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

The NCJLA uses the Ratings Percentage Index (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 25 percent for the first criterion, 50 percent for the second, and 25 percent for the third, and then sums these products.

Example

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%)	0.25	0.75 x 0.25 = 0.1875
Opponents' winning percentage (60%)	0.50	0.60 x 0.50 = 0.3
Winning percentage of opponents once removed (50%)	0.25	0.50 x 0.25 = 0.125
RPI = 0.1875 + 0.3 + 0.125 = 0.6125		

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

Seeding Results – Please check the NCJLA Calendar for the exact release date for End of Season event final rankings.