



To: NJSIAA Program Review Committee

From: Colleen Maguire, Executive Director

Date: January 11, 2022

RE: NJSIAA State Individual Tournament COVID-19 Policy

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On September 15, 2021, the NJSIAA Executive Committee adopted the “State Tournament COVID-19 Policy” applicable to *team-based* tournaments during the 2021-2022 school year, which addresses the procedures to be followed if a school is unable to participate in a team-based state tournament due to COVID-19. That policy remains in place, however, there are several *individual* tournaments that take place during the winter season, and, therefore, a separate COVID-19 policy is required to address the progression of those tournaments, which may be disrupted by COVID-19.

Therefore, I recommend the following policy applicable to individual tournaments be approved:

1. NJSIAA will not delay or modify any state tournament schedule for an individual that cannot participate due to COVID-19 issues.
2. If an individual tournament participant is ruled out from competing in a tournament *before the tournament begins*, that individual may be replaced. The committees for each sport (i.e. wrestling, swimming, bowling, fencing and winter track & field) will issue further guidance on participant replacement and re-seeding of the tournament to account for this possibility.
3. Once a state tournament officially begins, the tournament will progress as scheduled.
4. If an individual cannot compete on the date and time scheduled, the individual’s opponent will advance in the tournament.