

Policy 18 recommendations from 2014-15 Ad hoc Committee

1. Seeding shall occur only at the lowest level of grouping, and therefore, neither the super-sectionals nor the state final shall be seeded.
2. Except in football, where an objective computer-based system shall be used, coaches of the teams in each group shall seed the teams of that group. When voting on seeds, coaches shall not vote for their own school. In each group, all seeds shall be added up, with the highest and lowest seeds being thrown out, and then averaged.
3. In Class 1A (in soccer) and Class 1A and 2A (in other bracketed team sports), all state series shall begin with sub-sectionals. A sub-sectional is a grouping of two geographic regionals.
4. In Class 2A and 3A (in soccer) and Class 3A and 4A (in other bracketed team sports), all state series shall begin with sectional complexes. In sectional groupings where excessive travel is a factor, geographic sub-sectionals may be used at the discretion of the IHSA Administrator.
5. In grouping and seeding a sectional complex, true seeds shall be used to populate the brackets except in cases where a conflict arises with pre-determined regional hosts. (For example, if the #1 and #8 seeds are both regional hosts, they cannot be assigned to the same regional and an adjustment must be made.)
6. In grouping and seeding a sub-sectional, only the top four seeds shall be separated. Seeds #1 and #4 shall be assigned to the same regional unless there is a hosting conflict, in which case seeds #1 and #3 shall be assigned to the same regional. The remaining schools shall be assigned to the regionals based on geographic proximity and paired according to their seeds.
7. In pairing the sectional semi-final round containing sub-sectionals, the regional from sub-sectional A containing the #1 seed shall be paired with the regional of sub-sectional B containing the #2 seed, and vice versa, except for the southernmost sectional in Class 3A (soccer) or Class 4A (other sports), where the two regionals in each sub-sectional shall be paired with each other.
8. In football, after the field for each class is determined, schools in Classes 1A through 6A shall be divided geographically into two groups of 16 and paired according to their seeds within each group. In Classes 7A and 8A schools shall not be separated into groups, but paired according to their true seeds.
9. In all classes of bracketed team sports, the Executive Director is authorized to modify the state series brackets to accommodate unique travel situations.