

# SCHSL AAAA Lacrosse Playoff Structure (2018-2019)

## I. Changed to a 1-16 Postseason Bracket; remove upper and lower state divisions.

- Remove Upper and Lower State Divisions;
  - there is not an equal balance of AAAA teams across the state to warrant a geographical split.
  - Put everyone in the same bracket 1-16.
- If there are not enough teams to complete the 1-16 bracket, then the top seeds without corresponding opponents receive first round byes.
  - No program is rewarded for simply having less teams in their area.
- HOWEVER, THE SYSTEM PROPOSED WILL BE SET UP AS FOLLOWS:

STEP 1: Use the below model to seed the #1-#8 teams.

- The model uses a points system to incorporate both a team's winning record as well as their strength of schedule (SOS).
  - If you play better teams in or out of state, that should carry weight (win or lose) as opposed to playing a weaker schedule and just stacking up wins.
- FOR EACH TEAM, ONLY THE TOP 12 GAMES IN TERMS OF POINTS (BEST POSSIBLE POINTS EARNED FROM 12 OF THE 16 GAMES) WILL BE FACTORED INTO THIS FORMULA.
- Template:
  1. Assign the proper winning and losing percentage rating to each team based on its record. For example:
    - Team X - record 5-2-1, winning raw score .71, losing raw score .29
    - Team Y - record 8-3-1, winning raw score .73, losing raw score .27
  2. Determine each team's individual point total as follows:
    - For every win, add the winning percentage raw scores of the opponent.
    - For every loss, subtract the losing raw scores of the opponent.
    - Add each team's own winning percentage raw score to the total.
    - For ties only: determine the difference of the tied teams' winning raw scores and add the resulting positive or negative number to the appropriate team. For example:
      - Team A: 6-1-1 = .86 - Team B: 2-5-1 = .29 (difference = .57). Team B adds .57 to its total points. Team A subtracts .57 from its total points.
      - Team A: 9-1-2 = .90 - Team B: 5-6-1 = .45 (difference = .45). Team B adds .45 to its total. Team A subtracts .45 from its total.

3. Set the final standings by ranking the teams in order using accumulated point totals. Results may be curved to prevent the publication of a negative total for any team by adding a like positive number (100 points) to all scores.

- Once all of the AAAA teams and their data have been entered into the template, the top 16 AAAA teams based on the data will qualify for the playoffs.
  1. Then you then seed 1-8 based on the system described above.
  2. The top 8 will be seeded in in order based on the model's results, not on geography or committee input.

Step 2: Committee will seed #9-#16 teams based jointly on geography and results from the spreadsheet.

- The remaining 8 teams (from the original 16 teams) are seeded using the spreadsheet and location.
- The AD Committee assigned by the SCHSL will use the spreadsheet data and the school's location into effect (just like the NCAA Baseball tournament does).
  - a. For example: if Hilton Head is the 16 seed based on points and SOS, and would have to travel to Rock Hill to play the number 1 seed, but a team in rock hill was a 15 seed and was slotted to drive to Bluffton (the number 2 seed); then the committee could decide to flip those two to enable easier travel.
  - b. By doing this, we can minimize travel and encourage more participation from new programs.

## **II. Games played against SCISA Teams to be counted in postseason points configuration.**