

NCJLA Boys High School & Youth 'A' Division Playoff Seeding Process

For the NCJLA 2014 Playoffs, the NCJLA will use the same Ratings Percentage Index (RPI) as was used in 2012 and 2013. The NCJLA uses the RPI to produce a hard number with which to rank teams. The RPI is a quantity used to rank sports teams based upon a team's wins and losses and its strength of schedule. This system has been in use since 1981 to aid in the selecting and seeding of teams.

Because the RPI is so significant to the seeding, it is crucial that the formula yield fair and predictable results. The NCJLA uses an RPI that considers the following criteria: (1) the team's winning percentage, (2) the team's strength of schedule based on the winning percentages of the team's opponents, and (3) the team's strength of schedule based on the winning percentages of opponents once-removed: teams played by the team's opponents. To rank a team based upon these criteria, the RPI gives different weights to the three criteria, multiplying each criterion by a different percentage. The RPI assigns a weight of 50 percent for the first criterion, 25 percent for the second, and 25 percent for the third, and then sums these products.

As an example, consider a team with a winning percentage of 75%, an opponents' winning percentage of 60%, and a winning percentage of 50% by opponents once-removed. Table 1 demonstrates how the RPI is calculated.

Table 1: RPI Calculation		
Criterion	Weight	Criterion x Weight
Winning percentage (75%)	0.5	$0.75 \times 0.5 = 0.375$
Opponents' winning percentage (60%)	0.25	$0.60 \times 0.25 = 0.135$
Winning percentage of opponents once removed (50%)	0.25	$0.50 \times 0.25 = 0.125$
RPI = 0.375 + 0.135 + 0.125 = 0.635		

Note: There is NO benefit to running up a score. Score differential does not factor into RPI calculations.

Seeding Results – Boys HS and A team rankings will be posted on the NCJLA website on the following dates:

HS & A's - Weds 3/26/2014 and 4/9/2014.

HS Only – Weds 4/16/2014 and Mon 4/28/2014 (Final day of play is Sun 4/27)

A's Only – Weds 4/23/2014 and Mon 5/5/2014 (Final day of play is Sun 5/4)

Boys Varsity Playoff Seeding Addendum

To produce seedings for the Boys' Varsity playoffs, the coaches from the top ten Boys Varsity teams, according to RPI ranking, will meet to discuss why their team should or should not be ranked according to their RPI numbers. Following this conversation, each coach will submit an open ballot with their top eight picks for the playoffs. A first-place vote gets 8 points, second-place gets 7, etc. The team with the most points is the number 1 seed, second-most number 2, etc. In the event of a tie, the team with the higher RPI takes precedence.

For JV and youth A-level teams, playoffs will be seeded strictly according to RPI.