

Breaking Ties – Field Events

The top three competitors in each event qualify for the state meet. The next four best performances across all the regionals in the same class and gender also qualify for the state meet. A minimum of three competitors in each event at each regional will qualify for the state meet. A maximum of seven competitors in each event at a regional may qualify for the state meet.

For discus, shot put, javelin, long jump and triple jump – ties based on the athlete's best throw or jump are broken on the basis of 2nd best marks, then 3rd best mark (if needed to break tie), etc.

Remember – the athlete's best mark (whether it is in the prelims or finals) is used to determine order of finish. The same applies to breaking a tie – 2nd best mark is used, whether that is in the prelims or finals.

KSHSAA Regional Track & Field Vertical Jumps Tie Breaker

If there is a two (or more way) tie for third place, a three (or more) way tie for second place, a four (or more) way tie for first place, a jump off must occur to determine who the top three competitors are, thus automatically qualifying for the state meet.

Once a jump off starts, the competitors in the jump off may not improve their heights in the overall results if they clear a higher bar in the jump off than they did in the first three trials at a height.

FOR HIGH JUMP AND POLE VAULT – ties broken as follows and in this sequence:

- 1) Competitor with the fewest number of trials at height at which tie occurs, i.e., the last height successfully cleared
- 2) Competitor with the fewest number of total number of unsuccessful trials throughout the competition up to and including the height last cleared
- 3) PASSED TRIALS/HEIGHTS SHALL NOT COUNT AS MISSES

IF there is a tie for second (2nd) place and the tie cannot be broken by application of *Rule 6-3 (1) and (2)*:

- a) IF between **two competitors for 2nd place**, both will advance to state. **There is no need for jump-off in this case.**
- b) IF between **three or more competitors for 2nd place**, a jump-off needs to occur to determine which **2 of the 3** will advance to state – one of the three will be eliminated. This jump-off will take place AFTER the HJ competition is concluded and all other places have been determined. The bar would be “re-set” at the height that the tie occurred (where the tying competitors all missed).
 - Each tying competitor shall take one more jump at the height at which they failed.
 - If no decision is reached, the bar shall be lowered (**1” for HJ, 3” for PV**).
 - If no competitor clears this height, the bar shall again be lowered (**1” for HJ, 3” for PV**).
 - If two or more of the tying competitors clear the height, the bar shall be raised by intervals (1” for HJ, 3” for PV).
 - Each competitor shall attempt one trial at each height until a 4th place finisher is determined.
 - No passed height shall be permitted in the jump-off.
- c) IF there is a tie for third (3rd) place by two or more competitors:
 - The same procedure as in ‘b’ above shall occur.

- 1) The event judge, meet manager and/or referee shall verify the tie prior to any of the above procedures being initiated.
- 2) If any number of competitors tie for 2nd or 3rd, the points for tied places shall be added together

and divided by the number of competitors involved in the tie (2-2-4).

- 3) Once that tie is resolved (i.e., identifying the athletes that will qualify for state) then the results can be entered into the software program.

EXAMPLE: (this scenario could apply in either the HJ or PV)

In the PV, A1, and B1 both successfully clear 13'. C 1, D1, E1 do not make that height. The remaining vaulters all went out prior to this height. C 1, D1 and E1 are tied in:

- 1) the total misses at the height they last successfully made (both missed once and then cleared the previous height on their second vault)
- 2) they are also tied in total misses at all heights in the competition.

The tie between C1, D1 and E1 cannot be broken by application of *Rule 6-3*. Since both D1 and E1 cannot advance to the state meet, the tie must be broken.

PROCESS: The competition continues without interruption to determine 1st and 2nd place among the two vaulters still in the competition. Once that competition ends, the cross bar is placed at 13'00" and C1, D1 and E1 are given one more attempt at that height. If neither clear that height, the bar is lowered 3 inches (1 inch if this was the HJ). C 1, D1 and E1 each have one more attempt at the new height. The process as outlined in *Rule 6-3* for a jump-off continues until the tie is broken. In this example, even though a jump-off occurs to determine the qualifier for the state meet, the competitors will receive the same number of points for team scoring purposes.

NOTE: If this example was changed so that 3 competitors had tied for 2nd place, then the same process would be used to identify which 2 of the 3 would qualify for the state meet - one of the three would have to be eliminated (as a qualifier for the state meet) via the jump-off process.

High Jump Scenario A: A1 clears 6-6. B1, C1, D1 and E1 clear 6-4 but all missed all three trials at 6-6. F1, G1 and H1 clear 6-2 but all three trials miss at 6-4. B1 had no misses throughout the competition prior to missing all three at 6-6. C1, D1, and E1 each missed their first attempt at 6-2 and then all three cleared 6-2 on their second attempt. C1, D1, and E1 had no misses prior to 6-2. The competition continues for A1 until there are three misses at the same height. Following NFHS Rule 6-3, B1 is awarded second place and automatically qualifies for state. After A1 misses three trials at the same height, there must be a jump off between C1, D1 and E1 to determine the final automatic qualifying spot for the state meet. C1, D1, E1 tie for third and will not be able to improve their 6-4 standing in the jump off, even if they clear a bar(s) higher than that in the jump off. C1, D1, E1 all get one more attempt at 6-6. C1 misses, D1 misses, E1 successfully clears the bar. E1 is the third-place finisher, thus qualifying for the state meet with a final height of 6-4 in the results. C1 and D1 finish with a final height of 6-4 but do not qualify for the state meet. In this example, even though a jump-off occurs between C1, D1, and E1 to determine the qualifier for the state meet, all three will receive the same number of points for team scoring purposes. F1, G1, H1 are in a three way tie for 6th place at 6-2 and will receive the same number of points for team scoring purposes.

High Jump Scenario B: Here are the top places and heights of four regionals

Regional A	1 st 6-8	2 nd 6-6 (J)	3 rd 6-6	4 th 6-2	4 th 6-2	4 th 6-2	4 th 6-2	8 th 6-0
Regional B	1 st 6-10	2 nd 6-8	3 rd 6-4 (J)	4 th 6-4	4 th 6-4	6 th 6-2	6 th 6-2	8 th 6-0
Regional C	1 st 6-6 (J)	2 nd 6-6	3 rd 6-4 (J)	4 th 6-4	4 th 6-2	4 th 6-2	7 th 6-0	7 th 6-0
Regional D	1 st 6-8 (J)	2 nd 6-8	3 rd 6-0 (J)	4 th 6-0	4 th 6-0	4 th 6-0	7 th 5-10	8 th 5-8

The top three places in each regional qualify for state. The 4th place competitors in Regionals B and C along with the 5th place finisher in Regional B all clear 6-4. All qualify for state as at-large qualifiers because they are amongst the next four best non automatic qualifiers across all regionals. There are eight jumpers who clear 6-2. Since the tie can't be broken between the eight of them, all eight jumpers who cleared 6-2 will also qualify for state. The four-

competitor jump-off in Regional D decided who the automatic qualifier was. The competitors tying for 3rd place but didn't win the jump off in Regional D at 6-0 do not qualify for state even though the two-way tie for 6th in Regional B qualified at 6-2. There will be 12 automatic qualifiers and 11 at-large qualifiers to state in this event.

<https://kshsaaschools.sharepoint.com/Company/Track & Field/2025 Vertical Jump State Qualifying Procedure.docx>