

TMSAA Area & Sectional Regulations for Team Sports

Area Guidelines:

Area tournaments are allowed, but not required. Each area may determine which teams advance to the sectional tournament by any method the area selects. If an area tournament is held and the schools in the area cannot agree on a seeding method for the tournament, the following seeding criteria should be used:

- 1-winning percentage against schools in the area
- 2-winning percentage against schools in the same classification
- 3-overall winning percentage

Teams advancing to the sectional tournament must be determined by the Thursday prior to the start of the sectional tournament (Thursday of NFHS Week 12 for volleyball, Thursday of NFHS Week 30 for basketball, Thursday of NFHS Week 44 for baseball & softball). Permission is needed from the TMSAA office to change this deadline.

Weather Policy:

In the event school closings from weather prevent the entire area tournament from being completed by the deadline, areas can choose to have teams play more than one game in a day. If that is not possible, then only the top 4 teams from the above seeding criteria will continue to participate in order to determine which teams advance to sectionals. If the tournament is not able to be held at all, the above seeding criteria will be used to advance teams to the sectionals.

Sectional Guidelines:

All sectional brackets will include the #1 and #2 seed from each area. If an area chooses not to compete in the sectional tournament, we will pull the #3 seed from whichever area in the section has the most teams, in that order.

The same bracket shall be used for both boys' and girls' sectional tournaments.

If two teams from the same area are matched up in the sectional, they can mutually agree to play at the higher seed, as long as the local officials' association can cover the game.

Sectionals must be completed by the Saturday of the week prior to the state championships. In the event of inclement weather, permission is needed from the TMSAA office to change this deadline.

Forfeits:

If a team forfeits out of an area or sectional tournament after brackets are set, then that team will not be allowed to participate in the postseason the following year.