

PLAYOFF FORMAT FOR: FOOTBALL

Number of Championships: Six Championships (6A, 5A,4A,3A,2A,1A)

Region Tournament

Dates: NFHS Week 19-21 - Must be completed by Region Deadline as published on the VHSL Calendar.

Format: Sixteen-team, single-elimination tournament. Seeding and pairings determined power points unless the Region has determined another format.

Sites: As determined by each Region.

Who Advances: Two teams advance to state tournament play.

State Tournament

Dates: NFHS Week 22 and 23 – Games will be played on Saturday.

Format: Four-team, single-elimination tournament per classification pairing each region's two representatives in the semifinals. The semifinal format is determined by each classification. Semifinal winners advance to the final.

Sites: Group 1A and 2A – Salem (Salem); 3A and 4A (Liberty University); 5A and 6A (University of Virginia)

Awards: Team trophy and individual medals to State Champion and Runner-up teams.

VHSL Program Administrator: Tom Dolan

VHSL Football Playoff Formats

1A East – 12 teams – top 4 teams receive a first round bye – cross bracket after regional semifinals

1A West – 16 teams – straight power point bracket – cross bracket after regional semifinals

2A East – 16 teams – straight power point bracket – cross bracket after regional semifinals

2A West – 16 teams – straight power point bracket – cross bracket after regional semifinals

3A East – 16 teams – sectionalized bracket (Conferences 25/27 paired and 26/28 paired) – cross bracket after regional semifinals

3A West – 16 teams – straight power point bracket – cross bracket after regional semifinals

4A East – 16 teams – sectionalized bracket (Conferences 17/18 paired and 19/20 paired) – regional champion crowned at state semifinal game

4A West – 12 teams – top 4 teams receive a first round bye – regional champion crowned at state semifinal game

5A South – 16 teams – sectionalized bracket (Conferences 9/10 paired and 11/12 paired) – regional champion crowned at state semifinal game

5A North – 16 teams – straight power point bracket – regional champions crowned at state semifinal game.

6A South – 16 teams – sectionalized bracket (Conferences 1/2 paired and 3/4 paired) – regional champion crowned at state semifinal

6A North – 16 teams – straight power point bracket – regional champion crowned at state semifinal

