

NJSIAA

GENERAL INFORMATION

CONSTITUTION

BY-LAWS

RULES AND REGULATIONS



2020 - 2021

TEMPORARY RULE AMENDMENTS FOR THE 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR

The COVID-19 pandemic has required NJSIAA to make certain temporary amendments to the Bylaws, Rules and Regulations and general and sport-specific schedules for the 2020-2021 school year. Considering that the amendments only apply to this school year, the Handbook itself has not been updated to reflect the changes. A summary of the temporary changes (to the extent known at the time of publication of this Handbook) is provided below. The most up-to-date information and the full text of the temporary Bylaw amendments can be found on the NJSIAA website.

The NJSIAA Executive Committee and its officers adopted the following temporary Bylaw amendments for this school year:

(1) NJSIAA Bylaws, Article V, Section 4(K) Transfer Rule

- The COVID-19 pandemic has uprooted families across New Jersey. Therefore, NJSIAA has amended the Transfer Rule to modify the “bona fide change of residence” provision, as outlined below. Any student who transfers on or before September 1, for fall sports, or on or before November 1, for winter sports, will not be required to sit 30 days, or half the season, whichever is less. Any student that transfers after those dates will be subject to the sit-period.
- As the pandemic progressed into late summer, some member schools chose to cancel or postpone athletic programs. Because the focus of this season is participation, and not championships, NJSIAA further amended the transfer rule to clarify that a transfer for athletic advantage does not include a transfer made because the student’s school cancels or postpones an athletic program due to the pandemic.
- Additionally, with regard to some member schools cancelling athletic programs, the transfer rule applicable to Vo-Tech/Public Academy and Charter Schools has been revised. Clarifications 9 and 10 to NJSIAA Bylaws, Article V, Section 4(K) normally permit students attending Vo-Tech/Public Academy or Charter School students attending schools that do not offer a particular sport, to participate in that sport at his/her sending school upon agreement of both Principals. For the 2020-2021 school year, no such agreement by either schools’ Principal is required.

(2) NJSIAA Bylaws, Article V, Section 4(E) Credits Rule – NJSIAA understands that, in a virtual setting, some student-athletes may face challenges to achieve the required number of credits to participate in athletics. These challenges include, but are not limited to, lack of access to technology and differing learning methods. To accommodate those student-athletes, NJSIAA has adopted a waiver protocol, to be completed by the student-athlete’s school principal, as outlined below.

(3) NJSIAA Bylaws, Article III, Section 10 Cooperative Sports Programs – The Cooperative Sports Application deadlines have been relaxed to allow schools additional time to assess enrollment and participation numbers.

Additionally, the dates set forth in NJSIAA Rules and Regulations, “Program Regulations,” pertaining to Sports Season Dates (Section 5); Start of Practice (Section 6); and Opening Dates (Section 8) and the sport-specific dates found in the Rules and Regulations will be modified for the 2020-2021 school year. Please refer to the Tournament Regulations posted on NJSIAA’s website, on the individual sports page, for current information in this regard.

NJSIAA MISSION STATEMENT

The NJSIAA, a private, voluntary Association is committed to serving all types of student-athletes, its member schools and related professional organizations by the administration of education-based interscholastic athletics, which support academic achievement, good citizenship, and fair and equitable opportunities.

We believe that member schools, along with their leagues and conferences, share these convictions:

- A safe and healthy playing environment is essential to our mission.
- Participation in interscholastic athletics enhances the educational experience of all students.
- Interscholastic athletics is a privilege.
- Excellence in both academics and athletics is pursued by all.
- Interscholastic participation develops good citizenship and healthy life-styles, fosters involvement of a diverse population and promotes positive school/community relations.
- Rules promote fair play and minimize risk.
- Cooperation among members advances their individual and collective well-being.
- Training of administrators and coaches promotes the educational mission of the interscholastic experiences.
- Properly trained officials/judges enhance interscholastic competition.
- The NJSIAA is the recognized state authority on interscholastic athletic programs.

IN MEMORIAM

Former Executive Committee Members

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Chas. E. Lillis | Everett L. Hebel |
| George Henckel | Joseph J. Vopelak |
| Clarence L. Woodman | Richard Mirshak |
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| G.A. Falzer | August Bonanne |
| O.F. Thompson | James Van Zoeren |
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| Wm. G. Ellis, Sr. | Gerald Hopkins |
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| Arthur G. Humphrey | Abner West |
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| Robert F. Duncan | Art Shaare |
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PURPOSES OF THE NATIONAL FEDERATION

The National Federation of State High School Associations serves its members, related professional organizations, and students by providing leadership for the administration of education-based interscholastic activities, which support academic achievement, good citizenship and equitable opportunity.

We believe participation in education-based interscholastic athletics and performing arts programs:

- * Enriches each student’s educational experience.
- * Promotes student academic achievement.
- * Develops good citizenship and healthy lifestyles.
- * Fosters involvement of a diverse population.
- * Promotes positive school/community relations.
- * Is a privilege.

The NFHS:

- * Promotes and protects the defining values of education-based interscholastic activity programs in collaboration with its member state associations.
- * Serves as the recognized national authority on education-based interscholastic activity programs.
- * Serves as the pre-eminent authority on competition rules for education-based interscholastic activity programs.
- * Promotes fair play and seeks to minimize risk for student participants through the adoption of national competition rules and delivery of programs and services.
- * Delivers quality educational programs to serve changing needs of state associations, school administrators, coaches, officials, students, and parents.
- * Provides professional development opportunities for NFHS member state association staff.
- * Promotes cooperation among state associations advance their individual and collective well-being.

In 1942 the NJSIAA became a member of the National Federation.

EXTRACTS FROM NATIONAL FEDERATION BYLAWS

Sanctioning:

Interscholastic activities exist because they provide educational opportunities for youth. When this objective is not accomplished, there is no educational reason for conducting an activities program. If these goals are not realized, the activities program could just as well be conducted by any other organization.

Those conducting the interscholastic program have a responsibility to be certain it is administered so the educational goals are reached. To this end, the organization sponsoring competition has an obligation to sanction all contests in which the students participate. This sanctioning may be done at the local level by designing activities which serve the needs of the students. It also may be done at the conference, district or state levels by establishing events which provide educational opportunities not available in the local situation. These must be so conceived that they serve the participants.

Sanctioning guarantees programs, which are approved, adhere to sound and detailed criteria which meet the specific requirements of a school or a group of schools based upon experience and tradition. This means there will be regulation of the conditions under which the students and teams may compete. Sanctioning is a means of encouraging well-managed competition. It assures the program will provide a broad base of wholesome and constructive competition. The sanctioning program is a positive service to students and schools, not a negative limitation as some non-school promoters believe.

The sanctioning program of the National Federation of State High School Associations has the primary purpose of protecting the welfare of high school students.

A secondary purpose of sanctioning is to protect the existing programs sponsored by member schools. No event may be sanctioned if it simply duplicates a school program, or if it detracts from that school program by luring outstanding competitors away from an existing event. Individual states and schools provide quality competitive programs. There is little need for crossing state boundaries to gain satisfactory competition except along the borders. There are very few instances in which competitors can find superior opportunities for competition in events which are held out of state. In most cases, there are other objectives than the education of youth for encouraging participation in such meets.

Sanctioning will eliminate abuses of excessive competition. The limitation of the number of multiple-school events in which teams may participate and the limitation of travel distance are concrete examples. Excessive competition works a hardship on the student by interfering with the academic program and detracts from the total program because of the amount of money spent on the few outstanding performers which might better be spent improving the total program for the majority.

A number of non-school organizations sponsor competition for high school students and, because of this, there are problems and conflicts with existing school programs. The school-sponsored competition is interpreted to include that sponsored by colleges or educational agencies in addition to that sponsored by state association member schools. There are three different areas of nonmember school competition which are of concern and include competition sponsored by: (a) local service organizations; (b) colleges involving only state association member schools, and (c) nonmember schools involving member schools. The National Council in its 1969 meeting at Las Vegas, Nevada, adopted the following guidelines to be followed when considering sanction requests:

1. Interstate competition sponsored by non-school-related organizations shall not be sanctioned.
2. All contests in which member schools participate shall be sponsored by a member high school or sanctioned by the high school association (competition for high school students sponsored by colleges will require this approval).
3. Competition in sports federation meets shall be co-sponsored by a state association member school or sanctioned by the appropriate high school association or associations, if interstate.

Programs conducted by non-school personnel need to be evaluated very carefully. In the majority of cases, these completely disregard the future high school eligibility of participants and do not consider the existing interscholastic program. Such programs are often justified with five reasons as follows: (1) the distinction it brings to the competitor; (2) the fame and fortune it provides a competitor's coach and/or school; (3) the public image which may come from newspaper promotion; (4) the recognition it will bring the community; and (5) the educational values to the competitors.

A properly administered sanctioning program will provide uniformity in obtaining approval for an event. By following specific criteria, sponsors will not submit requests for approval of poorly conceived or loosely organized events. Most want to conduct events which will benefit students and can use the criteria as guidelines for developing or improving an event. The strict adherence to established criteria develops confidence of the schools in the total program. Those who administer the sanctioning program are obligated to uphold all standards. All of this adds up to the fact that sanctioning protects the students from exploitation.

The Friends and Neighbors Sanctioning Policy of the NFHS stipulates schools not eligible for membership in their home state association may be approved for participation in an NFHS sanctioned meet provided: (1) nonmember participants adhere to standards as high or higher than the interscholastic association of their state; (2) the policies of the state association represented in the meet prevail for all institutions that are represented; and (3) the state associations which are represented in an NFHS sanctioned meet agree to participate with schools which do not have state association membership because they cannot qualify. Nonmember schools have shown a desire to participate in both intrastate and interstate meets which involve state association member schools. When it can be shown the nonaffiliated schools maintain standards similar to the state's member schools and the competition will be conducted in accordance with existing requirements, a request for sanction may be honored.

In all interstate contests, each participating school shall follow the contest rules of the state association of which it is a member or rules which have been approved by that state association for interstate competition. The rules referred to are contest rules only and not rules applying to age, number of semesters of attendance, residence or academic accomplishments. No school may violate its own state association rules.

Telegraphic and telephonic meets involving schools from more than one state do not require sanction on the part of the NFHS and the performances, therefore, would not qualify for record consideration.

The concept of area championships is in conflict with the general philosophy regarding interstate events. Although the NFHS Bylaws may not be specific concerning the rejection of such sanction applications, it is the desire of the majority of the membership to follow such a policy in correcting existing abuses. State executive officers have expressed concern about the problem of events which are designated as area, regional or national championships. At its meeting in Atlanta, Georgia, on January 7, 1969, the Executive Committee (now Board of Directors) directed the NFHS staff not to issue sanctions for events which are designated as championships. When applying for sanctions, sponsors must be certain neither the promotion nor the results of the event are labeled as part of a sectional or national championship.

National championships cannot be sanctioned as a result of an action of the NFHS membership on February 26, 1934.

The National Council voted that the Executive Committee should refuse to sanction any meet or tournament which is in the nature of a contest to determine a national high school championship. The Executive Committee/Board of Directors has acted in accordance with this vote and no sanction has been granted although there have been many successful attempts by promoters to hold contests which are national in scope.

This action concerning national championship meets was the result of sentiment on the part of high school administrators that the high schools are provided with enough competition by their own leagues and state associations. If more competition were desired, it would be an easy matter for such leagues or state associations to prolong the season or to arrange post-season games or to increase the number of tournaments. When such action is not taken, it is because additional competition is not desirable. Matters such as this must be determined by groups rather than by individual high schools because if one high school were permitted to extend the season indefinitely or to travel an indefinite distance to an interstate event, it practically forces other high schools to do likewise, if they are to compete on equal terms with the one

which follows such practices. In this respect, the fundamental principle upon which the group action is based is exactly the same as that which underlies statewide eligibility rules. If one high school were permitted to decide for itself whether it would play 21-year-old students, it would automatically force all other high schools with whom that school competes to do likewise. It is obvious the will of the majority must apply in such situations.

The policy concerning sanctioning national championships has been under constant review by the NFHS and was reaffirmed July 9, 1977, when the National Council in amending its Athletic Bylaws adopted the following: "Sanction shall not be granted for any tournament, meet or other contest to qualify for and/or determine a national high school championship." However, at its July 1977 meeting in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, the NFHS Competition Committee recommended the topic of national championships sponsored and conducted by the NFHS be discussed at every NFHS Sanction Meeting during 1977-1978. These discussions did occur.

A resolution authorizing the NFHS to develop a comprehensive promotional program for high school activities, including sponsorship of national championships, was passed 24 to 18 by the National Council on January 1, 1978, with the provision that the program be submitted for the review of the National Council in July 1978. A plan for national competition in golf, tennis, and track and field, beginning in 1979, was developed by the Executive Committee (Board of Directors) and distributed to the membership in February 1978, so there would be ample time for discussion. However, at its meeting in Salt Lake City on July 7, 1978, the National Council voted 27 to 17 to delay for one year taking action on the Executive Committee's plan. It was the expressed hope of the National Council delegates who voted for the delay that during the 1978-79 school year the NFHS would obtain commitments from both principals and school boards at the local as well as state and national levels to either join the NFHS in attempting to halt the proliferation of non-school-sponsored national competition or support the NFHS's efforts to provide healthier, school-sponsored national competition.

A vote on the plan to conduct national invitational competitions in golf, tennis, and track and field during the summer was taken by the National Council on July 7, 1979 in Cambridge, Massachusetts. The Council, by a 38 to 9 vote, declined to approve the plan.

Interstate Events:

State association and NFHS sanctioning are required for any interstate athletic event. The Board of Directors of the NFHS has adopted procedures and outlined responsibilities for requesting and securing sanction for interstate events. Interstate events are defined as:

1. Any interstate or international event involving two (2) or more schools which is co-sponsored by or titled in the name of an organization outside the school community (e.g. a college/university, a theme park, a service organization (Kiwans, Optimist) or an athletic shoe/apparel company).
2. Events in non-bordering states if five (5) or more states are involved.
3. Events in non-bordering states if eight (8) or more schools are involved.
4. Any event involving two (2) or more schools that involves a team from an international country. The host school should complete the international sanction application. This would include any event(s) that involves international traveling teams that play in multiple games in multiple states. (The exceptions to this rule are Canada and Mexico which are considered "bordering states to every U.S. state").

The NFHS does not currently sanction cheer/spirit and riflery.

Fee Schedule

The early registration fee (completed application received by the NFHS more than 60 days in advance of the event) shall be \$100.

The registration fee for a timely but not early sanction application (received by the NFHS 15-59 days prior to the event) shall be \$200.

The fee for late registration (received by the NFHS less than 15 days prior to the event) shall be \$300.

Sanction Procedures

1. Interested individuals who want to host an event will go online at the NFHS website (www.NFHS.org), register as an event manager, create an event and fill out the online application.
2. The NFHS will then send an e-mail to the host school's principal and host state association.
3. The state association reviews the application online and determines if they will approve or deny the application.
4. Once approved the event sponsor is notified by the NFHS association that payment is required. Credit card payment and electronic check are the only forms of payment accepted.
5. Once the payment is received by the NFHS, the invited states/schools are notified that they have been invited and it is listed on the NFHS website. As the invited states respond to the sanction it is automatically updated on the NFHS website. Once every invited state has responded, the application is approved for sanctioning.
6. The host school shall submit a financial report about the event to the NFHS on the accompanying form upon request.

When application for an NFHS sanction is made, the applying entity agrees to conduct the interstate competition in compliance with conditions which have been adopted by the constituency of the NFHS. If any of these provisions are lacking, the sanction is void. Contest conditions are: (a) each school guarantees it is a member in good standing in its own state high school association and also guarantees participation in this contest will not violate any standard of the state association or the NFHS; (b) each contestant shall be eligible under standards of the home state association; (c) awards shall be limited to those which are permitted by the most restrictive state high school association from which the competitors enter; (d) if a school fails to fulfill its contract obligation, that school shall be required to make amends in accordance with terms fixed by the NFHS Board of Directors after consultation of the executive officers of the states involved; and (e) no entry shall be accepted for any competitor from any state not included in the list for which approval is granted.

Presently, NFHS approval is required before any member school of any NFHS member association participates in an interstate event, regardless of the number of schools involved, when the event is sponsored by any entity other than a member school of an NFHS member association. When the interstate event is sponsored by a member school of an NFHS member association, NFHS approval is only required for events involving five or more states or more than eight schools and one or more of the schools is located in a state which does not border the host state.

International Events:

The present close relation with foreign countries and the ease of travel have resulted in increased participation of high school students in international athletic competition. The NFHS supports the development of international understanding and goodwill through athletic exchanges. Whenever international competition involves high schools or students representing high schools, it is necessary for it to be certified by the NFHS.

The role of the NFHS in sanctioning international competition involving students representing high schools is stated explicitly in the Athletic Bylaws of the organization. This is a reflection of the NFHS membership's belief that it has no less responsibility during international competition than during domestic competition to ensure that competition of students in the interscholastic program is educational in both means and ends.

Those who are interested in involving schools in international competition should contact their state high school association early for information. All international sanction forms must be initiated by state high school associations, not individual schools. This will allow for one application per state when a foreign team tours and plays several schools in a single state. This procedure ensures that state associations are in the center of the sanctioning process, rather than travel agents and foreign sports organizations.

Application for sanction must be submitted to the NFHS at least sixty (60) days prior to the event. If approved, the NFHS will then notify the host state and the appropriate national representative of the international sports federation of the competition.

Criteria for NFHS evaluation of international events are established by the NFHS Board of Directors. In brief, when schools or organizations apply for international sanction, they agree to conduct that competition in compliance with conditions which have been adopted by the NFHS. If any of these standards are ignored, the sanction is void.

Competition shall be evaluated by these standards:

1. Competition in the United States shall be sponsored by a high school or state association-approved non-school organization.
2. Each school shall guarantee its membership is in good standing in its own state association and that participation will not violate any standard of that state association or the NFHS.
3. There shall be no conflict with either the academic or interscholastic regulations adopted by the involved state association or with the scholastic or athletic programs of the school unless approved by state association and the school administration.
4. Competition shall be administered by qualified officials under the domestic or international playing rules and safety requirements approved for that competition by the NFHS and the state association(s) involved.
5. Appropriate provisions shall be made for validation of records which may be established during the competition.
6. Entries shall be limited to competitors and/or schools from the states for which sanction has been granted.
7. Each participant representing a United States high school shall be eligible under the rules of its state association.
8. International competitors shall qualify as amateurs and, if students comply with the eligibility standards prevalent in the host state(s) concerning age, year in school, etc.
9. Advance travel arrangements shall be approved by the involved state association(s).
10. Proper medical supervision shall be available for participants.
11. United States teams shall be chaperoned by state association-approved individuals.
12. A complete report, including a detailed financial statement, involving all phases of the competition shall be filed with the NFHS and the involved state association(s) within thirty (30) days following final competition.

Provisions Governing Contests:

Section 1: In all interstate contests each participating school shall follow the contest rules of the state association of which it is a member, or rules which have been approved by that state association for interstate competition.

Section 2: No school which is a member of a Federation member state high school association shall compete in any contest in any other state if the contest involves conditions such that participation by a school in the state in which the contest is held or promoted would violate the regulations or established policies of that state high school association. Sanction shall not be granted for any tournament, meet or other contest to qualify for and/or determine a national high school championship.

OFFICERS OF THE NJSIAA

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Tom Mullahey, *1st Vice President*

Joseph Bollendorf, *2nd Vice President*

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Term Expires: June 2021
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(Ex-Officio - Non-Public)

Dr. Robert Zega, Superintendent
Woodbridge Twp BOE
PO Box 428
Woodbridge, NJ 07095
Term Expires: June 2022
(Middlesex County)

Tom Berrios, Principal
Roselle Catholic HS
350 Raritan Road
Roselle, NJ 07203
Term Expires: June 2021
(Non-Public South B)

Frank Torcasio, Athletic Director
Highland Regional High School
450 Erial Road
Blackwood, NJ 08012
Term Expires: June 2022
(Camden County)

Dominick Miletta
61 Dealtown Rd
Pittsgrove, NJ 08318
Term Expires: June 2021
(Ex-Officio - NJSBA)

Christopher Penna, AD
Montgomery HS
1016 Route 601
Skillman, NJ 08558
Term Expires: June 2022
(Somerset County)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS (continued)

William Quirk, AD
The Hun School of Princeton
176 Edgerstoune Rd.
Princeton, NJ 08540
Term Expires: June 2021
(Ex-Officio - NJISA)

Beverly Torok
Westfield HS
550 Dorian Rd.
Westfield, NJ 07090
Term Expires: June 2022
(NJSIAA At-Large)

Denis Williams, Principal
Nutley HS
300 Franklin Avenue
Nutley, NJ 07110
Term Expires: June 2021
(Essex County)

Senator Paul A. Sarlo
496 Columbia Blvd. / 1st Floor
Wood-Ridge, NJ 07075
Term Expires: June 2021
(Ex-Officio)

William Vacca
79 Willard Ave.
Totowa, NJ 07512
Term Expires: June 2021
(Ex-Officio - DAANJ)

Assemblyman Benjie E. Wimberly
191 Market St.
Paterson, NJ 07505
Term Expires: June 2021
(Ex-Officio)

Sean Olson, Asst Principal

Wildwood HS
207 N Cologne Ave
Egg Harbor City, NJ 08215
Term Expires: June 2021
(Ex-Officio - NJPSA)

Dr. G. Kennedy Greene,
Superintendent
Newton Board of Education
57 Trinity Street
Newton, NJ 07860
Term Expires: June 2022
(Sussex County)

Derek England, AD

Hoboken HS
800 Clinton Street
Hoboken NJ 07030
Term Expires: June 2023
(Hudson County)

Steve Shohfi
136 Elizabeth Ave.
Lavallette, NJ 08735
Term Expires: June 2023
(NJSBA At-Large)

Paul Vizzuso
Clark Public Schools
365 Westfield Ave
Clark, NJ 07066
Term Expires: June 2021
(Ex-Officio - NJASBO)

Dr. Brian Zychowski, Superintendent
North Brunswick Township
Old Georges Road
North Brunswick, NJ 08902
Term Expires: June 2021
(Ex-Officio - NJASA)

Mohammed Abdelaziz, AD
Chatham HS
255 Lafayette Avenue
Chatham, NJ 07928

Term Expires: June 2022
(NJSIAA At-Large)

Kathy Whalen
Department of Education
PO Box 500
Trenton, NJ 08625

Term Expires: June 2021
(Ex-Officio – NJDOE)

Geoff Haines, AD
Ocean City High School
501 Atlantic Ave.
Ocean City, NJ 08226

Term Expires: June 2021
(Cape May County)

Kurt Karcich, Principal
Point Pleasant Boro High School
808 Laura Herbert Drive
Point Pleasant, NJ 08742
Term Expires: June 2022
(Ocean County)

Joseph Bollendorf, Superintendent
Washington Township HS
206 East Holly Ave.
Sewell, NJ 08080
Term Expires: June 2023
(NJSIAA At-Large)

Jeff Baldino
Special Olympics of NJ
1 Eunice Kennedy Shriver Way
Lawrenceville, NJ 08648
Term Expires: June 2021
(Ex-Officio – Special Olympics)

NJSIAA ADMINISTRATION

Colleen Maguire, *Chief Operating Officer*
Jack DuBois, *Assistant Director*
Kim DeGraw-Cole, *Assistant Director*
Bill Bruno, *Assistant Director*
Al Stumpf, *Assistant Director*
Tony Maselli, *Assistant Director*
Steven P. Goodell, *Association Attorney*

NJSIAA STAFF

Richard Baez
Tawanda Bennett
Jennifer Fischer
Theresa Humphries
Elizabeth Nodland
Michele Perez
Jewel Sellers
Anne Marie Walters
Jenny Yelle

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ABOUT THE NJSIAA

The New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association grew out of a meeting on September 27, 1918, in the Council Chambers of City Hall in Newark, New Jersey, at which time the 50 representatives from 21 secondary and private schools of the State appointed a temporary committee comprised of Walter E. Short, then director of athletics in the Newark schools, then sportswriter G.A. Falzer of *The Newark Sunday Call* and E.C. MacArthur of Peddie School. On November 8, 1918, with 32 schools represented, a constitution was adopted, and the organization to be known as the New Jersey Football Association elected E.C. MacArthur as its first president. The success of this group, although confining all of its efforts to football, encouraged the administrators and coaches of other interscholastic sports to call for a reorganizational meeting on March 28, 1919, at which time the name was changed to the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association.

State champions were declared in football in 1918; basketball, baseball, and track were added to the championship group in 1919; and in the fall of that year cross-country was also included. The championship picture has been enlarged. Presently, the NJSIAA conducts State Championships in thirty-three sports, including sixteen for girls.

From 21 member schools in 1918, the NJSIAA has grown to over 430 members in 2020. The Executive Committee, originally comprised of 5 members, now numbers; 21 representing the public high schools, 4 representing the non-public schools, 14 serving as ex-officio members and 12 at-large representatives. In 1965, Jr. High Schools were admitted to membership, and in 1967 the activities of the girl's interscholastic athletics program were approved for guidance by the State Association.

Walter E. Short served the organization as Secretary on a part-time basis from 1918 to 1947, and upon his retirement from the Trenton school system in that year, was appointed to serve in that capacity on a full-time basis until his retirement in 1958. He was succeeded by Norman Mansfield, former Athletic Director at Montclair High School, who served as an interim administrator until 1960 when James G. Growney resigned his position as director of athletics, health and physical education for the West New York schools to become Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the NJSIAA and under his guidance the organization has been acclaimed as a leader in many activities on the national scene. Mr. Growney retired on July 1, 1981.

Succeeded by Robert F. Kanaby, who served as Executive Secretary-Treasurer during the 1980-81 year while Mr. Growney was on leave; continuing as Executive Director until 1993. James C. Riccobono succeeded Robert F. Kanaby as Executive Director, April 1993. In September of 1993, Boyd A. Sands became the sixth Executive Director. Upon Mr. Sands' retirement on January 10, 2006, Steven J. Timko became the seventh Executive Director of the NJSIAA. Larry L. White succeeded Steven J. Timko as Executive Director, upon Mr. Timko's retirement, on January 1, 2018, and became the eighth Executive Director.

In 1979, the Legislature adopted Chapter 172 (N.J.S.A. 18A:11-3 et seq.) which provided formal authorization for public school members to join the NJSIAA and authorized the Commissioner of Education to consider appeals from action of the Association. That statute is set forth as follows:

N.J.S.A. 18A:11-3 Voluntary associations regulating conduct of student activities; membership; rules and regulations; appeals.

A board of education may join one or more voluntary associations which regulate the conduct of student activities between and among their members, whose membership may include private and public schools. Any such membership shall be by resolution of the board of education, adopted annually. No such voluntary association shall be operative without approval of its charter, constitution, bylaws, and rules and regulations by the Commissioner of Education. Upon the adoption of said resolution the board, its faculty, and students shall be governed by the rules and regulations of that association. The said rules and regulations shall be deemed to be the policy of the board of education and enforced first by the internal procedures of the association. In matters involving only public school districts and students, faculty, administrators and boards thereof, appeals shall be to the commissioner and thereafter the Superior Court. In all other matters, appeals shall be made directly to the Superior Court. The commissioner shall have authority to direct the association to conduct an inquiry by hearing or otherwise on a particular matter or alternatively, direct that particular matter be heard directly by him. The association shall be a party to any proceeding before the commissioner or in any court.

N.J.S.A. 18A: 11-3.1 Definitions relative to public school district participation in certain voluntary associations which oversee sports activities.

1. As used in this section:

a. "CPI" means the average annual increase, expressed as a decimal, in the consumer price index for the New York City and Philadelphia areas during the fiscal year preceding the prebudget year as reported by the United States Department of Labor.

b. A public school district shall not join pursuant to section 1 of P.L.1979, c.172 (C.18A:11-3), any voluntary association which oversees activities associated with Statewide interscholastic sports programs if:

i. the association charges a cable television company an increased licensing fee, rate, assessment or other consideration for the broadcast of playoff games over local access or local originating channels, or both, compared to the licensing fee, rate, assessment or other consideration charged by the district for the broadcast of regular season games over local access or local originating channels, or both;

ii. the association requires increased ticket prices for attendance at playoff games compared to regular season games, unless the playoff game is held at a location other than a public school and the increased ticket prices are deemed necessary by the Commissioner of Education. In the event that the playoff game is held at a location other than a public school and the commissioner deems an increase in playoff ticket prices is necessary, a public school district shall not join an association that increases adult ticket prices by more than 200% of the cost of the highest adult ticket prices for the regular season games charged by any of the member teams of the athletic conference that is located in closest proximity to the playoff game location, regardless of whether or not any of the playoff teams are members of that athletic conference; and in the event that two or more athletic conferences are equal in distance to the playoff game location, by not more than 200% of the cost of the highest adult ticket prices for regular season games charged by any of the member teams of those athletic conferences. Notwithstanding the provisions of this paragraph to the contrary, the commissioner may allow a public school district to join an association that charges in excess of the amount herein provided if the association demonstrates to the commissioner that the increased ticket prices are required to offset rental, staffing, security, or insurance costs specific to the location site.

In no event shall the commissioner deem an increase in ticket prices for senior citizens or children to be necessary;

iii. the association charges a membership fee for the 2009-2010 school year which exceeds the membership fee for the 2008-2009 school year multiplied by 1 plus the CPI, and in any subsequent school year charges a membership fee that exceeds the prior school year fee multiplied by 1 plus the CPI, unless the Commissioner of Education deems a greater increase in the membership fee is necessary;

iv. the association charges members an entry fee for teams or individuals competing in playoff games for the 2009-2010 school year which exceeds the entry fee for the 2008-2009 school year multiplied by 1 plus the CPI, and in any subsequent school year charges members an entry fee that exceeds the prior school year fee multiplied by 1 plus the CPI, unless the Commissioner of Education deems a greater increase in the entry fee is necessary; or

v. the association charges members any assessment in addition to the membership fee, unless the Commissioner of Education deems an additional assessment is necessary.

c. If any provision of this section is determined by the Commissioner of Education to jeopardize the amateur status of the student-athlete, that provision shall be null and void.

N.J.S.A. 18A:11-4 Minutes of meetings of associations overseeing interscholastic sports programs

The minutes of every meeting of any association functioning under this act which shall oversee activities associated with statewide interscholastic sports programs in this State shall be transmitted by and under certification thereof to the commissioner or his designee who shall acknowledge the receipt of the minutes by his signature. The commissioner or his designee shall prepare a report detailing all programs and fiscal activities of the State wide associations and such other associations functioning under this act as he feels may be necessary. This report shall be based upon annual reports submitted to him by the associations operating under this act and shall detail any developments contrary to the public interest and shall indicate whether or not the intent of the Legislature in its grant of statutory authority to boards of education to join such associations is faithfully being executed.

N.J.S.A. 18A:11-5 Effective date of amendments to charter, constitution, bylaws, rules or regulations of association; disapproval of amendments

Any amendment to the charter, constitution, bylaws, rules or regulations of the association shall be effective not less than 20 days after its submission to the commissioner. No such amendment shall take effect if the commissioner in said 20-day period returns to the Executive Director his disapproval of the amendment.

THE BASIS FOR GOOD ATHLETIC PROGRAMS should be through the development of sound objectives such as:

1. A statement of aims and objectives for all types of school athletic programs.
2. A clear understanding of the functions of the athletic program in the school curriculum.
3. The scope of the physical education and athletic program in the total school program.
4. Provision of equal opportunities for all students to participate in physical education and athletic programs.
5. Availability of adequate funds for proper minimum physical education and athletic programs.
6. Proper administrative control, adequate facilities and supplies, and competent personnel for worthwhile programs in physical education and athletics.
7. Standards for selection, duties and responsibilities for personnel for coaching and administration of athletic programs.
8. Establishment of sound objectives for championships, tournaments, and other large group athletic events.
9. Establishment of sound policies and practices for community participation in athletic programs.

COMPOSITION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

To achieve the proper goals of athletics, the school and the public must be informed concerning the role of athletic education. School athletics are a potential educative force that is not always properly used and that is too often misused. We, in New Jersey, are in a position to utilize athletics as part of the educational program by continuing to develop the responsibilities which belong to the state, the school, the community and this association. There is every reason to believe that if this done, communities will recognize those contributions school athletics can make, and be willing to aid in all efforts to stimulate and motivate the establishment of sound policies and wholesome practices for the secondary schools of New Jersey.

**REALIGNMENT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
PUBLIC SCHOOLS BY COUNTY**

| County | Section | Current Term | | | Subsequent Term | | |
|------------|----------|--------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| | | Position | 1 st Term Expires | 2 nd Term Expires | Position | 1 st Term Expires | 2 nd Term Expires |
| Atlantic | South | AD | 2017 | 2020 | S | 2023 | 2026 |
| Bergen | North I | P | 2022 | 2025 | AD | 2028 | 2031 |
| Burlington | South | S | 2018 | 2021 | P | 2024 | 2027 |
| Camden | South | AD | 2022 | 2025 | S | 2028 | 2031 |
| Cape May | South | AD | 2018 | 2021 | S | 2024 | 2027 |
| Cumberland | South | P | 2017 | 2020 | AD | 2023 | 2026 |
| Essex | North II | P | 2018 | 2021 | AD | 2024 | 2027 |
| Gloucester | South | S | 2017 | 2020 | P | 2023 | 2026 |
| Hudson | North II | P | 2017 | 2020 | AD | 2023 | 2026 |
| Hunterdon | Central | P | 2018 | 2021 | AD | 2024 | 2027 |
| Mercer | Central | S | 2017 | 2020 | P | 2023 | 2026 |
| Middlesex | Central | S | 2022 | 2025 | P | 2028 | 2031 |
| Monmouth | Central | S | 2018 | 2021 | P | 2024 | 2027 |
| Morris | North II | AD | 2018 | 2021 | S | 2024 | 2027 |
| Ocean | South | P | 2022 | 2025 | AD | 2028 | 2031 |
| Passaic | North I | AD | 2017 | 2020 | S | 2023 | 2026 |
| Salem | South | P | 2018 | 2021 | AD | 2024 | 2027 |
| Somerset | Central | AD | 2022 | 2025 | S | 2028 | 2031 |
| Sussex | North I | S | 2022 | 2025 | P | 2028 | 2031 |
| Union | North II | S | 2018 | 2021 | P | 2024 | 2027 |
| Warren | North II | AD | 2018 | 2021 | S | 2024 | 2027 |

This plan provides for equal representation among the titled positions as provided under Article V – Administration, Section 2a of the NJSIAA Constitution. The term of office is determined on a July 1st through June 30th basis for the years indicated. Each term of office is for three years and is limited to only one three year succession.

REALIGNMENT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (continued)
NON-PUBLIC SCHOOLS BY SECTION

Effective Date September 1, 2003

| Section | Current Term | | | Subsequent Term | | |
|--------------------|--------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| | Position | 1 st Term Expires | 2 nd Term Expires | Position | 1 st Term Expires | 2 nd Term Expires |
| North Non-Public A | P | 2018 | 2021 | AD | 2024 | 2027 |
| North Non-Public B | AD | 2018 | 2021 | P | 2024 | 2027 |
| South Non-Public A | AD | 2018 | 2021 | P | 2024 | 2027 |
| South Non-Public B | P | 2018 | 2021 | AD | 2024 | 2027 |

This plan will provide for equal representation among the titled positions as provided for under Article 5–Administration, Section 2b of the NJSIAA Constitution. Term of office is determined on a July 1st through June 30th basis of year indicated. Each term of office is for three years and is limited to only one three year succession.

Notes

1. A person elected by Group A/B will serve out the remainder of the three year term in the event of a change in group classification.
2. Voting Procedure:
 - a. Nomination forms sent by the NJSIAA to be submitted with three endorsements to the NJSIAA by May 1. The endorsements must come from schools other than the nominee by like position from the non-public schools. Example: Athletic Director must have three Athletic Director endorsements.
 - b. Casting Ballot – Ballots to be prepared and sent to the respective group, section and title by the NJSIAA for return by June 1. Ballots will be counted by the standing non-public representatives on the Executive Committee.
 - c. In the event of the tie, the candidate from the school with the higher enrollment will be elected.

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION RULES AND REGULATIONS

These excerpts from the *New Jersey Administrative Code* are set forth as a convenience to the member schools. All clarifications or interpretations of these regulations should be referred to the County Superintendent or to counsel for the local board of education of the school district.

SUBCHAPTER 9. ATHLETICS PROCEDURES

N.J.A.C. 6A:32-9.1

General requirements

- a. A district board of education may adopt a program of activities of sports that complies with N.J.S.A. 18A:36-37.
- b. In cases in which the athletic facilities are not owned by the municipality or the district board of education, the district board of education shall require the owner to provide adequate safeguards for players and spectators. The field, room, court, track, stands, and surrounding premises shall be kept in good condition and free from hazards.
- c. Upon the recommendation of the chief school administrator, the district board of education shall adopt and, thereafter, annually review a policy of emergency medical procedures for all practice sessions and competitive contests, games, events, or exhibitions with individual students or teams of one or more schools of the same or other school districts, whether conducted on public or private facilities. Said policy shall be disseminated to appropriate personnel.
- d. A student representing his or her school in interscholastic athletic competition shall sign a form furnished by the district board of education, the wording of which shall embody a request to be enrolled as a candidate for a place on a school team in a specified sport. The parent or adult student shall execute an acknowledgement that physical hazards may be encountered.
- e. Each candidate for a place on the school athletic squad or team shall submit a form furnished by the district board of education conveying the consent of his or her parent or the adult student to participate.

N.J.A.C. 6A:9B-5.15

Persons employed to coach, or serving as coach, for interscholastic swimming and/or diving programs

- a. Persons employed to coach or serving as coach for interscholastic swimming and/or diving programs shall:
 1. Hold a New Jersey certification pursuant to the rules for hiring athletics personnel at N.J.A.C. 6A:9B-5.16(b); and
 2. Meet the requirements for water safety training pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:9B-11.10(a) 2 through 4.
- b. The chief school administrator of the employing district board of education shall:
 1. Annually notify the executive county superintendent of all persons employed to coach or serving as coach for interscholastic swimming and/or diving programs; and
 2. Annually forward to the executive county superintendent copies of each valid American Red Cross or YMCA certificate required in (a) 2 above for every person employed to coach or serving as coach for interscholastic swimming and/or diving programs.

N.J.A.C. 6A:9B-5.16

Athletics Personnel

- a. Any teaching staff member employed by a district board of education shall be permitted to organize students for purposes of coaching or for conducting games, events, or contests in physical education or athletics.
- b. School districts may employ any holder of either a New Jersey teaching certificate or a substitute credential pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:9B-7 to work in the interscholastic athletic program provided the position has been advertised. The 20-day limitation noted in N.J.A.C. 6A:9B-7.4(a) shall not apply to such coaching situations.
- c. Not applicable.

N.J.A.C. 6A:7-1.7

Equality in School and Classroom Practices

- d. The district board of education shall ensure that the district's physical education program and its athletic programs are equitable, coeducational and do not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender, religion, disability or socioeconomic status, as follows:
 1. The district board of education shall provide separate rest room, locker room and shower facilities on the basis of gender, but such facilities provided for students of each gender shall be comparable;
 2. A school may choose to operate separate teams for the two sexes in one or more sports or single teams open competitively to members of both sexes, so long as the athletic program as a whole provides equal opportunities for students of both sexes to participate in sports at comparable levels of difficulty and competency; and
 3. The activities comprising such athletic programs shall receive equitable treatment, including, but not limited to, staff salaries, purchase and maintenance of equipment, quality and availability of facilities, scheduling of practice and game time, length of season and all other related areas or matters.

N.J.A.C. 6A:9B-11.10

Swimming and water safety

- a. To be eligible for the swimming and water safety endorsement, candidates shall hold:
 1. A standard New Jersey instructional certificate;
 2. A valid Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation for Professional Rescuer Certificate issued by the American Red Cross or the YMCA;
 3. A valid Lifeguard Certificate issued by the American Red Cross or the YMCA; and
 4. A valid Water Safety Instructor Certificate issued by the American Red Cross or the YMCA

N.J.A.C. 6A:9B-14.17

School Athletic Trainer

- a. The athletic trainer endorsement is required for service as a school athletic trainer in grades preschool through 12 pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 18A:28-4(b)*.
- b. To be eligible for the school athletic trainer endorsement, a candidate shall:
 1. Hold a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university; and
 2. Satisfactorily complete the requirements established by the State Board of Medical Examiners for registration as an athletic trainer pursuant to *N.J.A.C. 13:35-10*.
- c. An emergency certificate is not available for this endorsement.

N.J.A.C 6A:16-2.2

Required Health Services

- a. Each school district shall ensure immunization records are reviewed and updated annually pursuant to N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.1 through 4.24.
- b. Each school district shall ensure a principal or his or her designee does not knowingly admit or retain in the school building a student whose parent has not submitted acceptable evidence of the child's immunization, according to the schedule specified in N.J.A.C. 8:57-4, Immunization of Pupils in School.
- c. Each school district shall perform tuberculosis tests on students using methods required by and when specifically directed to do so by the New Jersey Department of Health based upon the incidence of tuberculosis or reactor rates in specific communities or population groups pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:40-16.
- d. Each school district shall immediately report by telephone to the health officer of the jurisdiction in which the school is located any communicable diseases identified as reportable pursuant to N.J.A.C. 8:57-1, whether confirmed or presumed.
- e. Each public and nonpublic school in the State shall have and maintain for the care of students at least one nebulizer in the office of the school nurse or a similar accessible location, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.7.
- f. Each student medical examination shall be conducted at the medical home of the student. If a student does not have a medical home, the school district shall provide the examination at the school physician's office or other comparably equipped facility, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:40-4.
- g. The findings of required examinations under (h)2 through 5 below shall include the following components:
 1. Immunizations pursuant to N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.1 through 4.24;
 2. Medical history, including allergies, past serious illnesses, injuries, operations, medications, and current health problems;
 3. Health screenings including height, weight, hearing, blood pressure and vision; and
 4. Physical examinations.
- h. Each school district shall ensure that students receive medical examinations in accordance with (f) above and:
 1. Prior to participation on a school-sponsored interscholastic or intramural athletic team or squad for students enrolled in any grades six to 12:
 - i. The examination shall be conducted within 365 days prior to the first day of official practice in an athletic season and shall be conducted by a licensed physician, advanced practice nurse (APN), or physician assistant (PA).
 - ii. The physical examination shall be documented using the Preparticipation Physical Evaluation (PPE) form developed jointly by the American Academy of Family Physicians, American Academy of Pediatrics, American College of Sports Medicine, American Medical Society for Sports Medicine, American Orthopaedic Society for Sports Medicine, and American Osteopathic Academy of Sports Medicine in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:40-41.7.
 - <http://www.state.nj.us/education/students/safety/health/records/athleticphysicalsform.pdf>
 - iii. Prior to performing a preparticipation physical examination, the licensed physician, APN, or PA who performs the student-athlete's physical examination shall complete the Student-Athlete Cardiac Screening professional development module and shall

sign the certification statement on the PPE form attesting to the completion, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:40-41d.

- iv. If the PPE form is submitted without the signed certification statement and the school district has confirmed that the licensed physician, APN, or PA from the medical home did not complete the module, the student-athlete's parent may obtain a physical examination from a physician who can certify completion of the module or request that the school physician provides the examination.
 - v. The medical report shall indicate if a student is allowed or not allowed to participate in the required sports categories and shall be completed and signed by the original examining physician, APN, or PA.
 - vi. An incomplete form shall be returned to the student's medical home for completion unless the school nurse can provide documentation to the school physician that the missing information is available from screenings completed by the school nurse or physician within the prior 365 days.
2. Each student whose medical examination was completed more than 90 days prior to the first day of official practice in an athletic season shall provide a health history update questionnaire completed and signed by the student's parent or guardian. The completed health history update questionnaire shall include information as required by N.J.S.A. 18A:40-41.7.b.
 3. Each school district shall provide to the parent written notification signed by the school physician stating approval of the student's participation in athletics based upon the medical report or the reasons for the school physician's disapproval of the student's participation.
 4. A district board of education, or a governing board or chief school administrator of a nonpublic school, shall not permit a student enrolled in grades six to 12 to participate on a school-sponsored interscholastic or intramural athletic team or squad unless the student submits a PPE form signed by the licensed physician, APN, or PA who performed the physical examination and, if applicable, a completed health history update questionnaire, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:40-41.7.c.
 5. Each school district and nonpublic school shall distribute to a student-athlete and his or her parent or guardian the sudden cardiac arrest pamphlet developed by the Commissioner, in consultation with the Commissioner of Health, the American Heart Association, and the American Academy of Pediatrics, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:40-41.
 - i. A student-athlete and his or her parent or guardian annually shall sign the Commissioner-developed form that they received and reviewed the pamphlet, and shall return it, to the student's school pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:40-41.d.
 - ii. The Commissioner shall update the pamphlet, as necessary, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:40-41.b.
 - iii. The Commissioner shall distribute the pamphlet, at no charge, to all school districts and nonpublic schools, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:40-41.b.
 6. Upon enrollment in school:
 - i. Each school district shall require parents to provide within 30 days of enrollment entry-examination documentation for each student.
 - ii. When a student transfers to another school, the sending school district shall ensure the entry-examination documentation is forwarded to the receiving school district pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-2.4(d).
 - iii. Students transferring into a New Jersey school from out-of-State or out-of-country may be allowed a 30-day period to obtain entry-examination documentation.

- iv. Each school district shall notify parents through its website or other means about the importance of obtaining subsequent medical examinations of the student at least once during each developmental stage: at early childhood (preschool through grade three), pre-adolescence (grade four through six), and adolescence (grade seven through 12).
7. When applying for working papers:
 - i. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 34:2-21.7 and 21.8(3), the school district may provide for the administration of a medical examination for a student pursuing a certificate of employment.
 - ii. The school district shall not be held responsible for the costs for examinations at the student's medical home or other medical providers.
8. For the purposes of the comprehensive child study team evaluation pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:14-3.4; and
9. When a student is suspected of being under the influence of alcohol or controlled dangerous substances, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:40A-12 and N.J.A.C. 6A:16-4.3.
 - i. If a student who is suspected of being under the influence of alcohol or controlled dangerous substances is reported to the certified school nurse, the certified school nurse shall monitor the student's vital signs and general health status for emergent issues and take appropriate action pending the medical examination pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-4.3.
 - ii. No school staff shall interfere with a student receiving a medical examination for suspicion of being under the influence of alcohol or controlled dangerous substances pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-4.3.
10. Each public and nonpublic school shall have available and maintain an automated external defibrillator (AED), pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:40-41a.a(1) and (3), that is:
 - i. In an unlocked location on school property, with an appropriate identifying sign;
 - ii. Accessible during the school day and any other time when a school-sponsored athletic event or team practice is taking place in which pupils of the school district or nonpublic school are participating; and
 - iii. Within a reasonable proximity of the school athletic field or gymnasium, as applicable.
11. The district board of education shall make accessible information regarding the NJ FamilyCare Program to students who are knowingly without medical coverage pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:40-34.
12. Information concerning a student's HIV/AIDS status shall not be required as part of the medical examination or health history pursuant to N.J.S.A. 26:5C-1 et seq.
13. Each district board of education shall ensure that students receive health screenings.
 - i. Screening for height, weight and blood pressure shall be conducted annually for each student in kindergarten through grade 12.
 - ii. Screening for visual acuity shall be conducted biennially for students in kindergarten through grade 10.
 - iii. Screening for auditory acuity shall be conducted annually for students in kindergarten through grade three and in grades seven and 11 pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:40-4.

- iv. Screening for scoliosis shall be conducted biennially for students between the ages of 10 and 18 pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:40-4.3.
 - v. Screenings shall be conducted by a school physician, school nurse, or other school personnel properly trained.
14. The school district shall notify the parent of any student suspected of deviation from the recommended standard.

AN ACT concerning the health of student-athletes and supplementing P.L.1984, c.203 (C.45:9-37.35 et seq.) and chapter 40 of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes.

SUDDEN CARDIAC ARREST PREVENTION ACT

The Commissioners of Education and Health, in consultation with the New Jersey Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, the New Jersey Academy of Family Physicians, the American Heart Association, and the New Jersey Chapter of the American College of Cardiology, shall develop, by the 2013-2014 school year, a Student-Athlete Cardiac Screening professional development module to increase the assessment skills of those health care practitioners who perform student-athlete physical examinations and screenings.

The module shall include, but need not be limited to, the following:

1. How to complete and review a detailed medical history with an emphasis on cardiovascular family history and personal reports of symptoms;
2. Identifying symptoms of sudden cardiac arrest that may require follow up with a cardiologist;
3. Recognizing normal structural changes of the athletic heart;
4. Recognizing prodromal symptoms that precede sudden cardiac arrest;
5. Performing the cardiovascular physical examination;
6. Reviewing the major etiologies of sudden unexplained cardiac death with an emphasis on structural abnormalities and acquired conditions; and
7. When to refer a student to a cardiologist for further assessment.

The module developed pursuant to subsection a. of this section and the pamphlet developed pursuant to section 1 of P.L.2007, c.125 (C.18A:40-41) shall be posted on the websites of the Department of Education, the American Academy of Pediatrics, the New Jersey Academy of Family Physicians, the American Heart Association, the American College of Cardiology, the Athletic Trainers' Society of New Jersey, the State Board of Medical Examiners, the New Jersey State Board of Nursing, and the New Jersey State Society of Physician Assistants.

A physician, advanced practice nurse, or physician assistant who performs a student-athlete's annual physical examination prior to the student's participation in a school-sponsored interscholastic or intramural athletic team or squad as required pursuant to subsection a. of section 2 of P.L.2013, c.71 (C.18A:40-41.7) shall complete the Student-Athlete Cardiac Screening professional development module developed pursuant to subsection a. of this section. Upon performing a physical examination required by subsection a. of section 2 of P.L.2013, c.71 (C.18A:40-41.7), the physician, advanced practice nurse, or physician assistant shall sign the certification statement on the Preparticipation Physical Evaluation form required pursuant to subsection a. of section 2 of P.L.2013, c.71 (C.18A:40-41.7) attesting to the completion of the module. The board of education of a public school district and the governing board or chief school administrator of a nonpublic school shall retain the original signed statement to attest to the qualification

of the health care practitioner to perform the physical examination required by subsection a. of section 2 of P.L.2013, c.71 (C.18A:40-41.7). **L.2013, c.71, s.3. 18A:40-41e Short title.**

Sections 2 through 5 of P.L.2013, c.209 (C.18A:40-41f through C.18A:40-41i) and P.L.2007, c.125 (C.18A:40-41) shall be known and may be cited as the "Sudden Cardiac Arrest Prevention Act." **L.2013, c.209, s.1. 18A:40-41f Definition.**

As used in sections 3 through 5 of P.L.2013, c.209 (C.18A:40-41g through C.18A:40-41i), "athletic activity" means: interscholastic athletics; an athletic contest or competition, other than interscholastic athletics, that is sponsored by or associated with a school district or nonpublic school, including cheerleading and club-sponsored sports activities; and any practice or interschool practice or scrimmage for those activities. **L.2013, c.209, s.2. 18A:40-41g Informational meeting.**

A school district or nonpublic school may hold an informational meeting prior to the start of each athletic season for students-athletes, their parents or guardians, coaches, athletic trainers, the school physician, school nurses, and other school officials on the nature, risk, symptoms and early warning signs, prevention, and treatment of sudden cardiac arrest. **L.2013, c.209, s.3. 18A:40-41h Removal of athlete showing warning signs from activity; violations, penalties.**

A student who exhibits symptoms or early warning signs of sudden cardiac arrest, as determined by an athletic trainer if one is on site, or if an athletic trainer is not on site, then a game official, team coach, licensed physician, or other official designated by the student's school, while participating in an athletic activity, shall be immediately removed from the athletic activity by the coach. The student shall not be eligible to return to athletic activity until he is evaluated and receives written clearance from a licensed physician.

A student who exhibits symptoms or early warning signs of sudden cardiac arrest at any time prior to or following an athletic activity shall be prohibited from participating in an athletic activity. The student shall not be eligible to return to athletic activity until he is evaluated and receives written clearance from a licensed physician.

The board of education of a school district or the governing body or chief school administrator of a nonpublic school, as appropriate, shall ensure that a person who coaches a school district or nonpublic school athletic activity who knowingly violates the provisions of subsection a. or b. of this section shall be:

1. suspended from coaching any athletic activity for the remainder of the season for a first violation;
2. suspended from coaching any athletic activity for the remainder of the season and the entire next season for a second violation; and
3. permanently suspended from coaching any athletic activity for a third violation.

L.2013, c.209, s.4. 18A:40-41i Certification required for coaches.

A person who coaches a school district or nonpublic school athletic activity shall hold a current certification in cardio-pulmonary resuscitation from the American Red Cross, American Heart Association, or other training program recognized by the Department of Health. **L.2013, c.209, s.5. 18A:40-41j**

Nonprofit youth-serving organizations are encouraged to promulgate information protocol.

Including, but not limited to, Little Leagues, Babe Ruth Leagues, Pop Warner Leagues, Police Athletic Leagues, and youth soccer leagues, which organize, sponsor, or are otherwise affiliated with youth athletic events, are encouraged to direct the parent or guardian of each child participating in a youth athletic event

to the sudden cardiac arrest information posted on the Department of Education's website pursuant to section.

All nonprofit youth-serving organizations as defined in section 1 of P.L.1999, c.432 (C.15A:3A-1 of P.L.2007, c.125 (C.18A:40-41); and follow the protocol concerning removal-from-play established pursuant to section 4 of P.L.2013, c.209 (C.18A:40-41h) of a child who exhibits symptoms or early warning signs of sudden cardiac arrest during a youth athletic event, or who exhibits symptoms or early warning signs of sudden cardiac arrest at any time prior to or following a youth athletic event. Injuries, and that all measures are taken to prevent a student-athlete from experiencing second-impact syndrome.

SYNOPSIS

“Janet’s Law” requires public schools to have automated external defibrillators for youth athletic events and to establish certain plans relating to sudden cardiac events. An Act concerning automated external defibrillators for youth athletics, designated “Janet’s Law,” and supplementing Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes.

BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

Notwithstanding the provisions of any law, rule, or regulation to the contrary, beginning on September 1, 2014, the board of education of a public school district that includes any of the grades kindergarten through 12 shall ensure that:

1. an automated external defibrillator, as defined in section 2 of P.L.1999, c.34 (C.2A:62A-24), identified with appropriate signage, is placed and made available in an unlocked location on school property, which is accessible during the school day and any other time in which a school-sponsored athletic event or team practice, in which pupils of the district are participating, is taking place and is within reasonable proximity of the school athletic field or gymnasium, as applicable;
2. a team coach or other designated staff member if there is no coach, who is present during the athletic event or team practice, is trained in cardio-pulmonary resuscitation and the use of the defibrillator in accordance with the provisions of section 3 of P.L.1999, c.34 (C.2A:62A-25). A school district shall be deemed to be in compliance with this requirement if a State-certified emergency services provider or other certified first responder is on site at the event or practice; and,
3. each defibrillator is tested and maintained according to the manufacturer’s operational guidelines and notification is provided to the appropriate first aid, ambulance, or rescue squad or other appropriate emergency medical services provider regarding the defibrillator, the type acquired, and its location in accordance with section 3 of P.L.1999, c.34 (C.2A:62A-25).

A school district and its employees shall be immune from civil liability in the acquisition and use of defibrillators pursuant to the provisions of section 5 of P.L.1999, c.34 (C.2A:62A-27).

Notwithstanding the provisions of any law, rule, or regulation to the contrary, beginning on September 1, 2014, the board of education of a public school district that includes any of the grades kindergarten through 12 shall establish and implement an emergency action plan for responding to sudden cardiac events, including, but not limited to, those events in which the use of an automated external defibrillator may be necessary.

The emergency action plan required pursuant to subsection a. of this section, and in keeping with the provisions of section 1 of P.L.c.(C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill) shall also, at minimum, provide the following:

1. a requirement that no less than five school faculty members successfully complete and hold a current certification from the American Red Cross, American Heart Association or other training program recognized by the Department of Health and Senior Services in cardio-pulmonary resuscitation and use of a defibrillator;
2. a list of those school faculty members who hold current certifications in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and use of a defibrillator, such list is to be made current at least once in each calendar year of each school year;
3. written detailed procedures on responding to sudden cardiac events, including, but not limited to, who shall be responsible for responding to the individual in cardiac distress, calling emergency responders, starting cardio-pulmonary resuscitation, obtaining and using the automated external defibrillator, and assisting emergency responders in getting to the individual in cardiac distress; and,
4. any other requirement deemed relevant to responding to sudden cardiac events.

The State Board of Education, in consultation with the Commissioner of Health and Senior Services, and in accordance with the “Administrative Procedure Act,” P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), shall adopt rules and regulations as may be necessary to implement the provisions of this act.

This act shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

This bill, which is designated “Janet’s Law,” is in memory of Janet Zilinski, an 11- year old who died of sudden cardiac arrest following a cheerleading squad practice. The provisions of this bill apply to athletic events and activities that take place through public schools.

Specifically, the bill requires public school districts that include any of the grades kindergarten through 12 to ensure that, beginning on September 1, 2014, an automated external defibrillator (AED), identified with appropriate signage, is placed and made available in an unlocked location on school property, which is accessible during the school day and any other time in which a school-sponsored athletic event or team practice, in which pupils of the district are participating, is taking place and is within reasonable proximity of the school athletic field or gymnasium.

The bill requires that a team coach, or other designated staff member if there is no coach, who is present during the athletic event or team practice, be trained in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and the use of an AED in accordance with the provisions of State law. A school district is deemed to be in compliance with this requirement if a State certified emergency services provider or other certified first responder is on site at the event or practice. A public school district is also required to test and maintain each AED according to the manufacturer’s operational guidelines and to provide notification to the appropriate first aid, ambulance, or rescue squad or other appropriate emergency medical services provider regarding the AED, the type acquired, and its location in accordance with current State law.

The bill also requires that a public school district establish and implement an emergency action plan for responding to sudden cardiac events, including, but not limited to, those events in which the use of an AED as may be necessary. The emergency action plan, in keeping with the provisions of section 1 of the bill shall also, at minimum, provide that: no less than five school faculty members successfully complete and hold a current certification from training programs recognized by the Department of Health and Senior

Services in CPR and use of an AED; a list of those school faculty members who hold current certifications, such list is to be made current at least once in each calendar year of each school year; written detailed procedures on responding to sudden cardiac events; and any other requirement deemed relevant by the school district to responding to sudden cardiac events.

The bill directs the State Board of Education, in consultation with the Commissioner of Health and Senior Services, to adopt rules and regulations necessary for its implementation and provides that a school district and its employees shall be immune from civil liability in the acquisition and use of an AED pursuant to current law.

C.18A:40-41.2 Interscholastic Athletic head injury safety training program.

The Department of Education shall work to develop and implement, by the 2011-2012 school year, an interscholastic athletic head injury safety training program. The program shall be completed by a school physician, a person who coaches a public school district or nonpublic school interscholastic sport, and an athletic trainer involved in a public or nonpublic school interscholastic sports program. The safety training program shall include, but need not be limited to, the following:

1. The recognition of the symptoms of head and neck injuries, concussions, and injuries related to second-impact syndrome; and
2. The appropriate amount of time to delay the return to sports competition or practice of a student-athlete who has sustained a concussion or other head injury.

The department shall update the safety training program as necessary to ensure that it reflects the most current information available on the nature, risk, and treatment of sports-related concussions and other head injuries.

The department shall develop an educational fact sheet that provides information about sports-related concussions and other head injuries. A school district or a nonpublic school that participates in an interscholastic sports program shall distribute the educational fact sheet annually to the parents or guardians of student-athletes and shall obtain a signed acknowledgment of the receipt of the fact sheet by the student-athlete and his parent or guardian.

C.18A:40-41.3 Written policy for school district concerning prevention and treatment of sports-related head injuries.

Each school district shall develop a written policy concerning the prevention and treatment of sports-related concussions and other head injuries among student-athletes. The policy shall include, but need not be limited to, the procedure to be followed when it is suspected that a student-athlete has sustained a concussion or other head injury.

When developing the district policy, a school district shall review the model policy established by the Commissioner of Education pursuant to subsection b. of this section, the policies established by the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association, the National Collegiate Athletic Association, and the recommendations made by the Brain Injury Association of New Jersey Concussion in Sports Steering Committee, the Athletic Trainers' Society of New Jersey, and other organizations with expertise in the area of preventing or treating sports-related concussions and other head injuries among student-athletes. Each school district shall implement the policy by the 2011-2012 School Year.

The policy shall be reviewed annually, and updated as necessary, by the district to ensure that it reflects the most current information available on the prevention, risk, and treatment of sports-related concussions and other head injuries.

To assist school districts in developing policies concerning the prevention and treatment of sports-related concussions and other head injuries among student-athletes, the Commissioner of Education shall develop a model policy applicable to grades kindergarten through 12. This model policy shall be issued no later than March 31, 2011.

C.18A:40-41.4 Removal of student athlete from competition/practice; return.

A student who participates in an interscholastic sports program and who sustains or is suspected of having sustained a concussion or other head injury while engaged in a sports competition or practice shall be immediately removed from the sports competition or practice. A student-athlete who is removed from competition or practice shall not participate in further sports activity until he is evaluated by a physician or other licensed healthcare provider trained in the evaluation and management of concussions, and receives written clearance from a physician trained in the evaluation and management of concussions to return to competition or practice.

C.18A:40-41.5 Immunity from liability.

A school district and nonpublic school shall not be liable for the injury or death of a person due to the action or A person who coaches a school district or nonpublic school athletic activity shall hold a current certification in cardio-pulmonary resuscitation from the American Red Cross, American Heart Association, or other training program recognized by the Department of Health.

CONSTITUTION

Article 1

NAME

The organization shall be known as the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association (NJSIAA).

Article II

OBJECTIVES

Section 1

To foster and develop amateur athletics among the secondary schools of the State

Section 2

To equalize athletic opportunities by standardizing rules of eligibility for individuals, and classifying for competitive purposes the institutions which are members of the Association

Section 3

To supplement the physical education program of the secondary schools of New Jersey by making a practical application of the theories of physical activity

Section 4

To promote uniformity in the arrangement and control of contests

Section 5

To protect the mutual interests of the members of the Association through the cultivation of ideals of clean sports in their relation to the development of character and good citizenship

Article III

MEMBERSHIP

Section 1

Schools eligible for membership in this Association must be accredited secondary institutions. A school that is organizing one year at a time shall be permitted to join the Association on a probationary membership when the 11th grade is organized within its school, pending final accreditation.

Section 2

All approved high schools public/private and non-public high schools in New Jersey shall be eligible for membership in the Association.

Section 3

No member school shall be a member of any league or conference not recognized, sanctioned or approved by the Association.

Section 4

The private secondary schools are eligible for a federated membership in this Association through the New Jersey Association of Independent Schools, membership of which is made up of the private secondary schools in New Jersey. The New Jersey Association of Independent Schools shall supervise the athletic activities of its own division without any financial aid from the State Association. They will come under the jurisdiction of and have representation on the Executive Committee of the State Association and will pay an annual fee as an organization, not as individual schools.

Article IV

FINANCES

Section 1

Each member school shall be assessed as provided in the Bylaws.

Section 2

Administration of the finances of the Association shall be the duty of the Executive Committee.

Section 3

There shall be a distribution on an equitable basis among the member schools of the NJSIAA of the moneys above the amount set by the Executive Committee to be held in reserve plus the amount necessary for the running expenses of the Association.

Section 4

Any member school of the NJSIAA incorporated for pecuniary profit shall not participate in the distribution of the funds mentioned in Section 3 of this Article.

Article V

ADMINISTRATION

The Executive Committee shall consist of such members and be selected as follows:

Section 1

There shall be a governing body to be known as the Executive Committee, composed of representatives as follows:

- a. 21 public high school representatives;
- b. 4 non-public high school representatives;
- c. 14 ex officio representatives; and,
- d. 12 at large representatives.

Section 2a

The public high school representation as provided in Section 1a. shall be comprised of one representative from each county and shall be elected by the respective organization, i.e., Superintendents, Principals, or Athletic Directors of that county at a meeting called by the present representative from that county for that purpose. This meeting is to take place and the election held prior to May 28th of the year in which the Executive Committee member's term expires. Only the official voting representative (one from each school) shall vote. Official voting forms will be furnished by the Central Office; these forms must be returned to the Central Office after the election and kept on file. The new member shall enter into his office on July 1.

The term of office of a public high school representative shall be for a period of three (3) years; such representative of the Executive Committee may succeed himself/herself for a second term of three (3) years so long as the designated rotation of position or title is followed. If a vacancy should occur during the term of office, the county shall elect a representative to complete the term while maintaining the proper rotation perspective.

The public high school representation shall be rotated in such a manner each successive six years so as to maintain the proper balance of representation from the three positions or titled administrative areas, i.e., Superintendents, Principals, and Athletic Directors. A representative's change of position or title within a county shall be construed as affecting the balance of representation. The Central Office shall be responsible for maintaining the proper balance of representation and shall indicate the position or title of the representative to be elected from said county. A system of rotation should be so constructed as to strive to maintain seven representatives from each of the three positions or titled administrative areas.

The constituent body of the county will have recall power to vacate a representative's membership on the Executive Committee for just cause, said vacancy to be filled according to the procedure outlined in this Section.

Section 2b

The non-public high school representatives as provided for in Section 1b. shall be comprised of one representative each, selected from the Northern A and B and Southern A and B Sections.

The non-public high school representatives shall be elected by the same procedure as the public high school representatives and be in an administrative position, i.e., Principals and Athletic Directors.

Provisions of membership and rotation in titled administrative areas shall be the same as that of a public high school representative.

To the purposes of this Section, the Northern Section shall comprise: Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Hunterdon, Morris, Passaic, Somerset, Sussex, Union and Warren counties; and the Southern Section shall comprise: Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester, Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth, Ocean and Salem counties.

Section 2c

The ex officio representation, as provided for in Section 1c, shall be elected by and from the Executive Committee or Board of Directors or President of their respective organizations annually, and shall include one representative from:

| | |
|--|---|
| State Department of Education | NJ Council of Catholic Diocesan Superintendents |
| NJ School Boards Association | NJ Scholastic Coaches Association |
| Education Committees of NJ State Legislature | NJ Registered Officials |
| NJ Association of School Administrators | Directors of Athletics Association of NJ |
| NJ Association of School Business Officials | NJ Association of Independent Schools |
| NJ Principals and Supervisors Association | Immediate Past President, NJSIAA |
| Special Olympics New Jersey | |

Section 2d

The at large representative, as provided for in Section 1.d., shall be elected as follows:

- a. Four (4) representatives who are school board members of school districts with secondary schools to be elected by the Board of Directors of the New Jersey School Boards Association; and
- b. Eight (8) representatives elected by the Executive Committee of the NJSIAA, the majority of whom shall be women or ethnic minorities.

The term of office of an at large representative shall be for a period of three (3) years; such representative of the Executive Committee shall be limited to only one three-year succession.

Section 3

An Executive Director shall be appointed by the Executive Committee to hold office until his successor has been appointed. The Executive Director shall be employed on a full-time basis, his salary and duties to be fixed by the Executive Committee and by the Constitution and Bylaws. The term of his employment shall be confirmed by a written contract.

Section 4

The duties of the officers, and the Executive Committee, shall be as provided in the Bylaws. All votes on the Financial Affairs, Bylaws, or Rules and Regulations by the Executive Committee shall be by roll call. Any member of the Executive Committee may call for a roll call on any vote, as a matter of right.

Section 5

The Executive Committee shall enact Bylaws and Rules and Regulations for the Association. Rules and Regulations may be enacted by a majority vote of the Executive Committee. Bylaws may only be enacted by two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) vote of the Executive Committee.

The membership at its Annual Meeting may amend, add or abolish Bylaws and Rules and Regulations by a majority vote based on the total number of **ballots cast** at the Annual Meeting.

Section 6

The Executive Committee shall, when exercising its authority under Section 5 herein, send written notice of the proposed change to all member schools ten (10) days prior to the meeting of the Committee at which the matter is to be voted on. Six (6) months after the effective date of any change by the Executive Committee, the membership shall be polled by postal/electronic mail. After such poll, if a majority cast ballots, the Ballot shall be official and a majority of the votes cast shall decide the issue; if less than a majority of member schools respond, the position of the Executive Committee is sustained. At the next meeting of the Executive Committee, the results of the balloting shall be reported and the action of the vote shall be implemented.

Article VI

CLASSIFICATION

Section 1

New Jersey 18A:1-1. Definitions: "Public school" means a school, under college grade, which derives its support entirely or in part from public funds; these schools shall constitute the Public High School Division. All other schools of secondary grade, not so supported shall constitute the Non-Public Division.

Section 2

The two general divisions may be further classified as prescribed in the Bylaws.

Section 3

The Private Secondary Schools, members of the New Jersey Association of Independent Schools, will be known as federated members (non-members) and will not be eligible for NJSIAA tournament competition.

CL: Federated schools are not members of NJSIAA, but are members of the New Jersey Association of Independent Schools (NJAIS). If the Federated Schools provide an affidavit that a specific sports program complies with all eligibility standards of the equivalent NJSIAA sports program, then the NJSIAA will approve that program for out-of-state competition.

Article VII

ELIGIBILITY

Section 1

Regulations governing the eligibility of individual players shall be established and enforced by the Association.

Section 2

Member schools shall comply with the eligibility regulations of the Association, and the acceptance of membership shall be construed as an agreement to that effect.

Section 3

Infractions of the eligibility regulations shall be judged and penalties therefore pronounced by the Executive Committee in such a manner as the Bylaws provide.

Article VIII

ANNUAL MEETING

The Association shall hold an annual meeting at a time and in a manner prescribed in the Bylaws.

Article IX

CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Association may award trophies and prizes in such sports as deemed advisable, and determine State or District championships, when, in the judgement of the Executive Committee, it is deemed feasible and possible. No state championship, however, shall be declared in football.

Article X

SANCTIONS

Interstate athletic meets, games, and tournaments in which member schools participate or any All-Star games played during the out-of-season period (not including the Summer Recess) in which Student-Athletes participate, must have the sanction of the Association in order that individuals or teams representing member schools may participate. This provision applies to interstate meets, games, or tournaments involving four or more schools regardless of the connotation or number of periods or quarters played in round robins, festivals, classics, or events by any other name.

The requests for sanction for interstate meets, games, or tournaments must be received by the Executive Director at least thirty (30) days prior to the event.

The request for sanction for any All-Star game must be received by the Executive Director at least ninety (90) days prior to the event.

CL 1: The NJSIAA does not restrict an individual's choice to participate in non-sanctioned events; however, schools, school organizations, or school-related groups such as Booster Clubs may not assist the Student-Athlete's participation in non-sanctioned events. This would include providing uniforms, equipment, and coaching. The Student-Athlete may not represent his/her school in non-sanctioned events. The NJSIAA does not permit the funding, in whole or in part, of participation in invitational non-NJSIAA sanctioned events by a Board of Education.

CL 2:

- a. An NJSIAA member school must be designated as the host school for all group events which are not sponsored by an established county organization, a conference or league of member schools or by a member school (e.g. a regional tournament, etc.). The host school will be responsible to the NJSIAA in assuring adherence to Association rules and regulations.*
- b. When only New Jersey schools are involved, the host school has the sanctioning jurisdiction and it is not necessary to contact the Central Office. When a non-member high school site is involved, the host school must contact the NJSIAA Central Office for appropriate forms to be submitted for approval.*

- c. *When out-of-state or foreign high schools are involved, the host member school must follow this procedure:*
 - a. *interested individuals who want to host an event will go online at the NFHS website (www.NFHS.org), register as an event manager, create an event and fill out the online application (identical to the paper version);*
 - b. *the NFHS will then send an e-mail to the host school's principal and host state association;*
 - c. *the state association reviews the application online and determines if they will approve or deny the application;*
 - d. *once approved the event sponsor is notified by the NFHS association that payment is required. Credit card payment and electronic check are the only forms of payment accepted; and,*
 - e. *once the payment is received by the NFHS, the invited states/schools are notified that they have been invited and it is listed on the NFHS.*
- d. *When only schools from states which border the State of New Jersey (Delaware, Pennsylvania, and/or New York) are invited, host school must contact NJSIAA Central Office for the necessary application.*

CL 3: Before any NJSIAA member school enters games, meets or tournaments involving four or more schools, they must inquire as to the sanctioning status (1) by a member school or (2) by the National Federation (3) as a Bordering States sanction or (4) International Competition. In (1) a member school must have written evidence of the sanctioning school before entering the tournament; in (2), (3) and (4) before entering the tournament, inquiry must be made through the Central Office when that tournament has not been listed as approved in the NJSIAA Executive Committee Minutes and posted on the NJSIAA website.

CL 4: Member schools must sign an affidavit which states they will play out-of-state contests under NJSIAA rules.

CL 5: The NJSIAA will not act on Sanctioning Requests for Non-Member Schools.

Article XI

PROHIBITIONS

Section 1

Interscholastic boxing among member schools is prohibited.

Section 2

There shall be no post-season games unless under the auspices or sanction of the NJSIAA.

Article XII

AMENDMENTS

Section 1

Any member school of the Association, or the Executive Director, may initiate an addition, deletion or any other change in the Constitution, Bylaws or Rules and Regulations by submitting such proposal in writing prior to December 1. All such proposals shall be considered by the Advisory Committee before January 15, and those proposals which have been endorsed shall be forwarded immediately to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall endorse or reject each proposal submitted by the membership, and any proposals made by the Advisory or Executive Committee prior to February 1. All such proposals endorsed by the Executive Committee shall be distributed to the membership prior to May 1.

When a proposal by a member school has been rejected by the Advisory or Executive Committee, the school which submitted the proposal shall be notified on or before February 1.

If the proposal is resubmitted with the endorsement of twenty (20) member schools prior to April 1, it shall be included among those proposals sent to the membership prior to May 1.

Prior to April 1, at least two (2) sectional meetings of the Association shall be held for the purpose of explaining the legislation pending before the membership. After thorough discussion, the Executive Committee shall recommend the form and substance of the legislation to be placed on the ballot at the Annual Meeting. Proposals which have been resubmitted with the endorsement of twenty (20) member schools shall be presented as written by the proposing school to the membership for a vote.

Section 2

The Executive Director shall be responsible for distribution of the proposed legislation to the membership at least ten (10) days before the Annual Meeting. Each proposal shall include a note to show the origin of the proposal, i.e., member school, Advisory or Executive Committee.

Section 3

The Constitution of the Association may be amended by a two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) vote at the Annual Meeting based on the total number of ballots cast at the Annual Meeting.

Section 4

All amendments will become effective on July 1, following the Annual Meeting unless by a separate two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) vote of the ballots cast an earlier date is set.

Section 5

The minutes of the Annual Meeting must show the full and exact vote by members of the Association on each proposed amendment. Amendments once voted upon may neither be resubmitted, if defeated; nor repealed, if approved, for a period of two years from the effective date. However, the Executive Committee may, if it deems necessary, reintroduce legislation at any time.

Article XIII

EFFECTIVE DATE

This Constitution shall take effect on September 1 (of each calendar year) unless otherwise stipulated.

NOTE: CL indicates clarifications which are italicized.

BYLAWS

Article I

DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1

The President shall have the power to call, and preside over, meetings of this Association.

Section 2

The First Vice President shall exercise these powers in the absence of the President. The Second Vice President shall exercise these powers in the absence of the President and the First Vice President.

Section 3

The Executive Director shall have the following duties and powers:

- A. To administer the financial affairs of this Association, under the direction of the Executive Committee, and shall render a financial statement at the Annual Meeting.
- B. To prepare the annual budget.
- C. To handle all the correspondence of the Association.
- D. To prepare and present agenda for, and attend all the meetings of this Association or its committees.
- E. To make all arrangements for the Annual Meeting. To notify the member schools in advance of the legislation, nominations, and other business to be discussed at the meeting.
- F. To represent NJSIAA on the DAANJ Board of Directors, and oversee all athletic leagues and conferences.
- G. To manage or arrange for the management of all state championship meets and tournaments.
- H. To arrange for such playoffs as may be directed by the Executive Committee.
- I. To arrange for an athletic insurance program to be offered to the member schools.
- J. To manage the Central Office of this Association, engaging office space, hiring the necessary office personnel and procuring office supplies, and designate the Attorneys for the Association
- K. To arrange for the publication of the annual handbook in an electronic format.
- L. To handle the public and press relations of this Association or make arrangements to handle press relations of the Association.
- M. To keep the program up-to-date and sponsor new activities under the direction of the Executive Committee.
- N. To be empowered to rule on the interpretations of the Constitution and Bylaws, and rules of the Association, subject to confirmation by the Executive Committee at its next meeting.
- O. To perform such other duties as the Executive Committee directs.
- P. To designate one or more persons to attend one or more meetings of the Executive Committee to assure all views on a given subject are represented, such persons will not be permitted to vote.

Article II

DUTIES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1

The Executive Committee shall meet at the call of the President, and shall conduct such business as may be necessary or useful for furthering the interests of this Association and shall adopt such rules and regulations for the conduct of sports contests as they deem proper. The Executive Committee is empowered to act upon any areas not specifically covered by the Constitution, Bylaws, and Rules and Regulations.

Section 2

The Executive Committee shall direct the financial affairs of this Association, and shall appropriate such monies as may be necessary or useful for its operation.

Section 3

The Executive Committee shall appoint an Advisory Committee to be composed of one member from each county of the State and two members from the non-public schools division. The term of each member of the Advisory Committee shall be for one year. The appointments should be made on an equal distribution from Athletic Directors, secondary Principals and superintendents.

The Executive Committee may, at its discretion, appoint other committees to which it may delegate specific functions. These committees may be formed from its own members, from the personnel of member schools, or from both, provided that no more than one member be appointed from any one school.

Section 4

Duties of the Executive Committee Members with relation to District or Regional organizations:

- A. Help plan, control and assist in the management of all interscholastic athletics of the district or region as organized by the Executive Committee, in cooperation with other counties within their district or region.
- B. Assist member schools in proposing legislation to the Advisory Committee for action, if any is required.
- C. Report the proceedings of all district or regional meetings to the Central Office of the NJSIAA.
- D. Foster a Code of Ethics.
- E. Conduct district or regional meetings for the orientation of new Principals, Athletic Directors and coaches; also, for the election of new members to the Executive Committee when needed.
- F. Attend meetings of the NJSIAA when called by the President of the Association.
- G. Assist in the clarification of eligibility rules to member schools within a given district, but will not rule on cases of eligibility.
- H. Conduct such hearings as he is directed to hold by the Executive Committee.

Section 5

The Executive Committee shall hold hearings in such a manner as they shall by rule provide.

Article III

CLASSIFICATION OF MEMBER SCHOOLS

Section 1

Public and non-public member schools shall be divided into a “Public Schools Division” and a “Non-public Schools Division,” respectively.

Section 2

The affairs of the non-public secondary schools of the State shall be regulated in accordance with the Constitution.

Section 3

Classification of Public Schools for Purposes of State Championship Tournaments:

A. Groups

1. Every two years, the public schools shall be divided by enrollment into Groups, on a sports specific basis, as determined by the Executive Committee.
2. Enrollment shall be defined as the sum of a school’s student population for grades 9, 10 and 11. Enrollment figures shall be those reported to and certified by the Department of Education for the purpose of obtaining state school aid.

CL: The central office will determine enrollment for each school based on the figures submitted by the school to the department of Education for state school aid. The enrollment figures shall include classified students. This determination of enrollment shall be deemed final, and not subject to appeal, unless it can be documented that there was an error in the Department of Education report.

3. To determine the number of schools in each Group for a particular sport, the number of public schools participating in that sport shall be divided by the number of Groups, and an equal number of schools shall be assigned to each of the Groups. If the total number of public schools cannot be divided evenly by the number of Groups, then the number of schools in the smallest shall be increased by the remainder.

B. Sections

1. Every two years the public schools in each of the Groups shall be divided by geography Sections, on a sports specific basis, as determined by the Executive Committee.
2. To determine the number of schools in each Section for a particular sport, the number of public schools participating in that sport shall be divided by the number of Sections, and an equal number of schools shall be assigned to each of the Sections. If the total number of public schools cannot be divided by evenly by the number of Sections, then one remainder will be added to each Section from the northernmost to the southernmost Section until there are no more remainders.

3. The geographic boundary of each Section shall run along the east-west parallel associated with the southernmost school of that Section.

Section 4

Classification of Non-Public Schools for Purposes of State Championship Tournaments:

A. Groups

1. Every two years, the non-public schools shall be divided by enrollment into Groups, on a sport- specific basis, as determined by the Executive Committee.
2. Enrollment shall be defined as the sum of a school's student population for grades 9, 10 and 11, dated November 1. The Non-Public classifications will be based on gender specific enrollments for every sport.
3. To determine the number of non-public schools in each Group for a particular sport, the number of non-public schools participating in that sport shall be divided by the number of Groups, and an equal number of schools shall be assigned to each of the Groups. If the total number of non-public schools cannot be divided evenly by the number of Groups, then the number of schools in the smallest shall be increased by the remainder.

B. Sections

1. Every two years, the non-public schools in each of the Groups shall be divided by geography into Sections, on a sport specific basis, as determined by the Executive Committee.
2. To determine the number of schools in each Section for a particular sport, the number of non-public schools participating in that sport shall be divided by the number of Sections, and an equal number of schools shall be assigned to each of the Sections. If the total number of non-public schools cannot be divided by evenly by the number of Sections, then one remainder will be added to each Section from the northernmost to the southernmost Section until there are no more remainders.
3. The geographic boundary of each Section shall run along the east-west parallel associated with the southernmost school of that Section.

Section 5

Classification of non-member schools, non-public schools and out-of-state schools, for awarding power-points and determining tournament tie-breakers, shall be as follows:

- A. The enrollment of a non-member or out-of-state school must be verified, in writing, to the NJSIAA, by the principal or headmaster of the school.
- B. Non-member, non-public, and out-of-state schools shall be classified as though they were public schools in New Jersey with the same enrollment.
- C. If the enrollment of a non-member, non-public, or out-of-state school does not fall within the enrollment range of any then-existing Group, the non-member, non-public, or out-of-state school shall be classified with the Group that will, with the addition of that school, have the least disparity from largest to smallest school.

CL: A non-member school has an enrollment of 704. The Group III range that year includes New Jersey public schools with enrollments between 708 and 992. The Group II range includes schools

with enrollments between 452 and 698. The non-member school would be considered to be a Group II school, since the enrollment disparity in Group III, with the addition of the non-member school, would be 288 (992 minus 704), whereas the disparity in Group II would be just 252 (704 minus 452).

Section 6

- A. State championship competition will be conducted as approved by the Executive Committee and delineated in the regulations of each sport.
- B. Tournament of Champions competition will be conducted as approved by the Executive Committee and delineated in the regulations of each sport.

Section 7

Cooperative Sports Programs

- A. The Executive Committee shall approve all Cooperative Sports Programs (CSP) upon the recommendation of the Cooperative Sports Committee (CSC) or the Cooperative Sports Appeals Committee (CSAC). Such Cooperative Sports Programs will be based upon an agreement between the cooperating schools whereby one of the two schools shall have the complete responsibility as the Local Education Agency (LEA) for the conduct of the specific sport(s), which will be available to the students at both schools.

CL 1: Cooperative Sports Program applications should be signed by an officer of the Participating League or Conference, and indicate whether the League or Conference endorses or not endorses the application. The Participating League or Conference is defined as the entity that schedules the regular season games for that particular sport.

CL 2: This section establishes a process by which Cooperative Sports Program applications are processed, reviewed, and appealed. A CSP is an exception to the general requirement that students play sports at the school at which they are enrolled. A CSP is not to be used to place students in another school's program simply because the student(s)' school does not offer the particular sport. Both schools must demonstrate a need for and commitment to the CSP.

- B. The purpose of a Cooperative Sports Program is to provide opportunities for participation when none would otherwise exist, as for instance when a school lacks a particular program or when a school has declining enrollment in a particular program. Under no circumstances is a CSP to be used for purposes of creating a stronger or more competitive team, or as an excuse for eliminating an otherwise viable athletic program.

Cooperative Sports Programs should be comprised of schools from the same Participating League or Conference or General League or Conference. Crossover to other Leagues or Conferences is only permitted after efforts have been exhausted to partner with a school within the same League or Conference. If a CSP is comprised of schools from different Leagues and Conferences, then approval must be received from all Leagues and Conferences involved.

- C. Schools may enter into a Cooperative Sports Program for any sport and for any Group size. However, the following conditions must be met in order for a Cooperative Sports Program application to be considered by the CSC:
1. A public high school can only enter into Cooperative Sports Programs with another public high school while non-public high schools can only enter into such programs with another non-public high school.
 2. A member school may enter into Cooperative Sports Programs with more than one other school for more than one sport; however, a member school may only enter into one Cooperative Sports Program for a particular sport.
 3. In Cooperative Sports Programs involving ice hockey, three public schools or three non-public schools may combine to form a tri-school Cooperative Sports Program with a maximum thirty (30) student athlete roster, if their respective leagues approve. Public schools may not combine with non-public schools.
 4. A Cooperative Sports Program is for a two year period with an automatic two year renewal. Written notification of automatic renewal must be submitted by the sports specific deadlines indicated below.

Completed applications and required written documentation must be submitted to the NJSIAA office by the following sports specific deadlines:

Fall sports – January 15th; Winter sports – April 15th; Spring sports – September 15th

- D. The total enrollment used for classification purposes of the Cooperative Sports Program will be determined based upon the most current year joint pupil enrollment of grades 9, 10, and 11. One hundred percent (100%) of the partner school's enrollment shall be added to the LEA's enrollment for the purpose of postseason playoff classification. In addition, the Cooperative Sports Committee may place a CSP in a more competitive classification if necessary for competitive balance. Such classification of the CSP will not affect either school's classification in any other sport.
- E. Cooperative Sports Committee (CSC):
The President of the Executive Committee shall nominate a Cooperative Sports Committee of no less than five members and a chairperson, none of whom shall be members of the NJSIAA Executive Committee. The CSC will approve or disapprove each Cooperative Sports Program application. Approved applications will be presented at the next Executive Committee for final approval.

The CSC will also make classification determinations at the time of approval of the Cooperative Sports Program. The CSC will take into consideration the combined enrollments as well as other factors determined by the Committee.

The LEA, Partner school or Participating League or Conference may appeal any such decision by the CSC. Such appeal will be heard by the Cooperative Sports Appeal Committee per Article III, Section 10.E.

CL 3: The CSC will meet three times per year and their decisions will be based on written documentation submitted to the committee. Such meetings will occur within 45 days after each deadline prescribed in Article III, Section 10.B. Decisions of the CSC will be communicated to the applying schools within 10 business days of the meeting date.

CL 4: The CSC may change the classification determination previously made. Such change in classification will coincide with the automatic renewal period.

F. Cooperative Sports Appeals Committee (CSAC):

The President of the Executive Committee shall nominate a Cooperative Sports Appeals Committee of no less than five members and a chairperson, all of whom shall be members of the NJSIAA Executive Committee. All appeals from initial decisions of the CSC shall be determined by the Cooperative Sports Appeals Committee. The CSAC will not hear appeals of the classification determination made by the CSC.

The CSAC shall consider Cooperative Sports Program matters, in accordance with the following procedures:

- i. The CSAC shall decide an appeal on either written submission or at a hearing.
- ii. The CSAC shall meet to determine any pending appeals on days corresponding with the regularly scheduled meetings of the Executive Committee.
- iii. Four members of the CSAC shall constitute a quorum. The Chairperson shall be a non-voting member of the Committee except where there is a tie to vote on any appeal. A member shall not vote on any appeal, the outcome of which would affect the schedule of that member's school.

If the CSAC approves a Cooperative Sports Program application, then they will make the classification determination at the time of approval. The CSAC will take into consideration the combined enrollments as well as other factors determined by the Committee.

- G. The LEA, Partner school or Participating League or Conference may appeal any such decision of the CSAC. Such appeal will be heard by the Executive Committee and such decision will be considered final.
- H. Cooperating schools may include all school names on their uniforms; however, the LEA name will be used by the NJSIAA for classifications and seeding brackets.
- I. Either the LEA or Partner school may exit a Cooperative Sports Program at any time during the time period covered by the approved application. Written notice must be submitted to the NJSIAA and the other participating school(s). Upon early termination, the participating schools will be reclassified to their natural classification as a single school.
- J. A Cooperative Sports Program for a particular sport will cover all levels of competition (i.e. freshman, J.V. and varsity). However, either school may establish a stand-alone sub-varsity team while continuing in the cooperative program in that same sport.

- K. The Executive Committee shall be authorized to adopt appropriate guidelines, not inconsistent with the provisions of this Section, so as to implement the Cooperative Sports Programs.
- L. No Cooperative Sports Program shall be allowed unless approved by the Executive Committee after prior approval by the Boards of Education of the cooperating schools.

Article IV

ANNUAL DUES

Section 1

Member schools shall pay an Annual Due of \$2,500.00.

Section 2

Annual dues become payable at the beginning of each school year, and must be remitted to the Executive Director no later than September 1st.

Article V

ELIGIBILITY OF ATHLETES*

Section 1

A student, to be eligible for participation in the interscholastic athletic program of a member school, must be enrolled in that school and must meet all the eligibility requirements of the Constitution, Bylaws, and Rules and Regulations, of the NJSIAA.

CL 1: Students being home-schooled (by parents or other parties) may be eligible if the local Board of Education has approved their participation and the requirements of the Homeschool Guidelines have been satisfied. Properly enrolled students on Home Instruction provided by the Board of Education are eligible if the student satisfies Section 4E. (Refer to NJSIAA Guidelines, Policies and Procedures).

Section 2

Amateur-Athlete – An amateur-athlete is one who participates in athletics solely for the physical, mental, social and educational benefits derived from such participation. The amateur-athlete treats all athletic activities in which he/she participates as an avocational endeavor. One who takes or has taken pay, or has accepted the promise of pay, in any form, for participation in athletics or has directly or indirectly used his/her athletic skill for pay in any form shall not be considered an amateur and will not be eligible for high school interscholastic athletics in the State of New Jersey.

The following are the basic interpretations of the principles' involved in the amateur code which may lead to the loss of an athlete's eligibility:

- A. Participation in any athletic activity under an assumed name. Being guilty of any act of fraud, subterfuge, or, other sharp practice relative to this principal.
- B. Accepting pay or material remuneration for a display of athletic ability.

- C. Any student who signs or has ever signed a contract to play professional athletics (whether for a money consideration or not); plays or has ever played on any professional team in any sport; receives or has ever received directly or indirectly, a salary or any other form of financial assistance from a professional sports organization or any of his/her expenses for reporting to or visiting a professional team is no longer an amateur as defined by this code.
- D. A Student-Athlete may participate as an individual, or as a member of a team against professional athletes, or as a member of a team on which there are some professionals who are not currently under contract with a professional team and are not receiving payment for their participation; but he/she may not participate on a professional team.
- E. A Student-Athlete may work as a counselor in a summer camp, lifeguard, swimming pool attendant and swimming instructor for children without affecting his/her eligibility under the terms of this principle; he/she may work in a tennis or golf shop provided he/she does not give instruction for compensation, and he/she may obtain employment with a recreation department, his/her duties to include some officiating and coaching responsibilities; however, he/she may not be employed as an athletic coach.
- F. If a Student-Athlete's appearance on radio or television is related in any way to his/her athletic ability or prestige, the athlete may not under any circumstances receive remuneration for his/her appearance. Under such circumstances, however, an athlete may appear on a sponsored radio or television program or have his/her name appear in newsprint ads or in player of the week, month or year advertisement promoting products provided he/she does not endorse or imply endorsement of any commercial product.
- G. Individual interscholastic awards and similar mementos to Student- Athletes should be limited to those approved by the local Board of Education, in keeping with traditional high school requirements which are basically symbolical in nature, i.e., letters, sweaters, jackets, pins, trophies, other similar type awards, and rings or watches which are properly inscribed. No other award of any monetary value may be granted to any athletes without prior approval by the Board of Education and NJSIAA.
- H. No awards shall be given to an athlete by anyone other than his/her own Board of Education, unless prior approval of the NJSIAA and the Board of Education is obtained.
- I. A student-athlete may accept a monetary award under the United States Olympic Committee's "Operation Gold" program without compromising his/her eligibility for NJSIAA competition. Operation Gold awards athletes for top-place finishes in a sport's most competitive international competition of the year.
- J. A student-athlete who participates in non-NJSIAA sponsored events may receive reasonable travel, meal, and lodging expenses. A student-athlete may accept items with a monetary value not to exceed \$250.00.

Section 3

Reinstatement of Amateur Eligibility – The Executive Committee of the NJSIAA is the only body that may reinstate a Student-Athlete of a member school to eligibility status under the provisions of the organization's Constitution, Bylaws, and Rules and Regulations. In cases where the Executive Committee has determined that a Student-Athlete inadvertently participated in an activity that has caused his/her loss of eligibility, the Executive Committee may reinstate said athlete after a period of not less than one year. An application for reinstatement must be made in writing by the high school Principal to the Executive Committee and shall include all data pertinent to the case.

Section 4

Eligibility Requirements – Eligibility rules herewith stated shall apply to all freshman, sophomore, junior varsity, and varsity teams involved in interscholastic athletic competition.

Ineligibility Lists – Member schools must submit an affidavit of ineligible students to the Executive Director of the NJSIAA annually for each of the three seasons prior to the beginning of those seasons. This form, signed by the Principal, will certify that any and all students listed do not meet the eligibility requirements of the NJSIAA. This affidavit should be based on carefully compiled lists of ineligible student/athletes for all sports in that season which are on file in each member school and in the event of any questions, are available upon request by other member schools and/or appropriate NJSIAA officials. Schools may use their own form as long as all the information is provided on that form.

CL: This record must be compiled prior to the student's participation in the first interschool scrimmage or game in that sport and kept on file in the Principal's office. Schools are reminded that determining eligibility or ineligibility must be based on the following: (a) name of the student/athletes, (b) date of birth, (c) documentary proof of age (birth certificate, baptismal certificate, insurance policy or school record), (d) date of first enrollment in 9th grade, and (e) school from which student transferred, if such transfer was effected during the current or just past school year, (f) credits passed previous year (first semester eligibility) or previous semester (second semester eligibility), and (g) participation prior to entry into the 9th grade.

- A. **Eligibility Certification** – Upon the request of the Executive Director, schools must furnish him/her with lists of ineligible student/athletes for their various teams, containing such information as he may deem necessary.
- B. **Eligibility Responsibility** – The Principal of a school is responsible for the observance of the eligibility rules contained in this Article and for the entire program of his/her member school.

CL: It is local option for schools to permit ineligible students to practice or compete in interscholastic scrimmages while ineligible for regular or post-season games. [Scrimmages refer to pre-season scrimmages only and not scrimmages during the regular season or post-season for those sports that allow such.] Such practices will count to satisfy the six (6) days practice rule. The above is applicable provided the school meets the medical examination and parental permission as required by the State Board of Education.

- C. **Age** – An athlete becomes ineligible for high school athletics if he/she attains the age of nineteen prior to September 1. However, any athlete attaining age nineteen (19) on or after September 1 shall be eligible for the ensuing school year. A birth certificate, issued at the time of birth, is the normal proof of age; in the absence of this, other proofs may be used. The records used will be baptismal records or the earliest school records.

CL 1: Junior High/9th Grade regulations provide that a student becomes ineligible for 9th grade athletics if they reach age sixteen (16) prior to September 1 of that school year. However, said students may participate above the 9th grade athletic level based upon a waiver as set forth in CL 4 noted below.

CL 2: The following evidence of proof of age can be used when the Bureau of Vital Statistics in the state of birth reports no records exist:

- a. Birth certificate.*
- b. Affidavit of attending physician.*
- c. Documentary evidence, such as family record of birth in Bible, certificate of arrival in the United States, or a passport.*
- d. Public school records, school, state or national census records.*
- e. Baptismal certificate.*

CL 3: This requirement will not be waived for the sole reason that a student was born day(s), week(s), or month(s) just prior to September 1.

CL 4: In order to assure the opportunity for eight consecutive semesters of interscholastic eligibility, member schools may request waivers to permit students who are enrolled in the 6th, 7th and 8th grades and who are otherwise academically eligible, to participate on the junior varsity or varsity teams where such students will be sixteen (16) years of age or older upon entrance into the 9th grade prior to September 1st. Guidance Departments/School Administrators of elementary schools should provide the Athletic Director with ages of all students so they can be assured of four (4) years of eligibility prior to becoming ineligible at age nineteen.

D. Athletic Recruitment – Athletic recruitment is prohibited.

1. Athletic recruitment is contrary to the purposes and objectives of high school sports. Prohibiting athletic recruitment helps to keep athletics in its proper place and subordinate to academics; protects student-athletes from those having interests that might not be consistent with the interests of the student-athletes; and maintains competitive equity on a level playing field among member schools.
2. Athletic recruitment is defined as any effort to, proselytize, pressure, urge or entice a student to enroll in or transfer to a school for athletic purposes. It is a violation for a member school to engage in athletic recruitment or for a student-athlete to enroll in or transfer to a school as a result of athletic recruitment. Athletic recruitment includes, but is not limited to:
 - a. Using mail, letters, brochures, or news media to compare high schools and to solely point out the athletic assets of the sender;
 - b. Engaging in proselytizing interviews, initiated by school personnel or associates;
 - c. Offering athletic scholarships, free tuition or other monetary assistance, either from the school directly or indirectly through some affiliated body or individual, to induce a student to attend the school for athletic reasons.
3. A member school shall be responsible for athletic recruitment by anyone associated with the school or acting at the direction of the school, including but not limited to administration, staff, coaches, students, parents, booster clubs, or any organization having a connection with the school.
4. Any evidence of recruiting by a member school shall subject the school to a hearing before the Controversies Committee. A school that is found to have violated the athletic recruitment rule shall be subject to the penalties set forth in Art. X

5. Any evidence of a student-athlete enrolling in or transferring to a school as a result of athletic recruitment shall subject the student-athlete to a prompt determination of eligibility by the Eligibility Appeals Committee. A student-athlete who is found to have violated the athletic recruitment rule shall be subject to a one year period of ineligibility in all sports, except that the student-athlete may return to his/her original school without penalty.

E. Credits

1. To be eligible for athletic competition during the first semester (September 1 to January 31) a pupil must have passed 25% of the credits (30) required by the State of New Jersey for graduation (120), during the immediately preceding academic year.
2. To be eligible for athletic competition during the second semester (Feb. 1 to June 30), a pupil must have passed the equivalent of 12¹/₂% of the credits (15) required by New Jersey for graduation (120) at the close of the preceding semester (Jan. 31). Full-year courses shall be equated as one-half of the total credits to be gained for the full year to determine credits passed during the immediately preceding semester.

CL 1: The NJSIAA does not establish grading policies or standards for granting credits. The local school's Board of Education has the exclusive authority to address such matters within the parameters of the State Board of Education guidelines. Therefore, the NJSIAA will not waive, either the standards set by a member school or the minimum standards set forth in Article V, Section 4.E except as provided in Section 4.F (1).

CL 2: The credit status of a transferred student, determined by the previous school, may not be changed by the present school.

CL 3: There is no provision for make-up work for credits for second semester.

CL 4: Waivers will not be considered for a senior who does not attain 15 credits and who fails a subject in his/her first semester, unless that senior is passing all subjects in the subsequent marking period. The student must be on track for graduation and passing all classes during the third marking period.

CL 5: An athlete who is ineligible under Article V, Section 4.E(2) may become eligible for the remainder of the spring sports season on May 1, if he/she meets the requirements of Article V, Section 4E(2) as of that date.

Note: In order for a 9th, 10th, or 11th grader to become eligible per CL 5, the student must be passing all courses taken during the 3rd marking period and accumulated 22.50 credits when grades are averaged for marking periods 1, 2, and 3. 22.50 credits after three (3) marking periods puts the student-athlete on track to obtain the required 30 credits at the end of the school year.

3. The above paragraph 1 shall not apply to incoming students from grammar school (8th grade).
4. Notwithstanding the provisions of Paragraph 1 and 2 above, a pupil who is eligible at the beginning of a sports season shall be allowed to finish that season.

CL 1: According to regulations of the New Jersey State Board of Education, credit must be assigned equally to all secondary school courses. Thus, courses which at one time were considered "minor,"

e.g. Physical education, art, music, industrial arts, etc., must be included in the determination of academic requirements.

CL 2: Graduation Requirements – The provisions of Article V, Section 4.E (1) and (2) of the Bylaws will not be waived even though a school allows a student to carry only those courses necessary to meet minimal graduation diploma credit requirements.

- a. If a student has received a diploma, he/she is ineligible. However, he/she may continue to represent his/her school until the official end of that semester—either January 31 or June 30.*
- b. If a student has left school, but re-enrolls, he/she will be eligible thirty (30) calendar days from the date of re-enrollment.*
- c. If a student has continued enrollment while absent from school, he/she will be eligible provided he/she is enrolled in and attends at least one course.*

CL 3: It is recognized that students may accelerate their academic programs during their first three years of secondary schooling. Consequently, such students may be eligible in the second semester of their senior year even when they carry less than 12½% of the State minimum (15 credits) during the first semester provided they are meeting their school district's graduation requirements and are passing all courses in which they are enrolled at the start of the first semester. Seniors who withdraw from courses with a passing grade (WP) will be eligible provided they are carrying sufficient credits for graduation purposes.

CL 4: When a student does not fail a course and/or withdraws passing and is unable to pass the required credits for reasons not under the control of the student, or the school, a waiver shall be granted. A student who enters from an out-of-state school or a foreign country that has passed all courses in which the student is enrolled, meets the requirements of this Section.

CL 5: Students receiving credits for courses at their previous school may use those credits to satisfy the credit requirements for athletic eligibility even though the present school does not grant credit for same. Such a situation is acceptable only on an immediate basis at the time of the transfer. The student subsequently becomes subject to the requirements of the present school.

CL 6: An athlete, whose education is interrupted after his/her entrance into the 9th grade (4 or 6 yr. high school) or 10th grade (3 yr. high school) and who does not pass the required courses as provided for in Article V, Section 4.E (1) and (2) of the Bylaws at the end of the semester, upon being readmitted at the beginning of the next semester, is ineligible for failure to meet the requirements of this section.

Exceptions to this rule are returned servicemen/servicewomen who have been honorably discharged and cases of unavoidable absence due to illness. Substance abuse is not considered as unavoidable absence due to illness; when illegal substance is the reason for not passing the required credits, a waiver will not be granted.

CL 7: An athlete who is ineligible under Article V, Section 4.E (1), may become eligible for the remainder of the winter sports season on February 1 if he/she meets the requirements of Article V, Section 4.E (2).

CL 8: Any summer work for makeup purposes for failed courses, completed and approved by the school before the sixth school day, in the Fall semester, may be used for eligibility purposes.

CL 9: A student eligible to represent his/her school in Winter Sports may continue to do so until the end of that season.

CL 10: A passing grade for a semester can only be used once for eligibility purposes. A student who has a semester's passing grade in a subject may not repeat that subject during a later semester and use it for eligibility purposes.

F. Handicapped/Classified Students

1. Course Waiver – All handicapped/classified students, as defined by the New Jersey State Department of Education, defined as Individuals with Disabilities Education Act-(IDEA), shall comply with the athletic eligibility rules and regulations of the NJSIAA (with the exception of Section 4.E of this Article V re: Credits), and in addition the student must have evidence of the following:
 - a. Parents, or guardians, must give consent for such competitive experience.
 - b. The Child Study Team must certify that the student successfully completed the I.E.P. in the previous year/semester commensurate with the student's ability. Final approval for participation must be given by the Principal.

CL 1: A student who is initially classified after failing to have satisfied the provisions of Section 4.E Credits (30 or 15) cannot regain eligibility until the Child Study Team has monitored that classified student for a semester/90 school days.

CL 2: Courses cannot be waived for ADA or 504 students.

- c. The medical inspector of the school district must certify that the youth has physical ability to compete equally with other participants.
2. Definition – Since handicapped or “disabled” children (as defined in this section) are not subject to Section 4.E of this Article V, the academic credit rule, it is important that schools understand what children may be eligible.
 - a. Any handicapped child must be in a program approved by the State Department of Education for handicapped children.
 - b. Any handicapped child must be classified as such by an examiner approved by the State Department of Education.
 - c. Any handicapped child must be approved by the local Child Study Team to attend regular high school classes, home instruction, or he/she must be a member of a class in which he/she spends the greater part of each school day with other children under a teacher holding a certificate to teach.
 - d. All handicapped students, assigned to another school by the Board of Education, Division of Child Protection and Permanency and the courts and classified by the Child Study Team, will be eligible to compete on the interscholastic athletic teams of the school district in which the student resides, providing such receiving school does not sponsor an interscholastic athletic program in that sport, and so long as such students meet all other applicable NJSIAA eligibility requirements.

CL 1: Exception: In County Special Services School Districts, e.g., Bergen County where the district is not an adjunct school of the local public school district and where all schools are under the authority of the same Superintendent of Schools, all students are eligible to participate in the

interscholastic athletic programs of that County's vocational high school(s) unless they are approved to participate at the public high school where they reside and are processed as provided for in Section 4.F (2)e. and 4.G–CL 3.

- e. A handicapped student is permitted to participate in the interscholastic program of the school where the student is enrolled or the school where the student resides, when extenuating circumstances are present. A waiver shall be granted, upon review by the NJSIAA Executive Director or designee when agreed to by the principals of the involved schools.

G. Enrollment

1. Late Enrollment – A student who enters school after the first Monday in October shall not be eligible to represent that school until after the lapse of thirty (30) calendar days from date of his/her first entrance.

Note: The term “entrance” as used in this section and elsewhere in these Bylaws, means registration plus actual attendance at a school.

CL 1: Late enrollment refers to a student who does not enroll at any school at the beginning of the school year.

CL 2: A short period enrollment at any school will not be treated as entrance to that school and/or subsequent transfer will be recognized as uninterrupted enrollment at the original school absent any appeal from the previous school.

2. Initial Enrollment – At the beginning of his/her secondary school career a student is free to choose any secondary school he/she may legally attend, (9th grade in a 4- or 6-year high school or 10th grade in a 3-year high school).

Note: After this initial enrollment a student is subject to the transfer provision as provided for in Section 4.K (2) of this Article.

CL 1: A high school student is a regularly enrolled student as defined by the Department of Education.

CL 2: Vo-Tech/Public Academy Shared Time – When a student is carried on the Official Register and attends some classes at a school, but also attends additional classes at another school, he/she is eligible for interscholastic athletics at the school where he/she is carried on the Official Register. If a student is carried on both Official Registers, the student may choose the school at which he/she wishes to participate in all sports on a full school-year basis.

CL 3: Vo-Tech/Public Academy Full Time – If a Vocational/Technical High School/Public Academy does not offer the particular sport in which one of its full-time students desires to participate, that student may participate in that sport at his/her sending school upon agreement of both Principals, regardless of the number of sports programs offered at the Vocational/Technical High School/Public Academy.

CL 4: Vo-Tech/Public Academy – When a student-athlete transfers to or from a Vocational/Technical High School to or from the district school where the student resides the

student is eligible immediately provided such assignment is by the Board of Education of the district where the student resides and the student satisfies all other eligibility regulations.

CL 5: Charter School – If a secondary Charter School does not offer the particular sport in which one of its full-time students wishes to participate, that student may participate in that sport at his/her school of residence upon agreement of both principals, regardless of the number of sports programs offered at the Charter School.

CL 6: Choice School – A choice student who attends a Choice School, pursuant to regulations adopted by the New Jersey Department of Education, shall be subject to the transfer restrictions contained in Article V, Section 4.K (1) and (2).

CL 7: Disabled Students: A pupil who is disabled and who is placed by the parents or guardians at their own expense in a non-public school for treatment of the disability shall be eligible to participate in the interscholastic athletic program of the student's resident school district, provided the student otherwise meets the eligibility requirements of the program and the student's participation has written approval of the board of education of the school district where the program is located.

- H. **Post-Graduates** – No post-graduate student shall be eligible for high school competition. When a student graduates from a school (days or weeks) before the official end of the semester that student may continue to represent his/her school until the official end of that semester – either January 31 or June 30. A student becomes ineligible for high school athletics when the class in which he/she originally enrolled is graduated.

CL: A League/Conference or County may grant a waiver (as provided for in the Rules & Regulations, Rule 2, Specific Sport Regulations, Note 3) to permit teams or individuals from the New Jersey Association of Independent Schools to participate if such Student-Athletes are in the first year of post-high school matriculation.

- I. **Pre-High School Students** – Students in any 9th grade are eligible for teams in the Senior High School in that district at the discretion of the administrators and the Board of Education in that district. Students in any 6th, 7th, or 8th grades of any school (Jr. High or Sr. High) who play on 9th grade or so-called freshman or sophomore, junior varsity and varsity teams will be ineligible at the conclusion of eight consecutive semesters of such participation. Junior High School 9th grade teams may play against 9th grade teams from 4-year or 6-year high schools.

CL 1: Article V, Section 4.I is applicable to all 9th grades including those which are under the supervision and control of an administrative head (Principal) separate and apart from the administrative head (Principal) of the Senior High School. All 9th grade students in an 8-4, 6-6 or 6-3-3, or other administrative plan may participate on a junior varsity or varsity team without jeopardizing their eligibility to participate on a 9th grade team in that sport; however, when 9th grade students are under a separate administrative head than that of the Senior High School such agreement must be affirmed, in writing, to the NJSIAA over the signature of both administrative heads.

Any 9th grade Student-Athlete who participates on a junior varsity or varsity team or any team at the high school level will be subject to the eligibility provisions of the Bylaws, Article V, 4.G (2). This means that such 9th grade students will be subject to the transfer provisions of Article V, Section 4.K.

CL 2: Students below the 9th grade are not permitted to practice with students of grade nine (9) through twelve (12), neither may they “suit up” with those teams for games or scrimmages involving grades nine (9) through twelve (12) unless a waiver has been granted (to ensure eight (8) consecutive semesters of participation). Student will be considered to have begun his/her eight semesters of eligibility on a sport specific basis pursuant to Article V, Section 4.I.

CL 3: All games in which 6th, 7th and 8th grade students participate will cause forfeiture of said games under this Section unless a waiver has been granted.

CL 4: Students in 6th, 7th or 8th grades who will reach age sixteen (16) prior to September 1 while properly enrolled in a member school may request a waiver of the Bylaws, Article V, Section 4.I, Pre-High School Student, to have an opportunity to participate in interscholastic athletics for four (4) years prior to becoming ineligible.

J. Semester of Eligibility:

1. No student shall be eligible for high school athletics after the expiration of eight consecutive semesters following his/her entrance into the 9th grade. A student becomes ineligible for high school athletics when the class in which he/she was originally enrolled has graduated.
2. This rule shall not apply to classified students who are ungraded. Classified students who are ungraded will have eight consecutive semesters of eligibility beginning with the first semester of participation in interscholastic athletics at the freshman, junior varsity, or varsity level.
3. This rule shall not apply to an honorably discharged serviceman/servicewoman, in which case the Executive Committee may make any adjustments of this rule as it may deem equitable.
4. Students below the 9th grade who participate on a high school team will be ineligible at the conclusion of eight consecutive semesters, beginning with the student’s initial pre-9th grade participation. If a student’s pre-high school participation in high school sports occurred in a state other than New Jersey, the student’s eight consecutive semesters of eligibility shall begin when the student enters high school, provided that (a) the student has transferred into New Jersey with a *bona fide* change of residence; (b) a Transfer Form has been completed; and (c) the student meets all other eligibility requirements, including academic requirements.

CL 1: In order to assure the opportunity for eight consecutive semesters of interscholastic eligibility, member schools may request waivers to permit students who are enrolled in the 6th, 7th and 8th grades and who are otherwise academically eligible, to participate on the junior varsity or varsity teams where such students will be sixteen (16) years of age or older upon entrance into the 9th grade prior to September 1st. Guidance Departments/School Administrators of elementary schools should provide the Athletic Director with ages of all students that qualify under this Clarification so they can be assured of four (4) years of eligibility prior to becoming ineligible at age nineteen.

CL 2: Guidance Departments should provide the Athletic Director with ages of all classified students so they can be assured of four (4) years of eligibility prior to becoming ineligible at age nineteen.

K. **Transfers** – After his/her initial enrollment in a secondary school, as provided for in Article V, Section 4.G (2) of the Bylaws, a student-athlete is subject to the following transfer rules:

1. A student-athlete who transfers from one secondary school to another because of a bona fide change of residence by his/her parents or guardians, or through assignment by the Board of Education, becomes eligible to represent his/her new school immediately upon entrance unless recruitment or transfer for athletic advantage is alleged and provided all other eligibility regulations are satisfied.

Both the former and new school must complete a transfer form affirmatively stating that the transfer is a bona fide change of residence and that there was no athletic recruitment or a transfer for athletic advantage.

A bona fide change of residence takes place when:

- a. The parent/guardian moves with the student from one public high school district to another public high school district;
- b. The parent/guardian completes an affidavit or certification with proof of the new residence;
- c. The change of residence must have occurred on or before the following dates: August 1 to be immediately eligible to participate during the Fall sports season; November 1, to be immediately eligible to participate in the Winter sports season; and March 1, to be immediately eligible to participate in the Spring sports season; and
- d. The new residence may not be associated with, leased, or provided by anyone associated with the school or acting at the direction of the school, including but not limited to administration, staff, coaches, students, parents, booster clubs, or any organization having a connection with the school.

The form of the affidavit or certification shall be approved annually by the Executive Committee. The affidavit or certification must be filed with the new school and be available to the NJSIAA upon request. Any school official with actual knowledge that the affidavit or certification is false may be subject to punishment as set forth in Article X

The affidavit or certification must be accompanied by proof of the new residence. Such proof shall include at least two of the following: (i) a New Jersey driver's license or non-driver's identification showing change of address; (ii) mortgage or lease documents; (iii) utility bills; (iv) voter registration; (v) bank statement; (vi) homeowner's insurance or renter's insurance; or (vii) any business record or document issued by a governmental entity.

The term "guardian" refers to that person who has control over the person and property of a child as established by the order of a court of competent jurisdiction. A student who becomes emancipated shall be deemed not to have made a bona fide change of residence.

CL 1: Residential placement by the Division of Child Protection and Permanency or by the Courts is treated as a change of residence by the parents except in cases involving juvenile or criminal court proceedings.

CL 2 : In cases where a student resides with one parent and elects to change residence for transfer to another secondary school where the other parent reside, said student will be declared eligible immediately since this is considered a parental change of residence provided the parents do not reside in the same public high school district. However, subsequent retransfers to the school previously attended may be considered a transfer for athletic advantage, which may result in a loss of eligibility.

CL 3: Immediate eligibility will be granted when a Board of Education or a non-public school has a non-tuition policy for students whose parents/guardians are employees of the District or non-public school provided a Transfer Form is filed and such a transfer takes place at the first opportunity to do so with the provision that a subsequent transfer or a transfer after the initial opportunity for enrollment has passed will be subject to Section 4.K (2) i.e., the 30-day transfer sit rule, or 2 When the previous school terminates their secondary school academic program.

CL 4: When a previous school brings forth a complaint as provided for in 4.D or K (5) recruitment or (6) transfer for athletic advantage, eligibility will not commence under K (1) until the Eligibility Appeals Committee reaches a decision.

CL5: Military Transfer: If the student's transfer is due to a move necessitated by military orders issued to the student's parent or legal guardian, the student shall be immediately eligible. The student transfer information still must be processed.

2. Transfers:

- a. A student-athlete transferring from one secondary school to another, without a bona fide change of residence by that student's parent or guardian, shall be ineligible to participate for a period of thirty (30) calendar days or one half of the maximum number of games allowed in the sport by NJSIAA rules (the ineligibility period) from the beginning of the regular schedule, whichever is less, in any sport in which the student has previously participated at the varsity level.
- b. To prevent possible recruitment or transfer for athletic advantage, a Transfer Form must be executed by the two involved schools and filed with the NJSIAA before any interscholastic participation.
- c. A student who transfers during the second half of a sports season, regardless of whether the transfer was the result of a bona fide change of residence, shall be ineligible to participate in any post-season championship competition at the new school. The Executive Director of the NJSIAA will annually publish the dates that will define the halfway point of each sports season.
- d. Any student who is subject to the 30-day period of ineligibility set forth in subsection (2)(a) may nevertheless participate in interscholastic scrimmages. It is local option for schools to permit ineligible students to practice or compete in interscholastic scrimmages.

CL 1: Since the minimal thirty (30) days or one half the maximum number of games allowed in a sport by NJSIAA rules ineligibility period (whichever is less) is intended to serve as a deterrent for students transferring from one school to another without a bona fide parental/guardian change of residence and is recognized as one of the most lenient penalties in the United States, appeals will not be heard, regardless of reason. For sports which have a maximum participation limitation, the NJSIAA maximum (half the maximum) will be used to determine the sit out period. For sports that do not have a maximum number of contests allowed by rule, the sit out period will be 30 days from the beginning of the regular varsity season or half of the games/meets/matches/events scheduled at the beginning of that school's sport season. Only games played may be counted.

CL 2: For purposes of this section, a school's regular schedule shall begin with the first interscholastic varsity contest played in that respective sport by the involved school (other than scrimmages).

CL 3: Student-athletes subject to the transfer sit may not participate at any level of interscholastic competition (freshmen, junior varsity or varsity.)

CL 4: Notwithstanding the provisions of (1) and (2) of Section 4.K, a student may be declared ineligible for violations of the recruiting or transfer for athletic advantage regulation.

CL 5: The Transfer Form must be processed whenever a student-athlete transfers from one secondary school to another with or without a bona fide change of residence having been made by his/her parents/guardians unless the transfer is by Board of Education assignments or by other conditions of 4.K.(1). In addition, the Student-Athlete Residency Affidavit must be processed and kept on file by the school.

In cases where a student-athlete resides with one parent and elects to change residence for transfer to another secondary school where the other parent resides, said student will be declared eligible immediately since this is considered a parental change of residence provided the parents do not reside in the same public high school district. However, subsequent retransfers to the school previously attended may be considered a transfer for athletic advantage, which may result in a loss of eligibility.

CL 6: Date of entrance means registration plus actual class attendance.

CL 7: For purposes of this section, participation in a sport is defined as playing any interscholastic contest at any level. Playing in practices or pre-season scrimmages does not constitute participation.

CL 8: Vo-Tech/Public Academy Shared Time – When a student-athlete is carried on the Official Register and attends some classes at a school, but also attends additional classes at another school, the student is eligible for interscholastic athletics at the school where he/she is carried on the Official Register. If a student is carried on both Official Registers, the student may choose the school at which he/she wishes to participate in all sports on a full school year basis. However, if the chosen school does not offer a particular sport then that student may participate in that sport at the other school upon agreement of both Principals. If the student wishes to change the school where he/she participates during his/her eight semesters of athletic eligibility, the student will be subject to the transfer restrictions contained in Art. V, Section 4.K (1) and (2).

CL 9: Vo-Tech/Public Academy – Full-Time – When a student-athlete elects to transfer to or from a Vocational-Technical High School to or from the district school where the student resides the student is subject to the transfer restrictions contained in Article V, Section 4.K (1) and (2). If a Vocational-Technical High School Public Academy does not offer the particular sport in which one of its full-time students desires to participate, that student may participate in that sport at his/her sending school upon agreement of both Principals, regardless of the number of sports programs offered at the Vocational-Technical High School Public Academy.

CL 10: Charter School – Transfers to and from Charter Schools will be subject to the restrictions contained in Article V, Section 4.K (1) and (2). If a secondary Charter School does not offer the particular sport in which one of its full-time students wishes to participate, that student may participate in that sport at his/her school of residence upon agreement of both Principals, regardless of the number of sports programs offered at the Charter School.

CL 11: Choice School – A choice student who attends a Choice School, pursuant to regulations adopted by the New Jersey Department of Education, shall be subject to the transfer restrictions contained in Article V, Section 4.K (1) and (2).

CL 12: We understand that there may be rare instances when a student is forced to transfer as a result of bullying at the previous school. Under the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act, a state law that public schools are required to follow and non-public schools are encouraged to follow, bullying is a matter that is investigated and addressed by the school. The NJSIAA does not hold hearings to determine whether a student was bullied. However, if a school, after investigation of a complaint of bullying, determines that the proper action to remediate the complaint is an alternative placement or a school transfer, then the NJSIAA will consider the school's action to be a new assignment by the board of education, and the 30-Day Transfer Rule will not apply.

3. A student whose parents move to another school district maintaining a secondary school of equal grade or higher shall remain eligible to represent his/her present school provided he/she remains properly enrolled; any subsequent transfer will be subject to Article V, Section 4.K(2).

4. The fact that a student is expelled from one high school because of academic or disciplinary reasons may not exempt him/her from any of the transfer provisions of this section.

5. Any evidence of a transfer for athletic advantage shall subject the athlete to a prompt determination of eligibility by the Eligibility Appeals Committee and may subject the school and the athlete to appropriate disciplinary proceedings as set forth in Article X herein. A transfer for athletic advantage is defined as, but not limited to:

- a. Seeking a superior athletic team;
- b. Seeking relief due to a conflict with the philosophy or action of an administrator, teacher or coach relating to sports;
- c. Seeking a team consistent with the student's athletic abilities; or
- d. Seeking a means to nullify punitive action by the previous school;
- e. Seeking to be coached by the coach at the new school.

The NJSIAA 30-Day Transfer Rule applies to students who have participated at the varsity level and who have transferred from one school to another without a bona fide change of residence or without a new assignment by the board of education. Because the sit-out period is among the shortest in the country, there are no waivers permitted from this rule.

- L. Administrative Responsibility – The Association must rely upon the voluntary compliance by its member schools in enforcing the eligibility standards set forth in this article. Toward that end, the Principal in each member school has the affirmative obligation to report to the NJSIAA any violations of these standards. The fact that a school has disclosed that there has been an eligibility violation will not relieve the affected school of sanctions that may be imposed against it, pursuant to Article X of these By-Laws, including the forfeiture of games or events. However, the failure to disclose an eligibility violation may be grounds for imposing additional sanctions upon the offending school.

CL 1: Although the penalty of forfeiture for the use of an ineligible player is mandatory and not appealable to the Executive Committee, the school may appeal the determination of eligibility provided such request for waiver occurs prior to the participation by the Student-Athlete.

CL 2: Participation by an ineligible player in any game during the regular season results in forfeiture of said game. If such forfeit(s) would have caused the school's failure to qualify for the

tournament or if an ineligible player participates in a tournament game, said SCHOOL will be disqualified from the tournament immediately, unless the championship has been concluded, and their last opponent will advance in their place. Schools eliminated prior to the last opponent will not re-enter tournament competition.

Article VI

CONTRACTS

Section 1

The Principal of the school is responsible to the State Association for all matters pertaining to the athletic relation of his/her school, and all contracts must be signed by the Principal.

Section 2

All athletic contests between schools shall be regulated by written contract, setting forth the details of time, place, finances, officials, or other agreed upon provisions.

CL 1: "Principal" refers to high school principal, superintendent of schools, or headmaster in this and all sections of the NJSIAA Constitution, Bylaws, and Rules and Regulations.

CL 2: Schedules approved by Leagues or Conferences will constitute contractual obligations for the purposes of this article.

CL 3: All athletic contests between schools must be approved by the District Board of Education.

CL 4: It is recommended that written contracts be executed for all scrimmages.

CL 5: Absence of a written contract, or as provided here, declares nonexistence of an obligation by either party.

Article VII

PROTESTS

Section 1

Protests against alleged violations of contracts, violations of the accepted standards of good sportsmanship, or the Constitution and Bylaws of this Association, should be reported in writing and posted by the Principals of the participating schools or the game officials to the Executive Committee, through the Executive Director, within one hundred twenty (120) hours of the time of such violation, with a copy to the alleged violator. Protests based upon an official's judgement or misinterpretation (*misapplication*) of the playing rules will not be honored.

CL 1: The one hundred twenty (120) hour provision will be satisfied, if the school's Principal notifies the League or Conference expected to report a violation of good sportsmanship or any violation within 120 hours as required by Article IX, Section 4, and other Articles and Sections contained in the Constitution or Bylaws, cannot use the failure of such disclosure as an excuse to prevent the NJSIAA Executive Committee or Controversies Committee from taking jurisdiction of such a matter as provided by Section 4 of Article VII.

CL 2: "Protests based upon an official's judgement or misinterpretation (misapplication) of the playing rules will not be honored" does not preclude a League or Conference from addressing same; however, the NJSIAA will not honor such protests for non-conference games/meets, neither

will the NJSIAA hear appeals to a League or Conference decision based upon an official's judgement or misinterpretation (misapplication) of the playing rules.

Section 2

There shall be a committee consisting of the Executive Director, the President, and a member of the Executive Committee who shall meet at the call of the Executive Director to hear any disputes and grant interim relief pending a decision on the matter by the Eligibility Committee, Controversies Committee or Executive Committee.

Any relief granted will expire at the end of the next Executive Committee meeting unless extended by resolution of the Executive Committee. The President and Executive Committee member, if they act in such capacity, shall be disqualified from discussion and voting on such matter before the Executive Committee.

Section 3

No protests against alleged violations of contracts shall be entertained in the absence of a duly executed contract made in accordance with Sections 1 and 2 of Article VI of the Bylaws.

Section 4

The Executive Committee may initiate proceedings on its own motion or may in its discretion refer the matter to the Controversies Committee.

Article VIII

CONTEST RULES – CHAMPIONSHIPS – OFFICIALS

Section 1

In all tournaments and meets conducted by this Association each member school must compete in its own group and section classification, unless fewer than eight (8) schools qualify. In that case, the Executive Committee may combine one or more groups. **When the Committee eliminates sectional championships because of an insufficient number of schools qualifying, the State Group Championships will be conducted on a statewide quartile basis or State Championships may be conducted without regard to Groups or Division.**

Federated members shall not be eligible for NJSIAA tournament competition.

CL 1: When submitting records for tournament qualification, schools listing forfeit wins/losses must attach an explanation for same.

CL 2: When fewer than eight (8) schools qualify in a group and section, the Executive Committee may combine one or more groups/divisions because of insufficient competition without regard to Public/Non-public classification.

Section 2

All contests involving member schools must be played according to the rules of the National Federation of State High School Associations. This applies to all sports for which rules are formulated by that Association.

CL 1: The NJSIAA does not permit "exhibition" (non-scoring) participation in any sport. Therefore, any reference to "exhibition" events, bouts and the like (e.g., in the National Federation Swimming Rules) are not permitted.

Cl 2: In dual swim meets in pools with six (6) or more lanes, an independent swimmer representing a member school that does not have a swim team, may swim in up to four (4) events in an open lane, provided both teams competing agree, the pool site administration agrees, and the officials agree.

Section 3

All baseball, basketball, field hockey, fencing, football, gymnastics, ice hockey, lacrosse, soccer, softball, swimming, tennis, volleyball, and wrestling officials working in any NJSIAA interschool varsity baseball, basketball, field hockey, fencing, football, ice hockey, lacrosse, soccer, softball, tennis, or volleyball game, gymnastics or swimming meet, or wrestling match, must be registered with the Association and listed in the Directory of approved officials published by the NJSIAA.

Section 4

The Executive Committee may approve the certification of officials and/or officials' chapters in all sports; and the minimum requirements for testing, training and evaluating all officials. (See Requirements for Registration of Officials for NJSIAA minimum requirements for approval of officials' chapters and minimum requirements for registration of officials.)

Article IX

SPORTSMANSHIP

Section 1

Statement of Administrative Responsibility:

Member schools are expected to conduct their relations with each other at all levels of competition in a spirit of good sportsmanship in keeping with the objectives we have set for ourselves. Everyone involved has the obligation to clearly see his/her influence and act accordingly.

The Association acknowledges that the school administration is responsible for the athletic program, including the making of broad and specific policies relating to sportsmanship and the conduct of activities in the schools. The school Principal, for example, as the administrative head of his/her school, has the responsibility for establishing the principles of good sportsmanship in the minds of the entire school family. He/she realizes that the kind of sportsmanship that is practiced or displayed by the representatives of his/her school will reflect to its credit or otherwise.

The Principal, therefore, is the final authority responsible for all athletic activity of his/her school at whatever level of competition in which that school is engaged. In recognition of this authority and responsibility, the following general recommendations are suggested by the Association as a guide to school administrators with respect to sportsmanship policy.

Section 2

General Guideline Recommendations:

- A. Each school administration shall establish broad and specific policies and procedures relating to sportsmanship and to identify responsibilities of administrators, coaches and students to ensure their observance.
- B. Each school administration shall insist that personnel set good examples of deportment and sportsmanship and to correct those individuals at fault at a time convenient and in a manner adequate for the situation. Reporting of the action taken, in writing, to the NJSIAA by the Principal is mandatory.
- C. Each school administration shall utilize all appropriate occasions and means to emphasize desirable deportment and sportsmanship of all coaches, students and other personnel.

- D. The supervision of trips and “away” contests shall be such as to assure that the conduct of school representatives brings credit to themselves, their school and their sport. To this end, the Association advocates the full promotion of cooperative “host-guest” relationships between and among schools entering into athletic competition.
- E. Hazing – Continuing the focus on sportsmanship, citizenship and leadership, the NJSIAA encourages member schools to establish local policies, procedures and regulations pertaining to incidents of “Hazing.”
- F. Coaches must be cautioned not to refuse to play or to complete a game/meet. Such decisions are within the jurisdiction of the game/meet officials once game/meet has started, or rest with home management and/or tournament director if the game/meet has not started.

Penalty – Any school whose coach violates Section 2.F shall be placed on probation by the Association for not less than one year from the date of violation, and shall not receive championship recognition from this Association in that sport, or enter any championship games, matches, meets or tournament sponsored by the Association in that sport unless the NJSIAA deems sufficient administrative action has been taken against the coach. Conditions of probation are outlined in the Bylaws, Article X, Section 2.A. Probation. In addition, the coach will be fined a minimum of \$300.00.

Section 3

Association Responsibility:

The Association recognizes and appreciates that the influence and responsibility of the school administration with regard to good sportsmanship extends to all levels of competition. However, it must also be seen that the NJSIAA has been vested with the responsibility to ensure that all contests under its jurisdiction are conducted satisfactorily. In exercising its responsibility as it applies to the principles of good sportsmanship, the Association will be guided by the Sportsmanship Rule/Policy below.

SPORTSMANSHIP RULE/POLICY

High standards of courtesy, fair play and sportsmanship must be featured at association competitions.

While this rule is a general statement and one which may be difficult to reduce to objective standards in terms of enforcement, it is the heart of the entire Association program. Good sportsmanship, respect for rules, respect for others, and fair play, are basically the motives through which an interscholastic athletic program is justified and defended.

It shall be the responsibility of each member school to insure that all individuals employed by or directly associated with the athletic program, including its Student-Athletes, comport themselves in a sportsmanlike manner when representing their school, especially at interscholastic events.

Unsportsmanlike conduct shall subject the individual to disciplinary action. The member school with which the individual is associated may also be subject to disciplinary action if it is found that the member school’s policies, actions, or failure to act, substantially contributed to the individual’s conduct.

Unsportsmanlike conduct shall include but not be limited to the following:

- A. Any person (athletic department, staff member, Student-Athlete or a fan or spectator associated with a member school) who strikes or physically abuses an official, opposing coach, player, or spectator.
- B. Any person (athletic department, staff member, Student-Athlete or a fan or spectator associated with a member school) who intentionally incites participants or spectators to violent or abusive action.

- C. Any person (athletic department, staff member, Student-Athlete or a fan or spectator associated with a member school) who uses obscene gestures or profane or unduly provocative language or action towards officials, opponents, or spectators.
- D. Any person (athletic department, staff member, Student Athlete, or a fan or spectator associated with a member school) who engages in harassing verbal or physical conduct related to race, gender, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation or religion at an interscholastic event.
- E. Any school or athletic staff member who is publicly critical of a game official, opponents and/or opposing coaches/players.
- F. The administration of a member school will be responsible for the unsportsmanlike conduct of that school's fans or spectators.

CL 1: Schools are not permitted to conduct pre-meet/game activities of an intimidating nature, e.g., the use of fog machines, the blaring of sirens or loud music/unusual sound effects, strobe/unusual lighting effects, or similar type activities.

Section 4

General Prohibition against Performance Enhancing Drugs:

It shall be considered a violation of the Sportsmanship Rule for any student-athlete to possess, ingest or otherwise use any of the substances on the list of banned substances, without written prescription by a fully-licensed physician, as recognized by the American Medical Association, to treat a medical condition. Violations found as a result of NJSIAA testing shall be penalized in accordance with this policy. Violations found as a result of a member school's testing shall be penalized in accordance with the school's policy. The NJSIAA policy shall consist of this general prohibition, the NJSIAA Steroid Testing Procedures, the NJSIAA Steroid Testing Protocol, and the NJSIAA Banned Drug Classes.

Section 5

Executive Authority:

- A. The Investigation of Complaints. The Association vests authority in its President and Executive Director to investigate and take appropriate action on any reported flagrant violation of the sportsmanship rule occurring during the regular season or NJSIAA tournament competitions. The President or Executive Director may request the school or the league or conference to investigate the violation and report any action taken. The President or Executive Director may also refer the violation to the Controversies Committee for investigation.
- B. Bias incidents. In addition to any other investigation undertaken by a school, league conference or the NJSIAA, the Executive Director shall forward to the New Jersey Division on Civil Rights any report of a violation of the sportsmanship rule resulting from harassing verbal or physical conduct related to race, gender, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation or religion at an interscholastic event.
- C. Reported violations shall be resolved in a manner sufficient to correct the problem, and may range from a written statement of the findings by the Executive Director to the school administration, to appropriate disciplinary action.
- D. Any report of a violation of good sportsmanship occurring during an NJSIAA sanctioned event, must be submitted in writing and include the violator and/or his/her school.

Article X

PENALTIES

PENALTIES SHALL BE ASSESSED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OR THE CONTROVERSIES COMMITTEE FOR INFRACTIONS OF THE ASSOCIATION CONSTITUTION, BYLAWS OR RULES AND SHALL INCLUDE BUT NOT BE LIMITED TO:

Section 1

To assure that member schools make certain that all Student-Athletes comply with eligibility standards or that they obtain appropriate waivers where necessary prior to competition, the following forfeiture penalties will be imposed. If the ineligible student participated in a TEAM SPORT, then that team will forfeit any games that it has won, irrespective of how long the ineligible student participated in that contest. This is so because it is impossible to calculate the impact made on a team contest by one or more individual players. In cases where the ineligible player participated in an INDIVIDUAL SPORT, then the team will only forfeit the events in which that player participated, since the impact of individual players can be calculated with some certainty. This penalty is mandatory and will not be subject to any appeal to the Executive Committee.

CL 1: Although the penalty of forfeiture for the use of an ineligible player is mandatory and not appealable to the Executive Committee, the school may appeal the determination of eligibility.

Section 2

After conducting a hearing and subject to an appeal to the Executive Committee, as set forth in Article XIII of the Bylaws, the Controversies Committee may impose the penalties set forth in this Section.

- A. Probation – A probationary period not to exceed two years may be imposed, which may include a requirement that a member school submit appropriate reports to the Association, certifying that the violations are not continuing. The Controversies Committee may determine that an offending school may not participate in championship contests in the sport in which the violation occurred.
- B. Forfeit of Games – Under such terms and conditions as the Controversies Committee shall provide.
- C. Forfeit of Championship Rights – A school may be required to forfeit championship rights as determined by the Controversies Committee.
- D. Suspension of Coaches and Players – In addition to any disqualifications imposed for unsportsmanlike and flagrant verbal or physical misconduct during an interscholastic contest a coach or player may be suspended for a violation of the Constitution and Bylaws or Rules of this Association, or for violations of the rules of good sportsmanship or the rules of a particular game.
- E. Fines – Member schools, Principals, Athletic Directors, and/or coaches may be fined by the Controversies Committee in an amount not to exceed \$1,000.00 per party. Member schools may also be required to pay any property damages caused by their improper behavior and for the transcript and court stenographer costs of the Controversies Committee hearing, which would be payable within sixty (60) days.

** This amendment approved by letter from Commissioner of Education dated July 6, 1987 and published in the September, 1987 NJSIAA Bulletin.*

Section 3

Major Fines and Expulsion:

The Controversies Committee may recommend for approval by the Executive Committee, the imposition of major fines against member schools, principals, athletic directors and coaches exceeding \$1,000.00 per party for serious violations of the Bylaws or Rules of the Association and/or the expulsion of member schools and/or coaches for serious violations of the Constitution, Bylaws and Rules of the Association after a hearing or review on appeal by the Executive Committee, pursuant to Article XIII of the Bylaws.

Article XI

ANNUAL MEETING

Section 1

The Annual Meeting of the Association shall be held on the first Monday in May.

Section 2

The Executive Director shall draw up the agenda to include all legislative proposals which have been properly presented and such other business which the Executive Committee has approved.

Section 3

Each school holding membership shall have one vote on subjects before the meeting. Only one accredited delegate shall vote for each school.

Section 4

A quorum shall be defined as a majority of the member schools which must be present at the beginning of the meeting.

Section 5

The Executive Committee shall engage the services of a competent parliamentarian whose rulings shall be binding upon the chairperson and all member schools. The meeting shall be conducted in accordance with recognized rules of parliamentary law.

Section 6

The minutes of the Annual Meeting shall show the full and exact vote of the membership on each proposal.

Article XII

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Section 1

For the purposes of these Bylaws the term “boy” or “he” refers to all students, both male and female.

Section 2

All Constitutions of Conferences will be submitted to the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association Executive Committee for review.

Section 3

All Constitutions shall maintain a provision to the effect “only member schools of New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association may be voting members of the Conference providing, however, that affiliated (non-voting) membership may be afforded to any school which is not a member of the said Association.”

Article XIII

HEARING PROCEDURE

Section 1

The President of the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association shall nominate an Eligibility Committee and a Controversies Committee of no less than four members each and a chairman of each committee, none of whom shall be members of the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association Executive Committee. The Eligibility Committee will make initial determinations of controversies involving eligibility except unsigned Transfer Forms arising under the Constitution, Bylaws and Rules and Regulations of the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association. The Controversies Committee shall make determinations of all other controversies arising under the Constitution, Bylaws and Rules and Regulations of the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association.

*CL 1: The Eligibility Committee meets **six** times per year at the beginning of each of the three sports seasons and at the end of the year. This Committee makes determinations based on written documentation.*

Those persons nominated to the Controversies Committee shall be members of the Advisory Committee of the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association. Those persons nominated to both Committees by the President, shall be confirmed by the Executive Committee by a majority vote prior to beginning their service on the respective Committee. They shall serve for one year, to expire on the last day of June, following their appointment. The Chairman of the respective Committees shall not vote except in the case of ties. The Committees shall be as representative as possible of all groups represented on the Executive Committee of the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association.

Section 2

All appeals from initial decisions of the Eligibility Committee, as well as initial decisions when the Eligibility Committee cannot consider an eligibility request in a timely fashion, shall be determined by an Eligibility Appeals Committee, consisting of a Chairperson and the following members of the Executive Committee: 4 representatives of public high schools, one from each section of the State; 1 representative from the non-public high schools; 1 representative from either the ex-officio members or the at-large members of the Executive Committee, as they are defined in Article V of the Constitution of the NJSIAA; and 4 alternates, all of whom can vote, and one of whom shall be a representative from the non-public high schools and one of whom shall be the Second Vice President of the Association.

The First Vice President of the Association shall serve as Chairperson of this Committee and in his or her absence, the Second Vice President shall serve as Chairperson. The President of the NJSIAA shall nominate the remaining members of the Eligibility Appeals Committee, who shall be confirmed by majority vote, and who shall serve for one year to expire on the last day of June following their appointment. The Eligibility Appeals Committee shall be delegated with the final authority to render determinations concerning eligibility.

The Eligibility Appeals Committee shall consider eligibility matters, in accordance with the following procedures:

1. The Eligibility Appeals Committee shall decide an appeal on either written submissions or at a hearing.
2. Any party seeking an eligibility determination must file a request with the NJSIAA at least ten days prior to the next scheduled Eligibility Appeals Committee meeting, together with ten copies of any initial determination, and ten copies of any and all documents it wishes to have the Committee

consider in determining its appeal. The request shall indicate whether the Appellant wishes to proceed on the basis of the written submissions or at a hearing.

3. The Eligibility Appeals Committee shall meet to determine any pending appeals on days corresponding with the regular scheduled meetings of the Executive Committee.
4. If a hearing cannot be scheduled in a timely fashion, the Eligibility Appeals Committee may decide any appeal on the basis of the written submissions.
5. If an eligibility appeal proceeds to a hearing, any party shall be entitled to be represented by counsel, all witnesses will be sworn and the right of cross-examination shall be provided.
6. Four members of the Eligibility Appeals Committee shall constitute a quorum. The Chairman shall be a non-voting member of the Committee except where there is a tie vote on any appeal. A member shall not vote on any appeal involving a school or Conference to which such member is affiliated; or an appeal that would impact upon a member's school.
7. The Eligibility Appeals Committee may designate the Attorney for the Association as a hearing officer for any formal hearings. The hearing officer shall conduct the hearing and make all appropriate rulings concerning evidence and the manner of proceeding, but shall not cast a vote concerning the appeal.
8. Except for private deliberations concerning a disposition of an appeal, all proceedings of the Eligibility Appeals Committee shall be transcribed by a certified court stenographer and transcripts shall be available to any requesting party, at cost.
9. All determinations of the Eligibility Appeals Committee shall be set forth in a written decision to be sent to the parties no later than ten (10) days after the conclusion of a hearing.
10. As a voluntary association of member schools, the NJSIAA must rely upon those schools in providing notice and all other relevant information concerning eligibility rules and appeal procedures to affected students and parents.

Section 3

Any Conference may make determinations of controversies arising out of the Conference's Constitution, Bylaws and Rules and Regulations, as well as those of the NJSIAA, where such controversies involve only member schools of the Conference, but do not deal with issues of eligibility and conform with the Conference's written hearing procedures, which shall have been approved by the Executive Director of the NJSIAA.

Section 4

All complaints, protests or disputes referred to the Association by a Conference or others, shall be reviewed by the Executive Director and referred to the Controversies Committee where applicable. The Controversies Committee shall hear controversies directly or on appeal from a Conference determination. This Committee shall conduct formal hearings, on notice to all involved parties, who shall be afforded the right of counsel, the presentation of testimony under oath, cross-examination and a written decision. The Committee shall conduct hearings against any party charged with a violation of Association Bylaws or Rules, notwithstanding the failure of the charged party to attend such hearings. All parties will be allowed to submit any relevant documents or written presentations to the Controversies Committee for its consideration, provided ten copies of such submissions are provided to the NJSIAA, with a copy to each involved party, and if on appeal from a Conference determination to the affected Conference, at least ten days before the scheduled hearing.

Section 5

In the event any party is aggrieved by any decision of the Controversies Committee, it may appeal to the Executive Committee of the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association which shall determine the matter in accordance with the provisions of the Bylaws and Constitution of the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association. In considering such appeals, the Executive Committee shall serve as an appellate body, and the appeal shall be confined to the record developed before the Controversies

Committee. It is recommended that at least one member of the Controversies Committee be present at all appeal hearings relating to any Controversies Committee decision. All appeals to the Executive Committee must be accompanied by a check in the amount of \$500.00 to serve as a deposit for transcript and court steno-grapher costs of the Executive Committee proceeding.

CL 1: It shall be the obligation of the appealing party to reproduce fifty (50) copies of any portion of the record that party will rely upon in its appeal to the Executive Committee which shall be furnished to the NJSIAA and any other parties at least ten (10) days before the scheduled Executive Committee meeting.

CL 2: The \$500.00 deposit is an estimate of transcript and reporter appearance costs for an appeal to the Executive Committee. If the appeal is successful, then the deposit will be returned to the appealing party. If the appeal is unsuccessful, then the appealing party will either (a) receive a rebate to the extent that such costs are less than the deposit; or (b) pay an additional amount to the extent that such costs are more than the deposit

Section 6

In emergent circumstances where time will not permit a controversy to be heard by the Controversies Committee. The Executive Committee may hear such a controversy and render a decision thereon in an informal manner after all involved parties are provided with notice and an opportunity to present their positions before the Executive Committee.

Section 7

The President of the Association may refer any matter to the Attorney for the Association to conduct a hearing. In the event such referral is made, the Attorney shall conduct a hearing and preside as the hearing officer. The Attorney shall make findings of fact and make recommendations to the Executive Committee in writing. Objections to the Attorney's report shall be heard by the Executive Committee.

Section 8

Any member school which institutes an unsuccessful appeal before the Commissioner of Education and/or the courts challenging a rule or a decision of the Association, not involving the eligibility of Student-Athletes, either prior to or after having first exhausted the internal appeal procedures of the Association, will assume the full cost of such litigation, including costs and counsel fees incurred by the Association and member school(s).

CL 1: By way of illustration without limitations the type of actions for which litigation costs will be imposed. The full costs of litigation, including counsel fees, will be imposed upon a member school which does not prevail in challenging a decision of the NJSIAA. The following circumstances are provided by way of illustration and without limitation:

- 1. Any litigation which challenges, in whole or part, the Constitution, Bylaws, Rules or Regulations adopted by the general membership of the NJSIAA, or which was enacted by the Executive Committee by a two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) vote, and subject to amendment, addition or rescission by the general membership, pursuant to Article V, Section 6 of the NJSIAA Constitution.*
- 2. Since participation in a particular sport, or in post-season tournament play conducted by the NJSIAA, is completely voluntary, any member school which unsuccessfully challenges either the rules and regulations for a particular sport, or the tournament rules, and/or the interpretation or implementation of such rules or regulations by responsible NJSIAA Committees, will be assessed the full costs of litigation.*

3. *All challenges brought before the Commissioner or any Court, prior to exhaustion of internal processes provided by the NJSIAA, except where time does not permit the convening of appropriate NJSIAA Committees to determine the controversy, which is the subject of the appeal.*

CL 2: The payment of any litigation costs or counsel fees shall be rendered in accordance with the following procedures:

1. *At the conclusion of any unsuccessful litigation brought by a member school, as defined by CL 1 above, Counsel for the NJSIAA shall transmit to the NJSIAA Executive Director a Statement of Costs and Counsel Fees incurred in this litigation. Costs shall include all filing fees, reproduction and transcript costs, appearance fees and expenses of any witnesses at any hearing or other proceeding, as well as all postage and telephone costs incurred in this litigation, after a final decision is rendered by the NJSIAA Executive Committee.*
2. *The Executive Director shall thereafter transmit the Statement of Costs and Counsel Fees to the unsuccessful litigating member school, for payment to be rendered within sixty (60) days, payable to the Association.*
3. *In the event that a member school joins another member school or an athletic conference as an adverse party, in any unsuccessful litigation, as defined by Section A, then the unsuccessful litigating school will be liable to the other school or conference in the same manner and to the same extent as it is liable to the NJSIAA.*
4. *Any member school which does not make full payment of the costs and fees within sixty days of the rendering of the Statement of Costs and Counsel Fees to that school, shall be deprived of all rights to participate in any post-season interscholastic championship contests conducted by the NJSIAA. The prohibition shall continue until and unless the full amount of Costs and Counsel Fees is paid to the NJSIAA, with interest at prevailing rates, assessed beginning sixty days after the rendering of such Costs and Counsel Fees. This prohibition will also extend to a member school which joined another member school or an athletic conference as an adverse party in such unsuccessful litigation.*

Section 9

Except as provided in Section 4 herein, no proceeding dealing with a specific school(s), staff or student(s) shall be conducted by any committee of the Association unless the Principal of the involved school(s) or his or her authorized representative is in attendance. A school shall be bound by any statements made by such representatives at committee proceedings. Requests for waiver of an NJSIAA regulation by any party other than the school will be heard and interpreted as not having the support of the school when the Principal or his or her authorized representative is not present.

Section 10

In cases involving recruitment, jurisdiction over the member school shall lie with the Controversies Committee, and jurisdiction over the student-athlete shall lie with the Eligibility Appeals Committee.

Article XIV

AMENDMENTS

Section 1

These Bylaws and Rules and Regulations may be amended by a majority vote at the Annual Meeting based upon the total number of **ballots cast** at the Annual Meeting. Such amendment will become effective on

July 1 following the Annual Meeting unless, by a separate two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) vote based upon the total number of **ballots cast** at the Annual Meeting, an earlier date is set.

Section 2

Any member school may initiate an amendment to the Bylaws, Rules or Regulations by following the procedures set forth in Article XII, Sections 1 and 2 of the Constitution.

Section 3

Bylaws, Rules and Regulations may also be amended by the Executive Committee as provided in Art. V, Section 5 of the Constitution.

NJSIAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

STUDENT-ATHLETE GUIDELINES

Section 1 Team Status

Student-Athlete is a properly enrolled student at a member school who has attained team status in a particular sport; i.e., sophomore, junior varsity, and varsity. Incoming freshmen are subject to all out-of-season regulations in all sports in spite of not having attained team status. Students who have completed the eighth grade are regarded as freshmen the day after their respective last day of school or June 30, whichever comes first. All team members must be listed on the eligibility report filed in a member school's office.

CL 1: The NJSIAA Constitution, Bylaws, and Rules and Regulations apply to all freshman, sophomore, J.V. and varsity participants competing in interscholastic games and/or scrimmages; unless otherwise provided for in Junior High 9th grade Regulations. To further clarify the Junior High School Regulations intent it is recommended that 9th grade follow all references to the Junior High in the regulations.

CL 2: Team status will be defined as having been on the current/immediate preceding roster of a team.

Section 2 Out-of-Season Period

The out-of-season period shall be from the end of the season as defined in Program Regulations, Section 10 until the next official starting practice date for that sport, excluding the Summer Recess, that period from the last scheduled date for NJSIAA championships in the Spring Sport Season until September 1st.

Penalty:

Any school proved guilty of violating the out of season coaching restrictions included within Student-Athlete Guidelines and Program Regulations shall be subject to the Penalties provided by Article X of the Bylaws, after a hearing by the Controversies Committee.

Out-of-Season practice is not permitted under the direction of an instructor or coach, or student leaders (i.e. captain's practices). This eliminates the use of any kind of equipment under any form of instruction. The object of this explanation is to make clear the point that there shall be absolutely no practice during the out-of-season period for a particular sport. Any subterfuge or "sharp practice" shall be construed as a violation of this rule.

If a coach leaves his/her position and subsequently has contact with a team-status Student-Athlete during the out-of-season period, that coach cannot be rehired by the school until one year has elapsed from the date of the coach's last contact with the Student-Athlete.

CL 1:

- a. Non-School Activities: During the out-of-season period, the NJSIAA does not restrict an individual's choice to participate in a non-school activity or in an open-gym program in which the athlete has attained Student-Athlete status, i.e., all freshmen and those sophomores, juniors or seniors who have been on the roster of the J.V. or varsity teams during the current season.*
- b. School-Related Organizations: During the out-of-season period, the school organizations such as Booster Clubs, Fathers' Club, Varsity Club and the like may not assist the Student-Athlete during the out-of-season period or provide individually issued equipment, uniforms, transportation or funds related to camp or clinic attendance when same is of a participatory nature.*

CL 2:

- a. Coaches/Student-Athletes: Coaches may not instruct their Student-Athletes during the out-of-season period, including Open-Gym Programs. For seniors, all rules apply through the last date of the NJSIAA Spring Championships, except for those seniors who have exhausted their eligibility and will not compete interscholastically in any future season/sport. When the same sport for Boys and Girls is conducted in different sports seasons, a Student-Athlete in that sport may not serve as manager of the team of the opposite sex and will be considered a violation of the out-of-season rule. Coaches may not exchange supervisory and/or coaching duties in their sport to circumvent the out-of-season rule.*
- b. Coaches Meetings: Coaches may hold non-instructional meetings for the purpose of distributing try-out schedules, medical forms, parent permission slips, etc. to returning lettermen and prospective team candidates. Strategy or techniques may not be discussed and neither may any physical activity take place.*

CL 3: Fund-Raising – A school may conduct any school approved fund-raising campaign at any time of the year so long as the fund-raising activity is not designed to keep Student-Athletes active in their particular sport during the out-of-season period (exclusive of seniors who have exhausted their eligibility). Exception: One day fund-raising activities such as foul-shooting contests involving basketball players; marathons involving cross-country runners; swim-a-thons involving swimmers, and the like will not be considered violations when conducted after their respective seasons have been completed.

CL 4: Hiring Scenarios

Scenario A:

Coach A has been coaching basketball at school A for 10 years

Coach A decides to take some time off at the end of the season for personal reasons

Coach A would like to return to coach basketball at school A.

Ruling: Coach A must not have worked with kids in the basketball program for a calendar year, not including the summer recess period before Coach A can be rehired.

Scenario B:

Coach A is hired by school A to coach basketball

Coach A is hired to coach basketball at another school the following season

Ruling: Coach A will be considered a “NEW” hire at the new school and not subject to the out of season contact rule before the hire.

Scenario C:

Coach A is coaching basketball at school A

Coach A decides to coach soccer at school A (same school)

Ruling: Coach A will be considered a “NEW” hire and not subject to the out of season contact rule, assuming Coach A has never coached soccer at school A (same school) previously.

Section 3 Intramurals

Although the NJSIAA philosophy relative to intramurals is that these programs should provide an opportunity for students not on interscholastic teams, nevertheless Student-Athletes are permitted to participate in all intramural activities during the out-of-season period, except those in which they have attained team status.

CL 1: Coaches may supervise or serve as directors, including officiating of intramurals, recreational, club, camp, or open-gym programs when the school district’s Student-Athletes are not involved in their specific phase of the program during the out-of-season period.

Section 4 Open-Gym Programs

All open gym programs, including sports specific open gyms, are permitted as long as no members of the coaching staff are present.

Interscholastic competition of any kind is not permitted during open gyms.

Coaches may supervise open gym programs during the out-of-season period only when their student-athletes are not involved.

CL 1: The soccer coach may supervise a “basketball open gym” during the soccer out-of-season period, as long as there are no members of the soccer coach’s team participating.

CL 2: Coaches may not exchange supervisory and/or coaching duties in their sport to circumvent the out-of-season rule.

Section 5 Recreation and Club Programs

The NJSIAA does not have any jurisdiction over these programs conducted by outside organizations even though school facilities are used; however, school uniforms and other individually issued equipment may not be used by Student-Athletes. Coaches may not be involved when the school district’s Student-Athletes are involved in that specific phase of the program during the out-of-season period. Coaches may be spectators.

CL: Schools, school organizations, or school-related groups such as Booster Clubs may not assist the Student-Athlete’s participation or influence the sponsoring agency in non-school Recreation and Club Programs during the out-of-season period.

Section 6 Camps or Clinics

The NJSIAA does not restrict an individual's choice to attend any participatory camps or clinics; however, schools, school organizations, or school-related groups such as Booster Clubs may not assist the Student-Athletes' attendance at any camp or clinic during the out-of-season period; this includes providing uniforms, equipment, and funds related to the camp or clinic, including transportation; and coaches may not instruct their Student-Athletes. Coaches may be spectators.

CL 1: There are no limitations or restrictions on member schools or their Student-Athletes at any time when attendance at non-school camps or clinics is of a non-participatory nature, i.e., as an observer rather than a participant.

CL 2: During the out-of-season period, the NJSIAA does not restrict an individual's choice to attend a participatory camp or clinic; however, schools, school organizations, or school-related groups such as Booster Clubs may not assist the Student-Athletes' attendance at any participatory camp or clinic, this includes providing uniforms, equipment, and funds related to the camp or clinic, including transportation. Coaches may not be involved in any way with their Student-Athletes. Coaches may attend a participatory camp, clinic or competition merely as spectators however they may not be involved in any way with their school's athletes, including being a clinician, when their school's Student-Athletes attend that camp or clinic regardless of the format or the separation of stations at a clinic.

CL 3: During the Summer Recess, a coach or Student-Athlete may not be sponsored or supported by a school or school-related group (example: Booster Club) when team-interscholastic or individual competition takes place as part of the activity in camps, clinics, recreation programs, independent play and tournaments.

CL 4: During the Summer Recess, interscholastic competition of any type at the site of either participant is prohibited.

Section 7 Faculty Games

Student-Athletes of a particular sport may not engage in faculty or similar games in that same sport.

Section 8 Non-School/Non-Sanctioned Games

Student-Athletes may compete in non-school, non-sanctioned games as follows:

- A. In-Season – Local Option
- B. Out-of-Season Period – A Student-Athlete may compete on a non-school team with the approval of the school so long as individually issued school equipment, coaching, or other school services are not provided.

CL 1: The participant competes in Non-School/Non-Sanctioned events “unattached,” i.e., not as a representative of the school and, therefore, schools, school organizations and school-related groups such as Booster Clubs, Parents Clubs or Varsity Clubs may not assist the Student-Athlete’s participation in any way.

CL 2: The NJSIAA does not permit the funding, in whole or in part, of participation in Non-School/Non-Sanctioned events by a Board of Education. This applies to Non-School/Non-Sanctioned events, e.g., the Dapper Dan, McDonald, and Derby Basketball Clinics, the Golden West Track Classic, and National High School baseball, tennis, wrestling, or similar games/events.

CL 3: The NJSIAA cooperates fully with the USOC (United States Olympic Committee) in establishing the means by which the participants are selected to represent the United States; therefore, a member school, their Student-Athletes, and their coaches do not have any restrictions placed upon them In-Season, Out-of-Season or during the Summer Recess so long as the administrator (Principal) of the member school gives approval and the USOC verifies that the activity is a part of the USOC development program and filed with the NJSIAA.

Section 9 Eighth Grade Contact

High school coaches are permitted to have contact with student-athletes in grades eight and below as it pertains to camps, clinics and the like, as long as such contact does not involve high school students as it pertains to NJSIAA Bylaws, Article V, Section 4(I).

All camps, clinics and the like must be open to all. In no way may these activities be held by invitation only when they are involving high school coaches except for the summer period.

High school coaches are permitted to coach teams that involve student-athletes in grades eight and below as long as such coaching does not involve high school students as it pertains to NJSIAA Bylaws, Article V, Section 4(I).

Student-athletes in grades eight and below are not permitted to take part in activities that involve high school student-athletes as it pertains to NJSIAA Bylaws, Article V, Section 4(I), until they have graduated from the eighth grade.

Publicity by a school or anyone employed by the school regarding incoming students shall not focus on or promote athletics.

Eighth grade students that graduate before the summer period start date are not permitted to have contact with high school teams until the summer period start date.

Eighth grade students that graduate after the summer period open date are permitted to have contact with high school teams the day after their graduation from eighth grade.

Section 10 Sports Specific Strength and Conditioning Guidelines

Out-of-season sports specific strength and conditioning sessions conducted by school district approved coaches of that sport are permitted as long as the following apply:

1. The coach has completed the online NFHS Strength & Conditioning Course, unless already certified.
2. The strength and conditioning sessions are purely designed to improve athletes in the field of strength and conditioning.

3. No sports specific equipment permitted during these sessions.
4. No sports specific drills permitted during these sessions.
5. No sports specific walkthroughs or game planning permitted during these sessions.
6. The strength and conditioning sessions cannot be mandatory.

CL 1: The school's athletic policy regarding strength and conditioning (weight room) management will supersede the above guidelines except if the strength and conditioning sessions are sports specific with a member of the coaching staff.

CL 2: The NFHS course is only required one time, not annually.

PROGRAM REGULATIONS

Section 1 Awards

Awards are not restricted by the NJSIAA, if approved by the Board of Education, so long as they are symbolic awards, i.e., letters, sweaters, jackets, pins, trophies, other similar type awards, and rings or watches which are properly inscribed. All other awards must be approved by the local Board of Education and the NJSIAA. Student-Athletes and prospective Student-Athletes must be cautioned when competing in any program including marathons and other running events in which cash or merchandise are the awards. By refusing to accept the cash or merchandise the student absolves himself/herself from placing his/her eligibility in jeopardy.

CL: The participant's award or share thereof may not be assigned to another party or be accepted by another party but must be returned to the chairman of the event. **Section 2 Strenuous Sports**

A player on an interscholastic athletic team shall participate in only one strenuous high school sport at a time during the regular high school sports season. A player may drop one high school sport to participate in another, but he/she may not return to a sport from which he/she withdrew.

The strenuous sports are: Baseball, Basketball, Cross-Country, Diving, Fencing, Field Hockey, Football, Gymnastics, Ice Hockey, Lacrosse, Skiing, Soccer, Softball, Swimming, Tennis, Spring Track, Winter Track, Volleyball, and Wrestling.

CL 1: Bowling and Golf are not considered strenuous sports.

CL 2: Program Regulations, Section 2, Strenuous Sports, will mean a student concluding a season in one sport will not be able to participate in another sport regardless of the fact that the athlete would be able to meet the six (6) day practice rule.

Section 3 Physical Examinations

Physical examinations may be given prior to a Sports Season so that all players may be examined before the first day of practice. **See State Board of Education – Rules and Regulations.**

Section 4 Uniforms/Equipment

Uniforms may be issued prior to the beginning of a Sports Season, if stored by the school; however under no circumstances may uniforms be worn until the first official starting day of practice for that specific sport, except for shoes which may be issued and worn two weeks prior to such official starting date of practice. No individually issued equipment of a member school, except as provided herein, may be issued or used by a student during the out-of-season period.

Section 5 Sports Seasons Dates

Member schools must conduct their sports seasons within the following datelines according to practice provisions as outlined in Program Regulations, Section 6 to be eligible for NJSIAA Tournament play:

Fall – To be announced.

Winter – To be announced.

Spring – To be announced.

If, by way of exception provided in these Bylaws, permission is granted a school to extend its season in a particular sport, the provisions of this section are extended accordingly.

Fall – Cross-Country, Field Hockey, Football, Gymnastics, Soccer, Girls Tennis, Girls Volleyball

Winter – Basketball, Bowling, Fencing, Ice Hockey, Skiing, Swimming, Winter Track, Wrestling

Spring – Baseball, Golf, Lacrosse, Softball, Boys Tennis, Spring Track, Boys Volleyball

The Executive Committee must approve conducting a specific program during a season other than the designated sports season for that sport.

Section 6 Start of Practice

For all strenuous sports (which excludes bowling and golf), the “first scrimmage” date must include one day of rest within the first 7 days from the first practice (6 days on and 1 day off rule). The 6 days of practice and 1 day of rest do not have to be consecutive but must adhere to the 7 day time frame. This requirement applies to all three seasons.

1. Fall – To be announced.
2. Winter – To be announced.
3. Spring – To be announced.

Section 7 Practices/Scrimmages/Games/Meets

A student shall not be permitted to participate in a scrimmage or a game (interschool) in any strenuous sport until he/she has completed six days of practice in that sport (days of 24 hours, not sessions) and one day of rest. Practices during the Summer Recess prior to the official opening of the Sports Season cannot be counted to fulfill this requirement. The above restriction will be waived for Student-Athletes who are members of a team participating in competition after the start of the next season provided the athlete becomes a practicing member within three (3) practice days.

CL 1: Summer Recess practices do not count for “six-day” interschool scrimmage or game provisions. Only those practices from the official opening of the Sports Season may be counted to fulfill this requirement.

CL 2: Sunday practices may be counted only if approved by the local Board of Education.

CL 3: A practice is defined as a session where a team is assembled and involved in physical activity to enhance the participant’s physical condition. Practices of any kind for individuals, partial or entire teams, on days when the team is involved in interscholastic scrimmages or games-meets will not count toward satisfying the six (6) day rule.

CL 4: It is a local option for schools to permit ineligible students to practice or compete in interscholastic scrimmages. An ineligible student may not participate in an interscholastic regular season contest or scrimmage. Such practices will count to satisfy the six (6) day practice rule. The above is applicable provided the school meets the medical examination and parental permission as required by the State Board of Education.

Interschool scrimmages, excluding baseball, tennis, softball and golf, are to be limited to the number of games, meets, or matches permitted in the sport during the regular season. The rule regarding numbers of contests on consecutive days will be enforced.

No more than four (4) schools shall be permitted to take part in a joint interschool scrimmage.

CL 1: Scrimmages during the regular season count toward the allowable number of games.

CL 2: The host school may not invite any more than three (3) schools to participate in a scrimmage at its site(s).

No scrimmages shall be permitted after the “End of Season” as defined in Program Regulations, Section 10.

Definitions:

“Interscholastic scrimmages” are provided as an opportunity to experience controlled game conditions for both coaches and players. A scrimmage must provide for voluntary interruption of the “scrimmage game” for instructional purposes, must not have recorded scoring, results, spectator admission must be on a complimentary basis only, and the event cannot be conducted in such a manner as to advance a team or individual to another level of scrimmage competition.

CL 1: Whenever team(s) or individual(s) from two or more schools practice at the same site, it will be designated as a scrimmage unless some extraordinary circumstance has been approved by the NJSIAA.

“Regular season games” are those games, meets, or matches that are not statewide championship playoff contests. “Playoff games” are those games, meets, or matches that comprise the Statewide Championship Tournament. Regular season games include conference games, non-conference games, and games played at tournaments and invitationals. Regular season games count toward the total number of games in which a school can participate during a sports season.

Section 8 Opening Dates

Start of regular schedule opening dates are as follows:

1. Fall - To be announced.
2. Winter - To be announced.
3. Spring - To be announced.

Section 9 Contest Rules

All contests involving member schools must be played according to the rules of the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS). This applies to all sports for which rules are formulated by that Association, with the following exceptions:

| | | |
|----------------|---|--|
| Bowling | – | US Bowling Congress |
| Fencing | – | United States Fencing Association |
| Golf | – | USGA |
| Girls Lacrosse | – | United States Women’s Lacrosse Association |
| Skiing | – | NCAA |
| Tennis | – | USTA |

Rules indicated will govern all sports unless modified by NJSIAA.

Section 10 End of Season

All teams may participate in interscholastic contests up to the final championship in their respective sports, with the exception of basketball and wrestling. Equipment should be stored and practice terminated for the out-of-season period upon completion of the schedule. Individual competition shall terminate with the end of said competition.

Section 11 Summer Recess

The summer period begins the Monday after the last scheduled Spring NJSIAA event. The summer period beginning date will not change because of postponements to the last NJSIAA spring events. The last day of the summer period is August 31.

There are no NJSIAA-imposed restrictions during the summer period, with the exception that interscholastic competition/scrimmages are not permitted during the summer period. Scrimmages consistent with the early season opening or regular season opening provisions are permitted.

CL 1: School Districts are not permitted to conduct interscholastic competition during the summer period. Schools Districts are permitted to host competition during the summer period, if the competition is organized and sponsored by a third party not connected to the school district.

CL 2: Football 7 on 7's is not considered interscholastic competition. Schools are urged to be mindful of their liability when hosting students from other districts during the summer period.

CL 3: Non-School Teams: A member of a high school's coaching staff may not be involved in any way with a non-school team on which there are student athletes who participated on the freshman, junior varsity, or varsity level of the coach's high school team(s) in that sport until the start of the summer period.

Section 12 Alumni Games

Alumni games count as part of the schedule in all sports, but they may not be included when submitting records for tournament consideration.

Section 13 Tournament Entry

Member schools are to download the appropriate entry forms from www.njsiaa.org for state tournament competition. Tournament regulations will be posted no earlier than four weeks before the tournament date. NO entries **or Tournament Refusal Forms** which are postmarked after the cut-off date will be accepted unless accompanied by a late fee established by the NJSIAA.

CL 1: A late fee charge of \$50.00, when a school's game or meet schedule or tournament entry form is late (beyond the established deadlines but prior to the pairings, seeding or heat meeting), is to be paid before the contestant or team is allowed to participate. If the entry is received after the seeding but prior to the first game of the tournament, an administrative fee of \$150 will be assessed the school.

Section 14 Video Taping and Filming

Electronic Communication equipment, including but not limited to computer, film television and video tape is permissible according to the NFHS rules for the sport in question. Videotaping of scrimmages is a local option. No video or audio recording may be used to review or challenge the decision of a sports official, unless it is an approved game following the Football Video Replay protocol.

Section 15 Maximum Games-Waiver

A waiver of the maximum game limitation is granted in all sports, except football, only when one additional game is needed to decide a county, conference or tournament championship.

Section 16 Withdrawal/NJSIAA Tournaments

Any member school and/or Student-Athlete withdrawing from competition after having officially entered an NJSIAA tournament in any sport will be disqualified from all remaining NJSIAA tournament

competition in that sport in that season and barred from participating in NJSIAA tournament competition in that sport during the next school year unless truly extraordinary circumstances were present.

Section 17 Withdrawal/Infectious Diseases

School administrators should rely solely upon the advice of the school's medical inspector in determining the action to withdraw a team from competition when a member is diagnosed as having an infectious disease.

Section 18 60% State Competition Rule

All NJSIAA tournament team entry forms must reflect competition to no less than 60% with New Jersey schools. If a team does not meet the criteria by the cut-off date, with the exception of football which will be based on a 10-game schedule throughout the season, it will forfeit its entry into the NJSIAA tournament.

Section 19 Specific Sports Regulations Penalties

To promote fairness in competition and the health and safety of student athletes, no NJSIAA member school will be eligible to participate in any NJSIAA Championship Tournament if it has violated the Specific Sports Regulations for the sport, involving the start of practice, the start and ending of the sport season and the maximum contests permitted during the regular season. The application of this standard is non-appealable.

SPECIFIC SPORT REGULATIONS

Notes:

1. A week is defined as from 12:01 A.M. Sunday to Saturday midnight.
2. A regularly scheduled game is one which has been contracted by mutual consent of the participating schools and approved by their respective Boards of Education and by the schools' Principals.
3. Member schools may schedule games or scrimmages with any school accredited by its regional accrediting agency and having athletic eligibility standards similar to the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association. Member schools may schedule regular season games or scrimmages with non-member schools, or with member schools of the New Jersey Association of Independent Schools; however, in such case, any waiver of the NJSIAA eligibility rules must be agreed upon and set forth in the contract. Under this section, competition is limited to teams (or individuals) whose participants are in the first year of post-high school matriculation. Waiver of NJSIAA eligibility rules will not be granted for sanctioned tournaments.

CL 1: Member schools may not compete with "club" teams. Competition is not permitted with teams composed of post-high school students (private schools, junior colleges, colleges) whose participants are beyond the first year of post-high matriculation or are beyond the first year since graduating from high school. All Independent Schools holding dual membership (NJSIAA and NJISAA) must adhere to all regulations provided for by the NJSIAA Constitution, Bylaws and Rules and Regulations and they may not be waived.

CL 2: A school is permitted to sponsor only one team at the varsity level. A and B teams at the varsity level are not permitted in any sports.

CL 3: All NJSIAA member school athletic teams are bound by NJSIAA rules. No member school may have any team that operates outside of NJSIAA's jurisdiction in any NJSIAA sanctioned sport.

4. Disqualification

- a. Any Student-Athlete or coach disqualified before, during or after an interscholastic event for unsportsmanlike and flagrant verbal or physical misconduct will be disqualified from the next two (2) regularly scheduled games/meets, with the exception of football which will carry a one (1) game disqualification, at that level of competition and all other game(s)/meet(s) in the interim at any level in addition to any other penalties which the NJSIAA or a league/conference may assess.

CL 1: Once a coach/player has been disqualified, NO appeals will be honored from the player, coach, official or any other party. Disqualification is a judgement call and officials must be certain the act warrants disqualification. All complaints against an official must be directed to the official's Chapter Secretary and the NJSIAA.

CL 2: Scrimmages are not considered part of the disqualification rule.

CL 3: The National Federation Rules do not permit a wrestler to continue to participate in a tournament if there is a flagrant disqualification. The NJSIAA rule requires a two-match sit-out. Even though the wrestler is not permitted to wrestle in the remainder of that tournament, said wrestler may fulfill the two-match disqualification, provided his team continues to wrestle in scheduled events.

CL 4: A second disqualification for an individual in any game/meet/match supersedes NFHS rules in this regard.

- b. A disqualified player or coach may not be present at any contest in that sport during the period of disqualification. Definition of not being present at the site means the disqualified player or coach is not to be present in the locker room, on the bus, on the sidelines, in the stands or site area before, during or after the game/meet.
 1. In team sports any player/coach in violation of this provision will be cause for forfeiture of those games during the period of disqualification.
 2. In individual sports the event or events in which the player previously participated while having been disqualified will be forfeited. The team will lose the highest points awarded in each event noted herein.
- c. Should a coach/player be disqualified from the final game/meet of the season, said disqualification will carry over to the next year in that sport. In the case of the Student-Athlete, the same degree of penalty shall apply if said athlete retains eligibility in that sport.
- d. Any player/coach disqualified a second time in single or multiple sports will have the penalty doubled (i.e., in football – disqualified for two (2) games; all other sports – four (4) games). Disqualifications will count for 365 days from the date of the first disqualification.
- e. Any player with two or more disqualifications in the current season, prior to the start of an NJSIAA tournament, will be ineligible to compete in said tournament.

- f. Any varsity team accumulating three or more player or coach disqualifications for flagrant unsportsmanlike conduct prior to the team's participation in an NJSIAA tournament will not be permitted to participate in same. Seeded teams will forfeit their right to compete if a disqualification limit is reached prior to the start of the tournament for the team.
- g. Single/multiple sports – on the third offense; players disqualified will be suspended indefinitely, and must apply, in writing, to the NJSIAA through the office of their Principal for reinstatement. Disqualifications will count for 365 days from the date of the first disqualification.
- h. Any coach disqualified a second time within 365 days from the date of the first disqualification will be required to appear before the Controversies Committee with the Principal and the Athletic Director.
- i. Any coach who is disqualified and/or has three or more players on a team disqualified during the course of the preceding school year must complete the NFHS Teaching and Modeling Behavior course. This course license must be obtained from NJSIAA with the course completion certificate due to NJSIAA within sixty (60) days of initial NJSIAA notification of the disqualification requirement.

CL 1: Coaches/players who do not fulfill their penalty in a sport at their present school will be disqualified for the same length of time in their subsequent coaching assignment/sport participation at another school.

CL 2: Seniors who are disqualified from their last game or next to last game will serve the penalty in a subsequent sports season according to the penalty provision of that subsequent sport. When seniors are disqualified from their last game of their high school careers, and are unable to fulfill the penalty, member schools are required to take proper administrative action to discipline the offending student.

CL 3: Seniors who quit a sport and have not fulfilled their penalty in that sport, must serve it in the new sport before beginning playing in the new sport.

Baseball

Section 1 Rules National Federation shall govern all NJSIAA games

Section 2 Start of Practice Provided for in Program Regulations, Section 6.

Section 3 Start of Regular Schedule Provided in Program Regulations, Section 8.

Section 4 End of Season Provided for in Program Regulations, Section 10.

Section 5 Transfers Please see the Modified COVID-19 Sports Regulations and Considerations.

Section 6 Maximum Games. Please see the Modified COVID-19 Sports Regulations and Considerations.

CL: Scrimmages during the regular season count toward the allowable number of games.

Basketball

Section 1 Rules National Federation edition of the Basketball Rules of the United States and Canada shall govern all NJSIAA games.

Section 2 Start of Practice Provided for in Program Regulations, Section 6.

Section 3 Start of Regular Schedule Provided in Program Regulations, Section 8.

Section 4 End of Season No interscholastic games may be played after the start of the State -Tournament.

Section 5 Transfers Please see the Modified COVID-19 Sports Regulations and Considerations.

Section 6 Scrimmages Please see the Modified COVID-19 Sports Regulations and Considerations.

Section 7 Games Per Week Please see the Modified COVID-19 Sports Regulations and Considerations.

Section 8 Maximum Games Please see the Modified COVID-19 Sports Regulations and Considerations.

Section 9 Quarters per Day, per Week Basketball player shall play no more than five (5) quarters during the same calendar day, with a maximum of fifteen (15) quarters per week. This would include freshman, sophomore, junior varsity, and varsity competition. If a school selected the four games per week option in Section 7 (above), no player's maximum quarters per week shall exceed twenty (20).

CL: Violations of this section result in ineligible participation and forfeiture of the game.

Bowling

Section 1 Rules US Bowling Congress Rules shall govern all NJSIAA games.

Section 2 Start of Practice Provided for in Program Regulations, Section 6.

Section 3 Start of Regular Schedule Provided for in Program Regulations, Section 8.

Section 4 End of Season Provided for in Program Regulations, Section 10.

Section 5 Transfers Please see the Modified COVID-19 Sports Regulations and Considerations

Fencing

Section 1 Rules United States Fencing Association Rules shall govern all NJSIAA meets.

Section 2 Start of Practice Provided for in Program Regulations, Section 6.

Section 3 Start of Regular Schedule Provided for in Program Regulations, Section 8.

Section 4 End of Season Provided for in Program Regulations, Section 10.

Section 5 Transfers Please see the Modified COVID-19 Sports Regulations and Considerations

Field Hockey

Section 1 Rules National Federation Rules shall govern all NJSIAA games.

Section 2 Start of Practice Provided for in Program Regulations, Section 6.

Section 3 Start of Regular Schedule Provided for in Program Regulations, Section 8.

Section 4 End of Season Provided for in Program Regulations, Section 10.

Section 5 Transfers Please see the Modified COVID-19 Sports Regulations and Considerations

Section 6 Scrimmages Please see the Modified COVID-19 Sports Regulations and Considerations

Section 7 Games Per Week Please see the Modified COVID-19 Sports Regulations and Considerations

Section 8 Maximum Games Please see the Modified COVID-19 Sports Regulations and Considerations.

Section 9 Halves Per Day A field hockey player shall play in no more than three (3) halves during the same calendar day. This would include freshman, sophomore, junior varsity and varsity competition. NOTE: Overtime periods are a continuation of the second half.

Football

Section 1 Rules National Federation Football Rules shall govern all NJSIAA games.

Section 2 Start of Practice Provided for in Program Regulations, Section 6.

Section 3 Start of Regular Schedule Provided for in Program Regulations, Section 8.

Section 4 End of Season Provided for in Program Regulations, Section 10.

Section 5 Transfers Please see the Modified COVID-19 Sports Regulations and Considerations

Section 6 Scrimmages Please see the Modified COVID-19 Sports Regulations and Considerations

Section 7 Games Per Nine Days, Per 24-Hour Period Please see the Modified COVID-19 Sports

Regulations and Considerations

Section 8 Maximum Games Please see the Modified COVID-19 Sports Regulations and Considerations.

Section 9 Postponed/Suspended Games Member schools must play a postponed game no later than Tuesday of the following week (Monday if either team is scheduled to play on the following Friday.) This rule also applies to suspended games which are to be continued according to Conference or NJSIAA procedures.

Section 10 Play-off Games Member schools may, with Executive Committee approval, play play-off games to break a tie for league or conference championships so long as the maximum number of games either school plays during that season does not exceed ten games, including the play-offs. Such play-off must be played no later than ten (10) days after Thanksgiving. This provision is not applicable to the NJSIAA Football Play-off resolution.

Section 11 Tie-Breaking Procedure During the regular season member schools must use the 25 yd. line in the Football Overtime Tie-Breaking Procedure when a scheduled varsity game ends in a tie. If a tie remains after each team has played three (3) series, the results will remain a tie. The procedure may be used at the sub-varsity level when approved by the schools/conference prior to the game.

Golf

Section 1 Rules The United States Golf Association Rules shall govern all NJSIAA matches. All matches must play summer rules and enforce stroke and distance for all lost balls for all matches. Coaches are encouraged to teach your players the proper use of a provisional ball in order to keep play moving.

Note 1: Concerning playing the ball down – Under extreme course conditions Coaches and/or Club Pros may make the recommendation to lift clean and place one club length, no closer to the hole. This recommendation may not be used to speed up the pace of play. This modification must be noted on the entry form each match. See Appendix 1, USGA Rules of Golf.

Note 2: In the extreme case a host course will not let a team use USGA Rule 27 concerning stroke and distance for lost balls and balls hit out of bounds, teams are required to do the following:

1. Download the NJSIAA Letter and get it signed by the Club Pro or Course Manager. A copy of this letter must be sent to the State Rules Interpreter and kept by the coach. This letter states that Course is forbidding the Varsity Golf team from playing by The USGA Rules of Golf concerning lost balls and balls out of bounds.
2. Out of bounds – Players must add a 2 stroke penalty and drop within two club lengths from the point the ball crossed the boundary (white) stakes lining the course. Lost ball – 2 stroke penalty – Drop a ball the nearest point where the ball was thought to have been lost.

This provision is to be used on a course by course basis only and is not to be adopted by a conference as a whole.

Section 2 Start of Practice Provided for in Program Regulations, Section 6.

Section 3 Start of Regular Schedule Provided for in Program Regulations, Section 8.

Section 4 End of Season Provided for in Program Regulations, Section 10.

Section 5 Transfers Please see the Modified COVID-19 Sports Regulations and Considerations

Section 6 Team A team shall consist of a minimum of four (4) players and a maximum of six (6) players.

Section 7 Match An interscholastic match shall consist of nine (9) holes; if a match is not completed, the winner will be based upon those holes completed by all players of the teams. If less than five (5) holes have been completed by the teams, the match will be replayed.

CL: The girls will use the same tee as the boys in State, Sectional, and Championship Tournaments. During the regular season, girls will use the next forward tee which includes all conference, county, etc. tournaments that take place during the regular season.

Section 8 Scoring

Type of play – Medal (stroke) Play

The winner of the match will be the team with the lowest total strokes for any 4 out of six players. In case of a tie each team will add their 5th lowest score to the team total, if still a tie, the 6th lowest score will be added to the team total. If both teams are tied after using 6 members, the team with the low medalist is the winner. If the low medalist is a tie, then the match is a tie.

Note: All conferences MUST play medal play to decide their teams' wins and losses.

Gymnastics

Section 1 Rules National Federation Girls Gymnastics Rules unless modified shall govern all NJSIAA meets.

Section 2 Start of Practice Provided for in Program Regulations, Section 6.

Section 3 Start of Regular Schedule Provided for in Program Regulations, Section 8.

Section 4 End of Season Provided for in Program Regulations, Section 10.

Section 5 Transfers Please see the Modified COVID-19 Sports Regulations and Considerations

Section 6 Meets Per Day A competitor shall not compete in more than one (1) meet during the same calendar day.

Section 7 Meets Per Week Please see the Modified COVID-19 Sports Regulations and Considerations

Section 8 Postponed Meets One postponed meet per week may be worked into the scheduling, but under no circumstances shall meets be held on three (3) consecutive days.

Section 9 Maximum Meets Please see the Modified COVID-19 Sports Regulations and Considerations.

Ice Hockey

Section 1 Rules National Federation Ice Hockey Rules, with the following exceptions, shall govern all NJSIAA games.

1. The game shall consist of three periods of 15 minutes. An exception may be allowed when participating out of state.
2. On a disqualification penalty, the player shall be put in the custody of the coach on the bench.
3. There shall be no overtime periods, except in playoffs, regular season tournaments, or when playing out of state.

CL: Overtime will be permitted during the regular season only when playing out of state for purposes of complying with the host state's rules.

1. There shall be no limit to non-playing personnel on the bench, but the coach is responsible and must suffer the penalty if any bench disturbance occurs.

Section 2 Start of Practice Provided for in Program Regulations, Section 6.

Section 3 Start of Regular Schedule Provided for in Program Regulations, Section 8.

Section 4 End of Season No interscholastic games at any level (sub-varsity or varsity) other than the NJSIAA Tournament may be played after the Saturday after completion of the preliminary round of the NJSIAA Tournament.

Section 5 Transfers Please see the Modified COVID-19 Sports Regulations and Considerations

Section 6 Scrimmages Please see the Modified COVID-19 Sports Regulations and Considerations

Section 7 Periods Per Day An ice hockey player shall play in no more than three (3) periods during the same calendar day, with a maximum of twelve (12) periods per week. If a school elects to play a four (4) game week an individual player may not exceed fifteen (15) periods. This would include any combination of sub-varsity and varsity competition. NOTE: Overtime periods are a continuation of the third period.

Section 8 Games Per Week Please see the Modified COVID-19 Sports Regulations and Considerations

Section 9 Maximum Games Please see the Modified COVID-19 Sports Regulations and Considerations.

Section 10 Play-offs A play-off series shall be of a single elimination type not to exceed eight (8) teams and limited to a maximum of three (3) games.

Section 11. Championship Eligibility. A student competing on an interscholastic ice hockey team must play as a member of his/her high school team in at least 50% of the school's total games to be eligible for the NJSIAA Championship Tournament.

CL: This means a student must play in at least 50% of the school's games up to and including the cut-off date while he/she was properly enrolled and eligible at said school according to NJSIAA regulations Extraordinary circumstances (i.e. injuries or participation on US National teams) will be reviewed on a case by case basis for the purposes of this clarification.

Boys Lacrosse

Section 1 Rules National Federation Boys Lacrosse Rules shall govern all NJSIAA games.

Section 2 Start of Practice Provided for in Program Regulations, Section 6.

Section 3 Start of Regular Schedule Provided for in Program Regulations, Section 8.

Section 4 End of Season Provided for in Program Regulations, Section 10.

Section 5 Transfers Please see the Modified COVID-19 Sports Regulations and Considerations

Section 6 Scrimmages Please see the Modified COVID-19 Sports Regulations and Considerations

Section 7 Games Per Week Please see the Modified COVID-19 Sports Regulations and Considerations

Section 8 Maximum Games Please see the Modified COVID-19 Sports Regulations and Considerations.

Section 9 Duration of Play A player shall play in no more than six (6) quarters during the same calendar day. This would include freshman, sophomore, junior varsity, and varsity competition.

Girls Lacrosse

Section 1 Rules United States Women Lacrosse Association Rules, endorsed by the NFHS, shall govern all NJSIAA games.

Section 2 Start of Practice Provided for in Program Regulations, Section 6.

Section 3 Start of Regular Schedule Provided for in Program Regulations, Section 8.

Section 4 End of Season Provided for in Program Regulations, Section 10.

Section 5 Transfers Please see the Modified COVID-19 Sports Regulations and Considerations

Section 6 Scrimmages Please see the Modified COVID-19 Sports Regulations and Considerations

Section 7 Games Per Week Please see the Modified COVID-19 Sports Regulations and Considerations

Section 8 Maximum Games Please see the Modified COVID-19 Sports Regulations and Considerations.

Section 9 Duration of Play A player shall play in no more than three (3) halves during the same calendar day. This would include freshman, sophomore, junior varsity, and varsity competition.

Skiing

Section 1 Rules NCAA Skiing Rules shall govern all NJSIAA meets with the following modifications for safety and scoring.

1. Meets shall consist of either the Giant Slalom (2 runs), or the Slalom (2 runs), and shall be so noted in the contract.
2. The order of team competition shall be determined by lot drawing. In tournament competition there shall be two (2) drawings; one for Giant Slalom, and one for Slalom, to determine the order of team competition.
3. A maximum of six (6) racers per team may compete in each meet.
4. Team scoring shall be based on a team's best four (4) finishers whose total time is reflected as a percentage of the first four (4) finishers in the meet.
5. It is required that all team members wear helmets for all practices and meets.

Section 2 Start of Practice Provided for in Program Regulations, Section 6.

Section 3 Start of Regular Schedule First week of January

Section 4 End of Season Provided for in Program Regulations, Section 10.

Section 5 Transfers Please see the Modified COVID-19 Sports Regulations and Considerations

Section 6 Scrimmages Please see the Modified COVID-19 Sports Regulations and Considerations

Section 7 Maximum Meets Please see the Modified COVID-19 Sports Regulations and Considerations.

Soccer

Section 1 Rules National Federation Soccer Rules shall govern all NJSIAA games.

Section 2 Start of Practice Provided for in Program Regulations, Section 6.

Section 3 Start of Regular Schedule Provided for in Program Regulations, Section 8.

Section 4 End of Season Provided for in Program Regulations, Section 10.

Section 5 Transfers Please see the Modified COVID-19 Sports Regulations and Considerations

Section 6 Scrimmages Please see the Modified COVID-19 Sports Regulations and Considerations

Section 7 Games Per Week Please see the Modified COVID-19 Sports Regulations and Considerations

Section 8 Halves Per Day A soccer player shall play in no more than three (3) halves during the same calendar day, with a maximum of nine (9) halves per week. If a school elects to play one four (4) game week, an individual may not exceed twelve (12) halves in that four-game week. This would include any combination of freshman, sophomore, junior varsity and varsity competition. NOTE: Overtime periods are a continuation of the second halve.

Section 9 Maximum Games Please see the Modified COVID-19 Sports Regulations and Considerations.

Section 10 Championship Eligibility A student competing on an interscholastic soccer team must play as a member of his/her high school team in at least 50% of the school's total games to be eligible for the NJSIAA Championship Tournament.

CL: This means a student must be eligible to play in at least 50% of the school's games up to and including cut-off date while he/she was properly enrolled and eligible at said school according to NJSIAA regulations. Extraordinary circumstances (i.e. injuries or participation on US National teams) will be reviewed on a case by case basis for the purposes of this clarification.

Softball

Section 1 Rules National Federation Softball Rules shall govern all NJSIAA games.

Section 2 Start of Practice Provided for in Program Regulations, Section 6.

Section 3 Start of Regular Schedule Provided for in Program Regulations, Section 8.

Section 4 End of Season Provided for in Program Regulations, Section 10.

Section 5 Transfers Please see the Modified COVID-19 Sports Regulations and Considerations

Section 6 Maximum Games Please see the Modified COVID-19 Sports Regulations and Considerations.

Section 7 Scrimmages Please see the Modified COVID-19 Sports Regulations and Considerations

Swimming

Section 1 Rules National Federation Swimming Rules shall govern all NJSIAA meets.

Section 2 Start of Practice Provided for in Program Regulations, Section 6.

Section 3 Start of Regular Schedule Provided for in Program Regulations, Section 8.

Section 4 End of Season Provided for in Program Regulations, Section 10.

Section 5 Transfers Please see the Modified COVID-19 Sports Regulations and Considerations

Section 6 Meets Per Week Please see the Modified COVID-19 Sports Regulations and Considerations

Section 7 Maximum Meets Please see the Modified COVID-19 Sports Regulations and Considerations.

Section 8 Championship Eligibility A student competing on an interscholastic swimming team must swim as a member of his/her high school team in at least 50% of the school's total meets (while he/she attends said school) to be eligible for the NJSIAA Championship Meet.

CL 1: This means a student must swim in at least 50% of the school's meets up to and including cut-off date while he/she was properly enrolled and eligible at said school according to NJSIAA regulations.

CL 2: Late entries will not be accepted as outlined in Program Regulations, Section 13.

CL 3: Once schools declare their swim teams as either separate boys, separate girls or combined/co-ed, those declared teams will remain as such during the state tournament classification process. As in regular season competition, combined/co-ed teams will be grouped with boys teams and not grouped with girls teams to determine classification group size. Boys teams and combined/co-ed teams will be classified together in their A, B, and C groups, according to the Northing System. Girls teams will be classified separately (without including combined/co-ed teams) in their A, B, and C Groups according to the Northing System.

Section 9 Officials

A minimum of three (3) NJSIAA registered officials is required for all championship swimming meets. Four (4) officials will be assigned to the sectional state semifinals and finals.

A minimum of two (2) NJSIAA registered officials shall be used for all other varsity meets.

Girls Tennis (Fall)

Section 1 Rules United States Tennis Association Rules shall govern all NJSIAA matches.

Section 2 Start of Practice Provided for in Program Regulations, Section 6.

Section 3 Start of Regular Schedule Provided for in Program Regulations, Section 8.

Section 4 End of Season Provided for in Program Regulations, Section 10.

Section 5 Transfers Please see the Modified COVID-19 Sports Regulations and Considerations

Section 6 Officials If officials are used for regular season varsity matches they must be registered with the NJSIAA.

Section 7 Equipment Only approved USTA tennis balls shall be used, and new tennis balls must be provided for each match.

Section 8 Meet An interscholastic meet shall consist of five matches: a First Singles match, a Second Singles match, a Third Singles match, a First Doubles match, and a Second Doubles match. The team winning the majority of the five matches shall be the winner of the meet. A school may not schedule or participate in more than one full meet at the end of a regular school day. Prior unfinished meet make-ups will be allowed.

Section 9 Match A match shall consist of the best of three sets. The player(s) winning two sets shall be the winner of the match.

1. Participation: No player shall play twice, i.e., a team shall consist of at least seven (7) players.
2. Line-up: Each coach shall establish his/her lineup in writing before the match begins. The coach is obligated to present his/her strongest lineup in proper order at the time and place the match is played. This means that the best player scheduled to play at this time must play 1st Singles, the next best 2nd Singles, and the third best 3rd Singles. From the remaining members of the squad, two doubles teams are to be selected with the stronger doubles combination playing 1st Doubles and the weaker playing 2nd Doubles.

3. Substitution: Substitutions will be permitted after the outcome of the meet has been decided; however, Article 1 shall still apply.
4. Interrupted Play: The continuation of interrupted play shall begin at the exact point it was discontinued with regard to score, the person serving, and the side of the court each player was on.
5. Forfeit: In case of injury to a player, the match shall be forfeited if the player cannot continue after fifteen (15) accumulative minutes.
6. Between Sets: Play shall be continuous from the first service to the completion of the match; except that a three (3) minute rest period shall be permitted between the first and second sets, and a ten (10) minute rest period shall be permitted between the second and third sets.
7. Coaches shall teach and demonstrate the ethics of tennis.
8. Tie-Breaker – Sets which reach a 6-6 score shall be decided by playing a 12 point tie-breaker.

Boys Tennis (Spring)

Section 1 Rules United States Tennis Association Rules shall govern all NJSIAA matches.

Section 2 Start of Practice Provided for in Program Regulations, Section 6.

Section 3 Start of Regular Schedule Provided for in Program Regulations, Section 8.

Section 4 End of Season Provided for in Program Regulations, Section 10.

Section 5 Transfers Please see the Modified COVID-19 Sports Regulations and Considerations

Sections 6 through 9 - Same as Girls Tennis.

Cross Country, Winter Track and Spring Track

Section 1 Rules National Federation Track and Field Rules, unless herein modified, shall govern all NJSIAA cross-country, winter track and spring track meets.

Section 2 Start of Practice Provided for in Program Regulations, Section 6.

Section 3 Start of Regular Schedule Provided for in Program Regulations, Section 8.

Cross Country:

Section 4 End of Season As provided for in Program Regulations, Section 10.

Section 5 Transfers Please see the Modified COVID-19 Sports Regulations and Considerations

Section 6 Meets Per Day A competitor shall not compete in more than one meet during the same calendar day.

CL: When there are multiple divisions in a meet on the same day at the same site, e.g., freshman, junior varsity, and/or varsity divisions, an athlete may compete in each of the divisions if the contestant does not violate National Federation Participation Rule, which limits the number of events in which a contestant may compete in a given meet, provided that the contestant does not compete more than once in the same event on that date.

Section 7 Meets Per Week Please see the Modified COVID-19 Sports Regulations and Considerations

Section 8 Postponed Meets One (1) postponed meet per week may be worked into the schedule, but under no circumstances may a student compete on three (3) consecutive days.

Section 9 Officials

It shall be required that at least three (3) NJSIAA registered track officials be used to officiate in any County, Conference, Invitational, Championship or NJSIAA meets involving four or more teams. Whenever possible, all officials in these meets should be registered.

In all dual and triangular Cross-Country Meets there shall be at least one (1) NJSIAA registered track official designated as the Starter-Referee.

In all dual and triangular Winter Track and Spring Track Meets there shall be at least two (2) NJSIAA registered track officials; one official to supervise Running Events and designated Meet Referee and/or Starter and/or Head Finish Judge; the other to supervise the Field Events and designated Head Field Judge.

Section 10 Jewelry Effective September 1, 2018, the NJSIAA will no longer adhere to the NFHS Rules and Regulations regarding watches, specifically NFHS Rule 4-6-5 Note #2. Watches will not be permitted at any NJSIAA regular season or post-season event.

Section 11 Standard Distances/Cross Country Unless Meet Directors for Open, Conference, and Championship meets have received NJSIAA approval to conduct meets at other distances, the standard distance shall be:

Freshman: 3500 meters

Junior Varsity or Novice: 5000 meters

Varsity: 5000 meters

Winter Track:

Section 4 End of Season As provided for in Program Regulations, Section 10.

Section 5 Transfers Please see the Modified COVID-19 Sports Regulations and Considerations

Sections 6 through 10 Same as Cross Country

Section 11 Number of Contestants

Dual Meet Competition: Each team shall be entitled to five (5) entries per event. NOTE: This will also apply to Spring Track.

Triangular Competition: Each team shall be entitled to four (4) entries per event.

Open, Conference and Championship Meets: Entries determined by sanctioning body or Meet Director.

Section 12 Standard Events – Boys As follows: 55 m, 55 m high hurdles (39 inch) 400 m, 800 m, 1600 m, 3200 m, 1600 m Relay, Shot Put, High Jump, and Pole Vault. Any variations must be by mutual consent and listed in the contract, or points shall be forfeited for departure from this rule. Open, Conference, and Championship meets must receive NJSIAA approval for departure from this rule.

Section 13 Standard Events – Girls As follows: 55 m, 55 m hurdles (33 inch), 400 m, 800 m, 1600 m, 3200 m, 1600 m Relay, Shot Put, High Jump and Pole Vault. Any variations must be by mutual consent and listed in the contract, or points shall be forfeited for departure from this rule. Open, Conference, and Championship meets must receive NJSIAA approval for departure from this rule.

Spring Track:

Section 4 End of Season As provided for in Program Regulations, Section 10.

Section 5 Transfers Please see the Modified COVID-19 Sports Regulations and Considerations

Sections 6 through 10 Same as Cross Country.

Section 11 Same as Winter Track.

Section 12 Standard Events – Boys As follows: 100 m, 200 m, 400 m, 800 m, 1600 m, 3200 m, 110 m high hurdles (39 inch), 400 m intermediate hurdles (36 inch), 1600 m Relay, Pole Vault, High Jump, Long Jump, Triple Jump, Discus, Shot Put, and Javelin (rubber tipped). Any variations must be by mutual consent and listed in the contract, or points shall be forfeited for departure from this rule. Open, Conference and Championship meets must receive NJSIAA approval for departure from this rule.

Attention: 400 m intermediate hurdles (36 inch) Hurdle Spacing

| No. of Hurdles | Hurdle Height | Starting Line to First Hurdle | Between Hurdles | Last Hurdle to Finish Line |
|----------------|---------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------|
| 10 | 36" | 45 m | 35 m | 40 m |

Section 13 Order of Events – Boys The order of events, unless agreed upon and listed in the contract, shall be: 110 m high hurdles (39 inch), 100 m, 1600 m, 400 m, 400 m intermediate hurdles (36 inch), 800 m, 200 m, 3200 m, 1600 m Relay.

Section 14 Standard Events – Girls As follows: 100 m, 200 m, 400 m, 400 m Relay (optional), 800 m, 1600 m, 3200 m, 100 m hurdles (33 inch), 400 m hurdles (30 inch), 1600 m Relay, High Jump, Long Jump, Triple Jump, Pole Vault, Discus, Shot Put, and Javelin (rubber tipped). Any variations must be by mutual consent and listed in the contract or points shall be forfeited for departure from this rule. Open, Conference, and Championship meets must receive NJSIAA approval for departure from this rule. State Championships will contest and score the triple jump and pole vault.

Section 15 Order of Events – Girls The order of events, unless agreed upon and listed in the contract, shall be: 100 m hurdles (33 inch), 100 m, 1600 m, 400 m, 400 m hurdles (30 inch), 800 m, 200 m, 3200 m, 1600 m Relay. If 400 m Relay, is included, the contract must also indicate the placement in the order of events.

Girls Volleyball (Fall)

Section 1 Rules National Federation Volleyball Rules shall govern all NJSIAA games.

CL: Tournaments (single or multiple days) will not be played using the three-out-of-five (3 of 5) match format. The two-out-of-three (2 of 3) match format may be modified as per Note 2 of Rule 1-2. Also, games may be modified requiring fewer points to win but not raised to require more points to win.

Section 2 Start of Practice Provided for in Program Regulations, Section 6.

Section 3 Start of Regular Season Provided for in Program Regulations, Section 8.

Section 4 End of Season Provided for Program Regulations, Section 10.

CL: Final championship for fall volleyball is the Tournament of Champions; therefore, matches can be played up to the finals of the TOC.

Section 5 Transfers Please see the Modified COVID-19 Sports Regulations and Considerations

Boys Volleyball (Spring)

Section 1 Rules National Federation Volleyball Rules shall govern all NJSIAA games.

CL: Tournaments (single or multiple days) will not be played using the three-out-of-five (3 of 5) match format. The two-out-of-three (2 of 3) match format may be modified as per Note 2 of Rule 1-2. Also, games may be modified requiring fewer points to win but not raised to require more points to win.

Section 2 Start of Practice Provided for in Program Regulations, Section 6.

Section 3 Start of Regular Season Provided for in Program Regulations, Section 8.

Section 4 End of Season Provided for in Program Regulations, Section 10.

Section 5 Transfers Please see the Modified COVID-19 Sports Regulations and Considerations

Wrestling

Section 1 Rules National Federation Wrestling Rules, unless modified herein, shall govern all NJSIAA meets.

Section 2 Start of Practice Provided for in Program Regulations, Section 6.

Section 3 Start of Regular Schedule Provided for in Program Regulations, Section 8.

Section 4 End of Season Provided for in Program Regulations, Section 10.

CL 1: No varsity meets, regular season or tournament, may be scheduled during or after the week of the District Tournament without NJSIAA approval unless said meet had been scheduled during the last week of the regular season and postponed.

CL 2: Junior varsity and/or freshman wrestlers may not compete in matches or tournaments during the weeks of the District and Region tournaments.

CL 3: No junior varsity or freshman matches or tournaments shall be permitted after the District tournament.

Section 5 Transfers Please see the Modified COVID-19 Sports Regulations and Considerations

Section 6 Scrimmages Please see the Modified COVID-19 Sports Regulations and Considerations

Section 7 Postponed Meets Any postponed meet may be added to the regular scheduling as noted in Section 8 Maximum Meets.

Section 8 Maximum Meets Please see the Modified COVID-19 Sports Regulations and Considerations.

Section 9 Weight Certification

See Wrestling Regular Season Regulations.

Weight Classes: 106, 113, 120, 126, 132, 138, 145, 152, 160, 170, 182, 195, 220, 285

Section 10 Weight Classification Each Match – A wrestler’s actual weight, minimum certified weight, and weight class at which the wrestler participated must be recorded in the team’s scorebook. If there is no scorebook the official will record final score on the Wrestling weigh in sheet(s) and these form(s) will become the official document(s) of the meet.

Section 11 Skin Infection/Contagious Disease Before being permitted to wrestle, any wrestler previously judged not fit to wrestle must present, at weigh in, the original NJSIAA skin lesion form signed by-an MD, DO, PA or APN, certifying that an exam took place pertaining to that condition within the last seven (7) days, clearing that contestant for competition.

CL: Before the dual/individual meet begins, the referee shall perform skin checks, or verify skin checks have been performed by a designated, on-site, meet appropriate health professional. NFHS Rule 3-1-4a; 3-1-5a.

Section 12 Equipment Headgear – It is mandatory that all wrestlers wear a protective headgear at all times during practice and while participating in a match.

Section 13 Disqualifications

1. Any player with more than two flagrant disqualifications in the current season, prior to the start of an NJSIAA tournament, will be ineligible to compete in said tournament.
2. Any varsity team accumulating more than two player and/or coach disqualifications for flagrant unsportsmanlike conduct prior to the start of a tournament will not be permitted to participate in same. Seeded teams will forfeit their right to compete if a disqualification limit is reached prior to the start of the tournament for the team.

CL: Teams with more than two flagrant disqualifications cannot win a District Team Championship Title.

NJSIAA IMPOSED FINES

The following fines may be imposed by the NJSIAA Staff:

| Description | Amount |
|--------------------------------------|--------|
| General: | |
| Disqualified Coach | \$100 |
| Classifications (1) | \$150 |
| Tournament entry (2) | \$150 |
| Tournament refusal after deadline | \$150 |
| Tournament refusal after seeding (3) | \$300 |
| Sports Specific: | |
| Late Entry/Day of Entry (4) | \$150 |
| Timely reporting of results (5) | \$150 |
| Event no-show (6) | \$150 |

General:

- (1) Updates to classifications after deadline per season (Fall Aug. 1st, Winter Nov. 1st, Spring Mar. 1st)
- (2) Seeding with outstanding membership requirements or outstanding invoices > 90+ days past due.
- (3) Additionally disqualified from next year’s tournament.

Sports Specific:

- (4) Cross Country, Winter Track and Spring Track tournament regulations. Fine is assessed per B/G team.
- (5) Results reporting requirements per the Wrestling and B/G Swimming tournament regulations.
- (6) B/G Tennis and B/G Bowling additionally disqualified from next year’s tournament.

Annually, the Finance Committee will review the fines collected and approve the amounts to be contributed to the annual scholar athlete scholarship account.