

3.121 Regional tournaments for baseball, softball, basketball, and volleyball shall be seeded as follows with four to nine teams assigned:

In four-team tournaments, seed #1 vs. seed #4 in game 1 and seed #2 vs. seed #3 in game 2. Winners of games #1 and #2 then will play for the championship.

In five-team tournaments, seed #1 vs. bye and seed #4 vs. seed #5 in game 1 in top bracket; seed #2 vs. bye and seed #3 vs. bye in the bottom bracket. In the second round, seed #1 plays winner of game 1 in game 2 and seeds #2 and #3 play game 3. Winners of games #2 and #3 then will play for the championship.

When a five team basketball regional is played in two days, the playing schedule shall be as follows: seed #1 vs. bye and seed #4 vs. seed #5 in game 1 in top bracket; seed #2 vs. bye and seed #3 vs. bye in the bottom bracket. In the second round, seed #2 vs. seed #3 in game 2 and then the winner of game 1 plays seed #1 in game 3 all on day one. Winners of games #2 and #3 then will play for the championship on day two of the tournament.

In five-team volleyball tournaments when the tournament is played in one night, seed #1 vs. bye and seed #4 vs. seed #5 in match 1 in top bracket; seed #2 vs. bye and seed #3 vs. bye in bottom bracket. In the second round, seed #1 plays winner of match 1 in match 2 and seeds #2 and #3 play in match 3. Winners of matches #2 and #3 then will play for the championship. However, it is recommended that five team volleyball tournaments be played in two nights.

In six-team tournaments, seed #1 vs. bye and seed #4 vs. seed #5 in game 1 in top bracket; seed #3 vs. seed #6 in game 2 and seed #2 vs. bye in bottom bracket. In the second round, seed #1 plays the winner of game 1 and seed #2 plays the winner of game 2. Winners of games #3 and #4 then will play for the championship.

In seven-team tournaments, seed #1 vs. bye and seed #4 vs. seed #5 in game 1 in top bracket; seed #2 vs. seed #7 in game 2 and seed #3 vs. seed #6 in game 3 of bottom bracket. In the second round, seed #1 plays winner of game 1 and winner of game 2 plays winner of game 3. To complete this tournament in three days and avoid the playing of more than one game per day by any team, it would be necessary to play games 1, 2, and 3 on the first day.

In eight-team tournaments, seed #1 vs. seed #8 in game 1 and seed #4 vs. seed #5 in game 2 in top bracket; seed #2 vs. seed #7 in game 3 and seed #3 vs. seed #6 in game 4 in bottom bracket.

In nine-team tournaments, seed #8 vs. seed #9 in game 1 in the top bracket; seed #1 vs. winner of game 1 in game 2 and seed #4 vs. seed #5 in game 3 of top bracket; seed #2 vs. seed #7 in game 4 and seed #3 vs. seed #6 in game 5 in bottom bracket. Games 1 and 2 cannot be played on the same day except in girls' volleyball; therefore, this tournament will take four days to complete.

3.122 In the sports of baseball, softball, basketball, and volleyball, regional seeding shall be conducted using an online procedure. In general, seeding shall be done as if an actual meeting were taking place using traditional seeding criteria except that the procedure is done online rather than an actual meeting. Please refer to the Terms and Conditions and the IESA standardized calendar for the respective activity for the timeline for online seeding. All schools entering the baseball, softball, basketball, and/or the volleyball state series will enter the following information online to assist with the seeding process.

- Team Record
- Season Schedule with Results
- Regional Entry Form
- Special Comment Section on your Team's Season

Note: No school may enter the state series unless they have participated in at least three interscholastic contests in that sport prior to the seeding meeting.

A school that fails to enter their season schedule and results by the online roster and record deadline has no say regarding any seed and will be locked out of the seeding process. However, the other schools in the same regional will be able to rank the school that fails to enter the required information.

Factors to consider in seeding

- a. Season Record
- b. Quality of team's competition
- c. Smaller schools (1A or 2A) schools competing against larger schools (Class 3A or 4A)
- d. Head to Head competition
- e. Record against common opponents
- f. Roster of the post season team i.e. a 7th grader who has played on the 8th grade team all year but will play on the 7th grade team in the state series or a 7th grader who has played only 7th grade all year but will also play on the 8th grade team in the regional may be the basis for giving a higher seed.
- g. Each school shall rate all teams assigned to the regional except their own.

The IESA will confirm all seeds and break any ties. The actual seeds given by a school for the regional will be seen by all the schools assigned to the regional. Each host school should remind the school representatives that the IESA has the right to review the seeding. If it becomes apparent that some representatives have purposely rated teams in a position that cannot be justified, appropriate actions may be taken by the IESA office to correct the problem. We do not anticipate having to do so because we believe that our member school representatives will exercise the integrity and sportsmanship they expect in return.

3.123 See Section 4.057 for wrestling seeding procedures.

3.124 See Section 4.073 for sectional track seeding procedures--**NOTE: ATTENDANCE AT THE TRACK SECTIONAL SEEDING MEETING IS MANDATORY.**

3.125 A team withdrawing from competition following the online ranking deadline shall be declared as a forfeit. The remaining teams shall not be re-seeded. If a scholastic bowl team drops after the online seeding process, the teams shall be re-seeded.

3.126 The following penalties are in effect for schools that fail to submit their online roster/record and/or seeding information by the posted deadlines in the activities of girls softball, boys baseball, cross-country, girls volleyball, boys and girls basketball, boys wrestling, boys and girls track and field, and scholastic bowl:

- a. First offense: School will be placed on probation.
- b. Second consecutive offense: School will be able to participate in the state series of the current year but will not be able to participate in the state series the following year unless the school pays a \$250 fee for reinstatement to the state series.