



# MINNESOTA STATE HIGH SCHOOL LEAGUE

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## Team State Tournament Seeding Policy (October 5, 2023)

The competition placement of qualifying teams into team state tournaments\* shall be developed through one or more of the options listed below or as determined by the Board of Directors.

**Option 1:** Team sport seeds 1-5 with a random draw for seeds 6, 7, and 8.

**Option 2:** Team sport seeds all teams once per state tournament.

**Option 3:** Team sport does not seed in the first round of the tournament. The team sport uses a regional/sectional or scheduled rotation. i.e., Section 1 vs 3, 2 vs 4, 5 vs 7, 6 vs 8.

When seeding is used to place teams, the process for seeding of participating teams will be as follows:

1. Each coach or activities director of the participating teams seeds all other participating teams.
2. When eight or more teams are competing, one high and one low seed will be dropped.
3. In the case of a tie, the following steps are used in order:
  - a. The seeds that the tied schools ranked each other are dropped and the remaining seeds are used,
  - b. If a tie remains, the high and the low seed are added back in, and all seeds are used.
  - c. If a tie remains, a coin flip is used.

The method for placing teams in a team state tournament will continue without change, unless:

- a. The current method has been in place for four or more years, and,
- b. The sport advisory committee, the Activities Directors Advisory Committee, the Principals Advisory Committee or the MSHSL Board of Directors propose a change in the method, and
- c. The newly proposed method is approved by the Board of Directors through the Activity Advisory Committee Process.

The following requirements must be met for a proposal to advance to the Board of Directors:

- The Sport Advisory Committee membership must meet the definition of an Advisory Committee to submit a competition format proposal.
- Seeding may only occur once per state tournament.
- Team sports with multiple classes must use the same seeding option in all classes.
- Team sports that have both boys and girls programs must use the same seeding option.
- The selected team sport seeding option must be in place for a minimum of four years.
- The League's Board of Directors will make final approval on how seeding will occur in each team sport based on the recommendation of the Sport Advisory Committee and the sport's tournament director.

\*Team state tournaments include adapted floor hockey, adapted soccer, adapted softball, baseball, basketball, dance, football, hockey, lacrosse, soccer, softball, tennis, volleyball, wrestling.