lose graciously.
11. To finance the program through Board of Education approved funds.
12. To cooperate with the Sectional Athletic Council, League or Conference in its efforts to provide sound leadership for all in modified athletics program. No sectional team or individual championships are to be conducted in modified interscholastic athletics.

**SECTION ONE**  
**MODIFIED ATHLETIC COUNCIL**  
**SCHEDULING PROCEDURE**

**1. Process of Scheduling – Steps**

- A. Modified declarations distributed to member schools
  - B. Program declarations completed by member schools before established deadline
  - C. Proposed modified groupings presented to the conferences for the purpose of discussion
  - D. MAC meeting to finalize sport groupings based upon conference feedback
  - E. Proposed modified groupings presented for a vote at conference meetings
  - F. Modified scheduling conducted at SW BOCES in concert with MAC Committee Members.
- Schedules will be submitted by:

**Fall** - March 1

**Winter** - June 1

**Spring** - October 1

**2. Possible Modified Scheduling Formats**

- a. Team Sport Scheduling
  - i. Single Round
  - ii. Double Round
  - iii. Triple Round
- b. Individual and Team/Individual Sports Scheduling
  - i. Teams scheduled by # of participants  
(Ex: Wrestling & Indoor Track)
  - ii. Rounds determined by the # of teams
  - iii. Multi-school meets - 3 or more teams participate at one site  
(Example: Track, Cross Country)
- c. Play day Scheduling Format - It could be used if identified teams want to organize themselves in a Round Robin Format.

**NOTE:** The number of contests scheduled is determined by the NYSPHSAA handbook. Schedules will be created within the geographical parameters when possible, and by using other means when a schedule cannot be created from within its own geographical area.

**ALTERNATIVE TO THE MODIFIED SCHEDULING PLAN**

This request should be submitted to the MAC before the scheduling process begins. Schools who request this alternative may have to develop their own schedule. Please direct any questions or concerns directly with your conference committee representatives.

**For Example:** Football - based upon number and grade of participants in Sept.

## MODIFIED SPORTS STANDARDS CHART FOR INTERSCHOOL COMPETITION

Sport	# of Practices for student to represent their school	Team and Individual Maximum No. Contests	Minimum Time Between Contests*	Individual Limitations per Day	Rules	Time and Distance Limits
Badminton	6	14	1 Night	2 Matches/ 1 Contest	USBA	
Baseball	10	14	1 Night	2 Games *	NFHS	
Baseball Pitcher	10	14	2 Nights *	1 Game	NFHS	Pitch Count Restrictions
Basketball	6	14	2 Nights	1 Game	NFHS- Boys NCAA- Girls	7 Minute Quarters
Bowling	6	14	1 Night	3 Games	USBC	
Cross Country	6	10	2 Nights	1 Meet	NFHS	
Cheerleading	6	12	1 Night	1 Competiton	NFHS	
Field Hockey	6	12	2 Nights	1 Game	NFHS	25 Minute Halves
Football	10	7	4 Nights **	1 Game	NFHS	10 Minute Quarters
Golf	6	14	1 Night	1 Match	USGA & Local Course Rules	
Gymnastics	10	10	2 Nights	3 Events */ 1 Contest	NFHS- Boys USAJO- Girls	
Ice Hockey	6	14	2 Nights ***	1 Game	NFHS	13 Minute Periods
Lacrosse- Boys	6	12	2 Nights	1 Game	NFHS	9 Minute Quarters
Lacrosse- Girls	6	12	2 Nights	1 Game	NFHS/ US Lacrosse	25 Minute Halves
Skiing	6	12	2 Nights	2 Events	FIS & ESA	
Soccer	6	12	2 Nights	1 Game	NFHS	
Softball	6	14	1 Night	2 Games *	ASA	
Swimming & Diving	6	14	2 Nights	3 Events/ 1 Contest	NFHS	
Tennis	6	14	1 Night	2 Matches *	USTA	
Track & Field (Outdoor)	6	10	2 Nights	3 Events/ 1 Contest	NFHS	
Track & Field (Indoor)	6	10	2 Nights	3 Events/ 1 Contest	NFHS	
Volleyball	6	14	1 Nights	2	NCAA	
Wrestling	10	14 Pts.	2 Nights	2 Bouts *	NFHS	Max of 10 Pts. Thru 2 Pt. Contests

(\*) See details in Game Rules Section

\*Except in football and cross country, contests may be played with only one night's rest.

(\*\*) Three nights/scrimmage

(\*\*\*) In Ice Hockey, contests may be played with only one night's rest three times per season scheduling or rescheduling. See details in Game Rules section.

## **MODIFIED DECLARATION FORMS – DEFINITION OF TERMS**

The information given on the “Declaration Form,” by the Athletic Director or designee, is accepted by the MAC as being a commitment to the sport, classification, and schedule.

### **CLASSIFICATIONS**

#### **MODIFIED GRADE 7 & 8**

This classification includes students for the modified program 7 & 8 ONLY – Grade 9 students are not to be considered for this program and no student 15 years of age is to be considered at the beginning of the sports season.

#### **MODIFIED GRADE 7 – 8 – 9**

This classification includes students for the modified program in grades 7-8-9, inclusive, as defined by NYSPHSAA. The “Composition of the Team” description is most important to define the proper groupings and scheduling balance. Indicate, in your best judgment, what grade most students will make up this team.

#### **FRESHMAN GRADE 9**

This is a high school program using high school rules. Any students in grades 7 & 8 who participate in this classification must be tested using the districts Board of Education approved NYSED Advanced Placement Process.

<p><b>NOTE:</b> Schools that <b>consistently</b> default on their commitment to the sport, classification, and/or schedule may be requested to participate on a limited basis or create their own schedule.</p>
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## GENERAL SPORTS STANDARDS

The rules governing play, eligibility and participation shall be those outlined by the HANDBOOK of the NEW YORK STATE PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION. Situations not covered by the following specific modified rules shall be governed by the General Eligibility Rules for the Modified Program which are listed in the Modified section of the NEW YORK STATE PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION handbook.

1. The standard starting time for contests played on school days shall be **4:30 p.m.** Time changes can be made upon mutual agreement.
2. A student may participate in only one sport during a season.
3. In case of postponement, the contests will be rescheduled on the next day if possible. If not, the first open date for both schools must be used for the make-up. Some schools can play on Saturdays and, if feasible, this should be done.
4. The length of all contests shall be maximum time allowed by game rules.
5. All sport specific game conditions and standards must be approved by the Modified Athletic Council.
6. It is recommended that the Olympic style handshake be used prior to or immediately following the contest.
7. Adequate warm-up time must be provided to all athletes prior to, or immediately following the contest.
8. The home school shall provide adequate crowd control and site supervision for all home games and scrimmages.
9. Section One will follow the NYSPHSAA Handbook language for the High School Sportsmanship standard in regard to the disqualification of coaches, players and officials.