BREAKING TIES – NFHS Rule 6-3

ART. 1 . . . A tie in a field event occurs when two or more competitors finish with the same best distance or height.

ART. 2 . . . When there is a tie at any distance or height of a field event, places and points scored shall be awarded as follows:

a. For places determine by distance:
    1. If the distance resulting from the best performance of competitors is identical, the higher place is awarded to the tying competitor whose second best performance is better from either the preliminary trials or the finals.
    2. If after (1.) the tie remains, the higher place is awarded to the tied competitor whose third-best performance is better than the third-best performance of any tied competitor, etc.

b. For places determined by height:
    1. The competitor with the fewest number of trials for the height at which the tie occurs, i.e., the last height successfully cleared, shall be awarded the higher place.
    2. If the tie still remains, the competitor with the fewest total number of unsuccessful trials throughout the competition, up to and including the height last cleared, shall be awarded the higher place.
    3. Passed trials shall not count as misses.
    4. If the tie remains after applying (1.) and (2.) and:
        (a) It concerns first place, the competitors tying shall make one more attempt at the height at which they failed. If no decision is reached, the bar shall be lowered in increments of 1 inch (2 cm) in the high jump and 3 inches (7 cm) in the pole vault. If two or more of the tying contestants cleared the height, the bar shall be raised by intervals of 1 inch (2 cm) in the high jump and 3 inches (7 cm) in the pole vault. Each competitor shall attempt one trial at each height until a winner is determined.
        (b) If all competitors eligible for a jump-off withdraw from the competition before the jump-off begins or at a height change, those competitors shall tie for first place, and any team points shall be added together and divided equally between the tying competitors.
        (c) The tie concerns any place other than first, the competitors shall be awarded the same place.

NOTES:

1. If the height which the tied competitors last attempted is not the same, because of a passed height by one or more of the remaining competitors, the bar shall be lowered to the lowest height last attempted by any of the remaining competitors to begin the jump-off.
2. No passed heights shall be permitted in the jump-offs.
3. A competitor withdrawing from a jump-off shall concede any opportunity for a higher placing in the event, but the withdrawal shall not negate a competitor's performance in that event up to the point of withdrawal. Withdrawing from a jump-off is not unsporting conduct. (4-6-1)

ART. 3 . . . In the vertical jumping events, a competitor shall be credited with his/her best achievement including performances made in the jump-off of a first-place tie.

ART. 4 . . . If there is a tie by any number of competitors for any scoring places, the points for tied places shall be added together and divided by the number of competitors who are involved in the tie.