

NEPSBBA – 2024-2025 FAQ - Ed.10-17-23, Sean Kelly (Wheeler)/Billy Thom (Millbrook)

NEPSBBA Leadership

Billy Thom (Millbrook) - NEPSBBA Enrollment Division President

John Zall (Vermont) - AAA Representative

Jim McCarthy (Cheshire) - AA Representative

Sean Kelly (Wheeler) - Former NEPSBBA President/NEPSAC AD Liaison

Lamar Reddicks (Milton) - NEPSAC Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion/AD Liaison

*****Special Note to Assignors—The NEPSBBA requests that if you are an assignor for a school in any sport, you refrain from officiating games for those schools to avoid potential conflicts of interest.**

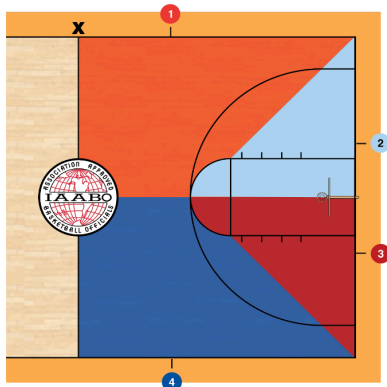
Game Length, Shot Clock, Free Throw Bonus, and Home Team Rules

AAA – 20-minute halves:: AA – 18-minute halves:: A-B - 16-minute halves:: C – 16-minute halves

The shot clock will be 30 seconds for all NEPSAC contests. If a reset for a kick violation occurs and the shot clock is under 15 seconds, it will be reset to 15 only. If the shot clock is 15 or over and a kickball violation occurs, it will stay where it is with no reset.

The foul total will reset at the half with 1-and-1 taking place on the 7th foul and 2 shots being given for the 10th foul and all subsequent fouls. *NEPSAC will not be adopting the Federation policies toward quarters and foul limits.*

Frontcourt throw-in spots will be awarded using the 2023-2024 NFHS rule change, which designates new frontcourt throw-in spots for fouls and violations, other than typical out-of-bounds violations (the defense causes the ball to be out of bounds). Those four spots are depicted in this diagram:



Games that take place between classes with different game lengths are to be played by the home team's rules (unless a NEPSAC-affiliated league policy dictates otherwise).

NFHS policies/updates for the 2024-2025 season can be found [HERE](#).

Game Rules

AAA will play all games by NCAA rules except for any issues centered around ejections and/or discipline of players, teams, or coaches. In those cases, NEPSAC Code of Conduct policies will apply.

Coaches do not need to sit after receiving a technical foul. (AAA-C)

The home team wears dark uniforms and the visiting team wears light uniforms unless previously agreed upon by both Athletic Directors and Coaches. (AAA-C)

Dunking is permitted in warmups so long as it is done without compromising the spirit of sportsmanship [no hanging on the rim, no celebratory behavior afterward, etc.]. (AAA-C)

AA Home/League Games will stop the clock on made baskets at the last minute of the game.

Except for any modifications listed on this sheet, all other rules for Classes AA, A, B, and C will follow NFHS rules.

Game Allowance, Schedules, and NEPSAC Tournament Eligibility

AAA – 34:: AA – 30:: A – C (large and small) 25 [before the NEPSAC Tournament]

If you participate in a league that has playoffs you must account for all possible playoff games. For example, if your league has an 8-team conference tournament with three possible games, you should schedule 22 games. Teams that exceed the game limit will be held accountable in NEPSAC Tournament play, or the following season if a team does not qualify for the NEPSAC Tournament.

*****Schools classified in Class C are not permitted to compete against the self-select classes of AA and AAA.**

The maximum number of “Up Games” that can be played is six. Schools that are members of a league with multiple teams in higher classifications are permitted 6 “Up Games” outside of their

league. However, schools should strongly consider whether the scheduling of those additional “Up Games” accurately reflects their classification placement.

All Showcase Events or “Tournaments” against higher classified teams that do not crown a champion are considered “Up Games.” Holiday, tip-off, or mid-season tournament games that crown a winner, and where a school has no control of a first, second, or third-round opponent, will only be considered **one** “Up Game.” *A school in a lower classification knowingly agreeing to be in a tournament with teams residing predominantly in a higher classification violates the spirit of this rule.*

Any scrimmage with officials after a school’s first scheduled game will be considered a game and will be counted toward the game limit.

Beginning in the 2023-24 school year Classes A-C will have a 15-game NEPSAC requirement to attain tournament eligibility. Schools will also be required to play 8 in-class games. Should a school feel that it cannot reach this minimum requirement, the school’s Director of Athletics should email the Boys Basketball President. From there, a school may appeal to the NEPSBBA Executive Board for tournament eligibility.

It is the expectation of the coaches' association that all schools will be able to meet the NEPSAC and in-class minimum by the 2024-2025 season.

Tournament eligibility is determined by one of the following two criteria: (1) .500 or better against in-class opponents, or (2) .500 or better against NEPSAC competition.

Any games added to the schedule after Nov. 15th will ***NOT*** have a bearing on NEPSAC Tournament Seeding, Saylor Point System, or Tournament Criteria. Those games will be classified as “non-games,” but will still count toward the game limit.

Any games removed from the schedule without the approval of both athletic directors will result in a forfeit for the team unwilling to play the game.

Special note: AA Tournament selection will be based on AA results only. This was agreed upon in September 2024 on a 13-1 vote by AA school athletic directors.

Allowable Contacts

- A coach may provide occasional skill-oriented informal training/instruction to up to three student-athletes at a time outside of their sport’s assigned season. *****Regularly scheduled supervised workouts are not within the spirit of the policy.** This informal time may not take place during regularly scheduled afternoon program time at your

school. A coach may not directly or indirectly require a student-athlete to participate in such training/instruction. Schools are encouraged to monitor this contact to make sure that it is informal as well as reasonable in amount to be consistent with the letter and spirit of this policy.

- Summer coaching is allowed.
- A coach may coach their child out of season.
- Allowable contacts took effect on December 1, 2013, and the statement, “Coaches shall not coach varsity athletes and/or newly enrolled potential varsity athletes on non-school teams during the school year.”
- Coaches are permitted to be in the gym during open gyms as long as they’re hosting college coaches. They are not permitted to be on the floor and organizing drills/practice.

Start Date

- The second Saturday of November
- AAA – The first Saturday of November

NEPSAC Tournament Dates

- Wednesday, March 5th – Quarter-final Games, no game to be played before 3:00 pm
- Saturday, March 8th – Semi-Final Games
- Sunday, March 9th – Championship Game Venues and Times TBD [an email will be sent to the membership when this is finalized]

Scouting

Although verbal contact between schools is allowed, scouting (including exchanging or distributing a game film) of future opponents without the permission of all the athletic directors involved is prohibited. This policy is not enforced during games that are part of a multi-school tournament (e.g. Holiday Tournaments).

PLEASE NOTE: NEPSAC will allow all coaches to view any film that is part of the public domain. Should you have any additional questions about this, please discuss them with NEPSBBA President, Billy Thom (Millbrook), or the Athletic Director at your school.

Recruiting

Secondary school coaches should refrain, for recruiting, from contacting a student-athlete directly at a NEPSAC pre-preparatory school before that student’s final year. Likewise, secondary coaches should refrain, for recruiting, from contacting directly a student-athlete who is

enrolled at another NEPSAC secondary school unless the student and/or parent has initiated contact with the school in question.

NEPSAC schools should refrain from allowing a candidate for admission to practice or 'tryout' for a particular team. Those schools and/or coaches who violate the spirit of the above should be reported to the NEPSAC Executive Board for further action.

Workouts During a School Visit

Any workouts or practice involvement by prospective students is strictly prohibited. This includes informal pickup games and "open runs." A prospective student is considered any student-athlete who is not enrolled at the host school and is of the appropriate age and grade to apply to the school.