4/13/2020

CIAC Football Committee,

We would like to petition the CIAC Football Committee to consider amending the current football playoff point qualification formula to specifically count the annual Shelton/Derby Thanksgiving Day Football game as an "in-League" contest and award the same playoff qualification points as any other in-league contest.

Please consider the following when making this decision:

     1) This game has been played for over 110 years and is one of the oldest in the nation

     2) Shelton and Derby had previously been in the same League for the majority of history, up until the recent change in 2009

     3) There are currently games that are scheduled within Leagues that match-up schools of different size and those games are awarded the same point values as in-League games and teams are not penalized

     4) This is a specific request for exemption for this specific match-up. It may or may not affect any other contests in the state

               \*other potential contest data listed below for your review

     5) These teams should not be penalized for playing this specific game outside of the League, there are currently several other scheduled games which are on a teams schedule, which if those games are scheduled by the CT High School Football Alliance, are treated as "in-league" games. Just because this specific game is not scheduled by the Alliance, the teams should not be penalized.

     6) The rationale for determining the playoff point values for games has not been drastically changed since its inception. There may be proposals forthcoming regarding an overhaul of this system, but we do not wish to have this specific issue included in those determinations. This is a specific request based on the current system in place applying only to the teams involved.

We thank you for your consideration of this request and we are willing to provide any additional information or answer any questions if requested.

Sincerely,

John Niski, Athletic Director, Shelton High School

Kathy Riddle, Interim Principal, Shelton High School

Matthew Bradshaw, Athletic Director, Derby High School

Martin Pascale, Principal, Derby High School

Other contests that have taken place during Thanksgiving 2019 that are potentially related:

   Southington - Cheshire *(no penalty, same class)*

   Harding[-](https://thezone.rep-am.com/red-zone/2019/11/27/chiefs-stay-close-for-awhile-but-cant-keep-up-pace/)Bridgeport Central *(no penalty, same class)*

   [Capital/AF - Nonnewaug](https://thezone.rep-am.com/red-zone/2019/11/27/chiefs-stay-close-for-awhile-but-cant-keep-up-pace/) *(no penalty, same class)*

   Cromwell/Port. - Rocky Hill *(no penalty, same class)*

\*Bacon Acad. -  RHAM   *(penalty?, different class)*

\*WCA - Gilbert/NW   *(penalty?, different class)*

\*[Westerly (RI) - Stonington](https://www.theday.com/high-school-sports/20191128/stonington-falls-to-westerly-28-7)*(penalty?, same class?, out of state?* )

**John Niski**, *caa*

Supervisor Health & Physical Education

Director of Athletics

Shelton Public Schools