7.11 SELECTION AND SEEDING PROCESS FOR STATE TOURNAMENTS

7.11.1 Selection /Seeding

NMAA Staff members are responsible for the Seeding and Selection process in all team sports.

7.11.2 Selection process in the sports of Basketball, Baseball, Football, Soccer, Softball, Tennis, and Volleyball.

A. District Champions will automatically advance to the playoffs. Exception: In the sport of basketball, if the regular season district champion and district tournament champion are different, they will both automatically advance to the playoffs.

B. The remainder of the teams will be selected by the NMAA Staff using the following criteria.

There is neither order nor priority in the criteria listed below:

- Finish in regular season district play
- Head-to-Head
- Wins against district champions regardless of class (not considered in the sport of football)
- Overall Record
- MaxPreps Freeman Rankings (not considered in the sport of tennis)
- Member School Input

****NOTE**: One district team cannot be seeded or selected higher than another if they came out of district as a lower seed, with regular season taking precedence over tournament play. In the event of a tie in the regular season district standings, the NMAA Staff may use the six criteria points or any other head-to-head competition to determine the selection/seeding order between the two teams that are tied.

Example 1: The district teams are Alamogordo, Centennial, Las Cruces, Mayfield, and Organ Mountain. In basketball, prior to the district tournament, the teams are seeded as follows:

Centennial – 1, Organ Mountain – 2, Mayfield – 3, Las Cruces – 4, Alamogordo – 5

Scenario: Las Cruces enters the district basketball tournament as the 4 seed, but upsets Mayfield, Organ Mountain, and Centennial and wins the tournament championship. Centennial (regular season champion) and Las Cruces (tournament champion) both automatically advance into the field of 16. However, should both Mayfield and Organ Mountain receive At-Large berths, by rule Centennial must be seeded above Organ Mountain, Organ Mountain above Mayfield, and Mayfield above Las Cruces because regular season play takes precedence over tournament play.

Example 2: The same district teams are involved in baseball but have no district tournament. They finish the regular season as follows:

Mayfield – 1, Alamogordo – 2, Las Cruces – 3, Organ Mountain – 4, Centennial – 5

Scenario: Mayfield automatically advances into the field of 16. Alamogordo, Las Cruces, and Organ Mountain receive At-Large berths. They must be seeded in that order (Mayfield, Alamogordo, Las Cruces, and Organ Mountain) due to their finish in regular season play.

7.11.3 Seeding Process/Criteria for all Classes in Baseball, Basketball, Football, Soccer, Softball, Tennis, and Volleyball.

A. Teams will be seeded depending on the sport and class. (See 7.11.4, and each individual sport for clarification.)

B. The higher seed will be the host site for first-round games, if applicable.

C. There is neither order nor priority in the seeding criteria listed below:

- Finish in regular season district play
- Head-to-Head
- Wins against district champions regardless of class (not considered in the sport of football)
- Overall Record
- MaxPreps Freeman Rankings (not considered in the sport of tennis)
- Member School Input

**NOTE: In the event of a tie among criteria points, head-to-head will be used to break the tie. If there is no head-to-head competition, or the head-to-head competition is tied, then MaxPreps Strength of Schedule will be used to break the tie, except in the sport of tennis which uses Coaches' input.