



Buckle Up Phone Down Cup

High school activities are intended to produce positive life enriching experiences which help individuals, solely and collectively, discover and develop skills to improve their quality of character, expression, and collaboration.

Each year the Nebraska School Activities Association will recognize the most successful interscholastic high school activities programs in Nebraska State Championship level competition. Public and private member schools in four Classifications of three Divisions will earn awards.

Overview

The Nebraska Department of Transportation Buckle Up Phone Down Cup recognizes high schools having the most successful interscholastic activities programs in the state for that year. The divisions of competition include a Girls Division, a Boys Division, and an All-School Division. Schools in each division are divided into four classes, (A, B, C, and D) determined each activities year, based on enrollment. *Volleyball classifications are used to place schools in a class for this awards program.*

Three simultaneous contests will take place during the year. The Girls Division and Boys Division competitions, in each class, will feature schools earning points from their respective athletic activities and in the case of coed schools, sharing the fine arts activities' points equally. The All-School Division contest will include all activities in which each high school participates.

This awards program began in the Fall of 2006 with the Nebraska Department of Transportation becoming the title sponsor in 2023. The Buckle Up Phone Down Cup awards are distinctive high-quality silver cups and will become the property of the winning schools each year.

The winners of the Buckle Up Phone Down Cup are determined by a point system based on performance in State Championship events within each Division and Class.

Point System

All schools which finish in the top eight positions (plus any ties) in a State Championship event receive points. In playoff events involving teams in a split classification, the same top eight positions in that event's class (D1 and D2) will earn full points for their Class competition. If there are fewer than eight schools from a classification in the event, only those schools represented are eligible to receive points.

Championship performance points are awarded for all-activities Championship events as follows:

Placing	Points
1st place	50
2nd place	45
3rd place	40
4th place	35
5th place	30
6th place	25
7th place	20
8th place	15

If a tie for place exists, points will be split evenly between all teams tied for a specific place. For example, the non-advancing quarterfinals teams in an eight-team, single elimination Championship bracket will split the 5th through 8th place points. ($30 + 25 + 20 + 15 = 90 \div 4 = 22.5$ pts each)

In boys wrestling, Buckle Up Phone Down Cup points will be awarded based on a school's highest finish at either the Individual Boys Wrestling Championship or the Dual Wrestling Championships. For example: If a school places 4th at the Boys Individual Championships and places 3rd at the Dual Championships, that school would receive the 40 points earned for the 3rd place finish at the Dual Championships, instead of receiving points for both Championship events.

Points for coed activities will be added to the boys, girls and all-school totals. For example – if a school earns 30 points for a 5th place finish at state play production, that school will receive 30 points in the boys total, 30 points in the girls total and 30 points in the all-school total.

In activities' Championships involving cooperative agreements, each of the schools in the cooperative will earn the points for that respective event.

If a team is forced to relinquish its honors in a State competition as a result of an infraction (such as the use of ineligible players) it will be ineligible for any points in that activity for that year. If the penalty for infraction is assessed after a school has received the award and the loss of points for that activity results in a drop in standings for the Buckle Up Phone Down Cup, the Cup must be relinquished to the eligible school which received the next highest point total in the final standings.

Cup Standings

The Buckle Up Phone Down Cup standings will be kept current on the NSAA website throughout the activities year, with summaries of individual activity scoring being available after the conclusion of those Championship events.

The winners of the Buckle Up Phone Down Cup will be announced after the completion of all NSAA Championship events for the current year.

Cup Presentations

The Buckle Up Phone Down Cups will be presented to the winning schools in the four Classes of each Division during a special ceremony the following fall.

For more information about the Buckle Up Phone Down Cup and standings, please [click here](#).