To: NJSIAA Program Review Committee

From: Derryk Sellers, Assistant Director

Date: May 3, 2024

RE: Winter Track & Field Wildcards – G Bowling Classifications

Winter Track & Field Wildcards

In June 2023, the Executive Committee approved a proposal to decrease the number of entries for its public school sectional meets – the change decreased the number of entries per school from 3 individuals to 2 individuals per event. However, the proposal did allow each school the flexibility to enter a wildcard entry in up to 3 events. These changes did help with normalizing the meets across sections and moving the meets towards a better time frame for everyone involved.

The winter track and field committee is requesting an increase to the number of wildcard entries from 3 events to 5 events. The increase will allow schools to increase participation at the meets with minimal impact on the total time of the meet.

G Bowling Classifications

In June 2023, the Executive Committee approved a propsal to overhaul the boys and girls bowling state tournament. The proposal included a classification model for both the boys and girls tournament that is based on four groups (I – IV) and four sections (NI, NII, Central, and South). This model worked well for the boys tournament but did not provide for a competitively balanced tournament for the girls due to decreased participation compared to prior years. The significantly lower number of teams entering the state tournament, as compared to the boys, resulted in NJSIAA staff combining groups in order to provide consistent brackets across all groups and sections.

As a result, NJSIAA staff is going to wait until the 2024 – 2025 season has started in order to determine the best classification model for the girls tournament. It is too difficult to identify a classification model when the number of schools hosting the sport can signficiantly vary from season to season. The classification model may provide for less groups and/or less sections as compared to the boys tournament, but it will be based on classification models in place in other sports with similar numbers of participating schools.