



To: NJSIAA Program Review Committee

From: Colleen Maguire, NJSIAA Executive Director

Date: September 11, 2023

RE: Girls Ice Hockey Proposal – Pilot Program

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**Background:**

In October 2021, the NJSIAA Executive Committee unanimously approved a two-year pilot program which allowed NJSIAA to sponsor a Girls Ice Hockey State Tournament. The state tournament has gone very well with the championship game being played at The Prudential Center along with the boys state championship games. During the 2022-2023 school year, there were 16 girls ice hockey teams among NJSIAA member schools, 13 of which competed in the NJSIAA state tournament.

**Proposal:**

I propose that NJSIAA extend the pilot program for one additional school year. This will allow time for legislation to be submitted to the Advisory Committee in December for their consideration – such legislation will be to adopt girls ice hockey as an NJSIAA sanctioned sport. If approved by the Advisory Committee, then the legislation will be on the ballot at the Annual Meeting in May 2024.

During this one-year pilot program, all teams will follow the boys ice hockey regular season rules and regulations, specific to season dates, maximum number of games, etc., while all student-athletes will be required to meet all NJSIAA eligibility standards. In addition, during this one-year pilot program, girls will be permitted to participate on their boys team if they choose; however, they will not be permitted to participate on both the boys and girls team.