

Official Handbook
82nd edition, July 2010



**2010-11 MSHSAA
Official Handbook**

Constitution
By-Laws
Questions and Answers
Board of Directors Policies

STANDARDIZED CALENDAR FOR SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS SEASONS

WEEK NO.	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	Seasonal Allowances
1	7/4—7/10	7/3—7/9	7/1—7/7	7/7—7/13	
2	7/11—7/17	7/10—7/16	7/8—7/14	7/14—7/20	
3	7/18—7/24	7/17—7/23	7/15—7/21	7/21—7/27	
4	7/25—7/31	7/24—7/30	7/22—7/28	7/28—8/3	
5	8/1—8/7	7/31—8/6	7/29—8/4	8/4—8/10	
6	8/8—8/14	8/7—8/13	8/5—8/11	8/11—8/17	Monday-First Practice Fall Season and Boys Swimming
7	8/15—8/21	8/14—8/20	8/12—8/18	8/18—8/24	Monday-First Possible Practice Jr. High Sports
8	8/22—8/28	8/21—8/27	8/19—8/25	8/25—8/31	(See Below)
Monday of week 8 - First Possible Contest in Fall Baseball, Girls Golf, Girls Tennis, and Fall Softball					
Friday of week 8 - First Possible Contest in Football, Cross Country, Girls Volleyball, Boys Soccer, and Boys Swimming					
9	8/29—9/4	8/28—9/3	8/26—9/1	9/1—9/7	
10	9/5—9/11	9/4—9/10	9/2—9/8	9/8—9/14	
11	9/12—9/18	9/11—9/17	9/9—9/15	9/15—9/21	
12	9/19—9/25	9/18—9/24	9/16—9/22	9/22—9/28	
13	9/26—10/2	9/25—10/1	9/23—9/29	9/29—10/5	
14	10/3—10/9	10/2—10/8	9/30—10/6	10/6—10/12	
15	10/10—10/16	10/9—10/15	10/7—10/13	10/13—10/19	
16	10/17—10/23	10/16—10/22	10/14—10/20	10/20—10/26	
17	10/24—10/30	10/23—10/29	10/21—10/27	10/27—11/2	
18	10/31—11/6	10/30—11/5	10/28—11/3	11/3—11/9	Monday-First Practice Wrestling Season
19	11/7—11/13	11/6—11/12	11/4—11/10	11/10—11/16	Monday-First Practice Basketball Season
20	11/14—11/20	11/13—11/19	11/11—11/17	11/17—11/23	Saturday-Last Contest Boys Swimming Monday-First Practice Girls Swimming
21	11/21—11/27*	11/20—11/26*	11/18—11/24*	11/24—11/30	Monday-First Contest Wrestling and Basketball Seasons
22	11/28—12/4	11/27—12/3	11/25—12/1	12/1—12/7	Sunday-Last Contest Fall Season
23	12/5—12/11	12/4—12/10	12/2—12/8	12/8—12/14	Monday-First Contest Girls Swimming
24	12/12—12/18	12/11—12/17	12/9—12/15	12/15—12/21	
25	12/19—12/25	12/18—12/24	12/16—12/22	12/22—12/28	
26	12/26—1/1	12/25—12/31	12/23—12/29	12/29—1/4	
27	1/2—1/8	1/1—1/7	12/30—1/5	1/5—1/11	
28	1/9—1/15	1/8—1/14	1/6—1/12	1/12—1/18	
29	1/16—1/22	1/15—1/21	1/13—1/19	1/19—1/25	
30	1/23—1/29	1/22—1/28	1/20—1/26	1/26—2/1	
31	1/30—2/5	1/29—2/4	1/27—2/2	2/2—2/8	
32	2/6—2/12	2/5—2/11	2/3—2/9	2/9—2/15	
33	2/13—2/19	2/12—2/18	2/10—2/16	2/16—2/22	Saturday-Last Contest Girls Swimming
34	2/20—2/26	2/19—2/25	2/17—2/23	2/23—3/1	Monday-First Practice Spring Season
35	2/27—3/5	2/26—3/3	2/24—3/2	3/2—3/8	
36	3/6—3/12	3/4—3/10	3/3—3/9	3/9—3/15	
37	3/13—3/19	3/11—3/17	3/10—3/16	3/16—3/22	Friday-First Contest Spring Season
38	3/20—3/26	3/18—3/24	3/17—3/23	3/23—3/29	Saturday-Last Contest Wrestling and Basketball Seasons
39	3/27—4/2	3/25—3/31	3/24—3/30	3/30—4/5	
40	4/3—4/9	4/1—4/7	3/31—4/6	4/6—4/12	
41	4/10—4/16	4/8—4/14	4/7—4/13	4/13—4/19	
42	4/17—4/23	4/15—4/21	4/14—4/20	4/20—4/26	
43	4/24—4/30	4/22—4/28	4/21—4/27	4/27—5/3	
44	5/1—5/7	4/29—5/5	4/28—5/4	5/4—5/10	
45	5/8—5/14	5/6—5/12	5/5—5/11	5/11—5/17	
46	5/15—5/21	5/13—5/19	5/12—5/18	5/18—5/24	Spring Season Ends on Last Day of School
47	5/22—5/28	5/20—5/26	5/19—5/25	5/25—5/31	Except for State Tournament Contests
48	5/29—6/4	5/27—6/2	5/26—6/1	6/1—6/7	
49	6/5—6/11	6/3—6/9	6/2—6/8	6/8—6/14	
50	6/12—6/18	6/10—6/16	6/9—6/15	6/15—6/21	
51	6/19—6/25	6/17—6/23	6/16—6/22	6/22—6/28	
52	6/26—7/2	6/24—6/30	6/23—6/29	6/29—7/5	

Note: A calendar week begins with Sunday and ends the following Saturday. (The first week of the standardized calendar is always the first full week of July beginning on Sunday through Saturday.)

*Thanksgiving Week



2010-2011 Official Handbook

of the
Missouri State High School
Activities Association

Member,
National Federation of State
High School Associations



CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS, HISTORY, PROJECTED EVENTS, CALENDAR,
PHILOSOPHY, QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS, MEMBERSHIP LISTING,
PARTICIPATION SURVEY, BOARD OF DIRECTORS' POLICIES

July 2010

Dr. Kerwin Urhahn, MSHSAA Executive Director

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MSHSAA Board of Directors



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Term Expires July, 2011



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Term Expires July, 2011



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Term Expires July, 2012



DON MAURER, MICDS
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Term Expires July, 2013



MARK BEEM, Skyline
Central District
Term Expires July, 2013



PAUL KINDER, Blue Springs R-IV Schools
Kansas City District
Term Expires July, 2014



DENNIS LOTTMANN, Union
South Central District
Term Expires July, 2014

MSHSAA Executive Staff

Dr. Kerwin Urhahn, Executive Director

Harvey Richards, Associate Executive Director **Stacy Schroeder, Associate Executive Director**

Davine Davis, Assistant Executive Director; Kevin Garner, Assistant Executive Director; Craig Long, Chief Financial Officer;
Greg Stahl, Assistant Executive Director; Tim Thompson, Assistant Executive Director; Jason West, Communications Director;
Janie Barck, Administrative Assistant

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SUMMARY OF CHANGES TO THE
MSHSAA CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS
FOR THE 2010-2011 SCHOOL YEAR

Following is a summary of changes to the MSHSAA By-Laws adopted by a vote of member schools on the **2010 ANNUAL BALLOT**. All amendments became **EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2010** with the **exception of Numbers 5, 6, 11, 14, and 18 which shall become EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY**.

Note: New wording within the Handbook is underlined, and areas of emphasis are in bold text. Diagrams are included for informational and reference purposes only and are not part of the by-laws they serve to summarize.

1. **Article III** (Classification of Membership) -- Amends Article III, Section 2, of the Membership section of the MSHSAA Constitution, to clarify the options that schools have in regard to junior high and high school memberships within the MSHSAA structure.
2. **Article III** (Classification of Membership) -- Amends Article III, Section 2, of the Membership section of the MSHSAA Constitution, to indicate that a school that includes grades seven through twelve under the supervision of the high school principal could elect to split their membership for grades 7-8 and grades 9-12 in any combination of membership and Affiliate Registered status.
3. **Article III** (Affiliate Registered Schools) -- Amends the MSHSAA Constitution to include Article III, Sections 6, 7 and 8, regarding the Affiliate Registered School (ARS) category on a permanent basis rather than on a trial basis.
4. **By-Law 107** (Junior High School Cooperative Sponsorships) -- Amends By-Law 107 to allow Affiliate Registered Schools to cooperatively sponsor a sport or activity with one or more member schools at the junior high level under certain conditions.
5. **By-Law 108** (Summertime Dead Period) -- Amends By-Law 108 to allow schools to set different dead periods for athletic and non-athletic activities.
6. **By-Law 108** (Summertime Dead Period) -- Amends By-Law 108 to indicate that bona fide credit-bearing summer school courses taught by certified teachers in their curricular areas be exempt from the 'use of school facilities' restriction if held during the dead period.
7. **By-Laws 121, 140, 150, and new 130** -- Amends By-Laws 121 (Athletics), 140 (Music), 150 (Cheer, Dance) and add new By-Law 130 (Speech and Scholar Bowl), to indicate that all coaches and directors must be approved by MSHSAA prior to instructing students, and that violations of MSHSAA by-laws, rules or regulations may cause the Board of Directors to withhold "approved" status.
8. **By-Laws 128, 129, 152, 430, and 550** -- Deletes By-Law 128, Part II Exams, and amends the various by-laws regarding Rules Meetings, in order to remove the requirement for Part II exams for coaches and to modify the rules meeting wording to allow for the new MSHSAA Online Rules Reviews.
9. **By-Law 218** (Assumed Name) -- Amends By-Law 218 to indicate the penalty for the violation of this by-law.
10. **By-Law 213** (Academic Standards) -- Amends By-Law 213 to indicate that "extra classes" taken beyond the normal school day that are offered by the school for school credit may be used toward academic eligibility.
11. **By-Laws 231, 235, and 237** -- Amends By-Law 231 (Amateur and Award Requirements), and By-Laws 235 and 237 (regarding camps and clinics), to allow students to provide lessons or instruction in their sport without jeopardizing amateur standing.
12. **By-Laws 231, 250, 260, 270, 280, and 290** -- Amends By-Law 231 (Amateur and Award Requirements), and the applicable non-athletic activity by-laws to indicate that interscholastic participants shall not represent the school (appearing in school uniform, school-named clothing, at school facilities, or with mascot/school colors) to endorse or

promote a product/service, commercial venture, political venture, etc. without prior, written consent by a school administrator. If consent is given, any applicable award restrictions must be met.

13. **By-Law 236** (All-Star Participation) -- Amends By-Law 236.4 to clearly indicate that senior students, once eligibility in a certain sport is exhausted, may participate in one all-star contest prior to summertime in that sport, under certain conditions.
14. **By-Law 237** (Sport Participation and Contact During the Summer) -- Amends By-Law 237 to set in place definitions and limits in regard to school-directed football activities, body-to-body contact, and school equipment.
15. **By-Law 238** (Hardship Transfer Exception) -- Amends By-Law 238.3-a-8 to allow certain specified military officers to, upon arrival, have the option to send their children to either the school of residence, or any contiguous school district, without eligibility ramifications.
16. **By-Law 301** (Definition of Practice) -- Amends By-Law 301.0-a to better express the limitations and allowances of practices.
17. **By-Law 302** (Alumni Games and Students Versus Faculty Games) -- Amends By-Law 302 to include additional terms and conditions for students versus faculty contests.
18. **By-Laws 306 and 237** -- Amends the All-Star Contest language in By-Law 306, and accompanying language in By-Law 237 (Summer Contact), to allow participants to use school equipment in All-Star Contests, under certain conditions.
19. **By-Law 311** (Tournament, Meet, and Multiple-Game Event Sanction Regulations) -- Amends By-Law 311 by eliminating wording in regard to coaches awards.
20. **By-Law 312** (District and State Tournaments) -- Amends By-Law 312 to indicate that the 1.35% enrollment multiplier would be applied to any school that has the ability to limit its enrollment through selectivity and/or is exempt from Missouri School Improvement Program (MSIP) guidelines.
21. **By-Law 353** (Football Required Conditioning) -- Amends By-Law 353 to allow for limited hand-to-chest contact during the first three days of practice.
22. **By-Law 355** (Football Pre-Season Inter-School Scrimmage) -- Amends By-Law 355 to eliminate the requirements for schools to register the scrimmages with the MSHSAA office and to submit 20% of gross revenues.
23. **By-Law 540** (Speech Season Limits) -- Amends By-Law 540 to indicate that no senior high school interscholastic debate, dramatics, or speech events shall be held before the second Friday in October or later than April 1, other than the allowances listed.
24. **New By-Law 700** (Emerging Activities) -- Amends the by-laws to add new By-Law 700, which would define and outline oversight of “emerging activities” and “provisionally interscholastic” activities. All by-law references to the sports and activities that currently have less than 50 schools registered have been removed, and these activities will be covered solely in this by-law.
25. **By-Law 1122** (Appeals Committee Membership) -- Amends By-Law 1122, in regard to size, eligibility, and terms of members on the MSHSAA Appeals Committee.

Note: New wording within the Handbook is underlined, and areas of emphasis are in bold text. Diagrams are included for informational and reference purposes only and are not part of the by-laws they serve to summarize.

HISTORY OF THE ASSOCIATION

Missouri was late in forming a state high school association. Only three states, exclusive of Alaska and Hawaii, formed associations later. Much had preceded the initiating of an association in Missouri. Schools had formed conferences or leagues and conference agreements governing eligibility and regulations of interscholastic events had been adopted. Most of these steps were taken in an attempt to control abuses that were creeping into the interscholastic program.

The following excerpt is taken from a "History of the Association" prepared by Mr. Carl Burris, first secretary of the Missouri State High School Athletic Association, which appeared in the first Official MSHSAA Handbook published in 1927:

"The formation of a State High School Athletic Association had been in the minds of many school men prior to 1925. The writer does not know if any attempts had been made to get a meeting in which all sections of the state were represented but several individuals had given some attention to getting the matter before the State in a general way. At least one high school Principal sent circular letters to high schools in the state in 1925. Were it possible to mention all names of men who did the promotion work we would gladly do so. That would be our honor roll. Since the list would be incomplete, because of lack of information, it is better to pass on to definite things. This much is known, Missouri was late in forming a State Athletic Association. Our neighboring states were ahead of us. They pioneered and we profited by their experiences.

On November 13, 1925, a group of representatives from Missouri high schools had a meeting in the Hotel Statler, St. Louis. A temporary organization was made and a constitutional convention called to meet in St. Louis on December 12, 1925. Many district, county or city organizations were represented at the December meeting. The following men formed the constitution in its original form:

W. T. Doherty, Cape Girardeau	D. W. Hopkins, St. Joseph	H. R. Shepherd, Kansas City
C. C. Conrad, Charleston	Uel W. Lampkin, Maryville	Coach G. Henry, Columbia
Dr. H. S. Curtis, Jefferson City	J. D. Deaton, Butler	W. F. Byers, Carthage
T. C. Reid, Warrensburg	H. N. McCall, Cartersville	O. G. Sanford, Trenton
C. O. Williams, Jefferson City	Carl Burris, Clayton	

Seven hours were used in discussion and voting before the constitution was completed. The Board of Control as elected at the meeting on December 12 was the same as is now serving the State Association.

As provided in the original constitution the acceptance or rejection of that document was left to the decision of the Superintendents in Columbia, on February 3 and 4, 1926. On February 4, 1926 the constitution was adopted by them without opposition. Vandalia High School was the first school to join the Association."

The records show that 472 schools joined the association by the close of the 1926-27 school year. The report also states, "Athletic relations have been somewhat unified. It is believed that they have been raised generally to a higher plane through uniform eligibility rules which have been conscientiously followed."

Until 1948, the MSHSAA was an athletic association. In the annual election of that year, the name was officially changed to Missouri State High School Activities Association, effective September 1, 1949. Provision was made in the Constitution to allow other contest areas to be included as a part of the association program.

An amendment to include music, voted on in March 1949, failed to carry the necessary two-thirds majority and lost by a vote of 276 to 143.

In the annual November 1950 election, Article IX to include music in the MSHSAA program was approved by a vote of 313 to 124. An amendment to provide supervision over debate under Article X was also adopted in the same election by a vote of 307 to 121. The latter was again amended in 1959 to apply to all speech activities, effective with the 1960 contests.

The MSHSAA, like the state high school associations in other states, has experienced an evolutionary growth. Attention was first given to the control of abuses and regulation of activities. This emphasis was later to change to the giving of consideration to the formulation of standards to guide interscholastic programs. The Board of Control in 1956 adopted a long range, comprehensive program to improve high school activities as a means of better educating boys and girls. Procedures and techniques to implement the program have been developed as a continuous part of the MSHSAA program. In 1987-88 the Board of Control was renamed as the Board of Directors to more accurately reflect this body's purposes to guide and direct the interscholastic activities programs.

MSHSAA was first housed with MSTA. In 1970 the member schools approved the building of an office in Columbia with 13,000 square feet. In 2001 the offices were moved to a new building constructed for the MSHSAA totaling 26,000 square feet. MSHSAA continues to have Columbia as its home base.

This is a brief historical sketch of the Missouri State High School Activities Association. In its final analysis it is an organization of schools through which they work cooperatively in formulating standards that help ensure that the interscholastic activities will remain an integral part of the total secondary educational program.

THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF STATE HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS

The National Federation consists of the fifty individual state high school athletic and/or activities associations and the association of the District of Columbia. These associations have united to secure the benefits of cooperative action which eliminate unnecessary duplication of effort and which increase efficiency through the pooling and coordinating of ideas of all who are engaged in the administration of high school athletic and activities programs.

The national organization had its beginning in a meeting at Chicago on May 14, 1920. L.W. Smith, secretary of the Illinois High School Athletic Association, issued invitations to neighboring states and state association representatives came from Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan and Wisconsin. The primary purpose of the meeting was to discuss problems which had resulted from high school contests which were organized by colleges and universities or by other clubs or promoters. In many cases, little attention was paid to the eligibility rules of the high school associations or to other school group regulations and chaotic conditions had developed. At this first meeting it was decided that the welfare of the high schools required a more active part in the control of such athletic activities be exercised by the high schools through the state associations, and this control necessitated the formation of a national organization. A Constitution and By-Laws were adopted and the group decided on the name "Midwest Federation of State High School Athletic Associations." Principal George Edward Marshall, Davenport, Iowa, was elected president and Principal L.W. Smith of Joliet, Illinois, was elected secretary-treasurer.

In 1921, four states, Illinois, Iowa, Michigan, and Wisconsin continued their interest and became charter members through formal ratification of the Constitution. Largely due to their efforts the national organization grew during the early years.

In 1922, the Chicago annual meeting was attended by representatives from 11 states, and the name of the National Federation of State High School Athletic Associations was adopted. A number of college and university representatives who attended the meeting expressed sympathy for and interest in the efforts to introduce a high degree of order in the regulation of interscholastic contests. (Missouri joined the National Federation in 1926.)

Since that time, the National Federation has had healthy growth to its present nationwide membership. By 1940, a national office with a full-time executive staff became necessary and such office was established in September of that year. The current Executive Director of the National Federation is Robert Gardner and the office is located in Indianapolis, Indiana.

MISSION STATEMENT OF THE MISSOURI STATE HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

The following Mission Statement was adopted by the membership in the 1994 Annual Election: "MSHSAA promotes the value of participation, sportsmanship, team play, and personal excellence to develop citizens who make positive contributions to their community and support the democratic principles of our state and nation."

MSHSAA CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

The Constitution and By-Laws have been adopted by the MSHSAA member schools to define the operation and organization of the unincorporated, voluntary, private, not for profit association. Delegation of authority is defined as well as the essential requirements for membership, participation and all minimum and maximum requirements for schools and students. The Constitution and By-Laws apply to MSHSAA member schools and the bona fide students of the member schools.

CONSTITUTION

OF THE
MISSOURI STATE HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

ARTICLE I: NAME

Section 1: NAME

The name of this Association shall be The Missouri State High School Activities Association.

ARTICLE II: PHILOSOPHY AND OBJECTIVES

Section 1: PHILOSOPHY

Interscholastic activities are an integral part which complements the secondary curricular program. This program shall provide educational and social experiences for the students and school community which result in positive learner outcomes contributing to the development of good citizenship, sportsmanship and equitable competition.

Section 2: GENERAL OBJECTIVE

The Missouri State High School Activities Association is a voluntary, nonprofit, educational association of secondary schools established for the purpose of working collaboratively to develop and adopt standards of supervision and administration to regulate the diverse interscholastic activities and contests which are delegated by the member schools to the jurisdiction of the Association.

Section 3: SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

Stated more specifically, the objectives of the Association include:

- a. To ensure that interscholastic activities shall supplement the curricular program of the school to provide opportunities for youth to acquire worthwhile knowledge, skills and emotional patterns.
- b. To promote the educational values inherent in interscholastic activities which will contribute to the accepted aims of education.
- c. To develop standards for the approval and direction of interscholastic activities and contests.
- d. To formulate minimum uniform and equitable standards of eligibility that must be met by students to attain the privilege of representing their schools in interscholastic activities.
- e. To develop standards to be met by schools participating in interscholastic activities under the sponsorship of the Association.
- f. To avoid interference with the educational program of the school and to prevent exploitation of high school youth and the programs of member schools by special interest groups.

- g. To foster a cooperative spirit and good sportsmanship on the part of school representatives, school patrons, and students.
- h. To provide means of evaluating and controlling local, state, and national contests affecting secondary schools initiated by firms, organizations, and institutions outside organized educational agencies.
- i. To develop standards of officiating and adjudicating to ensure greater statewide consistency and quality.

ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP AND AFFILIATE REGISTERED SCHOOLS

Section 1: REQUIREMENTS FOR MEMBERSHIP

The membership of this Association shall be comprised of such Missouri schools, as defined below, enrolling grades of secondary rank, including any combination of grades 7-12, and such members may be required to make payment of an annual service fee to this Association. The request for membership and payment of the service fee shall be approved by the public school board of education, or by the governing body of the parochial or private school, thereby, certifying its adoption of the standards and regulations contained in the Constitution and By-Laws of this Association and the responsibility for upholding them.

School definition: A school is an administrative unit dedicated to and designed to impart skills and knowledge to students. A school is organized to efficiently deliver sequential instruction from multiple teachers to students who report to a common location. A school is housed in one or more buildings.

A school:

- a. Provides or directly supervises the educational services received by all students who are enrolled in one or more grade groups
- b. Implements a curriculum and tracks attendance and instructional time
- c. Has an assigned, appropriately-credentialed administrator/principal responsible for all aspects of school administration including supervision, personnel actions and evaluation of staff, fiscal responsibility, student discipline and safety, supervision and evaluation of curriculum, assessment of academic achievement and school accountability, with access to and responsibility for maintaining official student records for all enrolled students; responsible for its day-to-day operation.
- d. Has multiple appropriately-credentialed teachers to provide instruction
- e. Has five or more enrolled students that are unrelated
- f. Is authorized by action of and operated under the oversight of a Board of Education or Governing Board

Any public school special education program for the handicapped, organized as a unit under an administrator, approved by the Missouri State Department of Education, which, though un-graded, enrolls pupils of equivalent chronological age, likewise, may become a member. A charter school recognized by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education is eligible to become a member provided all other requirements for membership within the Constitution and By-Laws are met. An elementary school organized under an administrator may hold a membership for its seventh and eighth grades. The Missouri School for the Deaf and the Missouri School for the Blind may become members of this Association.

Private and parochial schools must be accredited by the University of Missouri, the Missouri State Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, or an accrediting association whose member schools are accepted by the Missouri State Department of Elementary and Secondary Education as meeting the teaching experience requirements for teacher certification.

RELATED QUESTION(S) AND ANSWER(S) BELOW

Q1: *Our school is considering becoming a member of MSHSAA. Our school is a private school with about 100 plus students in grades 9-12. Currently, our school is not accredited. Our governing board recognizes the need for minimum standards and criteria necessary for a school to meet to be a member. What accrediting organizations are recognized for this purpose so we can be certain we are pursuing a good educational course for our school which will also allow MSHSAA membership?*

A1: The following organizations are recognized as they each meet the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education teaching experience requirements. If your school is accredited by any of these four organizations it is eligible for membership.

- 1. North Central Accrediting Association or dual accreditation with North Central and Association of Christian Schools International,
- 2. National Federation of Non-public School Accrediting Association,

3. Independent Schools Association of Central States (Regional member of National Association of Independent Schools),
 4. National Lutheran Schools Accreditation Association.
- Q2.** Is a home school association (a support organization and/or a consortium of home schooling families that work to provide curriculum and/or support for the home schooling process) eligible to become an Affiliate Registered School?
- A2.** No. Member schools and Affiliate Registered Schools must be “schools” as per Article III, Section 1. A school must have only bona fide students which are defined as being enrolled and regularly attending classes at that member or affiliate registered school. An association of home schooling families, in contrast, is a group of persons banded together for a specific purpose, but is not a “school.”

Section 2: CLASSIFICATION OF MEMBERSHIP

a. Definitions:

1. The term, “secondary school” or “school of secondary rank,” in this Constitution shall mean any school organized as an administrative unit under a principal or superintendent that is comprised of grades 7 through 12, or any combination thereof that includes at least one grade above the eighth grade.
2. A “junior high school” is a school comprised of any combination of grades 7 through 9 and that functions as an administrative unit under a school principal.
3. A “high school” or “senior high school” shall be considered as an administrative unit including at least one grade above the 10th grade.

b. Membership Options:

1. Seventh, eighth, and/or ninth grades under the supervision of a **junior high school principal** may select one of the following membership structures:
 - (a) **Junior High Membership:** If a junior high school holds a membership separate from the high school, it shall have a vote on all Association matters and shall receive official mailings from the MSHSAA office.
 - (b) **Combined Membership with the High School:** If any, or all, of these grades are included with the high school membership, it shall not have an additional vote on MSHSAA matters and will not receive separate official MSHSAA mailings.
2. Seventh, eighth and/or ninth grades included under the supervision of the **high school principal** may not elect to hold a **membership** separate from the high school, but may elect to become an Affiliate Registered School for grades seven and eight only, as outlined in Articles 6, 7, and 8.
3. Schools with any combination of grades nine through twelve may select one of the following membership structures:
 - (a) **Separate High School Membership**
 - (b) **Combined Membership with one junior high school within its school district**

- c. **Intra-School-District Junior High Cooperative Sponsorships:** The seventh and eighth grades from two or more elementary, middle or junior high schools within a school district may be combined to cooperatively sponsor interschool activities with the approval of the Board of Directors provided all schools are members of MSHSAA and provided such is necessary to have a sufficient number of students, based upon the individual school’s student enrollment, to support a program and will result in increasing opportunities for students to participate.

RELATED QUESTION(S) AND ANSWER(S) BELOW

- Q1:** *Our middle school is a combination of 6th and 7th grade students. Are the 6th grade students eligible to represent our school with the 7th graders in music activities?*
- A1:** No. MSHSAA is comprised of schools enrolling any combination of grades 7-12; therefore 6th grade students are not eligible to represent their school in the MSHSAA activities of music, speech, cheer, dance, scholar bowl or athletics.
- Q2:** *Our middle school, comprised of 7th and 8th grade students, is not a member of MSHSAA; however our high school is a registered member. We have 8th grade students that take some advanced courses at the high school and are also enrolled in the high school music program. The grades received from the high school courses are placed on the students 8th grade transcript. Are these students eligible to represent our high school in music activities?*
- A2:** No. The middle school has not registered as a member of MSHSAA and the students are, therefore, not able to represent their school in MSHSAA music activities individually or in combination with the high school students. This restriction would be in place for all sports and activities (i.e. music, speech and debate, cheer, dance, and scholar bowl) as well.
- Q3:** *Our school district is opening a new high school with 9th grade students only in the first year of existence. The school will add a grade each subsequent year until the school is a full senior high with grades 9 through 12. Can this new school join MSHSAA as a “high school” or must they join as a “junior high school?”*

- A3:** As a new, emerging school with the intention of adding a grade each subsequent school year, this new school must join MSHSAA as a "high school." (See also Board Policy on Determining the Enrollment of a New High School for the Purpose of Classification.)
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Section 3: SUSPENSION OF MEMBERSHIP

Any member school found guilty of violating any provision of this Constitution and By-Laws may be suspended from this Association for not more than 365 days by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

Section 4: DELINQUENT FEES, FINES, AND/OR REPORTS

A school which has failed to file with the Executive Director its required annual or season reports as required by the Board of Directors, or failed to pay any of its fees or fines for the preceding year by or before August 1, is automatically suspended from membership, but may be reinstated upon the filing of the delinquent report or payment of the delinquent fees plus a penalty of \$10.00 per report due.

Section 5: ANNUAL RENEWAL OF MEMBERSHIP

- a. Each member school shall renew its membership with MSHSAA annually. Directions for renewal of membership and activity registration will be provided to schools via mail, fax or an electronic means. Renewal must be completed no later than June 10 of each year. Late fees will accrue after this date.
 - b. Any school that has not renewed its membership by June 10 is automatically suspended.
-

Section 6: AFFILIATE REGISTERED SCHOOL

A school, as defined in Article III, Section 1, which is not a member of MSHSAA in grades 7-12 or any combination thereof, may register as an Affiliate Registered School (ARS). Affiliate Registered Schools are not eligible for participation in the MSHSAA district and state series. Once registered, such schools are eligible to compete with member schools, at the discretion of each MSHSAA member school, during the regular season under the following conditions:

- a. When participating with a MSHSAA member school, the essential requirements of age apply as provided in By-Law 232.
 - b. When participating with a MSHSAA member school, only bona fide students, as defined in By-Laws 210, 211-b and 213, may participate.
 - c. When participating with a MSHSAA member school, all game officials must be registered by MSHSAA and hired in accordance with By-Laws 160-163.
 - d. When participating with a MSHSAA member school, National Federation of State High School Association game rules shall be utilized or game rule codes specified by MSHSAA for member school competition (i.e. USTA for tennis, USGA for golf, etc.)
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Section 7: AFFILIATE REGISTRATION

- a. An ARS shall remit an annual registration fee set by the MSHSAA Board of Directors, and shall annually complete the online ARS Registration and Activity Registration by June 10 of each year.
- b. Any school that has not registered by June 10 will automatically lose its ARS designation for the upcoming school year.
- c. Activity registration fees shall be set by the Board of Directors to help meet expenses of various administrative responsibilities and materials for events under its supervision.

Section 8: SUSPENSION OF AFFILIATE REGISTRATION

Any Affiliate Registered School found in violation of any provision of the Constitution and By-Laws as provided above may be suspended from registering with this Association for not more than 365 days by a majority vote of the Board of Directors. The appeal process as provided in By-Law 1120 shall apply to Affiliate Registered Schools.

ARTICLE IV: ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION

Section 1: MEMBERSHIP DISTRICTS

- a. Each of the eight districts outlined shall have one member on the Board of Directors:
- Northwest:** The counties of Andrew, Atchison, Buchanan, Caldwell, Carroll, Clinton, Daviess, DeKalb, Gentry, Grundy, Harrison, Holt, Livingston, Mercer, Nodaway, Ray, and Worth.
 - Northeast:** The counties of Adair, Audrain, Boone, Callaway, Chariton, Clark, Howard, Knox, Lewis, Lincoln, Linn, Macon, Marion, Monroe, Montgomery, Pike, Putnam, Ralls, Randolph, Schuyler, Scotland, Shelby, Sullivan, and Warren.
 - Kansas City:** The City of Kansas City and the counties of Clay, Jackson, and Platte.
 - Central:** The counties of Bates, Benton, Cass, Cole, Cooper, Henry, Hickory, Johnson, Lafayette, Miller, Moniteau, Morgan, Pettis, St. Clair, and Saline.
 - South Central:** The counties of Camden, Crawford, Dent, Franklin, Gasconade, Maries, Osage, Phelps, and Pulaski.
 - St. Louis:** The City of St. Louis, and the counties of St. Louis and St. Charles.
 - Southwest:** The counties of Barry, Barton, Cedar, Christian, Dade, Dallas, Douglas, Greene, Howell, Jasper, Laclede, Lawrence, McDonald, Newton, Oregon, Ozark, Polk, Stone, Taney, Texas, Vernon, Webster, and Wright.
 - Southeast:** The counties of Bollinger, Butler, Cape Girardeau, Carter, Dunklin, Iron, Jefferson, Madison, Mississippi, New Madrid, Pemiscot, Perry, Reynolds, Ripley, St. Francois, Ste. Genevieve, Scott, Shannon, Stoddard, Washington, and Wayne.
- b. A member school may request in writing by May 1 to the Board of Directors to be placed in a different Board District for a ten-year assignment. If approved, the new placement would become effective July 1. Such requests shall be considered by the Board of Directors utilizing the following criteria for evaluation:
1. Common boundaries of the MSHSAA Board Districts
 2. School demographics
 3. School enrollment
 4. Community population
 5. Program offerings

Editor's Note: *The following schools have been approved for placement in a different Board District:*

1. Raymore-Peculiar High School (Kansas City Board District) (expires June 30, 2016)
2. Raymore-Peculiar Junior High School (Kansas City Board District) (expires June 30, 2016)
3. Belton High School (Kansas City Board District) (expires June 30, 2016)
4. Yeokum Junior High School (Kansas City Board District) (expires June 30, 2016)
5. St. Elizabeth (South Central Board District) (expires June 30, 2018)
6. North Platte Junior and Senior High Schools (Northwest Board District) (expires June 30, 2019)

Section 2: COMPOSITION OF AND QUALIFICATIONS FOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- a. **Composition:** The administrative body of this Association shall be a Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall include ten elected members representing the eight districts of the state and two at-large regions. In the event the elected district and at-large Board membership does not include an active activities director, then an additional (eleventh) member shall be appointed to the Board of Directors by the Missouri Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (MIAAA). The Board of Directors shall elect from the Board a President and Vice-President to serve one year.
- b. **Qualifications:** The members of the Board of Directors shall be active school superintendents, principals, or

activities directors of member schools in good standing in their respective districts.

1. District Members: Principals and superintendents must meet the standards set by the State Department of Elementary and Secondary Education for principals or superintendents. Activities administrators must hold a professional teacher's certificate and/or a degree in educational administration, be currently serving as an active activities director with responsibilities for both athletic and non-athletic activities, and be credentialed as a Certified Athletic Administrator (CAA) through the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (NIAAA).
2. At-Large Members: Each of two At-Large positions shall be filled by a candidate representing the under-represented gender of the current Board, or an under-represented ethnicity. At-Large members of the Board of Directors shall meet the same qualifications as described in number 1 above.
3. MIAAA Appointee When Necessary: The MIAAA appointee must meet the same qualifications as described for activities administrators in number 1 above.

Section 3: NOMINATION, ELECTION AND TERMS FOR MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- a. Representation: Eight members will be elected to the Board of Directors to represent the eight Board districts as per Article IV, Section 1 of the Constitution. The At-Large positions will be elected from two regions. Region 1 shall consist of the Kansas City and St. Louis MSHSAA Board Districts. Region 2 shall consist of the Northeast, Southeast, Central, South Central, Southwest, and Northwest Board Districts. The MIAAA Appointee, if needed, would represent the entire state.
- b. Nomination and Election: Candidates shall be nominated by primary ballot provided by the Executive Director to each member school of the Association in the district or at-large region where the vacancy occurs. The names of the three persons having the highest number of votes in the primary election shall appear on the final ballot. However, if there is a tie vote for the third highest, it shall be considered that no person has received a third highest vote and only the names of the persons receiving the two highest number of votes shall appear on the final ballot. The person receiving the highest number of votes on the final ballot shall be declared elected to the Board of Directors. In case of a tie on the final ballot, a special ballot shall be provided containing the names of the nominees receiving the tie votes. Each member school shall have one vote. The school's ballot to be official must be signed by the principal or the superintendent of the school. Ballots shall be distributed to all member schools. Final ballots shall be received at the MSHSAA office no later than May 1. Each newly elected member shall take office on the next succeeding July 15.
- c. Terms: One full term is four (4) years.
 1. Elected Members: District members and at-large members are elected for a four-year term unless the final ballot specifies otherwise (partial term due to a vacancy). Elected members are eligible for a second term provided a self-nomination occurs. Individuals shall complete a self-nomination form with background information stating interest in serving on the Board. The same preliminary and final election process shall apply to all elected Board members. No member of the Board of Directors shall serve for more than two consecutive four-year terms as an elected Board member; however, following the completion of two full terms as an elected Board member, an individual that meets the qualifications to serve as an MIAAA appointee is eligible to be appointed in this capacity if the position is needed.
 2. MIAAA Appointee When Necessary: The MIAAA appointee shall be appointed for a four-year term. This appointee is eligible to be reappointed for a second term only if no activities director has been elected to the Board during the appointee's first term. An appointee shall serve for no more than two consecutive four-year terms in the capacity of MIAAA appointee; however, following the completion of two full terms as an MIAAA appointee, an individual that meets the qualifications to serve as an elected Board member is eligible to be elected by his/her district or region.
 3. Any part of an unexpired term shall not be considered as one of the two consecutive four-year terms permitted. Any administrator who has served two consecutive terms and is then off the Board for one or more four-year terms shall be considered eligible for re-election.

Editor's Note: The terms of office for Board members expire on July 15 in the years indicated below.

Southeast.....	2011	St. Louis	2013	At-Large Region 1	2011
Southwest.....	2011	Central.....	2013	At-Large Region 2	2013
Northeast.....	2012	South Central	2014		
Northwest.....	2012	Kansas City	2014		

Section 4: VACANCIES ON THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

In the case of a Board member's death, resignation, removal from the district, or withdrawal from the profession, the Board of Directors shall declare a vacancy.

- a. Elected Members: The Board shall appoint a qualified person from that district or region to fill the vacancy until the next regular election when a successor shall be elected to fill the unexpired term.
- b. MIAAA Appointee When Necessary: If no activities director has been elected to the Board since the appointment was made, the MIAAA would be requested to appoint a qualified person to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the unexpired term.

Section 5: MEETINGS

The Board of Directors shall meet at least five (5) times each year. Additional meetings may be scheduled at the call of the President or by agreement of at least five (5) members of the Board. Except action taken by an emergency panel designated by the President under By-Law 1125-c, a quorum of six (6) members of the Board shall be required for the transaction of business.

Section 6: POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- a. The Board of Directors shall be the executive body of the Association. It shall have the authority to adopt such policies and procedures as are necessary to administer the business of the Association except such policies and procedures shall not be in conflict with a provision of the Constitution and By-Laws.
- b. The Board of Directors shall secure the services of an Executive Director and staff who shall be paid from the treasury of the Association.
- c. The Board shall determine the qualifications, terms of office, and the salaries of the Executive Director and staff.
- d. The Board shall outline the duties of the Executive Director and delegate such authority to the Director that it deems advisable to administer properly the program of this Association.
- e. The Board shall set up any necessary regulations for the operation of the office of the Executive Director.
- f. The Board of Directors shall have the authority to investigate reported violations.
Editor's Note: Please refer to Board Policy on Reported By-Law Violations.
- g. The Board of Directors shall be the authority to interpret the rules and provisions of the Constitution and By-Laws of the Association and shall be the final judge as to whether a violation has occurred.
- h. The Board of Directors may assess penalties for violations of any of the provisions of this Constitution and By-Laws, however, the maximum penalty for any one offense shall not exceed one year's suspension from the Association.
- i. The Board of Directors shall be the custodian of the funds of the Association and shall authorize payments. It is further authorized to borrow money when necessary and when approved by a majority vote of members of the Board of Directors. Any note of indebtedness shall be signed by the President and Executive Director.
- j. The Board of Directors shall be the authority to purchase, manage and sell any real estate for the Association. The trustees for any such real estate property and buildings shall be the officers currently serving as President, Vice-President, and Executive Director of the Association. When their terms expire, their successors currently serving as officers shall be the trustees.
- k. The Board of Directors is authorized to resolve problems of conference membership after the following steps have been exhausted. This provision is not to be applied if a school voluntarily withdraws from one conference to seek admittance to another conference, or to guarantee a school membership in a particular conference. Neither shall this provision be interpreted to require that a school must hold conference membership.
 1. The school has functioned without conference affiliation for two years before appealing to the Board of Directors for assistance.
 2. A school has made application for membership to existing conferences.
 3. There is no voluntary conference affiliation available.
 4. The school(s) concerned have attempted to form a new conference.
 5. Existing conferences or an existing district activities association has been unable to resolve the conference membership problem.
 6. The school(s) have appealed to the Board of Directors for assistance by petition giving full information regarding the problem and attempts to resolve it.
 7. The school shall submit documentation to support that unusual hardships have been incurred by not having a conference affiliation.

8. An ad hoc committee appointed by the Board of Directors has studied the problem and made a recommendation to all schools involved.
9. A hearing is held by the Board of Directors involving all schools concerned.
10. The Board of Directors shall resolve the problem of conference affiliation by assigning the school to an appropriate conference or, based on the information gathered, take action not to assign the appealing school to a conference at the present time.
- l. The Board of Directors shall be the authority to register athletic game officials and to set appropriate registration fees. It is authorized to determine the qualifications for registration and to suspend, bar or place officials on probation who do not meet or who violate standards contained under By-Laws 306 and 610.
- m. If funds are sufficient, the Association shall have printed and shall distribute to all member schools and to registered officials a minimum of four issues of the Association's Journal. The MSHSAA Journal shall be the official publication of the Association.
- n. The Board of Directors shall appoint such committees as it deems necessary to plan and expedite the work of the Association. Appointment shall be for periods of four years. These committees shall be responsible to the Board of Directors.
- o. The Board of Directors shall be the authority to organize and direct such preliminary tournaments, meets, or games as necessary to select teams or individuals qualified to compete in state contests and shall administer such contests.
- p. The Board of Directors is authorized to grant eligibility to a student in a case that is beyond the control of a student or his (her) parents, which in the opinion of the Board involves undue hardship or an emergency and does not violate the intent of any standards of eligibility. Cases involving any choice on the part of the student or parents shall not be heard under this section.

Editor's Note: See By-Law 1120 for Appeals Process

Section 7: DUTIES OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

- a. The Executive Director shall be the executive officer of the Missouri State High School Activities Association. The Director shall attend the meetings of the Board of Directors and shall act as its secretary. The Director shall carry out the policies of the Board of Directors and from time to time shall make recommendations to the Board of Directors. The Director shall be charged with the responsibility of maintaining an office adequate for carrying on the business of the Association. The Director shall act as treasurer of the Association and shall be bonded in the amount determined by the Board of Directors.
- b. The Executive Director shall arrange and announce no later than May 10 of each year the Association's calendar for the succeeding year.
- c. The executive director shall be responsible for the editing and the structure of the MSHSAA Official Handbook, to include the following:
 1. Structure, layout and formatting;
 2. Sections and resources;
 3. By-Law numbering, order, titling and outline format;
 4. Editorial updates, including non-substantive wording updates for clarity, and correction of typographical errors.

ARTICLE V: FINANCE

Section 1: CATASTROPHIC INSURANCE FEE

The Board of Directors is authorized to levy a Catastrophic Insurance Fee as a condition of membership to pay the premium of a statewide catastrophic insurance plan (which may include disability, medical and liability benefits) to cover all students while practicing for and/or participating in interscholastic music, speech, scholar bowl, cheer/dance, and athletic programs of member schools.

- a. The Catastrophic Insurance Fee shall be payable on or before September 1, and shall be for the ensuing school year. Schools not having paid their Catastrophic Insurance Fee on or before September 1 are automatically suspended. A school so suspended for non-payment of the Catastrophic Insurance Fee may be reinstated to membership by the payment of the insurance fee and a \$10.00 per month penalty between September 1 and the time of delayed reinstatement of membership. A school applying for membership for the first time shall not be subjected to the penalty for payment of the service fee after September 1.

Section 2: REGISTRATION AND ENTRY FEES

The Board of Directors may set registration and entry fees to help meet expenses of various contests and events under its supervision.

ARTICLE VI: AMENDMENTS

Section 1: PROVISION FOR AMENDMENTS

- a. The Constitution of this Association may be amended by a two-thirds majority of schools voting and the By-Laws by a majority of those voting provided the proposed amendment has been submitted to the Executive Director and received at the MSHSAA office no later than December 15 (see also Section 3 for procedures). The Executive Director shall submit all proposed amendments to member schools no later than the first Monday in April. Ballots shall be distributed to all member schools, with each member school having one vote. The school's ballot to be official must be signed by the principal or superintendent of the school when paper ballots are sent via the mail or faxed. The principal or superintendent's official log-in will be captured when the ballots are returned electronically. Ballots shall be received at the MSHSAA office no later than May 1. The Executive Director in the presence of at least one witness, shall tabulate the votes when paper ballots are being received. The results of the election shall be officially approved at the next meeting of the Board of Directors and such changes as have been adopted will be incorporated in the Constitution and By-Laws the following July 1 unless the effective date is specified in the amendments.
- b. When circumstances in the judgment of the Board of Directors warrant it, the Board is authorized to call a special election to amend the Constitution or By-Laws. Notice of a special election shall be distributed to member schools 30 days in advance of the date the printed ballot will be distributed to the membership.

Section 2: APPROVAL OF ELECTION RESULTS

The Board of Directors shall decide the results of elections to amend the Constitution and By-Laws on the basis of the votes cast regardless of the number of members in the Association voting.

Section 3: HOW AMENDMENTS MAY BE PROPOSED

Amendments may be proposed by the Board of Directors or by a petition signed by the administrative officers of at least ten percent of the number of schools participating in an activity if the amendment is only for the purpose of regulating that activity and/or ten percent of all member schools for changing other provisions contained in this Constitution and By-Laws. Requests for such petitions for amendments shall be submitted in writing by a member of a Board of Education, school's administrative staff, faculty or approved coaches/directors and shall be worded by the Executive Director with final acceptance of the petition from the initiator. The written petition with original signatures must be received by the Executive Director no later than December 15. However, no petition shall be submitted that nullifies a previous amendment before that amendment has been in effect for one year. In cases wherein two petitions concerning the same matter are presented to the Board of Directors in accord with this section, the Board of Directors shall have the authority to choose which of the two shall be put to vote, or to propose its own amendment incorporating the substance of both petitions.

Editor's Note: *Facsimile or stamped signatures are not original signatures and are not acceptable.*

RELATED QUESTION(S) AND ANSWER(S) BELOW

- Q1:** *I would like to initiate a petition to amend a MSHSAA By-Law. How can I accomplish this?*
- A1:** Article VI, Section 3 of the MSHSAA Constitution explains procedures for amending the Constitution or By-Laws. In order to ensure the petition is worded properly and includes appropriate references to provisions to be amended, you are required to contact the Executive Director in writing for assistance in wording and the number of signatures required for a valid petition. **Allow at least two weeks for the Executive Director to word the requested petition and place on the Official Petition Form.** Signed petitions, which shall contain original signatures (no facsimile signatures) **on the Official Petition Form**, must be in the hands of the Executive Director no later than December 15. Only members of the member schools Board of Education/Governing Body, administrative staff, faculty, and coaches/directors may request a petition to be worded.
- Q2:** *We have a parent in our district who is opposed to a MSHSAA By-Law and would like to see it changed. Can that parent contact the MSHSAA Executive Director and request a petition to be worded to initiate a change?*
- A2:** No. Article VI, Section 3 specifies that only a member school's administrative staff, faculty, approved coaches/directors or Board of Education members may request a petition.
-

Section 4: LIMITATION ON BALLOTING

Balloting on an amendment designed to regulate a specific activity shall be confined solely to those schools which are engaged in that specific activity and/or which will be affected by this amendment at the time the proposal is submitted, except that if Association money is used or if the proposal pertains to eligibility for any interscholastic activity, all member schools shall have the privilege of voting on the proposition.

RELATED QUESTION(S) AND ANSWER(S) BELOW

- Q1:** *Our principal is interested in pursuing an amendment to a by-law that currently restricts all activities. He would like to exclude a particular activity from the coverage of that by-law. Which schools would be allowed to vote on the Annual Ballot regarding such an amendment? Would all schools vote or would only the schools registered in the activity that he wants to exclude vote?*
- A1:** All schools would vote on the amendment. The schools which are controlled or restrained by the standing wording of the by-law (prior to the amendment) have the opportunity to vote on whether or not to change that coverage in any way. If the proposed sport-specific amendment is passed by the membership at large, future amendments to that sport-specific section would be voted on by only the schools registered in that specific sport (because they are the schools controlled or restrained by that section).
-

Section 5: ADDITION OF NEW ACTIVITIES

Any activity, sport or contest area may come into this Association upon a majority vote of the schools voting. The election must be conducted in accordance with the provisions for amending this Constitution, but the effective date for such amendment shall not be earlier than the beginning of the school year following the election unless the effective date is specified in the amendment.

Section 6: APPLICATION OF AMENDMENTS

Amendments to standards of eligibility and regulations governing activities shall apply only to the activity area for which they were intended.

BY-LAWS

OF THE MISSOURI STATE HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

The member schools of the Missouri State High School Activities Association have developed, through their elected representatives, and adopted, through their constitutionally established procedures, by a vote of the designees of each local board of education/governing body (superintendent or principal) an essential interrelated group of eligibility requirements for secondary school interscholastic competition and participation. These essential requirements establish the threshold (minimum standards) and boundaries (maximum limitations) for all qualified students within the interscholastic program, and they work together to define and preserve the fundamental nature of the program.

BY-LAW 100 SCHOOL REGULATIONS

101.0 COMPETITION ONLY WITH MEMBER SCHOOLS

No member school of this Association may compete in any interscholastic activities with any other school, or against any other team, that is not a member of this Association or like association, or with a school that is suspended from the Association, or with a college/university team on which there are contestants above high school rank. However, a member school of this association which is a special education school organized and administered exclusively for the handicapped may compete with a team representing any non-member school or institution by securing permission from the Board of Directors.

RELATED QUESTION(S) AND ANSWER(S) BELOW

- Q1:** *May our high school basketball team scrimmage against an area community college team or against a local city league team comprised of high school age players?*
- A1:** No in both cases. A school team may compete only against teams representing a MSHSAA member high school or teams from schools that are members of a like state association. The only exception to this would be an alumni game when conducted in accord with provisions of By-Law 302. This restriction applies to so-called scrimmages as well as to games.
- Q2:** *We have a student at our school who is an outstanding distance runner. The student is desiring to participate in some open events involving college age or older athletes at some of the invitational meets sponsored by colleges during the spring sport season. Would this be permissible if our school track team is participating in the high school portion of this meet?*
- A2:** No. A school team and the school's individual athletes, while representing the school, may only compete with and against teams/students representing a MSHSAA member school or teams/students from schools that are members of a like state association. High school students representing their school may not compete against non-high school students except as provided in By-Laws 236 and 237.
- Q3:** *Our MMEA (Missouri Music Educators Association) District conducts auditions for a junior high (grades 7-8) honor band and choir. Is our school eligible to participate?*
- A3:** Yes, provided your junior high school is a MSHSAA member school, and has registered in the activity of music and has completed a music eligibility roster through the MSHSAA website. This would also apply to high school music programs as well. No member school may participate in competitive and/or evaluative events against a non-member school, or a member school that has not registered for the activity of music.

102.0 ENFORCEMENT OF CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

The member school has the responsibility to educate students, coaches, directors and other appropriate persons of the state association requirements delineated within the Constitution, By-Laws and Board Policies, as adopted by the member

schools, which could affect them. Further, the member school shall monitor its compliance with all requirements contained within the Constitution, By-Laws and Policies and enforce the same in regard to the school staff, students and other appropriate persons. The principal and/or superintendent of the school shall be responsible for the enforcement of the Constitution and By-Laws of this Association and shall be the official representatives of the school.

- a. **SCHOOL RESPONSIBILITIES:** The administration of the school shall be responsible for the eligibility of its students.
 1. The principal and athletic/activities director at each member school shall be required to attend an annual rules meeting regarding MSHSAA by-laws, policies, and rationale for the rules.
 2. When representative(s) of the school do not attend, the school shall give reason in writing to the executive director for the representative(s) being unable to attend.
- b. **MINIMUM PENALTIES:** The minimum penalty for using an ineligible student during the regular season and in MSHSAA tournament activity is as follows:
 1. Team Sports (baseball, basketball, football, soccer, softball, and volleyball). The school must--
 - (a) Forfeit all contests involved.
 - (b) Adjust its place in conference standings and/or relinquish its place in tournament standings.
 - (c) Return team and individual awards.
 2. Individual Sports (cross country, golf, swimming, tennis, track & field and wrestling). The school must--
 - (a) Forfeit all events in which student(s) were involved.
 - (b) Reduce team points (score) and adjust its place in conference standings, and/or its place in tournament standings.
 - (c) Return awards of individual(s) and, if appropriate, after adjusting standings, team awards.
 3. Tournaments (including MSHSAA tournaments) -- Team or student most recently defeated upon discovery of violation replaces offending team or student for remainder of tournament series.
 4. The penalty of forfeiture may be waived in cases involving a student who transfers schools and evidence is provided that the student, although ineligible, is permitted to participate as a result of false information being provided by his previous school upon which the student was certified to have been eligible. Likewise, the Board of Directors shall have discretionary authority to determine whether a penalty is appropriate and the nature and duration of such penalty in cases where a student is determined to be ineligible under the Transfer of Enrollment Standards because of school officials failing to follow established procedures for certifying his/her eligibility and the student is later determined to be eligible in all respects except for the administrative oversights.
- c. **RESTITUTION RULE:** If a student who has been declared ineligible is permitted to participate in interscholastic competition because of a court restraining order and/or injunction against the school or MSHSAA and if such restraining order and/or injunction subsequently is voluntarily vacated, stayed, reversed or finally determined by the courts not to justify injunctive relief, one or more of the penalties outlined in b. above may be taken in the interest of restitution and fairness to other member schools.

103.0 RESPONSIBILITY FOR SUPERVISION

No individual student, team, or activities group shall be permitted to participate in interscholastic events without being accompanied and supervised by a member of the school faculty or administrative staff of the applicable member school. A school faculty member or administrator for the applicable member school must be present at all events and practices in which cheerleaders participate whose primary responsibility is to supervise the cheerleaders. It is not allowable for one faculty member from one school in a multiple high school/middle school district to supervise all students of all schools of the multiple high school/middle schools districts under this provision.

RELATED QUESTION(S) AND ANSWER(S) BELOW

- Q1:** *We only had one athlete qualify for the state track meet. Our coach will be unable to accompany her to the state meet. May she participate if her parents take her to the meet without a school faculty member going with her?*
- A1:** No. An individual student, team, or activities group shall not be permitted to participate in any interscholastic event without being accompanied and supervised by a member of the school faculty or administrative staff.
- Q2:** *If a coach is ejected from a contest by a game official and there is no faculty member from the school present at the contest to assume his/her supervisory responsibilities on the bench, may the game continue?*
- A2:** No. MSHSAA By-Law 103 provides that no team or activities group shall be permitted to participate in interscholastic events without being accompanied and supervised by a member of the school faculty or administrative staff. If a coach is ejected from a contest and there is no faculty member present to take over his/her coaching supervisory responsibilities, the game shall be forfeited at that point.

104.0 TEACHER ABSENTEEISM LIMIT

A school shall not enter more than six interscholastic events in any sport or music activity exclusive of district and state events sponsored by MSHSAA, which cause an individual to be absent from his/her teaching duties. A school shall not enter more than six, of the season limit of 11, interscholastic speech events in a semester, exclusive of district and state events sponsored by MSHSAA but inclusive of the NFL districts, which cause an individual to be absent from his/her teaching duties.

RELATED QUESTION(S) AND ANSWER(S) BELOW

- Q1:** *Our baseball coach has a free period the last hour of the school day. Because of travel distance, it is necessary for him to leave school with his team during the last hour for them to get to the site of a game. Does this count as one of the six allowable absences for this coach?*
- A1:** No. The restriction applies only to situations where the coach is absent from his teaching duties.
- Q2:** *Our debate coach has her preparation hour the last (seventh) period of the day. She teaches a debate class the sixth period in which all of her debate squad is enrolled. In order for the speech and debate squad and her to arrive at the site of an invitational tournament by the scheduled starting time, it is necessary to leave school at the start of the sixth period. Does this count as one of the eleven allowable absences per year for this coach?*
- A2:** Yes. She will be missing class time the sixth period, it would constitute one of her eleven allowable absences for the year.

105.0 SPIRIT SAFETY REGULATIONS

The following safety regulations shall govern the activities of all cheer and dance teams (as defined in By-Laws 270 and 280) throughout the calendar year.

- a. All pyramids (mounts) or partner stunts shall be limited to no more than two persons high. All individuals in a pyramid or partner stunt who are not in contact with the floor or ground shall be supported by one or more individuals who are in direct contact with the floor or ground.
- b. The use of mini-tramps, spring boards or similar height increasing apparatus shall not be permitted.
- c. The safety regulations contained in the National Federation Spirit Rules Book and the MSHSAA Cheer and Dance Manual shall be followed.

106.0 HIGH SCHOOL COOPERATIVE SPONSORSHIPS

With the approval of the MSHSAA Board of Directors, students from two member senior high schools, both being in only classes 1, 2, and 3 based on the five class standard enrollment breaks, may be combined to cooperatively sponsor interscholastic activities provided such is necessary to either have a sufficient number of students to support a program or will result in increased opportunities for students to participate.

- a. Establishment of a cooperative program may be approved by the MSHSAA Board of Directors provided both schools can show need to the Board of Directors. Examples that may constitute need are: 1) insufficient numbers; 2) lack of staff; 3) lack of a program; and 4) lack of facilities.
- b. When forming a cooperative sponsorship, no more than two member high schools may be combined to compete. Both schools must be classified as a Class 1, 2, or 3 school, based upon the five class standard enrollment breaks. In one-class sports, both of the schools must be classified as a Class 1, 2, or 3 school according to the standard enrollment breaks for the classification cycle. The school classification for competition in the particular activity shall be based on the combined official classification enrollments for grades 9-12 of the two schools involved.
- c. At the time of the application to form common participating group is made, one of the participating schools shall be designated to administer the program.
- d. The districts of the two schools must be contiguous or the two schools must be in the same public school district. The borders of the public school district in which a non-public school is located will be used to determine contiguity for purposes of a cooperative sponsorship that includes that non-public school. Non-contiguous districts that are isolated from a specific activity may request approval from the Board of Directors to form a cooperative program with the nearest district if it will increase the opportunities for students to participate.
- e. The cooperative sponsorship agreement must be for a minimum of two years. The two-year period must coincide with the MSHSAA district cycles. The cooperative agreement may be voided at any time by mutual agreement of

- both schools with the approval of the Board of Directors. No other cooperative agreement in the same activity may be entered into with another school until the original two-year period elapses.
- f. In the event a cooperative agreement is voided prior to August 1, each school may sponsor their own team and shall be eligible for post season play in all sports/activities except football due to the nature of scheduling and district assignments.
 - g. The cooperative agreement will be for a specific sport or activity. A school may have a cooperative agreement with one school in a particular activity or sport and with another school in a different activity or sport.
 - h. In multi-school districts, the central administration must designate the school(s) that may request permission to cooperatively sponsor programs in a particular sport or activity.
 - i. If a school in one district wishes to join with a school in a multi-school district in a cooperatively sponsored sport or activity, the school must join with the nearest school in the multi-school district that offers the activity.
 - j. Applications for cooperative sponsorship must be made jointly by the boards of education of the involved schools and submitted to MSHSAA by December 1 for football and by May 1 for all other activities, preceding the school year in which the cooperative sponsorship, if approved, will be implemented.

RELATED QUESTION(S) AND ANSWER(S) BELOW

- Q1:** *Our high school did not have enough students to sponsor a boys or girls track team. We would like to join with the district next to ours and sponsor a team for each our boys and girls. Can we do this for these two sports only?*
- A1:** Yes. By-Law 106 permits cooperative sponsorships to be program specific. All criteria listed in the by-law must be met.
- Q2:** *My high school wants to form a cooperative sponsorship with High School A in football and a second cooperative sponsorship with High School B in speech and debate. Is this possible?*
- A2:** Yes, a school can form a cooperative sponsorship with another school in one activity and form a different cooperative sponsorship with a different school in a different activity as long as all schools are Classes 1, 2, or 3 based on the standard enrollment breaks, and provided they meet the other criteria outlined in By-Law 106.
- Q3:** *Can our high school form a cooperative sponsorship with a school district that is not contiguous to our district boundaries?*
- A3:** Only if you have made requests to form a co-op with all contiguous school districts and have been turned down, can you make a request to the MSHSAA Board of Directors for permission to co-op with the nearest non-contiguous district.

107.0 JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL COOPERATIVE SPONSORSHIPS

With the approval of the MSHSAA Board of Directors, students from two or more junior high schools may be combined to cooperatively sponsor interscholastic activities provided such is necessary to either have a sufficient number of students to support a program or will result in increased opportunities for students to participate.

- a. Establishment of a cooperative program may be approved by the MSHSAA Board of Directors provided all schools can show need to the Board of Directors. Examples that may constitute need are: 1) insufficient numbers; 2) lack of staff; 3) lack of a program; and 4) lack of facilities.
- b. At the time of the application to form common participating group is made, one of the participating schools shall be designated to administer the program.
- c. Cooperative sponsorships may be entered into by Affiliate Registered Schools (ARS) and member schools; however, at least one of the cooperating schools must be a member school. If a cooperative sponsorship includes an ARS, the ARS must abide by all by-laws and regulations in the conduct of that sport or activity, and the ARS may not sponsor any other separate team in that sport/gender.
- d. At least one of the cooperating schools must be contiguous to all other schools participating in the cooperative agreement, or the schools must be in the same public school district. The borders of the public school district in which a non-public school is located will be used to determine contiguity for purposes of a cooperative sponsorship that includes that non-public school. Non-contiguous districts that are isolated from a specific activity may request approval from the Board of Directors to form a cooperative program with the nearest district if it will increase the opportunities for students to participate.
- e. The cooperative sponsorship agreement must be for a minimum of one year. The cooperative agreement may be voided at any time by mutual agreement of all schools with the approval of the Board of Directors. No other cooperative agreement in the same activity may be entered into with another school until the original one-year period elapses.
- f. In the event a cooperative agreement is voided prior to August 1, each school may sponsor its own team/activity.
- g. The cooperative agreement will be for a specific sport or activity. A school may have a cooperative agreement with one or more schools in a particular activity or sport and with other schools in a different activity or sport.

- h. In multiple-school districts, the central administration must designate the school(s) that may request permission to cooperatively sponsor programs in a particular sport or activity.
- i. If a school in one district wishes to join with a school in a multiple-school district in a cooperatively sponsored sport or activity, the school must join with the nearest school in the multiple-school district that offers the activity.
- j. Applications for cooperative sponsorship must be made jointly by the boards of education of the involved schools and submitted to MSHSAA by May 1 preceding the school year in which the cooperative sponsorship, if approved, will be implemented.

RELATED QUESTION(S) AND ANSWER(S) BELOW

Q1. *May three or more junior high schools cooperatively sponsor an activity or sport together?*

A1. Yes. There are two options for cooperative sponsorships within the Handbook. Article III, Section 2 of the Constitution allows for an intra-school-district cooperative sponsorship at the junior high level, which could include multiple junior high schools (under the criteria listed) as long as all schools are within the same school district. By-Law 107 also allows more than two junior high schools to coop if all conditions outlined are met.

108.0 SUMMERTIME DEAD PERIOD

All member schools shall establish a summertime dead period for all MSHSAA-sponsored activities which meets the requirements listed below:

- a. **Duration:** The dead period shall be nine consecutive days in length, and must begin on a Saturday and last through the second following Sunday.
- b. **Summer Placement:** Each school is responsible for setting a dead period for its athletic activities and one for its non-athletic activities. These dead periods may be concurrent or separate. The earliest possible dead period may be set no earlier than the Saturday of Memorial Day Weekend or the Saturday following the school's last day of classes, whichever is later. The latest possible dead period would end on the Sunday prior to the first allowable high school fall practice (Sunday of Standardized Calendar Week Number Six).
- c. **Reporting:** Each school shall report the dates of its summertime dead period to the MSHSAA office no later than April 1 each year.
- d. **Definition of the Summertime Dead Period:** A period of defined length in which no contact takes place between school coaches/directors of MSHSAA-sponsored activities and students enrolled in the member school, or who will be enrolled in the member school during the next school year. Further, during the dead period school facilities are not utilized by enrolled students in connection with any sport or activity governed by MSHSAA. The dead period is a "no school activities time"; no open gyms, competitions, practices, conditioning, weight training; no activity-related functions or fundraisers, camps or clinics at school facilities or sponsored elsewhere by the school; no coaches/directors or students may have planned contact other than casual, normal community, non-activity contact. The school dead period must be the same for all sports and activities. While there may be sports activities during this time, they must not involve the school coach, the school or school facilities.
- e. **School Facilities:** Bona fide credit-bearing summer school courses taught by certified teachers in their curricular areas shall be exempt from the 'use of school facilities' restriction if held during the dead period; however, no sport-specific classes (e.g. Fundamentals of Basketball) may be held during the dead period.

RELATED QUESTION(S) AND ANSWER(S) BELOW

Q1: *We had originally set our Summertime Dead Period to start the Saturday of Memorial Day weekend; however, we have now qualified for State Baseball. Can we still hold our Dead Period during this week?*

A1: No. If a school qualifies for the state finals in a spring sport that ends on or after the Saturday of Memorial Day weekend (track, tennis, baseball, girls soccer), and their dead period was scheduled during this week, the school will need to adjust their dead period to a different week by contacting the MSHSAA office and publicizing the change to its coaches, students and parents.

Q2: *Is the "Summertime Dead Period" different than the "14-day Dead Period" that must precede each sports season?*

A2: Yes, these are two different sport requirements. Each school must select a Summertime Dead Period of nine days as outlined in By-Law 108, for both sports and activities. The 14-Day Dead Period is an athletics-only requirement, and prohibits instructional contact (camps, clinics and group sport lessons) for the 14 days prior to each of the three sports seasons, and is listed in By-Law 235.5-c-5. (Note: The fall sports dead period is from August 1 to the day prior to the first allowable fall sport practice date.)

Q3: *Our local youth baseball teams, under the auspices of the Parks Department, use our school's baseball field for their practices and games during the summer. These youngsters are elementary school age (not of the age covered by our MSHSAA membership). May we allow the Parks Department to continue to use the field during our school's "summertime dead period" or do we need to close the field altogether during that period?*

- A3:** Because these youth participants are not covered by your MSHSAA membership (too young) and because the school is not conducting this athletic event (the Parks Department is under a rental agreement), the field may continue to be used for this purpose during the dead period. Please note that during the "summertime dead period" member school facilities are not to be utilized by students who are enrolled or will be enrolled in the member school during the next school year in connection with any sport or activity governed by MSHSAA.
- Q4:** *We rent our school facilities to the local Legion Baseball program for practices and games for high school-aged players. May this facility use continue during our "summertime dead period" or will we need to prohibit use during that week?*
- A4:** Teams that include students enrolled at your school or who will be enrolled at your school next year may not use the field for practice or competition during your dead period due to the outlined restrictions for this period. Other Legion teams that do not include your current or upcoming students may continue to use your facilities during your dead period should you choose to allow it.
- Q5:** *Our summer school program begins the first week in June and concludes the second week of July. We have a conditioning and weight training class. The class is open to all students, most of whom are our athletes. The class is taught by our football coach. May we hold this class during our summertime dead period?*
- A5:** Yes, if this is a bona fide credit-bearing summer school course and the coach is a certified teacher and teaching in his curricular area. Since this course is not sport-specific, it would be allowable under the "school facilities" section above.
- Q6:** *We hold a "Fundamentals of Basketball" class during our summer school P.E. program and our basketball coach teaches this class. May this class take place, without modification, during our "summertime dead period"?*
- A6:** No. Sport-specific classes are not allowable under the restrictions of the dead period because they involve school facilities and enrolled students, and in many cases, school coaches as well. During the days of the school's summertime dead period, other non-sport-specific topics could be taught, such as health/nutrition and/or weight-training, conditioning, etc.
- Q7:** *Our town holds a Fourth of July parade and the marching band of several area schools participate in the parade. Our school has set our "summertime dead period" overlapping the Fourth of July holiday and this event. a) Can our band perform? b) Can the band director be present?*
- A7:** Answer a) During the dead period, students could not be directed to attend or participate and no school equipment or uniforms can be used, including musical instruments. Answer b) No, the band instructor could not have instructional contact with enrolled students during the dead period.
- Q8:** *During the summer, a local community group comprised of school alumni, families, and current band students take a tour of a foreign country. This group is not affiliated with the school and participants pay their own way. During the trip, the group goes to musical concerts and takes historical tours, but does not perform at all. Can our band director attend this trip if it includes enrolled students and occurs during the school's "dead period"?*
- A8:** Yes. This is a social event and casual contact may take place. If a similar trip was being planned and the participants were going to receive instruction or perform, the band director could not attend during the dead period.
- Q9:** *Each summer our music director serves as the director for the musical for our local community theatre. Rehearsals usually begin in June and end with a performance in mid-July. The cast is made up of all ages and includes a few of our high school students. If the "dead period" occurs within this time frame may our music director direct this performance?*
- A9:** Your musical director may direct the performance; however, during the school's nine-day summertime dead period he/she could not provide any instruction to students who are enrolled or will be enrolled in your school next year.
- Q10:** *Our high school sideline cheerleaders are also our competitive cheer squad. Our cheerleading coach is also our "club team" competitive coach. a) Can our competitive squad still use our gym during the "dead period"? and b) Can our coach still be active with the competitive squad?*
- A10:** Answer a) No. Since the two squads overlap and skills of both sideline and competitive cheer also overlap, neither squad could utilize school facilities during the summertime dead period. Answer b). No. Again, because of the overlapping squads and overlapping skills of sideline and competitive cheer, the coach cannot instruct the students in either during the school's summertime dead period.
- Q11:** *Our school has scheduled its dead period for the last possible week of the summer and it runs up to the first day of fall practice. a) Can the coaches work on the football field and prepare it for the season? b) Can students assist in getting the fields ready?*
- A11:** Answer a) Yes, the coaches may prepare the field and facilities during this period. Answer b) No, the students may not assist in the preparations.
- Q12:** *Our high school music teacher works at a local university summer music camp for one week as a director to one of the honor groups. Some of his students may attend this camp. If our school establishes the 'dead period' during this week, may our students still attend the camp?*

A12: Hopefully, through good communication between the coaches, directors and administration, events like this can be taken into consideration in scheduling the summertime dead period for the school activities. However, if the week of this music camp is the only week that is deemed possible for the dead period for activities, either the music director may attend the camp or your students may attend, but not both at the same time.

Q13: *May a school coach hold a youth camp during the summertime dead period for a high school?*

A13: Yes, however, the youth camp would have to be held at a non-school facility and no students who are enrolled or will be enrolled at that school could participate or assist with the camp. Further, no school game equipment or school-owned personal player equipment or could be used.

120. REQUIREMENTS FOR ATHLETIC COACHES

120.

121.0 ATHLETIC COACH DEFINED

An athletic coach is one who provides any type of instruction specific to a sport. Such person shall, therefore, meet the standards for coaching in the interscholastic program as provided in By-Laws 122 through 128. A coach must be "approved" by the MSHSAA office prior to instructing students. An egregious or intentional violation of the MSHSAA by-laws or the rules/regulations of the sport may cause the Board of Directors to withhold "approved" status.

RELATED QUESTION(S) AND ANSWER(S) BELOW

Q1: *We have an individual who is not qualified to be an approved non-faculty assistant coach under MSHSAA By-Law 125. May this individual perform any of the following tasks for our school teams in the various sports during the school sports season? a) Wear a head-set in the press box during a football game and confer with coaches and/or players; b) Pitch batting practice, hit grounders and fly balls during practice, or serve as a first base coach during games (baseball or softball); c) run with the cross country or track team during practice; d) Video tape during a contest; e) Keep the school scorebook on the team bench, in the dugout, or at the scorer's table.*

A1: In a; b; and c; the answer is **no**. This individual is prohibited from providing instruction, giving counsel, or physically working with the school team or school coaches in the strategy or skill development of the sport. In d and e, the answer is **yes**, provided the individual performs only those tasks in the keeping of information regarding the contest.

122.0 CERTIFICATION REQUIRED

Coaches and assistant coaches in all sports shall be certified teachers or administrators, or shall meet the requirements for teachers or administrators of the accrediting association under which the school operates, e.g. NCA, ISACS.

123.0 FACULTY ATHLETIC COACHES

A school coach or assistant coach must hold a Professional Teacher's Certificate or shall meet the requirements of the accrediting association under which the school operates, e.g. NCA, ISACS, and be contracted by the board of education or governing body of the school for the full school year as a full-time or part-time teacher or administrator. A teacher must devote at least one period per day teaching a school course. Compensation for services must be paid by the board of education or the governing body of the school. A full-time or part-time substitute with a Substitute Teacher's Certificate shall not meet this requirement. A fully certified teacher contracted as a substitute in accord with local Board of Education policy to fill the duties of an absent teacher during his or her period of absence shall be considered as meeting this standard. In this instance, the substitute teacher could serve as the substitute coach for the period of absence of that teacher/coach. A teacher with a Professional Teacher's Certificate who is employed as a teacher for the full school year by a special education co-op may serve as a coach at the school where he/she is providing instructional services.

Editor's Note 1: *For the purpose of this By-Law, a professional Teacher's Certificate is any certification by which the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education recognizes for a district to hire and teach full-time i.e. Professional Certificate, Provisional Certificate, Continuous Professional Certificate, etc. Questions on certification should be directed to the Executive Director.*

Editor's Note 2: *Individuals holding substitute certificates or other certification will be covered under By-Law 125, Nonfaculty Coaches.*

RELATED QUESTION(S) AND ANSWER(S) BELOW

- Q1:** *We have a teacher in our building teaching with a Provisional Certificate. May this person serve as a head coach for our tennis team?*
- A1:** Yes. By-Law 123, "Faculty Athletic Coaches," provides an individual with a certification which the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education recognizes for a district to hire and teach full-time may serve as a head coach which is on the school faculty.
- Q2:** *Our head basketball coach was seriously injured in a car accident and will not be able to teach for several weeks. We have a person in our community who we can get certified as a substitute teacher to assume the coach's teaching duties until he returns. May the substitute teacher in this situation also serve as our head basketball coach during this period?*
- A2:** A person holding a valid substitute teacher's certificate, contracted to fill the **teaching** duties of an absent teacher is eligible to assume the coaching duties of that teacher during his or her period of absence.

124.0 SCHOOL COACHES SPORTS FIRST AID REQUIREMENT

A school head coach or assistant coach who is entering secondary school coaching for the first time or after being out of coaching for more than three years shall be required to satisfactorily complete a MSHSAA Sports First Aid Course as a prerequisite to coaching for a head coach position and within the first year of coaching as an assistant coach.

RELATED QUESTION(S) AND ANSWER(S) BELOW

- Q1:** *Our volleyball coach of 21 years will be retiring at the end of this school year. We have a former student of our school who will be graduating from college this year with a degree and teacher's certification in English. We would like to hire her for the next school year as our new head volleyball coach as well as a member of our faculty. Will she need any specific course work to assume this position?*
- A1:** Yes. By-Law 124 requires the head coach, who is entering secondary school coaching, to successfully complete a MSHSAA Sports First Aid course before being able to serve as the head coach. This requirement can be met through certain professional preparation programs. This individual would be required to successfully complete the Sports First Aid course **before** assuming head coaching responsibilities.

125.0 APPROVAL OF NON-FACULTY COACHES

- 125.1** In situations in which a member school is unable to fill a coaching position under the terms of Sections 122 and 123 above with personnel acceptable to its Board of Education or governing board, it may with the approval of the MSHSAA Board of Directors (See By-Law 125.2 below for the requirements for Board consideration) employ an individual who meets one of the following:
- a. an individual who possesses a valid Professional Teacher's Certificate, who is not otherwise employed by the member school;
 - b. an individual who possesses a four-year college degree and his/her valid Substitute Teaching Certificate;
 - c. Employ an individual as a head coach who meets the qualifications to serve as an assistant coach (outlined below) and who has served in the capacity of an assistant coach for a minimum of two (2) years; or
 - d. Employ **as an assistant coach** only an individual who possesses a valid Substitute or Temporary (Provisional) Teacher's Certificate.
- 125.2** MSHSAA Board Consideration: In order for an individual who meets one of the categories in By-Law 125.1 to be approved by the MSHSAA Board of Directors, the following requirements must be met:
- a. Evidence of need is verified by the school to affirm that the position is required to maintain the existence of the program and/or necessary to maintain an adequate safety level.
 - b. An in-service training program which includes, but is not limited to, specific discussion of school policies, equipment responsibility, behavior expectations, procedures to follow in case of an emergency, etc. is satisfactorily completed.
 - c. A copy of the applicant's current valid teaching certificate is on file in the school office.
 - d. A non-faculty head coach who does not possess a professional teaching certificate must successfully complete both the MSHSAA Coaches Education program and Sports First Aid requirements as a prerequisite to approval.
 - e. The Board of Directors may approve a request for a waiver of the requirement of a valid Substitute or Temporary (Provisional) Teacher's Certificate for an assistant coach due to unforeseen, unavoidable, or unusual circumstances. However, the requirements outlined in "a" and "b" must still be met.

- 125.3** Once a person who holds a valid Substitute or Provisional Teacher's Certificate is approved to serve as a non-faculty assistant coach under this By-Law, the individual must satisfactorily complete a MSHSAA-approved coaches education program, which includes passing coaching principles and sport first aid requirements, as a prerequisite for approval to serve as a non-faculty assistant coach at any MSHSAA member school in a subsequent school year.

RELATED QUESTION(S) AND ANSWER(S) BELOW

- Q1:** *Our head volleyball coach has her Provisional Teaching Certificate. If she is not teaching and the certificate expires may she still serve as our head coach?*
- A1:** Yes. The Board of Directors has accepted the issuing of the Teaching Certificate as meeting the intent of the By-Law. Therefore, once a professional (or Missouri Provisional) teaching certificate is obtained the person shall always be eligible to coach.
- Q2:** *We have a young person in our school district who recently graduated from college with a degree in agriculture economics who has been granted a Temporary Teaching Certificate by the State Department of Education. May our school hire her as an emergency non-faculty coach to serve as our head basketball coach?*
- A2:** Yes. A person holding a valid Professional Teacher's Certificate or Lifetime Teacher's Certificate or a four-year college degree may be approved for employment as a non-faculty head coach.
- Q3:** *We have a person working at our local credit union who has a four-year college degree in accounting. We would like to hire him as our head baseball coach as a non-faculty coach. Would this be permissible?*
- A3:** Yes. However, the individual in addition to having a four-year college degree must also successfully complete the MSHSAA approved coaches education program, have a substitute teaching certificate and complete the Sports First Aid course **prior** to assuming any coaching duties with students.

126.0 TEACHER CANDIDATE (STUDENT TEACHER) (ATHLETICS)

A teacher candidate meets the requirements to serve as an assistant coach.

127.0 REQUIREMENT TO HAVE A QUALIFIED COACH

A school must have a coach in a sport to be eligible to enter a participant in an interscholastic contest in that sport. This By-Law shall apply to both junior and senior high school coaches.

128.0 RULES REVIEW REQUIREMENT (ATHLETICS)

Each school shall be responsible for requiring all athletic coaches (as defined in By-Laws 120 through 127) to complete a MSHSAA Rules Review. When a coach does not complete the rules review, the school shall justify the deficiency in writing to the MSHSAA office.

RELATED QUESTION(S) AND ANSWER(S) BELOW

- Q1:** *We have a person who has been involved in cheer for many years but has never attended a college/university. Can this person serve as our head cheer coach?*
- A1:** Yes. The standards for athletic coaches do not apply to cheer and dance team coaches. Any individual, however, hired to be a school cheer coach who does not possess a valid professional teaching certificate must satisfactorily complete a MSHSAA approved coaches education program and the sports first aid course. This is a prerequisite for approval to serve as a school cheer coach at any level at any MSHSAA member school in a subsequent school year.
- Q2:** *May a person who is not a certified teacher assist with coaching of a school team on a voluntary basis?*
- A2:** No. All athletic coaches, including assistants, must meet the provisions of MSHSAA By-Laws 121-128. The interested person must meet all requirements and be approved by the Board of Education. A volunteer position would be in violation of MSHSAA requirements. The actual pay for any position is set by the Board of Education.
- Q3:** *May a person holding a valid Professional Teacher's Certificate, who is employed full-time as a teacher's aide be used as an athletic coach?*

- A3:** Yes. A person holding a valid Professional Teacher's Certificate or Lifetime Teacher's Certificate who is under contract with a school district for the full school year and who works with students in the classroom on a daily basis shall be considered as meeting the standards contained in By-Law 123 and shall be eligible to serve as an athletic coach. Study hall supervision shall be regarded as equivalent to classroom teaching.
- Q4:** *We have a vo-tech teacher who holds a vocational teaching certificate from DESE. This person does not, however, have a professional teacher's certificate. Would this person qualify to serve as a head coach in our athletic program?*
- A4:** Yes. The fact that this teacher holds a vocational teaching certificate issued by DESE would qualify him/her to serve as a head coach.
- Q5:** *Our school has an individual that would like to assist with our school football team during the school sports season as a volunteer (no pay) non-faculty assistant coach. May this individual serve in this capacity?*
- A5:** This "volunteer" may serve in this capacity **only** if he/she is hired by the local school Board of Education or governing board as a non-faculty assistant coach, contracted to serve in that capacity (with or without compensation), and satisfies all provisions of MSHSAA By-Law 125 (Approval of Non-Faculty Athletic Coaches). Any person providing instruction to students is "a coach" and must meet the coaching requirements. Serving in this capacity without compensation does not negate the coaching requirements that have been put in place by the membership to regulate the individuals that have instructional contact with students.

**Diagram 120:
REQUIREMENTS TO SERVE AS
A NON-FACULTY ATHLETIC COACH**

Levels of Certification

- A.....Full Professional Teacher's Certificate
 B.....4-Year College Degree & Substitute Teacher's Certificate
 C.....Minimum of 60 College Hours & Substitute Teacher's Certificate
 D.....Less than 60 College Hours / No College Hours (no level of certification)

<u>Head Athletic Coach</u>	<u>Coaching Principles Course Completed</u>	<u>First Aid Requirement Met</u>
A.....	N/A (not required).....	Prior to first approval
B.....	Prior to first approval.....	Prior to first approval
C.....	Only after being approved as a non-faculty assistant coach for any two prior years by the MSHSAA.	
D.....	CANNOT SERVE AS A HEAD ATHLETIC COACH	

<u>Assistant Athletic Coach</u>	<u>Coaching Principles Course Completed</u>	<u>First Aid Requirement Met</u>
A.....	N/A (not required).....	Prior to subsequent approval
B.....	Prior to subsequent approval.....	Prior to subsequent approval
C.....	Prior to subsequent approval.....	Prior to subsequent approval
D.....	ONLY APPROVED THROUGH A HARDSHIP APPLICATION	

Examples of ways that the Sport First Aid requirement can be met:

- American Sport Education Sport First Aid Course (that MSHSSA offers)
- American Red Cross First Aid (not just CPR/AED)
- American Heart Association First Aid (not just CPR./AED)
- First Responder, R.N., M.D., Lifeguard, etc. Certification
- First Aid as a college course

NOTE: No individual shall begin serving as a non-faculty athletic coach prior to the school receiving approval from the MSHSAA staff through the MSHSAA website registration process.

130. REQUIREMENTS FOR SPEECH DIRECTORS AND SCHOLAR BOWL COACHES

130.

130.1 Speech Directors and Scholar Bowl coaches must be “approved” by the MSHSAA office prior to instructing students in the respective interscholastic activity. An egregious or intentional violation of the MSHSAA by-laws or the rules/regulations of the activity may cause the Board of Directors to withhold “approved” status.

140. REQUIREMENTS FOR MUSIC DIRECTORS

140.

140.1 A music director must be “approved” by the MSHSAA office prior to instructing students in competitive or evaluative events. An egregious or intentional violation of the MSHSAA by-laws or the rules/regulations of the activity may cause the Board of Directors to withhold “approved” status.

141.0 PUBLIC SCHOOL MUSIC DIRECTORS

A public school music director shall hold a teacher’s certificate approved by the State Department of Education and must be regularly employed as a teacher by the Board of Education. A music director must devote at least one period per day teaching a school course.

142.0 NON-PUBLIC SCHOOL MUSIC DIRECTORS

A non-public school music director shall be regularly employed as a teacher by the governing body of the school and must be paid by that body. A music director must devote at least one period per day teaching a school course.

143.0 EMERGENCY APPROVAL OF NON-FACULTY MUSIC DIRECTORS

In an emergency in which a member school is unable to fill a music director position under the terms of By-Laws 141 and 142 above with personnel acceptable to its Board of Education or governing board, it may with the approval of the MSHSAA Board of Directors either employ an individual who possesses a valid Professional Teacher’s Certificate, who is not otherwise employed by the school; or employ **as an assistant director only** an individual who possesses a valid Substitute or Provisional Teacher’s Certificate provided:

- a. Evidence of need is verified by the school to affirm that the position is required to maintain the existence of the program and/or necessary to maintain proper supervision.
- b. An in-service program on local school and state association policies and regulations is completed by the director.
- c. A copy of the applicant’s current valid teaching certificate is on file in the school office.

144.0 TEACHER CANDIDATE (STUDENT TEACHER) (MUSIC)

A teacher candidate meets the requirements to serve as an assistant director.

150. REQUIREMENTS FOR SIDELINE CHEER COACHES AND DANCE TEAM COACHES

150.

150.1 Cheer and Dance Team coaches must be “approved” by the MSHSAA office prior to instructing students. An egregious or intentional violation of the MSHSAA by-laws or the rules/regulations of the activity may cause the Board of Directors to withhold “approved” status.

151.0 CHEER COACHES AND DANCE TEAM COACHES FIRST AID REQUIREMENT

A school head cheer coach, dance team (as defined in By-Law 280) coach and directors of other similar groups who are entering secondary school coaching for the first time or after being out of coaching for more than three years shall be required to satisfactorily complete a MSHSAA Sports First Aid Course as a prerequisite to coaching for a head coach position and within the first year of coaching as an assistant coach.

**Diagram 150:
REQUIREMENTS TO SERVE AS
A NON-CERTIFIED CHEER/DANCE TEAM
HEAD OR ASSISTANT COACH**

Levels of Certification

- A.....Full Professional Teacher’s Certificate
- B.....4-Year College Degree & Substitute Teacher’s Certificate
- C.....Minimum of 60 College Hours & Substitute Teacher’s Certificate
- D.....Less than 60 College Hours / No College Hours (no level of certification)

<u>Cheer/Dance Team Head Coach</u>	<u>Coaching Principles Course Completed</u>	<u>First Aid Requirement Met</u>
A.....	N/A (not required)	Prior to first approval
B.....	Prior to first approval	Prior to first approval
C.....	Prior to first approval	Prior to first approval
D.....	Prior to first approval	Prior to first approval

<u>Cheer/Dance Team Assistant Coach</u>	<u>Coaching Principles Course Completed</u>	<u>First Aid Requirement Met</u>
A.....	N/A (not required)	Prior to subsequent approval
B.....	Prior to subsequent approval.....	Prior to subsequent approval
C.....	Prior to subsequent approval.....	Prior to subsequent approval
D.....	Prior to subsequent approval	Prior to subsequent approval

Examples of ways that the Sport First Aid requirement can be met:

- American Sport Education Sport First Aid Course (that MSHSSA offers)
- American Red Cross First Aid (not just CPR/AED)
- American Heart Association First Aid (not just CPR./AED)
- First Responder, R.N., M.D., Lifeguard, etc. Certification
- First Aid as a college course

NOTE: No individual shall begin serving as a non-certified cheer/ dance team coach prior to the school receiving approval from the MSHSAA staff through the MSHSAA website registration process.

152.0 RULES REVIEW REQUIREMENT (CHEER AND DANCE)

Each school shall be responsible for requiring **all** cheer and dance team coaches (as defined in By-Law 280) to complete a MSHSAA Rules Review. When a coach does not complete the rules review, the school shall justify the deficiency in writing to the MSHSAA office.

153.0 APPROVAL OF NON-CERTIFIED CHEER COACHES AND DANCE TEAM COACHES

A non-faculty head coach (cheer or dance team) who does not possess a professional teaching certificate must successfully complete the MSHSAA Coaches Education program as a prerequisite to approval. A non-faculty assistant coach must satisfactorily complete the MSHSAA Coaches Education program as a prerequisite for approval to serve in a subsequent school year.

160. PROCEDURES FOR ENGAGING ATHLETIC OFFICIALS 160.

161.0 CONTRACTING PROCEDURES

Officials shall be agreed upon by both schools at least 30 days before each contest. The home school shall engage the officials by a contract signed by the principal, superintendent, or athletic director delegated such authority by the principal. Such contracts shall be binding upon both parties and in case of broken contract, the amount of the guarantee shall be paid by the offending party to the offended party, except when a contract is broken because of reasons beyond the control of either party or by mutual consent of both parties. Officials assigned through an officials' association shall not be permitted to officiate unless approved by both schools in accord with this By-Law.

The Board will not hear a case involving a broken agreement between an official and a school or between schools if no signed contract is involved. A contract may be on the form provided by the MSHSAA office or in the form of a letter. The final responsibility of making certain that game officials are registered (in the applicable sport) rests with the host school. This responsibility cannot be delegated to an officials association. Contracts shall be with the individual official and not between the school and an officials' organization.

162.0 REQUIREMENTS BY SPORTS

Schools shall be governed in employing officials by the following regulations:

- a. Only registered officials shall be used for:
 1. All first and second team senior high basketball contests.
 2. All first team senior high school football and soccer contests.
 3. All senior high school tournaments in baseball, basketball, soccer, softball, volleyball and wrestling.
 4. All first team junior high school basketball and football contests.
 5. All senior high school varsity wrestling matches.
 6. All first team senior high school volleyball contests (first referee and second referee).
- b. At least two registered officials shall be used for all first team senior high school baseball and softball contests.
- c. At least one registered official shall be used for:
 1. Any contest at which an admission is charged.
 2. Track meets of more than four schools (starter/referee).
 3. First team senior high school swimming contests.
 4. Second team senior high school football and soccer contests.
- d. Schools may use unregistered officials for contests not included above.

163.0 EMERGENCY OFFICIAL

In an emergency when a contracted official fails to officiate a scheduled game and the school has insufficient opportunity to engage a registered official, the school may use as an official a person not registered with MSHSAA provided the school remits to MSHSAA the required registration fee (plus any penalty the official may owe if registered the previous year) together with the name and address of the person and a request that he or she be sent the necessary test and forms for registration. The person shall not be permitted to officiate again until he or she has completed the registration process. The school will be subject to a penalty for continuing to use a person who has not completed registration.

BY-LAW 200 STUDENT ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

210. GENERAL STUDENT ESSENTIAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL INTERSCHOLASTIC ACTIVITIES

210.

Any student who represents his/her school in interscholastic activities shall be a bona fide student enrolled as an undergraduate student of the school (except as provided in By-Laws 232.0-c and 238.2-a), and shall meet the following general standards of eligibility and the specific standards in By-Laws 230 through 295.

211.0 DEFINITIONS

- a. **Participation:** Eligibility to represent a school in interscholastic activities is a **privilege** to be attained by meeting the standards of eligibility cooperatively set by the member schools through this Association and any additional standards set by a member school for its own students.
- b. **Bona fide student:** In order to represent the school the individual must be a bona fide student and meet all eligibility requirements. A bona fide student is one who is enrolled in and regularly attending classes at the member school which meet the minimum academic requirements in By-Law 213.
- c. **Interscholastic Activity:** An interscholastic activity shall be defined as any extra-class activity involving two or more schools in which two or more students participate who are identified with their schools.

212.0 CITIZENSHIP REQUIREMENTS

Students who represent a school in interscholastic activities must be creditable citizens and judged so by the proper authority. Those students whose character or conduct is such as to reflect discredit upon themselves or their schools are not considered "creditable citizens." Conduct shall be satisfactory in accord with the standards of good discipline.

- a. **Law Enforcement:** A student who commits an act for which charges may be or have been filed by law enforcement authorities under any municipal ordinance, misdemeanor or felony statute shall not be eligible until all proceedings with the legal system have been concluded and any penalty (i.e. jail time, fine, court costs, etc.) or special condition of probation (i.e. restitution, community service, counseling, etc.) has been satisfied. If law enforcement authorities determine that charges will not be filed, eligibility will be contingent upon local school policies. Moving traffic offenses shall not affect eligibility, unless they involve drugs, alcohol, or injuries to others. After a student has completed all court appearances and penalties, and has satisfied all special conditions of probation and remains under general probation only, local school authorities shall determine eligibility.
- b. **Local School:**
 1. A student who violates a local school policy is ineligible until completion of the prescribed school penalties.
 2. The eligibility of a student who is serving detention or in-school suspension shall be determined by local school authorities.
 3. A student shall not be considered eligible while serving an out-of-school suspension.
 4. A student who is expelled or who withdraws from school because of disciplinary measures shall not be considered eligible for 365 days from the date of expulsion or withdrawal.
 5. If a student misses class(es) without being excused by the principal, the student shall not be considered eligible on that date. Further, the student cannot be certified eligible to participate on any subsequent date until the student attends a full day of classes.
 6. Each individual school has the authority to set more restrictive citizenship standards and shall have the authority and responsibility to judge its students under those standards.
 7. Each school shall diligently and completely investigate any issue that could affect student eligibility.
- c. **Student Responsibility:** Each student is responsible to notify the school of any and all situations that would affect his/her eligibility under the above standards. If the student does not notify the school of the situation prior to the school's discovery, then the student shall be ineligible for up to 365 days from discovery, pending review by the Board of Directors.

RELATED QUESTION(S) AND ANSWER(S) BELOW

- Q1:** *We have a student who was recently found guilty in our local court of driving while intoxicated. He was fined and sentenced to ten days in jail to be served on the weekends over a period of five weeks. He has paid the fine and has six days of the jail sentence yet to be served over the next three weekends. What is his eligibility status?*
- A1:** In accord with By-Law 212, a student who is found guilty of a law violation shall not be considered a creditable citizen until he/she has satisfied his/her fine and/or penalty. Thus, this student would not be eligible until he has served the six days remaining on his jail sentence. Once he has served the remaining sentence, it would be up to your local school administration to determine whether or not he has met all local requirements for citizenship eligibility.
- Q2:** *We have two students who were involved in criminal activity. One student has been charged but a court date has not been set. The other student is waiting for a charging decision by the prosecutor. School officials have received credible information that both students were involved. However, each student is going to plead "not guilty" until the matter is resolved. Should we allow them to play?*
- A2:** No. It is important for local school officials to diligently check with law enforcement officials in such situations. Access to credible information or student admission of involvement confirms the student does not meet the standards that are necessary, and you should not allow the students to participate. Neither student should be considered eligible until all matters have been concluded within the legal system and your school.
- Q3:** *One of our students was found guilty of shoplifting. After paying restitution, the student was placed on probation **with special conditions**. Is the student eligible for any activities while on probation?*
- A3:** No. If the student is on probation under the suspended execution or suspended imposition of a sentence (**SIS**), the student must fulfill **all** special conditions of the probation such as jail time, payment of a fine, restitution, community service, counseling, etc. before eligibility can be restored. After the student has fulfilled the special conditions of probation, but remains under general conditions of probation, the local school authorities shall determine the eligibility for that student in accord with the MSHSAA Board of Directors Policy.
- Q4:** *We have a student who was found guilty of an alcohol-related traffic offense. He has paid his fine and completed his community service; however, as a condition of his probation, he is required to take part in the Substance Abuse Traffic Offender Program (SATOP). Will the student be eligible before completing this program?*
- A4:** No. Any special conditions of probation must be completed before eligibility may be reinstated. After the student has fulfilled the special conditions of probation, but remains under general conditions of probation, the local school authorities shall determine the eligibility for that student in accord with MSHSAA Board of Directors Policy.
- Q5:** *We have a student who was found guilty of a crime in juvenile court and assigned 30 hours of community service. Will the student be eligible before completing the community service?*
- A5:** No. Community service is the equivalent of an assigned sentence and must be completed before eligibility may be reinstated.
- Q6:** *One of our students was charged with property damage. The case was transferred from state court to municipal court. The city prosecutor has indicated that he will dismiss the charge before court adjudication if the student will make restitution and perform community service hours. Will the student be eligible before paying restitution and completing all community service?*
- A6:** No. If dismissing a charge or not filing a charge hinges upon the student paying restitution and/or completing other sanctions such as community service, these requirements are the equivalent of an assigned sentence by a court and must be completed before eligibility may be reinstated.
- Q7:** *A student at our school skipped classes on Friday for an unapproved "senior skip day." This resulted in an unexcused absence. May this student participate in our conference track meet scheduled on Saturday?*
- A7:** No. By-Law 212 provides that a student having an unexcused absence on a given day may not be eligible to participate in a contest until the student has once again attended a full day of classes (or has an **excused** absence) without an unexcused absence before eligibility is reinstated. In this situation, the student must attend all classes on Monday to re-establish eligibility.
- Q8:** *We have a student who participates in wrestling. He has been suspended for three days from classes (out-of-school) which fall on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. He is scheduled to wrestle on Thursday at the state meet. Is he eligible?*
- A8:** No. Days of out-of-school suspension are considered unexcused absences and the student must attend all classes on Thursday to re-establish eligibility.
- Q9:** *One of our students was arrested at our school and charged with felony theft. Is this student eligible for tonight's ballgame?*
- A9:** School officials should immediately check any public court file for information and diligently speak with law enforcement and/or persons with first hand information. If there is sufficient information of probable involvement, the student should be withheld.

- Q10:** *A student in our school was absent on Friday. The absence is being recorded as an unexcused absence. The wrestling team has a tournament on Saturday and a dual meet on Monday. Can this student wrestle on Saturday?*
- A10:** No. By-Law 212 provides a student may not be eligible to participate on the date of an unexcused absence and any subsequent date until the student attends a full day of classes without an unexcused absence. If the student attends classes all day on Monday he could be eligible for Monday night competition.
- Q11:** *One of our athletes recently received a ticket for "Failure to Yield" at a stop sign. No one was hurt, no property was damaged, and no drugs/alcohol were involved. How does this offense affect his eligibility for school activities?*
- A11:** As explained in By-Law 212-a, this offense would not cause any period of ineligibility for the student unless your school has a more restrictive policy on such offenses than those listed in By-Law 212. Had drugs, alcohol, or injuries to others been involved, the student's eligibility would have been affected by the incident.

213.0 ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

Statement of Philosophy -- Participation in high school activities is a valuable educational experience and should not be looked upon as a reward for academic success. Students with low academic ability need the educational development provided through participation in activities as much as students with average or above average ability. Activity participation should be for all students making appropriate progress toward graduation and otherwise in good standing. Each local board of education is encouraged to establish criteria to ensure that students who are participating in MSHSAA activities are satisfactorily progressing toward meeting the local graduation requirements.

- a. **Grades 9-12** -- A student in Grades 9-12 must meet the following requirements in order to be academically eligible to participate in interscholastic activities:
1. **Semester Prior to Participation:** The student shall have earned, the preceding semester of attendance, a minimum of 3.0 units of credit or have earned credit in 80% of the maximum allowable classes in which a student can be enrolled in the semester, whichever is greater, or a student must have made standard progress for his or her level the preceding semester in a special education program for the handicapped approved by the Missouri State Department of Education which, though un-graded, enrolls pupils of equivalent age.
 2. **Semester of Participation:** The student shall currently be enrolled in and regularly attending courses that offer 3.0 units of credit or 80% of the maximum allowable credits which may be earned, whichever is greater; or a student must be enrolled in a full course at his or her level in a special education program for the handicapped approved by the Missouri State Department of Education which, though un-graded, enrolls pupils of equivalent age.
 3. **Credit:** The calculation of the credit requirement described in a-1 and a-2 above for all enrolled students at the school shall be based on the maximum allowable classes in which a student can be enrolled at the member school during the normal school day due to the academic system that the member school has selected (7-hour day, block schedule, etc.) Credits earned in school-sponsored "extra" classes taken beyond the normal school day may be used toward academic eligibility. Internet classes offered **by** and **at** the member school and which are completed no later than the close of the semester with credit placed on the student's transcript can be counted toward academic eligibility. (See also By-Law 213.0-a-6(c) regarding correspondence courses.)
 4. **Entry into Ninth Grade:** A beginning ninth grade student shall have been promoted from the eighth grade to the ninth grade for first semester eligibility.
 5. A student must be making satisfactory progress towards graduation as determined by local school policies.
 6. **Dual-Enrollment:** The following options are available to students to meet the requirements of a-1 and a-2 above.
 - (a) **For High School Credit:** A student who is dual enrolled in college classes being taken off campus with credit being placed on the high school transcript and high school classes may only count up to two full credits earned from the college classes toward academic eligibility and must be enrolled in and regularly attending the remainder of classes at the high school.
 - (b) **No High School Credit:** A student who is dual enrolled in college and high school classes but who does not receive high school credit on his/her high school transcript for the college work, may have college hours earned during a regular semester count up to a maximum of one (1) unit of credit toward determining high school eligibility as follows: ½ unit of high school credit for a three-hour college credit class; one unit of high school credit for a five-hour college credit class.
 - (c) **For High School Credit:** A student who is dual enrolled in high school classes on the high school campus and correspondence courses being taken on campus with credit being placed on the high school transcript may count up to a **maximum of one full credit** earned from the correspondence courses toward academic eligibility, under the following conditions:
 - i. The member school pre-approves the course for the granting of credit on the student's transcript toward graduation prior to the first day of the member school's semester and prior to the course being started.

- ii. The student must be enrolled in and regularly attending the remainder of his/her classes at the high school.
 - iii. The course is taken during the normal school day.
 - iv. The course is completed no later than the close of the member school's semester.
7. Missouri Virtual Instructional Program (MoVIP): In order to be considered academically eligible for participation in interscholastic activities at a member school, a student that is enrolled in MoVIP:
- (a) Shall meet the requirements listed in 213-a above; these minimums may be met through a combination of MoVIP courses and those taken at the member school;
 - (b) Shall, during the semester of participation, be enrolled in two or more classes for credit at the member school. If there is a class associated with the activity, the student must be enrolled in that course in order to participate;
 - (c) Must complete MoVIP courses by the close of the semester for the member school in order for those credits to be considered towards activity eligibility
- b. **Summer School — Grades 9-12:** Summer courses may count toward maintaining senior high academic eligibility for the **FIRST** semester provided the following requirements are met:
- 1. The counting of summer school credits must first be approved by the local school administration.
 - 2. Credit earned for the summer school course is placed on the student's school transcript and counts towards graduation.
 - 3. The course(s) must be classes identified by the local school board/governing body as required for graduation/promotion requirements.
 - 4. **No** electives may be counted toward this requirement of academic eligibility.
 - 5. Correspondence courses may not count as summer school credit.
 - 6. A MoVIP course may count toward fall eligibility if the course taken meets the requirements of this section and is completed on or before July 31.
 - 7. No more than one credit earned in summer school shall count toward maintaining academic eligibility.

Diagram 213: SAMPLE HIGH SCHOOL ACADEMIC SCHEDULES

Academic Schedules	Credits Earned must equal 3.0 or 80%, whichever is GREATER
Six-period day (.5 each)	Must pass 6 of 6 (3.0)
Seven-period day (.5 each)	Must pass 6 of 7 (3.0)
Eight-Block schedule (.5 each)	Must pass 7 of 8 (3.5)
Four-Block schedule (1.0 each)	Must pass 4 of 4 (4.0)
Ten-Block schedule (.5 each)	Must pass 8 of 10 (4.0)

- c. **Grades 7 and 8** -- A 7th or 8th grade student must meet the following requirements in order to be academically eligible to participate in interscholastic activities:
- 1. Grading Period: A "grading period" is a period no less than six weeks and no greater than nine weeks where progress is determined and is reported to students/parents. A student must have been promoted to a higher grade or a higher level in special education at the close of the previous year. However, any such student who failed more than one scheduled subject, or failed to make standard progress in special education, shall be ineligible the following grading period regardless of promotion to the higher grade. (see also item d below)
 - 2. Semester of Participation: The student shall be currently enrolled in and regularly attending the normal course for that grade or must have enrolled in a full course at his or her level in any public school special education program for the handicapped approved by the Missouri State Department of Education which, though ungraded, enrolls pupils of equivalent chronological age.
 - 3. Entry into seventh or ninth Grade: This section shall not apply to students promoted for the first time into the 7th or into the ninth grade prior to the first day of classes.
 - 4. Missouri Virtual Instructional Program (MoVIP): In order to be considered academically eligible for participation in interscholastic activities at a member school, a student that is enrolled in MoVIP:
 - (a) Shall meet the requirements listed in 213-c above; these minimums may be met through a combination of MoVIP courses and those taken at the member school;
 - (b) Shall, during the semester of participation, be enrolled in two or more standard classes at the member school. If there is a class associated with the activity, the student must be enrolled in that course in order to participate;
 - (c) Must complete MoVIP courses by the close of the grading period for the member school in order for those credits to be considered towards activity eligibility.

***Editor's Note:** Students with a disability who are mainstreamed in one or more classes, see Question and Answers regarding By-Law 213.

- d. **Summer School – Grades 7 and 8** – A local school district may reinstate the **FIRST** grading period eligibility of a

student being promoted to the eighth grade who has failed more than one class but no more than three classes if the student passes the appropriate number of core classes through secondary school-sponsored summer school, as described below, and provided the following requirements are met:

1. The counting of summer school classes must first be approved by the local school administration.
 2. The grade earned for the summer school course is placed on the student's school transcript.
 3. Only core classes (science, math, social studies and communication arts) may count toward reinstatement of first grading period eligibility.
 4. A student who has failed two scheduled subjects must pass at least one core class through secondary school-sponsored summer school; a student who has failed three scheduled subjects must pass at least two core classes through secondary school-sponsored summer school.
 5. Correspondence courses may not count as summer school credit.
- e. A student who was academically ineligible the preceding semester (high school) or grading period (junior high) but meets the academic standard at the close of that semester (high school) or grading period (junior high) becomes eligible the fifth day classes are attended in the succeeding semester (high school) or grading period (junior high). **Exception:** If an interscholastic contest is played **before** the formal opening of school and a student has become academically eligible for the fall semester/grading period and is eligible in all other respects he/she may be eligible to participate under this provision provided the student is properly enrolled in school.
- f. A student who becomes academically ineligible shall lose the privilege to represent the school the fifth day classes are attended in the succeeding semester (high school) or grading period (junior high). **Exception:** If a student becomes academically ineligible for the fall semester (high school) or first grading period (junior high) he/she is ineligible for all activities beginning with the first event.
- g. Credit earned or completed after the close of the semester shall not count as having been earned that semester, except in case of illness verified by a physician. This rule is automatically waived in case a student fails to complete the required units of credit in a given semester because of his being drafted or being called to service in the National Guard or military service.
- h. The Board of Directors shall have the authority to determine the academic standards students shall meet in a school which does not have a traditional two-semester school year. Any changes approved shall be equitable for all students.

RELATED QUESTION(S) AND ANSWER(S) BELOW

- Q1:** *Sally did not complete the required academic work in her science class to achieve a passing grade at the close of first semester. However, due to circumstances involved (other than illness) she was given an "incomplete" and allowed to complete additional work late. She has now completed this required work, and we have changed her grade and granted credit for the class. May we now consider her academically eligible for second semester, starting with the date the grade was changed?*
- A1:** No. The academic standard requires that all credit earned or completed after the close of the semester shall NOT count as having been earned that semester, except in case of illness verified by a physician. The student had not earned or completed the credit at the close of the semester, so this change in grade will not change her eligibility status for second semester; she will remain ineligible.
- Q2:** *Our school has an attendance policy whereby students' grades are lowered at the conclusion of the semester if they have been excessively absent. John would have received credit in all of his classes and met the Academic Standard at the end of first semester, had it not been for his poor attendance record. Based on excessive absences, his grades were lowered. His grade was low enough in math that he received a failing grade after the application of the attendance policy. Based on our six hour a day schedule, John did not receive the required number of credits to maintain his academic eligibility for second semester. John appealed through our standard procedure and was ultimately granted a passing grade in math and this credit appears on his transcript. Since this credit was not received "at the close of the semester" as is required in the Academic Standard, is he eligible or ineligible for activities second semester?*
- A2:** Once such credit is granted, the student would be academically eligible for second semester. **Unlike** a situation where a student has failed to do the appropriate academic work during first semester and is given an "incomplete" and an option to complete further work in order to gain credit (see ruling outlined in **prior question**), **this** student has met the academic requirements of the class to receive credit and a non-academic school policy has prevented credit. If the school, based on further information or through an appeals process, etc. determines that credit shall be granted, such credit can be granted retroactively, and the student would be considered academically eligible **once** credit is placed on the transcript. If the grade reduction is **not** reversed (no appeal or alteration), the student would remain academically ineligible for the duration of second semester due to not meeting the minimum academic standard.
- Q3:** *How should our high school determine our "normal school day"?*
- A3:** Your normal school day is based on the maximum number of credit-bearing classes that a student can take during a semester during your publicized school day. Your academic system (regular day, block system, alternating block system, etc.) along with the 'names' of your periods (1st hour through 7th hour or 1st block through 4th block, etc.) will allow you to identify your normal school day. A 'zero' hour is not a part of your normal school day; rather, it is an option for students to either earn extra credit within a semester or replace a class within the normal school day.

- Q4:** *Why do we need to identify our “normal school day”?*
- A4:** You must identify your normal school day in order to initially calculate the 80% required to determine academic eligibility for activity participants. The 80% rule is based on your normal school day. Please review Diagram 213 to assist you in recognizing the credits required of your students as per the 80% rule for your academic system.
- Q5:** *Our school offers a “zero hour” where students can take a class for credit before school starts. Can this credit be counted toward academic eligibility for activities?*
- A5:** Yes. Once your school calculates the 80% requirement for all students, which is based on the school's academic system and its normal school day (not including zero hour, etc.), the number of credits that must be earned becomes clear and is the same for all students. For example, a school that is on an eight-block schedule has an academic requirement of 3.5 units of credit. A student may achieve that amount of credit (or greater) by the close of the semester via any school credit-bearing course offering, including zero hour or credit recovery. The number of classes a particular student is enrolled in does not affect the **SCHOOL'S** 80% calculation nor the number of credits that must be earned by any enrolled student in order to participate. In this example, if a student is in eight credit-bearing blocks, plus a zero hour and a credit recovery course (ten credit bearing classes; 5.0 units of credit possible), the student would be eligible under the academic standard as long as he/she earns credit in seven classes (based on the **school's** normal school day not the **student's** schedule).
- Q6:** *We have an athlete that was enrolled in six credit-bearing courses out of seven during the normal school day, attempting a total of 3.0 units of credit. He was also enrolled in a zero-hour weight training course. He passed the weight training course for an extra .5 unit of credit, but failed one of his core courses. Is he eligible for next semester or not?*
- A6:** First of all, your **school's** standard for academic eligibility is 3.0 units of credit due to your normal school day of seven credit-bearing periods. The student earned 2.5 units of credit during the regular school day, plus .5 unit of credit for the zero hour. Since the student met the school's standard of 3.0 units of credit, the student meets the first requirement toward academic eligibility and must enroll in the proper number of credit-bearing classes during the semester of participation.
- Q7:** *Our school has an eight-period day, and students may take credit-bearing classes in each of the eight periods. Therefore, in order to meet the academic standard, our students must pass seven classes out of eight (3.5 units of credit). One of our athletes took A-Plus for one period, for which we do not offer credit. He failed another class, so he only received 3.0 units of credit. Is this student ineligible, or may we calculate this student's eligibility based on a seven-period day because the 8th period class does not offer a chance for credit?*
- A7:** The student is ineligible under the academic standard. Your school's calculation of 80% is a standard calculation for ALL students based on your normal school day. Your normal school day is eight periods for credit and all students must earn 3.5 units of credit out of the maximum possible of 4.0 to be academically eligible.
- Q8:** *Our school is on an eight-block schedule. The majority of our students take eight classes for 4.0 units of credit per semester. However, we have two scenarios where students are prevented from taking eight classes: a) some students have to travel to a vocational campus for classes and the travel time involved prevents them from having a full schedule of eight classes, and b) students who are receiving special services have a tutoring period for no credit that they are required to attend. How will we need to address academic eligibility for these students?*
- A8:** For these specific and defined circumstances, you will calculate the 80% requirement separately for only these students that are specifically prevented from taking the full course of classes due to programs in which they are officially enrolled by the school. Such students must attempt/earn 80% of the maximum number of credits they have available due to their program (seven classes/3.5 units of credit), which would require passing six of seven classes and earning 3.0 units of credit out of 3.5, at a minimum. Scenarios or programs other than the two specifically listed here should be reviewed by the MSHSAA staff for an interpretation prior to making such a change in your school's calculation of 80%.
- Q9:** *Our school is on a four-block schedule, but our students have an opportunity to take a class on an alternating basis with a study hall that would allow them to earn a ½ unit of credit. How many credits must a student in our academic schedule earn to meet the 80% requirement rule?*
- A9:** If the maximum number of credits your students can earn in a semester is 4.0 credits, they must earn 80% or more. In a typical four-block system all classes are worth one full unit of credit, which would require students to earn credit in four out of four (since earning credit in three out of four would only equate to 75%). If there is an opportunity for a student to earn ¼ unit of credit or a ½ unit of credit rather than taking classes that are worth one full unit of credit, as long as they meet or exceed 80%, they would meet the academic standard. [Examples: $3.25 = 81.25\%$ and $3.5 = 87.5\%$]
- Q10:** *We have a family in our district whose children are being taught in their home. They would like their daughter to participate in our high school basketball program. (a) Is she eligible and (b) could she become eligible after being ineligible for one year?*
- A10:** (a) No. (b) No. The requirements of eligibility are specific in their stipulation that “. . . Any student who represents his/her school in interscholastic activities shall be a bona fide student and enrolled as an undergraduate student of the school . . .” (By-Law 210) In addition, all students in order to have the privilege to participate shall be enrolled in

classes which allow them to earn 3.0 units of credit or 80% of the maximum allowable credit whichever is greater and must have earned 3.0 units of credit or 80% of the maximum allowable credit whichever is greater the previous semester. Credit is recognized by the credits issued on the student's transcript at the member school. A home schooled student is eligible just as any other student provided these same essential eligibility requirements for all students are met.

- Q11:** *Our school uses NovaNET for credit recovery, remedial and enhancement. Credit earned will be placed on the student's transcript and count toward graduation. I would like to know if courses through NovaNET could also count toward a student's eligibility?*
- A11:** A course through NovaNET could count toward a student's academic eligibility under these conditions:
1. The student is doing the work through the school.
 2. The work is all being done at a designated school site.
 3. Credit must be placed on the student's transcript no later than the close of the semester in which the work was started.
- Q12:** *An 8th grade student at our middle school failed 2 scheduled subjects this spring. He is going to summer school and hopes to pass the two courses and, if so, would be promoted to the 9th grade at the beginning of next year. Will he be academically eligible upon promotion?*
- A12:** Yes. The fact that he is promoted prior to the first day of classes of the new school year allows him to be eligible.
- Q13:** *An incoming 8th grader failed two classes during the last grading period of the 7th grade. May this student enroll in and pass one core class offering in our school's summer school program and be eligible?*
- A13:** Yes. By-Law 213 provides for summer school courses sponsored by the school in core subject areas to count toward having a student's academic eligibility reinstated provided all other conditions of academic eligibility are met.
- Q14:** *Our school offers the Missouri Option (formerly GED Option) Program. If a student is participating in this program is he/she eligible to participate in interscholastic activities under the jurisdiction of MSHSAA?*
- A14:** Whether a student participating in the Missouri Options Program is eligible under By-Law 213 depends on the way the individual school sets up their program. The student must be enrolled in a combination of school classes and MO Options **credit-bearing** course work and/or **credit-bearing** work study that meets the provisions and minimums listed in By-Law 213, and must be working toward receipt of a high school diploma from the school of enrollment. Further, the student must continue all school and MO Options course-work/work-study for the duration of the semester of eligibility (i.e. if a student completes the MO Options course-work or work-study early in the semester and is not "regularly attending courses that offer" the required number of credits after that point, the student then becomes ineligible for participation for the rest of that semester.)
- Q15:** *Is it mandatory that we accept summer school credit for determining academic eligibility for the fall semester?*
- A15:** No. This like all other requirements of student eligibility are the minimum essential requirements and each local Board of Education/Governing Body has the right to establish more stringent requirements.
- Q16:** *Does credit earned during summer school count in determining a student's eligibility for the fall semester?*
- A16:** Yes, under specific conditions. A student may earn up to 1 unit of credit in summer school which may count toward maintaining academic eligibility for the fall semester. The only credit which will count shall be credit required for graduation as established by the local board of education. Electives shall **not** count when earned during summer school.
- Q17:** *If a student needs 1 unit of credit in physical education and has earned that credit by the end of the sophomore year, may the student take physical education during the summer after the junior year as an elective and count this credit toward re-establishing his academic eligibility?*
- A17:** No. Only classes required for graduation may be counted in summer school. Electives do not count toward regaining eligibility.
- Q18:** *May one of our students take summer school in another district and count the credit earned towards eligibility?*
- A18:** Yes, provided the class is required for graduation and your school is going to accept the credit and place it on the student's transcript.
- Q19:** *If one of our students failed Algebra I, a) must that student take Algebra I in summer school? b) Or could the student take a required science class if Algebra I is not being offered?*
- A19:** a) No and b) Yes. If a student is academically ineligible he/she need only take a class required for graduation which may or may not be the same class the student did not pass during the regular school year.
- Q20:** *Should we have some type of form for our counselors to use to advise the student and parents whether the class(es) being taken in summer school will or will not count toward regaining academic eligibility?*
- A20:** Absolutely. The counseling department and the school athletic and activities directors must all work together to be certain students are advised properly before taking summer classes. If any questions arise the MSHSAA office should be contacted.

- Q21:** *Is a "part-time" senior high school student eligible to participate in interscholastic activities?*
- A21:** Yes, provided he/she is currently enrolled in and regularly attending courses that offer a minimum of 3.0 units of credit or 80% of the maximum allowable credit whichever is greater and he/she earned at least 3.0 units of credit or 80% of the maximum allowable credit whichever is greater the preceding semester of attendance. **All** students must meet these essential eligibility requirements in order to earn the privilege to participate.
- Q22:** *We have students who work as office assistants and teacher aides. a) Can these offerings count toward eligibility? b) Do students who do not receive credit for working as office assistants and teacher aids have to count the class period in determining their 80% of the maximum allowable classes?*
- A22:** a) Yes under specific conditions. The student must receive class credit for the offering and the credit must be placed on the transcript. b) Yes, the class would still count in the calculation.
- Q23:** *A student recently transferred to our school from a neighboring school district. The student was academically ineligible at his/her previous school, which is on a ten-block schedule as the student earned only 3.0 units of credit. Our school is on a seven-period day and, as a result, the student would be considered academically eligible with the 3.0 units of credit. Is the student presently academically eligible at our school?*
- A23:** No. The MSHSAA academic standard requires that a student must earn 3.0 units of credit or 80% of the maximum possible credits for the school of attendance. Even though the student did earn 3.0 units of credit, which is all that is required at the **receiving** school, the student would **not** be eligible as he/she did not earn 80% of the maximum credit possible under the scheduling option that the student had at the time. Thus, the student would not be considered academically eligible.
- Q24:** *In an effort to comply with provisions of Public Law 94-142 for inclusion we have "mainstreamed" several students who have learning disabilities. In some classes, they are not able to meet the same academic standards as their classmates. How is their eligibility determined?*
- A24:** In order for these students to be eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics and activities they must receive passing grades in courses offering a minimum of 3.0 units of credit or 80% of the maximum allowable credit whichever is greater for the semester. Each school is responsible for establishing academic requirements and grading policies to effectively accommodate students who have been identified with having a disability in accordance with provisions of P.L. 94-142. The school district has two options with respect to grading policies. First, the IEP committee may determine that the student will be required to meet the same academic requirements and grading policies as any other student in the class. When such a determination has been made, no modifications to grading will be made, and the student will be expected to maintain academic eligibility for interscholastic athletics and activities. The second option is for the IEP committee to determine that a modification of the academic requirements or grading policies is necessary to reflect the needs of the student and his/her disability. In this situation, the modifications may include alterations in the type of assessments to be given the student, the number of such assessments given a student, the number of items upon assessments given a student, the amount of time the student will be allowed to take the assessment, etc. The IEP committee may also determine that grades will be determined on the basis of the student's progress towards achieving specific goals and objectives from the IEP rather than standard assessments given other students. If this type of modification is made, the IEP committee is responsible to specify the amount of progress which will be necessary to document that standard progress is being made by the student.
- If these students are placed in a combination of one or more mainstreamed classes and are in a resource center for one or more classes, then they must be either receiving passing grades in their mainstreamed classes and/or be making standard progress in the self-contained classes taken in a resource room which would be the equivalent of five courses offering a total of 3.0 units of credit or 80% of the maximum allowable credit whichever is greater. **Note:** *Inclusion of activities on the IEP as an educational service is not appropriate.*
- Q25:** *We have a student who earned only two units of credit during the spring semester. May this student participate as a member of a sub-varsity team or in an "exhibition" match with an opponent from another school during the following fall semester?*
- A25:** No in both cases. A student who is ineligible academically may not participate in interscholastic competition at any level during the semester in which he or she is ineligible.
- Q26:** *Our school is on a traditional seven-period day. We have a student who is enrolled as a senior in our school and is carrying four high school courses which offer a total of 2.0 units of credit toward graduation. In addition, she is also enrolled in two courses at the local junior college for which she will receive six hours of college credit. We understand that a student must be currently enrolled in and regularly attending courses that offer a minimum of 3.0 units of credit or 80% of the maximum allowable credit whichever is greater in order to be eligible to participate in interscholastic activities. Under the circumstances, will this student be eligible?*
- A26:** Yes. By-Law 213 allows a student who is dually enrolled in high school and college to count college credit towards meeting the MSHSAA academic credit requirement for eligibility (a three hour college credit class shall count as the equivalent of ½ unit of high school credit and a five hour college credit class shall count as the equivalent of one unit of high school credit toward determining high school academic eligibility). Consequently, in this situation, the student would be eligible due to the fact she is enrolled in courses offering the equivalent of 3.0 units of credit (80% of the maximum allowable credit).

- Q27:** *Our school is going to operate on a trimester schedule beginning next year. How will our school determine the academic eligibility of our students?*
- A27:** A student attending a school on a trimester schedule must earn the following credits in order to earn and maintain his/her academic eligibility. The student must be enrolled in and regularly attending classes which will allow 2 units of credit or 80% of allowable classes to be earned, whichever is greater. The student shall be eligible or ineligible based upon achievement in each trimester. This same academic requirement must be met the preceding semester to participate. An incoming freshman need only be promoted from the 8th grade to the 9th grade for eligibility in his/her first trimester of the 9th grade.
- Q28:** *Our school is on an 8-block schedule. Our school has two senior students who each need only 1 credit in language arts to graduate. Both students would like to take three college classes off the high school campus and be eligible for track. Would this be possible?*
- A28:** Possibly. By-Law 213 provides that a student who is dually enrolled in college classes being taken off campus may only count up to two units of credit towards eligibility. The student must be enrolled in and regularly attending classes at the high school which will earn 1.5 units of credit to meet the 3.5 units of credit required to reach the appropriate percentage (80%) to earn and maintain the privilege of participation.
- Q29:** *We have a student who is academically ineligible the first semester. Our first semester ends on January 19 and the second semester begins on January 22. We have a basketball game scheduled for Saturday, January 20. When may the student begin competing in interscholastic basketball contests?*
- A29:** In accord with MSHSAA By-Law 213.0-e, if this student meets the academic requirement at the close of the first semester, the student becomes eligible the **fifth** day classes are attended the second semester. In this specific case, the student would become eligible to participate in interscholastic contests as of Friday, January 26. Conversely, a student who is eligible the first semester but who fails to pass courses offering 3.0 units of credit or 80% of the maximum allowable credit whichever is greater that semester may compete until the **fifth** day of classes of the second semester. Using the semester dates above, a student in this situation would become ineligible as of Friday, January 26. (Grades posted later would not mitigate the use of an ineligible player after January 26.)
Exception: If an interscholastic contests is played **before** the formal opening of school and a student has become academically eligible for the fall semester and is eligible in all other respects he/she may be eligible to participate under this provision provided the student is properly enrolled in the member school.
- Q30:** *We have an eighth grader who was promoted to the ninth grade. However, the student failed three (3) courses second semester of the 8th grade. Will this student be eligible first semester of his/her ninth grade year?*
- A30:** Yes. The Academic Standards require the student to have been promoted from 8th grade to 9th grade with no further prerequisite academic requirements. For the student's second semester all eligibility standards apply. Thus, the student must earn 3.0 units of credit or 80% of the maximum allowable credit whichever is greater during the first semester of the student's freshman year.

214.0 SEMESTERS OF PARTICIPATION

- a. A student shall not participate in more than four seasons in grades 9-12 in any interscholastic activity. A student shall have only eight consecutive semesters (four consecutive years) of eligibility in high school, in which he/she may participate in one season per year in an activity, and these eight consecutive semesters shall begin on the twentieth (20th) day of the first semester a student enters the 9th grade **or** the first interscholastic contest in which the student participates, whichever occurs first. A student who participates in any part of an interscholastic event or contest shall count such as a season of participation. A student who applies for, is granted, and leaves school any time after the junior year to take advantage of an early release program shall no longer be eligible for interscholastic competition even though he or she later returns to school.
Editor's Note: Exception - Baseball and softball have two seasons per year in which a student may participate as listed in By-Law 325.
- b. A student is eligible for only TWO SEMESTERS in each the seventh and eighth grade beginning with the first semester of entrance in each grade. A student who is repeating a grade is not eligible.

RELATED QUESTION(S) AND ANSWER(S) BELOW

- Q1:** *May a junior high school student who is repeating either the seventh or eighth grade participate in interscholastic activities?*
- A1:** No. A student is eligible for only two semesters in each of the seventh and eighth grades beginning with the first semester of entrance in each grade. Assuming the student does not fail more than one subject during the second semester of the year he/she is repeating and is promoted at the end of that year, he/she would be eligible the following semester.

- Q2:** *We just had a girl transfer to our school from a state which sponsors girls swimming during the school fall sport season. Our school sponsors girls swimming in the winter. May this girl compete with our swimming team making it her second swimming season during the same school year?*
- A2:** No. MSHSAA By-Law 214 places a limit on the number of seasons in which a student may participate during a single school year and during the first eight consecutive semesters of high school. A student shall have only one season of eligibility per sport per year. Therefore, the new student may not compete with the school swimming team but may practice if approved in advance by the school administration.
- Q3:** *How are semesters of participation determined in the following situations? a) Last year one of our students participated in an out-bound foreign exchange program during what would have been the student's senior year of high school. The student has returned this year to complete the required coursework to graduate; b) A student dropped out of school at the end of the fall semester of the student's 9th grade year and returned to school at the beginning of the fall semester the next school year; we still consider the student a 9th grader. c) A student has returned to school after withdrawing from school for one year (during his/her senior year) due to medical reasons?*
- A3:** A student shall have only eight consecutive semesters of high school eligibility. It is important to note that this is a 'running clock' and shall begin upon the student's first entry into the 9th grade and is not suspended while the student is not enrolled in school. a) The student has no semesters of eligibility remaining as the student's last two semesters of eligibility expired while the student attended school abroad. b) This student has six semesters of eligibility remaining upon returning in the fall (including the fall semester) provided the student has met all other MSHSAA eligibility requirements. c) The student has no semesters of eligibility remaining as the student's last two semesters of eligibility expired while the student was withdrawn for medical reasons.
- Q4:** *We have a student that has met all of the graduation requirements at the semester break. She would like to take advantage of the "early release program" cited in By-Law 214 and withdraw from school to enroll in a local university and start on her collegiate softball career. She will return and graduate with her class in May. Is she eligible to run track with our high school team this spring?*
- A4:** No. A student must be a bona fide student at the high school that they represent and must meet all eligibility requirements and be enrolled in and regularly attending classes, at the member school, which meet the minimum academic requirements in By-Law 213. The "early release program" mentioned in By-Law 214 refers to students who are still enrolled at a member school but are let out early each day to work at a job for which they receive high school credit.

215.0 ENTERING AND WITHDRAWING FROM SCHOOL

- a. "Entering school" for the purpose of eligibility consists of regular registration for classes and attendance in classes.
- b. A student must have *ENTERED SCHOOL WITHIN THE FIRST ELEVEN DAYS* of the semester in which he/she is competing. This rule is automatically waived in case a student is prevented from entering high school within the required time limit because of service with the National Guard, United States Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps or Coast Guard, provided that the student enrolls in school within thirty days after he/she receives his/her discharge. A student transferring from a school district which has a school year beginning in September to a district which starts in August becomes eligible upon the change of residence and enrollment in a school in that district, provided he/she meets all other requirements.
- c. In case of withdrawal, if withdrawal occurs on or after the twentieth school day of the preceding semester, a student is ineligible for one complete semester; if withdrawal occurs before the first twenty school days of the semester have elapsed, that student will not be considered as having been in attendance that semester provided he or she has not participated in interschool activities during this period.

Editor's Note: Paragraph c. above applies only to those students who drop out of school altogether before the twentieth **school** day of a semester. It does not apply to students who transfer to another school during a semester and continue their attendance.

RELATED QUESTION(S) AND ANSWER(S) BELOW

- Q1:** *We have a girl who moved with her parents to our district in September. She enrolled at our school on the fifteenth day of the semester. Can she be eligible to represent our school in interscholastic activities during the first semester she is in attendance here since she did not enroll here within the first eleven days of the semester?*
- A1:** Yes, provided she attended school in the district from which she is moving within the first eleven days of the semester. If the student was **not** attending the previous school within their first eleven days, she is not eligible first semester.

216.0 UNDUE INFLUENCE

To maintain a proper relationship between the academic purposes of schools and their interscholastic activities programs, all members of the Missouri State High School Activities Association must refrain from recruitment, inducement or other forms of persuasion and undue influence which would encourage a student to enroll in a school primarily for interscholastic activities purposes.

- a. The enrollment in a school or the transfer from one school to another because of undue influence by any person or group connected, directly or indirectly with a member school (including but not limited to alumni associations, booster groups and similar organizations), shall cause the student to forfeit eligibility at the school concerned for a period not to exceed the remainder of his/her high school career and not to exceed 365 days at the member school from which the student transferred from or, for an incoming freshman, the school(s) the student was eligible to attend under the Promotion Standard in MSHSAA By-Law 238-3-a-2. Such conduct may require the school concerned to forfeit participation in the district and state tournament(s) for the ensuing series competition. Further, the school's membership status in the Association shall be jeopardized and shall result in other such action as the Board of Directors deems appropriate.
- b. What constitutes undue influence shall be determined on a case-by-case basis. Undue influence may, if primarily used to encourage or facilitate participation in interscholastic activities, include but not be limited to:
 1. The offer or acceptance of money, room, board, clothing or other valuable considerations to a student, or a student's parent or guardian, including but not limited to:
 - (a) transportation to and/or from school by any school official;
 - (b) provision for free or reduced rent for a parent or guardian;
 - (c) offer or payment of the moving expenses of a parent or guardian.
 2. Waiving or reducing tuition for any student to be certified as eligible for interscholastic activities, without establishing and following a plan submitted by the school and approved by the MSHSAA Board of Directors which includes, but is not limited to, the following:
 - (a) statement of philosophy and policy concerning the reduction or waiver of tuition;
 - (b) procedures used to determine the qualifications for tuition waiver or reduction; and
 - (c) description of how the waiving or reducing of tuition is equally available and applied to students in similar circumstances.
 3. The payment of tuition by someone other than a student's immediate family or a financial aid program not approved by the Board of Directors.
 4. The offer or acceptance of remuneration for work in excess of the amount regularly paid for such service.
 5. The offer or acceptance of school privileges or considerations not normally granted to other students.
 6. Any inducement to get a parent, guardian or student to change residence for interscholastic activities purposes.
 7. The contacting of a student(s) in another school by any person or group connected, directly or indirectly, with a member school (including but not limited to alumni associations, booster groups or similar organizations), and attempting to persuade or induce that student(s), primarily for interscholastic activities purposes, to attend the inducer's school.

217.0 VIOLATION OF BY-LAWS

A student shall not violate any of the rules contained in the By-Laws of this Association pertaining to the activity area concerned.

218.0 ASSUMED NAME

A student shall not participate under an assumed name. The penalty for violation of By-Law 218 shall be ineligibility in the activity concerned for a period not to exceed 365 days from the date of violation (see By-Law 930).

219.0 LOCAL SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS

Any member school shall have the authority to set any additional eligibility requirements, which are more restrictive, that it deems advisable.

RELATED QUESTION(S) AND ANSWER(S) BELOW

- Q1:** *Do students participating in interscholastic competitive/evaluative music and speech activities have to meet the MSHSAA minimum essential student eligibility requirements?*
- A1:** Yes. Some have assumed that since these activities are generally a direct outgrowth of curricular programs the academic eligibility standards would not apply. As long as a student is limited to participating in a class setting during the regularly scheduled school day, that assumption is correct. However, music and speech activities that are conducted outside the regularly scheduled school day are considered to be extra-curricular in nature. Any extra-curricular competitive/evaluative music or speech event that involves students from two or more schools is considered to be an interscholastic event. Students participating in competitive/evaluative music or speech events must meet the MSHSAA minimum essential student eligibility requirements. This would not apply to events that are not competitive or evaluative, such as a parade that is not judged.
- Q2:** *May a school set any additional eligibility requirements which are more restrictive than the MSHSAA eligibility standards?*
- A2:** Yes. MSHSAA standards are adopted by a vote of member schools and are considered to be minimum standards. A member school may establish more restrictive eligibility requirements.

230. STUDENT ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR ATHLETICS

230.

- 230.1** Any student who represents a MSHSAA member school in interscholastic athletics shall meet the standards contained in this section in addition to those in By-Laws 200-219.

231.0 AMATEUR AND AWARD REQUIREMENTS

- 231.1** Amateur status -- a student who represents a school in an interscholastic sport shall be an amateur in that sport. An amateur athlete is one who engages in athletic competition solely for the physical, mental, social, and pleasure benefits derived there from.
- a. An athlete forfeits amateur status in a sport by:
1. Competing for or accepting money or other monetary compensation (it is permissible for a student to accept necessary meals, lodging, and transportation in connection with playing a contest);
 2. Receiving any award or prize of monetary value which exceeds the amount that has been approved.
Editor's Note: See also 231.2-c
 3. Capitalizing on athletic fame by receiving money, gifts of monetary value, or merchandise;
 4. Signing a professional playing contract in that sport.
- b. Accepting a nominal, standard fee or salary for teaching or coaching sport skills or techniques or officiating shall not jeopardize amateur standards.
- c. Athletes shall not represent the school (appearing in school uniform, school-named clothing, at school facilities, or with mascot/school colors) to endorse or promote a product/service, commercial venture, political venture, etc. without prior written consent by a school administrator. If consent is given, the requirements of By-Law 231.2 must be met.
- 231.2** Awards -- A student may accept an award for participation in an athletic contest, or for athletic honors or recognition of athletic achievements in the interscholastic program. Awards presented to students shall meet the following criteria.
- a. A student may receive the following symbolic awards: unattached school letters or emblems, medals, ribbons, trophies, certificates, etc.
- b. A student shall not have accepted or competed for the following types of awards: services, cash or gift certificates.
- c. A student may receive a merchandise award that **shall not exceed \$100.00 in manufacturer's suggested retail price.**
- d. A student may receive an award of commemorative jewelry of a value greater than \$100.00 in recognition of achievements in the school athletic program **only** if purchased and awarded by the school.
- e. A banquet sponsored by other than the school shall not constitute a violation if arranged with approval of the school administrator.
- f. An award presented to a student in recognition of achievements in the school athletic program by a non-school organization or individual shall be approved in advance by the school administration.
Editor's Note: No award presented shall contain artwork or sponsorship contrary to the standards of the interscholastic program.
- g. This standard shall not prevent a student from signing an agreement which binds him or her to play only for a particular team or an athletic letter-of-intent with a university or college.

- h. A student who wins only an Olympic medal and receives specified funds only from the National Governing Body for the sport for the Olympic placement in competition, may continue or return to interscholastic sports without jeopardizing his/her secondary school eligibility.
- i. Awards in the form of high school scholarships or concessions on tuition because of athletic ability shall cause the student to become ineligible for future competition in all interscholastic sports.
 - 1. A certificate of compliance with this provision along with a report of the system(s) of financial assistance available to students in each school shall be filed with the MSHSAA office no later than Monday of Standardized Calendar Week 7 by all schools with students receiving scholarships or tuition concessions and approved by the Board of Directors annually.

231.3 A violation of this standard, except as provided in paragraph 231.2-i, shall result in the student becoming ineligible in the sport concerned. For violation of paragraph 231.2-i, a student shall become ineligible for all sports.

231.4 Application for reinstatement to eligibility may be filed with the Board of Directors after 365 days from the date of violation. However, the Board of Directors shall not reinstate to eligibility a student who has received a scholarship, concession on tuition, or direct or indirect financial aid because of his or her athletic ability.

Editor's Note: *Coaches shall inform athletes who participate in non-school and summer sports that competing for cash or for merchandise that exceeds \$100.00 in manufacturer's suggested retail price will make an athlete ineligible in the sport concerned.*

RELATED QUESTION(S) AND ANSWER(S) BELOW

Q1: *May a student who participates in a non-school sponsored two-man scramble golf tournament where cash and merchandise awards are offered designate his partner or another individual to receive these awards as a result of the team winning first place in the event?*

A1: No. A student may participate in non-school sponsored golf tournaments where cash or merchandise awards are offered without affecting his/her amateur status provided he/she does not accept any cash or cash-equivalent prizes (e.g. gift certificates). Any merchandise award may not exceed a manufacturer's suggested retail value of \$100.00. Designation of a merchandise award above the \$100.00 limit won by a student in competition to his/her partner in a two-man scramble or to another individual or organization is viewed to be acceptance of the award by the student and would constitute a violation of the provisions of the MSHSAA Amateur Rules. Such awards should be kept by the event management.

Q2: *A restaurant owner in our community would like to pick a "player of the week" and give that person a free hamburger. Is this legal?*

A2: Yes. There would be nothing in the MSHSAA regulations that would prohibit a restaurant owner, newspaper, etc., from selecting a "player of the week," and awarding a prize that meets the restrictions listed in By-Law 231.

Q3: *If a student loses his/her amateur standing in one sport, does that student become ineligible for all sports?*

A3: No. The student is ineligible only in the sport in which he/she violates the amateur/awards standard.

Q4: *We have a group of students who wish to participate on a softball team during the summer months. The team will include high school graduates. The players will be required to pay a portion of the entry fee for their league and/or for invitational tournaments in which they will be entered. Most of the tournaments in which the team will participate will present trophies to the winners but some of the tournaments will give the winning team a cash prize. Should a cash prize be won, the money will be totally retained by the team and used for team expenses and equipment. No player on the team will personally receive any money. Will participation in this program affect their eligibility?*

A4: No. As described, participation in this type of program would not be in violation of the MSHSAA Amateur and Awards Standard. The rule prohibits an individual student from receiving cash. However, in this situation since the student does not receive cash personally, there is no violation of the Amateur and Awards Standard. Actual expenses incurred for food, travel and lodging while the team is playing away from home are not considered as compensation. The team manager should pay directly those who furnish such services. He or she should not give money to the high school student to be used in paying such expenses. (This would not be possible for an individual playing in a sport.)

Q5: *May a basketball player who is selected as a member of our school's invitational tournament all-tournament team be presented with a small plaque?*

A5: Yes. However, if the plaque is presented by an entity other than the school hosting the event, it must be approved in advance by the student's school administrator.

Q6: *Our school just won the Class 2 State Softball Championship. Our Booster Club would like to donate money to our school to enable the school to purchase a state championship commemorative ring. Is this permissible under the Amateur and Awards Requirement?*

A6: Yes. The Amateur and Awards Requirement does permit the school to purchase an item of commemorative jewelry for each team member to recognize a specific team accomplishment. It should be noted that **only** the school may purchase the item. Therefore, the Booster Club must donate the funds directly to the school for appropriate use as determined by the principal.

- Q7:** *Is it possible for a student who has violated the Amateur and Awards Standard to be reinstated?*
A7: Yes. Application for reinstatement may be filed with the Board of Directors 365 days from the date of violation.
- Q8:** *We have a student who has been offered to receive pitching lessons under these circumstances: a) a person in our community wants to pay for the lessons, b) on a complimentary basis only for this student, or c) paid for by the student's parents. Is this permissible?*
A8: Parts a) and b) No. As per By-Law 231.2-b, a student may not receive services (which in this case is a lesson with monetary value) based upon athletic accomplishments. In this scenario, the receipt of the service which has a monetary value would make the student ineligible. Part c) Yes.
- Q9:** *A high school baseball player has signed up to take an advance placement (AP) exam and it is later discovered that the exam conflicts with a district baseball contest. The exam can be scheduled but there is a \$50.00 charge to do so. May the school pay the fee to reschedule the exam?*
A9: No. The MSHSAA Amateur and Awards Standard is interpreted to indicate that athletes cannot capitalize on their position as an athlete in the school and must be treated the same as any other student in the school. Thus, payment of this fee (By-Law 231.2-b) must be paid by the student or the student's parents. Payment by any other party would be considered as treating athletes differently than other students in the school and interpreted as the student capitalizing on their position as an athlete in the school.

232.0 ESSENTIAL AGE REQUIREMENTS

- a. **Senior High:** A student shall not have reached the age of 19 prior to July 1 preceding the opening of school. If a student reaches the age of 19 on or following July 1, the student may be considered eligible for the **upcoming** school year.
- b. **Junior High:** To be eligible for junior high school competition against teams all in a particular grade classification, the student shall not have reached the following ages prior to July 1 preceding the opening of school: Grade Seven -- 14, Grade Eight -- 15, or Grade Nine -- 16. If a student does not meet the age standard for a particular grade classification, that student may compete on a school team of a higher grade classification, within that school or school district where the residence requirement is met. Seventh and eighth grade students shall not compete with or against students in grade 10 or above except in cases where they attain the age of 15 prior to July 1 preceding the opening of school and their school does not sponsor a separate ninth grade team in the sport concerned, or where they attain the age of 16 years prior to July 1 preceding the opening of school.
- c. **School Culminating with Eighth Grade:** An overage 8th grader attending a school that culminates with the 8th grade may participate at the high school for which he/she would be eligible as a 9th grader with no restrictions, during the 8th grade year, if participation is approved by the high school. If, however, upon promotion to the ninth grade the student enters a high school other than the high school he/she represented the prior year without moving and meeting the residence requirement, he/she shall have restricted eligibility in all sports for one year.

Diagram 232: OVER-AGE BIRTHDATES FOR 2010-11

Over-Age for High School	Born on or before June 30, 1991
Over-Age for Freshman Teams	Born on or before June 30, 1994
Over-Age for 8th Grade	Born on or before June 30, 1995
Over-Age for 7th Grade	Born on or before June 30, 1996
Over-Age for 6th Grade	Born on or before June 30, 1997

RELATED QUESTION(S) AND ANSWER(S) BELOW

- Q1:** *Our school has a student who turned 19 prior to July 1 of the current school year that wants to participate on the school's cross country team. The administration knows that the over-aged student can practice with the school cross country team, but can the student participate in school-sponsored cross country meets as an individual/extra runner and not be recorded in the meet results?*
A1: No, an over-aged cross country athlete is ineligible to participate in any way against students who are eligible for cross country at MSHSAA member schools during the school cross country season. This interpretation applies to all "extra" sanctioned cross country meets/races that include eligible high school and junior high school cross country runners but does **not** apply to "open" cross country meets/races that include only post-high school runners, individuals who are not eligible to compete for their school cross country team, and those in grades below the seventh grade.

- Q2:** *May an eighth grade student participate as a member of a senior high school team?*
A2: If the student is age-appropriate for the eighth grade, then the student may not participate with any high school team. If the student is over-aged as per By-Law 232, it is the responsibility of the school district to identify the situation and provide the opportunity for the student to “play up” on a level for which his/her age is appropriate, **provided** the student is eligible in all other respects.
- Q3:** *Our school is a K-8 district. I have a student in eighth grade who exceeds the age requirement for grade 8. The student knows what high school he will attend next year as a 9th grader. May our school work with that high school to give the student the opportunity to play up this year so he gets 4 years of high school eligibility?*
A3: Yes. By-Law 232 permits students who exceed the age requirement and attend a school going only through the 8th grade an opportunity to play up at the high school he/she will attend. Please note that in this situation, if the student selects a **different** high school upon actually entering the 9th grade, he/she shall have restricted eligibility in all sports for one year.

233.0 LIMITS ON COMPETITION

- 233.1** A student shall not have competed at any time as a member of a college/university team in a sport in which he/she desires to compete in high school.
- 233.2 Sixth Grade & Below:** A student enrolled in the sixth grade or below shall not be eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics with or against students enrolled in grades seven and/or eight, except in cases where the student attains the age of 13 prior to July 1 preceding the opening of school. A violation of this rule shall subject the school to penalty in addition to affecting the eligibility of the player.
- Seventh/Eighth Grade:** No seventh or eighth grade student is eligible for competition on or against a senior high school team, a team on which students in grade 10 or above may compete except as provided for in By-Law 232. The penalty for violation of this rule shall be the start of the student’s eight semesters and/or four seasons of high school eligibility (as per By-Law 214) and shall subject the school to additional penalties.
- 233.3 Ninth Grade:** A ninth grade student may compete on a team comprised of any combination of grades from grade 7 through 9, or any combination of grades from grade 9 through 12. However, once a 9th grade student competes with or against 10th graders or above, he or she is no longer eligible to compete with or against 7th and 8th grade students in the sport concerned, but remains eligible to compete with or against teams comprised only of 9th grade students.

Editor’s Note: See also By-Law 214

RELATED QUESTION(S) AND ANSWER(S) BELOW

- Q1:** *May a sixth grade student participate as a member of a junior high school team?*
A1: No. A student enrolled below the seventh grade is not eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics with or against students enrolled in grades seven and/or eight **except** in cases where the student attains the age of 13 prior to July 1 preceding the opening of school.
- Q2:** *May a seventh or eighth grade student participate as a member of a senior high school team?*
A2: No, a seventh or eighth grade student may **NOT** participate with or against students in grade 10 or above. There is one exception to this rule, where a student is overage to compete at the junior high level. In this situation the school is encouraged to allow the student to participate at the high school level to ensure the student has the opportunity for eight high school semesters of participation, as long as the student remains eligible in all other respects. For example, if a student attains the age of 15 prior to July 1 preceding the opening of school before his/her eighth grade year, he/she is overage for eighth grade sports and should be allowed to try-out for the high school teams.
- Q3:** *May our school’s junior high boys basketball team scrimmage in practice against our school’s senior high girls basketball team during the senior high basketball sports season?*
A3: Yes, **if** the school has a 7th grade through 12th grade MSHSAA **combined** school membership (MSHSAA Constitution Article III, Section 2) and if the junior high boys team is currently within the school sport season (MSHSAA By-Law 331). If the junior high is under a separate membership from the high school, such practice would be in violation of By-Laws 233 and 301.

234.0 CERTIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY

234.1 Certification on the MSHSAA Online Membership System:

- a. Each student, prior to participating in an interscholastic athletics contest, must be certified as eligible through the MSHSAA Online Membership System by an administrator of the junior or senior high school the student attends, for each sport in which the student participates. Changes in eligibility at the beginning of second semester shall be made on the system by an administrator.
- b. The schedule for the required submittal of this information will be set by the Board of Directors and appear in the Board of Director's Policy Section of the MSHSAA Official Handbook and will be accessible on the website.
- c. New additions to teams shall be certified as eligible as described above prior to allowing the student to participate in an interscholastic contest.
- d. Any student who is certified as eligible as described above and is designated for a specific sport will be considered as having competed in that sport during that season, unless his/her name is removed upon the request and proper verification by the school administrator before the twentieth day of the season and before the player enters a game.
- e. If a participant is omitted from the eligibility certification process in error and is certified in writing by the principal to have been eligible at the time of the contest, the Board of Directors shall have discretionary authority to determine whether a penalty is appropriate and the nature and duration of such penalty. The principal shall submit a report to the executive director explaining the circumstances of the omission error.

234.2 Because no student can be eligible before he or she enrolls and attends classes in a school, no enrolled transfer student can become eligible until the fifth day of attendance. Exception: If an interscholastic contest is played either before the formal opening of school or before the fifth day of the fall semester, a transfer student who is eligible in all other respects may be eligible to participate under this provision provided the student is properly enrolled in the school.

234.3 Competing against another school before participating students are certified as eligible as described above, or before the eligibility roster is exchanged with an opposing school that has requested such, shall be considered a violation.

Editor's Note: *If a participant whose name was omitted from the eligibility roster due to a clerical error is certified in writing by the principal to have been eligible at the time the eligibility list was posted, the Board of Directors shall have discretionary authority to determine whether a penalty is appropriate and the nature and duration of such penalty.*

235.0 SPORT PARTICIPATION AND CONTACT – WHILE PARTICIPATING IN AN INTERSCHOLASTIC SPORT SEASON DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR

235.0 During the sport season in which a student represents his/her school by competing in an interscholastic athletic contest, the following guidelines and restrictions shall apply. A student who joins a school sports team for the first time must have abided by these restrictions beginning with the first day of the current season of the sport concerned.

- a. **Definition of the School Year:** For the purposes of By-Laws 235, 236 and 237, the school year is defined as the period beginning with the Monday of Standardized Calendar Week Number Six and ending the Thursday preceding Memorial Day.
- b. **Definition of School Sports Season** -- A school sports season shall be defined as the period beginning with the date of the school's first practice with any part of a sports squad held on or after the first allowable practice date for the MSHSAA sport season and ending with the school's last contest, including district and state tournament contests, in that sport.

235.1 Organized Non-School Competition: Athletic competition shall be considered "**organized**" if any of the following conditions exist: Competition is scheduled and publicized in advance, official score is kept, individual or team standings are maintained, official timer or game officials are used, admission is charged, teams are regularly formed or team rosters are predetermined, team members are dressed in team uniforms or a team is privately or commercially-sponsored. Further, competition which is either directly or indirectly sponsored, promoted or administered by an individual, organization, or any other agency shall be considered organized.

- a. **Same Season/Same Sport:** A student shall neither practice nor compete as a member of a non-school team or as an individual participant in organized non-school competition in that same sport, except as provided for specifically below.
 1. **Fall Non-School Competition Exception:** For fall sports, the official school sports season shall begin as of the Tuesday following Labor Day.

2. **Swimming/Diving:** During the school sport season of swimming and diving, a student may, after fulfilling all requirements, practices and competitions of the school swimming and diving team, practice and/or compete as a member of a non-school team or as an individual participant in an organized non-school swimming and diving practice or competition under the conditions listed below.
 - (a) Priority shall be given to all school team practices and competition. Should a non-school practice/competition be in direct conflict with the school scheduled practice/competition the school practice/competition shall take priority. Prior approval by the school administrator may grant an exception to a student to participate in the non-school swimming and diving program if in direct conflict with the school program.
 - (b) No school time shall be missed to compete, practice or travel to the site of such non-school swimming and diving competition unless the absence is approved in advance by the school administrator.
 - (c) A school shall not replace its swimming or diving program with any non-school swimming or diving program.
3. **Golf and Tennis:** During the school golf or tennis season, a student may, after fulfilling all requirements, practices and competitions of the school team, compete as an individual participant in two (2) organized non-school competitions.
 - (a) Priority shall be given to all school team practices and competition. Should a non-school competition be in direct conflict with the school scheduled practice/competition the school practice/competition shall take priority. Prior approval by the school administrator may grant an exception to a student to participate in the non-school competition if in direct conflict with the school program.
 - (b) No school time shall be missed to compete, practice or travel to the site of such non-school competition unless the absence is approved in advance by the school administrator.
 - (c) The student shall not miss any MSHSAA sponsored postseason golf or tennis event that involves either the student or his/her school team to participate in such non-school competition.
4. **Non-School Team Tryout:** A student may participate in a one-day, one-time non-school team tryout provided the tryouts are held on a day the students do not practice or play for the school team and provided the tryout is exclusively an experience in which a student is tested and screened for ability and placement on a roster and does not include any instruction, coaching, practice, workout, etc. Students may not participate in any game competition or scrimmages for the non-school team until after the high school team has completed its season by playing its last contest. Any non-school team tryout is limited to one day.
- b. **Same Season/Different Sport:** A student may practice or compete as a member of a non-school team or as an individual participant in organized non-school competition in a different sport than the school sport in season under the following conditions:
 1. No school time is missed to compete, practice for, or travel to the site of such non-school competition unless the absence is approved in advance by the school administrator.
 2. The student shall not practice for or compete in the non-school competition on the same date he or she practices or competes for the school team without approval of the school administrator.

235.2 Olympic Development/National Team: The Board of Directors may make an exception to the provisions of section 235.1 or 235.5 to permit a student to participate as an individual (not representing his/her school) in either a competition or a specialized camp, clinic or other similar program involving coaching and instruction **during the school sport season of the sport concerned or in a different sport than the school sport in season** without loss of interscholastic eligibility, under the following terms and conditions:

- a. As a member of a National team (and the actual, direct tryouts therefore), which is defined as one selected by the national governing body of the sport on a national qualification basis either through a defined selective process or actual tryouts for the purpose of international competition which requires the entries to officially represent their respective nations, although it is not necessary there be team scoring by nation; or
- b. In an Olympic Development Program, which is defined as a training program or competition:
 1. Conducted or sponsored by the United States Olympic Committee (USOC); or
 2. Directly funded and conducted by the USOC member national governing body (NGB) on a national level (e.g. NGB national championship competition and the direct qualifications therefore, or NGB training camp in Colorado Springs); PROVIDED, HOWEVER, participation as described in a. and b. above may be an exception to the other provisions of By-Law 235 only if:
 - (a) The participation is approved by the student's school principal, and MSHSAA is notified in writing by the principal at least 30 days prior to the start of the program; and
 - (b) The student makes prior arrangements to complete missed academic lessons, assignments and tests before the last day of classes of the credit grading period in which the student's absence occurs; and
 - (c) The student misses no MSHSAA sponsored postseason athletic event involving a team in that sport.

235.3 College Tryout, Audition or Evaluation Event: A college tryout, audition or evaluation event is an event which is conducted by a collegiate institution(s), on behalf of the collegiate institution(s) or by an independent organizer in which one or more students participate in physical activity for the purpose of revealing, demonstrating or displaying the student's athletic abilities in a specific sport.

- a. **Same Season/Same Sport:** An athlete shall not participate in any college tryout, audition or evaluation event during the school sports season for the sport concerned under any circumstances.
- b. **Same Season/Different Sport:** The student may participate in a college tryout, audition or evaluation event during a season in which he/she is competing in a **different** school sport, under the following conditions:
 - 1. Approval by the school administrator is granted in advance.
 - 2. No school time is missed to travel to or participate in the college try-out, audition or evaluation event, unless the absence is approved in advance by the school administrator.
 - 3. The student may be **invited** to and accept an invitation based on athletic accomplishments to **only one** evaluation event per sport per year; however, there is no limit on college auditions and/or try-outs which are directly sponsored by a collegiate institution. Open (not by invitation) evaluation events are not restricted in number.
 - 4. The student shall not miss a MSHSAA-sponsored post-season athletic event in any sport to travel to and from or participate in the event.

235.4 All-Star Contests: An athlete shall not participate in any All-Star contest, as defined in By-Law 306, prior to eligibility in the sport concerned being exhausted. A senior athlete who has **completed** his/her eligibility in an interscholastic sport may compete in one All-Star contest, as defined in By-Law 306, and maintain his/her eligibility under the following conditions:

- a. He/she shall be permitted to participate in no more than **one** All-Star event per sport during their senior year, following the conclusion of the school sport season of the sport concerned and provided the provisions of By-Law 235.1-b above are met.
- b. He/she shall not be permitted to miss a MSHSAA-sponsored post-season athletic event in any sport to travel to and from or participate in the All-Star event.

235.5 Sport-Specific Instruction (Camps, Clinics, Lessons):

a. **General Requirements:**

- 1. No school coach or other school representative may directly or by implication direct a student to attend a specialized sports camp as a condition for team membership.
- 2. The camp fee (tuition) and all transportation costs shall be provided by the student or the student's parents.
- 3. No school owned uniforms or player equipment shall be used in any camp, clinic, or lesson other than as outlined in By-Law 237.2-d-2. Member schools may not rent, sell, lease, or loan their uniforms or player equipment for use in non-school sponsored camps or clinics or contests, other than outlined in By-Law 237.
- 4. Private one-on-one instruction provided by a person not affiliated with the school a student attends or will attend the following year may be received at any time. Such instruction shall not interfere with the practice schedule of the school team nor serve as a substitute for the school team's practice sessions.
- 5. A student may be invited to and accept an invitation to only **one** specialized sport camp, clinic or lesson which is based on athletic accomplishments, per sport per year, as long as such participation meets the provisions applicable to the student's interscholastic season participation status. A student may attend as many "open" (not by invitation) camps/clinics or lessons as desired, as long as such participation meets the provisions applicable to the student's interscholastic season participation status.

b. **Same Season/Same Sport:** During the school year and within the school sport season for the sport concerned, a student may attend a school or non-school sponsored specialized sports camp/clinic program, involving coaching and instruction, provided:

- 1. The primary emphasis shall be on teaching individual player skills and there is no competition other than limited scrimmage situations;
- 2. Travel to and from and participation in the camp, clinic, or group sport lesson does not result in any loss of school time;
- 3. The student is accompanied by at least one approved faculty or non-faculty school coach;
- 4. The invitation to attend such camp/clinic is extended to the school coach and approved by the school administrator; and
- 5. If school or school-district sponsored, only students enrolled in the sponsoring school or school district may attend.

c. **Same Season/Different Sport:**

- 1. A student shall not participate in a camp, clinic or lesson during a season in which he/she is competing in a **different** school sport, without prior approval from the school administrator.
- 2. Only **non-school** sponsored camps, clinics, or lessons may be attended.
- 3. Travel to and from and participation in the camp, clinic, or lesson does not result in any loss of school time;
- 4. No member of the coaching staff of the school the student is attending or will be attending the following year is involved in any way in the organization, sponsorship, administration, or instruction of the camp, clinic, or group sport lesson; and
- 5. No camp, clinic, or group sport lesson is attended within 14 days of the start of the first allowable practice for the school sports season for the sport concerned.

- 235.6 Penalty:** The penalty for violation of By-Law 235 shall be ineligibility for a period not to exceed 365 days in the sport in which the violation occurred. Students who participate in an all-star contest, as defined in By-Law Section 306, who do not meet the requirements in By-Law 235.4 are ineligible in the sport in which the violation occurred for 365 days from the date of the violation and for 90 school days from the date of violation in all other sports.

RELATED QUESTION(S) AND ANSWER(S) BELOW

- Q1:** *May Johnny participate in a non-school sponsored free throw contest during a season he is representing his school in the sport of basketball or in pass, punt and kick contests during a season he is representing his school in the sport of football?*
- A1:** Yes. The MSHSAA Board of Directors interprets By-Law 235 as not restricting participation in non-school sponsored contests involving **individual skills** of a team sport such as free throw contests or pass, punt, and kick contests. This interpretation is based on the fact these activities involve only individual skills of a team sport and, as such, would not in themselves constitute a sport per se by normal definition.
- Q2:** *Our school sponsors a boys swimming and diving team, but our school does not own its own pool. We rent practice time in a public facility, and hold school practices on Monday through Friday afternoons for two hours. On Saturday mornings, this facility sponsors an open swimming time. Usually the majority of our team, as well as our coach, attends and swims; however, it is made clear to the team members that this is not a school practice and attendance is completely optional. Some of our team members are members of a non-school club team, and attend club practices at a different facility on Saturday mornings. Our A.D., in consultation with our swimming coach, has determined this is not a requirement of the school program and is not a replacement. Thus, we believe the students may attend. Is this correct?*
- A2:** Yes. The swimmers are not replacing school swimming practice with club practice because the school does not offer mandatory Saturday swimming practices. The principal shall have the final opinion on the practices.
- Q3:** *One of our swimmers has approached our principal requesting to miss this upcoming Friday school swimming practice to travel to Oklahoma for a non-school swimming meet on Saturday. Our team has practice on Friday and does not compete again until Tuesday. Would it be acceptable for our principal and coach to approve this request?*
- A3:** Yes. This is considered a "case by case" request as permitted in the by-law to be addressed by the local school administration. This decision rests with the school administrator.
- Q4:** *May a student play on a non-school sponsored basketball team during the season he is representing his school in track?*
- A4:** Yes. However, the student shall not practice or play for the non-school basketball team on the same day he practices or competes for the school track team without approval of his school administrator. The non-school team must be selected on the basis of open tryouts and shall not be an all-star team. In addition, he may not miss any school time to compete, practice for, or travel to the site of such non-school competition unless such absence is approved in advance by the school administrator.
- Q5:** *Our local American Legion baseball coach wishes to hold a tryout for his team prior to the completion of our high school baseball season. May members of our high school baseball team participate in this tryout?*
- A5:** Yes, provided the tryouts are held on a day the students do not practice or play for the school baseball team and provided the tryout is exclusively an experience in which a student is tested and screened for ability and placement on a roster and does not include any instruction, coaching, practice, workout, etc. They may not participate in any game competition or scrimmages for the Legion team until after the high school baseball team has completed its season by playing its last game. **Any non-school team tryout is limited to one day.**
- Q6:** *Our high school baseball coach is also the American Legion baseball coach during the summer. May he conduct one of the tryouts described in the last Q/A prior to the completion of our high school baseball season and can members of our high school baseball team participate in this tryout?*
- A6:** Yes. During the high school baseball season, a school coach may have sport-specific contact with his baseball players, as well as other enrolled students at his school. Further, there is no contact restriction between a high school baseball coach and students from other schools (other than restricted in By-Law 216). Therefore, a high school coach may conduct the tryout as long as the same criteria as is listed in the Q/A above is met.
- Q7:** *Our school sponsors a fast-pitch softball team. During the school softball season, may a member of the team participate in a non-school sponsored slow-pitch softball program?*
- A7:** No. Slow-pitch and fast-pitch softball are considered as the same sport -- softball. Thus, the restrictions contained in MSHSAA By-Law 235 would prohibit a member of a school's fast-pitch softball team from playing in slow-pitch softball during the school softball season. The same would be true of indoor and outdoor soccer. Indoor soccer is interpreted to be the same as outdoor soccer as far as this regulation is concerned.
- Q8:** *During the pre-season practice period in August before school starts, may a student who is a member of and is practicing for his school football team play in a non-school sponsored baseball tournament? May he practice or participate in competition for a non-school baseball team during this time on the same day he practices football?*

- A8:** Yes to both unless the school has a policy that is more restrictive. The **fall** sports season does not begin until the Tuesday following Labor Day or the date of the first school practice held on a **school day**, whichever occurs later. Thus, in this case, the Non-School Competition Standard would not prohibit a student from participating in both activities on the same day. However, such dual participation on the same date would be permitted as of the official beginning of the Fall Sports Season **only** if it is approved by his school administrator.
- Q9:** *An organization in our community is sponsoring a road race (Mini-Marathon). May our track or cross country athletes participate in this event if it is held during the school sports season for either of these sports?*
- A9:** No. They may not participate in this type of event during a season they are members of their school cross country or track team. This restriction applies to both junior and senior high school students (boys and girls).
- Q10:** *We have a track athlete who is a member of a local non-school track club. Her parents want the club coach to work with her during our school track season. What restrictions must be observed if we permit this?*
- A10:** MSHSAA By-Law 235 permits a student to receive private one-on-one instruction in the skills of a sport from a person not affiliated with the school the student attends or will attend the following year. However, this instruction shall not take place at an interscholastic practice or event nor shall it interfere with the practice or competition schedule of the school nor serve as a substitute for the school team's practice sessions.
- Q11:** *We have a student in our school who has been invited to attend a softball evaluation event in late August. Our school classes will not start until the Monday after the event, however, the event is being conducted one week into our school softball season after starting the required 10 days of conditioning. May the student attend?*
- A11:** No. By-Law 235.3 clearly states that a student representing his/her school in a specific sport may not attend an evaluation event for the same school sport during the designated school sport season. The season begins with the first day of practice with all or part of the school sport squad. Thus, the student in question would be in season since practice has begun for the school team.
- Q12:** *Several of our boys and girls basketball players picked up a flyer this summer advertising a "Basketball Evaluation" to be held on a Saturday in September. The students will pay a fee to attend the event and display their basketball talents in front of college coaches. Most of the students are in fall sports. May the students attend and still maintain their eligibility for all sports?*
- A12:** Yes. By-Law 235.3 permits a student to attend such an event **only** when such an event is conducted outside of the school sport season for the sport concerned. The camp must be open to any Missouri student. **No** MSHSAA event may be missed for travel or participation in such an event and if held during the school year the student must have school approval to miss regular season practice or contests in order to participate.
- Q13:** *One of our high school basketball players has received a special personal invitation to attend a college try-out, audition or evaluation event during the fall before the beginning of high school basketball practice. May he/she attend this event without jeopardizing his/her high school eligibility?*
- A13:** If the event is established and advertised as an **open** event that may be attended by anyone, then this student athlete may attend without jeopardizing his/her eligibility providing 1) permission is granted by the school administration if the student is competing in a different fall sport; 2) no school time is missed to travel to or participate in the event without prior approval of the school administration; and 3) the student may not miss a MSHSAA sponsored post season athletic event to participate in or travel to and from the event. However; if the event is open only to those students receiving a special personal invitation, your athlete may attend **only one** invitation event per sport per year unless it is a college try-out sponsored by the college. Attending a second invitation event shall make the student ineligible.

236.0 SPORT PARTICIPATION AND CONTACT – WHEN NOT PARTICIPATING IN AN INTERSCHOLASTIC SPORT SEASON DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR

- 236.0** During any sport season within the school year that a student is **not** a member of a school sport team, the following guidelines and restrictions regarding other sport participation and contact with school personnel apply:
- 236.1 Organized Non-School Competition:** [Defined in By-Law 235.1] An athlete **may** participate in non-school sponsored competition in a sport in which MSHSAA member schools compete interscholastically during this period provided:
- a. **Non-School:** Athletic competition shall be considered "**non-school**" only if the competition is sponsored by a non-school entity (civic organization, service organization, parks and recreation department, etc.). Member schools, school booster clubs, and other school clubs and organizations are prohibited from sponsoring any sports competition in sports in which their school participates interscholastically and which includes students from any member school as participants, other than provided for in By-Laws 320 and 330 (Sport Season Provisions). If member school facilities are used, arrangements for use of the facilities must be made by the sponsoring

organization in accord with lease or rental policies adopted by the Board of Education to apply to general use of school facilities by non-school groups. Further, if member school facilities are used, it is strongly recommended that medical and liability insurance coverage be provided by the sponsoring organization.

- b. **Missing School:** If held during the school year, no school time is missed to compete, practice for, or travel to the site of the non-school competition unless the absence is approved in advance by the school administrator.
- c. **Tryouts:** Teams must be selected on a basis of tryouts which are publicized in advance and open to any student or individual meeting the team's age criteria, or on a basis whereby students sign up for a league and are randomly assigned to teams; otherwise, players are in jeopardy of violating the All-Star provisions as outlined below and in By-Law 306.
- d. **All-Star:** If the contest is an All Star Contest, as defined in By-Law 306, the student's participation must meet the provisions in By-Law 236.4 below.
- e. **School Coaches:** If held during the school year but outside the designated school season for the sport:
 1. A high school coach of any sport may not provide any coaching or instruction to any student who currently attends or will attend the member high school (grades 9-12) the following year.
 2. A junior high school coach of any sport may not provide any coaching or instruction to any student who currently attends or will attend the member junior high school (grades 7-8; and grade 9 when included in a separate junior high school membership) the following year.
- f. **Not Representing the School:** The student shall not represent the school and shall not use school uniforms or equipment.
- g. **Voluntary:** Participation in non-school competition **must be voluntary** on the part of the student and not required directly or indirectly for membership on a school squad.
- h. **Transportation:** Students must provide their own transportation to participate in non-school competition; schools shall not provide or arrange for transportation for students to participate in non-school competition.

236.2 Olympic Development/National Team: An athlete **may** participate in a competition or a specialized camp, clinic or other similar program involving coaching and instruction, as defined in By-Law 235.2, during this period provided the student makes prior arrangements to complete missed academic lessons, assignments and tests before the last day of classes of the credit grading period in which the student's absence occurs.

236.3 College Tryout, Audition or Evaluation Event: [Defined in By-Law 235.3] A student may participate in a college try-out, audition or evaluation event, as defined in 235.3, during this period, provided:

- a. No school time is missed to travel to or participate in the college try-out, audition or evaluation event, unless the absence is approved in advance by the school administrator.
- b. The student may be **invited** to and accept an invitation based on athletic accomplishments to **only one** evaluation event per sport per year, which is held during a period the student is **not** a member of a school sport team; however, there is no limit on college auditions and/or try-outs which are directly sponsored by a collegiate institution.
- c. The student may attend as many "open" (not by invitation) evaluation events as desired during a period the student is **not** a member of a school sport team.

236.4 All-Star Participation: A senior athlete who has exhausted his/her eligibility in the interscholastic sport concerned may compete in no more than **one** All-Star contest, as defined in By-Law 306, in that sport. All provisions of By-Law 236.1 must be met except "c. Tryouts." If the student is a participant in a different interscholastic sport at the time of the contest, please refer to By-Law 235.4.

236.5 Sport-Specific Instruction (Camps, Clinics, Lessons): During a period the student is **not** a member of a school sport team, he/she may participate in a camp, clinic, or lesson under the following conditions:

- a. **General Requirements:** All provisions of By-Law 235.5-a must be met.
- b. Only **non-school** sponsored camps, clinics, or lessons may be attended.
- c. Travel to and from and participation in the camp, clinic, or lesson does not result in any loss of school time;
- d. No member of the coaching staff of the school the student is attending or will be attending the following year is involved in any way in the organization, sponsorship, administration, or instruction of the camp, clinic, or group sport lesson; and
- e. No camp, clinic, or group sport lesson is attended within 14 days of the start of the first allowable practice for the school sports season for the sport concerned.

236.6 Out-of-Season Sports Conditioning: During a period the student is **not** a member of a school sport team, he/she may participate in an out-of-season sports conditioning program administered by the school in which he/she is enrolled, under the following conditions:

- a. Participation in the program must be open to all students enrolled in the school.
- b. Participation is voluntary and is not required directly or indirectly for membership on a high school squad.
- c. Participants will furnish their own clothing (sweat suits, shorts, shoes, etc.).
- d. Activities shall be limited to running, weight training, and calisthenics. Agility drills that do not involve specific skills of a given sport are also permitted.

- e. Specific equipment pertaining to a given sport may **not** be used. This includes, but is not limited to, such items as footballs, basketballs, volleyballs, wrestling mats, hurdles, shot put, discus, high jump or pole vault standards or landing pits, batting cages, blocking or tackling dummies, charging sleds, and other similar equipment.
- f. In those cases where schools schedule all athletes into a "last hour" athletics class in which no physical education credit is offered, the guidelines outlined in items c, d, and e above shall apply. If this class is a part of the school physical education program and credit is given, those athletes whose sport is not in season may receive instruction in a given sport as long as the different periods in the daily schedule include the same instruction. The teaching units in the physical education program in such situations shall be scheduled so sports that are in season or sports not included in the school's interscholastic program are taught. It is strongly recommended that "last hour" athletics class not be used as a substitute for the regular physical education requirement.

236.7 Penalty: The penalty for violation of By-Law 236 shall be ineligibility for a period not to exceed 365 days in the sport in which the violation occurred. Students who participate in an all-star contest, as defined in By-Law Section 306, who do not meet the requirements in By-Law 236.4 are ineligible in the sport in which the violation occurred for 365 days from the date of the violation and for 90 school days from the date of violation in all other sports.

RELATED QUESTION(S) AND ANSWER(S) BELOW

- Q1:** *We have several members of our girls basketball team who wish to play on a non-school basketball team. May they all play on the same team?*
- A1:** Yes. There is no restriction that would indicate that all players on a non-school team could not be from the same school team. During the school year and outside of the school sport season a non-school basketball team may be solely comprised of members from the same school team or of players who will attend that school the following year.
- Q2:** *May a high school coach work with school team members in non-school sponsored athletic events during the school year?*
- A2:** No. Definite sport seasons have been established during the school year in which school coaches may work with members of school sports teams. It is **NOT** permissible for a high school coach to coach school team members in non-school competitive programs held outside of the school sport season during the school year. It should also be understood that participation in a non-school program shall be voluntary on the part of the individual student. Athletes may not be required to participate in non-school programs by their coaches.
- Q3:** *May a senior athlete, who has completed his/her high school eligibility participate in an All-Star contest during the school year?*
- A3:** Yes. By-Law 236 stipulates that a senior who has completed high school eligibility in a given sport may participate in **one** All-Star contest for that sport during the school year.
- Q4:** *Our Booster Club would like to sponsor a three-on-three basketball competition this spring over Memorial Day to raise money for new basketball warm-ups. Is it permissible for our Booster Club to conduct this event?*
- A4:** No. A Booster Club may not sponsor the three-on-three competition because it is a sub-group of the school, and schools may not sponsor non-school competition. It is acceptable for an outside school group, such as a civic group, to sponsor such an event and any students from your school may participate.
- Q5:** *One of our high school basketball players has received a special personal invitation to attend a college try-out, audition or evaluation event during the fall before the beginning of high school basketball practice. May he/she attend this event without jeopardizing his/her high school eligibility?*
- A5:** If the event is established and advertised as an **open** event that may be attended by anyone, then this student athlete may attend without jeopardizing his/her eligibility providing 1) permission is granted by the school administration if the student is competing in a different fall sport; 2) no school time is missed to travel to or participate in the event without prior approval of the school administration; and 3) the student may not miss a MSHSAA sponsored post season athletic event to participate in or travel to and from the event. However; if the event is open only to those students receiving a special personal invitation, your athlete may attend **only one** invitation event per sport per year unless it is a college try-out sponsored by the college. Attending a second invitation event shall make the student ineligible.
- Q6:** *May a booster club defray the expenses for a member school's boys and girls basketball teams to attend a springtime basketball camp?*
- A6:** No. The cost of attending a specialized sports camp must be paid by the student or parents/guardian of the student. Expenses of the camp include all fees/tuition, travel, lodging, meals and wearing apparel.

237.0 SPORT PARTICIPATION AND CONTACT – DURING THE SUMMER

237.1 Definitions: For the purposes of this section the following definitions are provided:

- a. **Definition of Summer:** Summer is defined as the period beginning with the Friday preceding Memorial Day and ending July 31 for all fall-season sports (See By-Laws 326 and 327-a) and Monday of Standardized Calendar Week Number Six for all other sports.
- b. **Definition of Contact Day:** A day of contact is defined as any date on which any coaching or instruction in the skills and techniques of any sport takes place, regardless of whether activity-specific equipment is used. Any of the following would count as a day of contact – competition, practice, review or chalkboard sessions, open facility, camp/clinic, group lessons, private lessons. Conditioning/Strength activities will not count as a contact day, as long as the activity adheres to the provisions outlined in By-Law 236.6-a through e. Simply being at a school facility will not count as a day of contact unless both coach and student are there and the sport (as defined above) is taking place.

237.2 During the summer, students may participate in sports activity, as long as such activity meets the provisions contained in other applicable MSHSAA by-laws, and under the following conditions:

- a. **Limits on Contact – High School Only:** For High Schools (Grades 9-12) only, a limit of twenty-five (25) contact days are allowed per sport, per gender during the summer (as defined in By-Law 237.1-a). Sports contact, as defined above, between any coach for a particular sport and gender and any student enrolled at the member school or who will be enrolled in and attending the member school that fall will count as one day of contact toward the limit of 25 days for that sport. Summer contact days shall be documented and available upon request to other member schools and/or the MSHSAA office. Contact taking place after July 31 for fall sports and Monday of Standardized Calendar Week Number Six for other sports must meet the requirements outlined in By-Laws 235 or 236.
- b. **Limits on Contact – Junior High:** The school will determine any restrictions on contact between their current or incoming students and their school coaches. However, Junior High Schools must adhere to any contact restrictions outlined in By-Law 237, with the exception of By-Law 237.2-a.
- c. **General Requirements:**
 1. **Summertime Dead Period:** See By-Law 108 regarding the required Summertime Dead Period.
 2. **Voluntary Participation:** All participation of students during the summer shall be voluntary and cannot be required directly or indirectly for team membership.
 3. **Fall Sport Dead Period:** The period from and including August 1 through and including the Sunday of Standardized Calendar Week Number Six shall be a Fall Sport Dead Period in which no contact takes place between school coaches/directors of MSHSAA-sponsored activities and students enrolled in the member school, or who will be enrolled in the member school during the upcoming school year. Further, during this period, fall sport athletes shall not attend any specialized sports camp involving a fall season sport.
 4. **All-Star:** No All-Star Participation may take place for any student with remaining high school sport eligibility.
 5. **Amateur Standards:** Students must adhere to the Amateur Standards outlined in By-Law 231.
 6. Any camp fee (tuition) shall be provided by the student or the student's parents. Any use of school equipment and/or facilities must be approved by school administration.
 7. No school owned personal player uniforms or equipment shall be used other than as outlined in By-Law 237.2-d-2 and By-Law 306-c. Member schools may not rent, sell, lease, or loan their uniforms or player equipment for use in non-school sponsored camps or clinics or contests, other than outlined in By-Law 237.2-d-2 and By-Law 306-c.
- d. **Football Activities:** The following requirements are in place for the sport of football.

1. Definitions:

- (a) **Half-Shell:** Participants may wear football equipment consisting of helmets, shoulder pads, and jerseys only. Contact is permitted with blocking sleds, dummies, and hand-to-chest contact is allowed for training on hand placement and displacement of opponents only, and participants may not take other participants to the ground.
 - (b) **Full-Pad Tackle:** Participants may wear equipment beyond what is defined as "half-shell" and contact beyond what is outlined in "half-shell" is allowed.
 - (c) **Acclimation Requirement:** Full-pad tackle football is only allowed after a period of three (3) consecutive days of heat and equipment acclimation in half-shell. These days will count as days of summer contact toward the football limit. If three (3) or more consecutive days pass where players have not participated in either full-pad tackle football or half-shell football, a new three-day acclimation period is required prior to full-pad tackle football.
 - (d) **Full-Pad Tackle Football Team Camp:** For the purposes of this section, a full-pad tackle football team camp shall be no fewer than three consecutive days and no more than six consecutive days. If such a team camp is attended for FEWER than three consecutive days, it will still count as **three** summer contact days toward the limit of 25 and will count as **three** full-pad tackle days toward the limit of nine.
- 2. Full-Pad Tackle Restrictions:** A maximum of nine (9) summer contact days may be used for full-pad tackle

football under the following options. All remaining summer contact days shall be conducted in no more than half-shell.

(a) **Non-School Sponsored Football Team Camps:** Schools may allow personal player uniforms and equipment (helmets, pads, jerseys, etc.), to be utilized when the school is attending a non-school sponsored team football camp, where the school coach will be accompanying and coaching the players. Full-pad tackle football is allowed at such a camp after the acclimation requirement is met, and under the duration limits in 1-d above.

(b) **School Sponsored Football Activity:** Any activity (competitive or instructional) sponsored by one school is restricted to students enrolled at that school. Full-pad tackle football is allowed in such activities after the acclimation requirement is met.

Editor's Note: No MSHSAA catastrophic insurance coverage is in place during the summer. Schools are encouraged to review the MSHSAA Sports Medicine Manual regarding applicable topics, such as heat acclimation and proper hydration.

- e. **School Sponsored Summer Sports Camps (other than football):** A member school or school district may sponsor its own summer sport(s) camp(s) (team and/or individual camp) during the summer provided the following criteria are met:
1. Only students enrolled to enter the 9th grade who will attend the school or currently enrolled students in the sponsoring school may attend the school-sponsored camp.
 2. For a school-sponsored team camp, each school team participating in the camp shall be coached and supervised at all times by a member of that school's coaching staff.
 3. A school may sponsor a youth aged camp open to any student to attend up to and including the summer preceding entry into the eighth (8th) grade.
- f. **Non-School Sponsored Summer Sports Camps:** There is no restriction on the number of non-school sponsored specialized sports camps an individual athlete may attend during the summer provided all of the standards in this By-Law are met.

Editor's Note: No MSHSAA catastrophic insurance coverage is in place during the summer.

RELATED QUESTION(S) AND ANSWER(S) BELOW

- Q1:** *Our school would like to transport a group of enrolled students on a school bus during the summer to a) a summer basketball league game, or b) a summer basketball team camp. Is this permissible in the summer?*
- A1:** Summertime requirements and restrictions have changed quite a bit based on the amendments passed by the membership on the 2009 Annual Ballot. There is now less differentiation between "interscholastic" and "non-school" activities during the summer. Rather, coaches and schools are restricted in the number of **contact** days they have with their enrolled students. Because of this, students may now "represent the school" in summer competition. As a result, the provision of transportation to summertime events is at the discretion of the local school administration. If your school prefers to transport your enrolled students on a school bus to an event (competition or instructional) where the students are representing the school and school coaches are supervising the students, this is allowable (summer only) and the transportation expenses do not need to be charged back to the students. (Please note that there are different restrictions in place during the academic year as per By-Laws 235.5-a-2 and 236.1-h.)
- Q2:** *Are our cheerleaders and dance teams restricted in the number of days they may have contact with their coach(es) during the summer?*
- A2:** No. Cheer and dance are classified as non-athletic activities under the MSHSAA by-laws. Non-athletic activities are not required to limit contact days; however, a local school may opt to do so. Further, contact is limited during the 'summertime dead period' outlined in By-Law 108.
- Q3:** *May a high school host a football team camp if it is **not** a full-contact camp (i.e. half-shell camps)?*
- A3:** Yes, a school could hold a half-shell team camp. All teams must be accompanied by their school coach(es) and these days **would** count as days of contact. A school may NOT host a full-pad tackle team camp.
- Q4:** *Our summer school program begins the first week in June and concludes the second week of July. We have a conditioning and weight training class. The class is open to all students, most of whom are our athletes. The class is taught by our football coach. Will this count as contact days?*
- A4:** If the coach teaches a unit on football these days will be considered contact days and must be counted against the school's 25 days of football contact. If the class does not include sport specific instruction and is limited to generic conditioning and weight-training, the summer school days will not count toward football contact days. .
- Q5:** *Our football coaches have worked out a schedule for the summer and have divided up the duties to allow each some time off to be home with their families. The head coach is going to work with the team on Mondays and Wednesdays and play seven-on-seven on Saturdays. Our assistant coaches are going to open up the weight room on Tuesdays and Thursdays. We would also like to host our own full contact camp the fourth week in July for four days. a) Do we have to count all of these days as contact days? b) Can our assistant coaches go to the games on Saturdays?*

- A5:** **a)** the days that any coach from that sport is giving instruction will be counted as contact days (Mondays, Wednesdays, Saturdays and the four days of camp). If the assistant coaches' contact is in regard to weight training only, those days would not count as contact. However, if sport specific instruction takes place on those days, they count as contact days. Example: Weight training concludes and the kickers go and get a couple of balls and practice kicking out on the field. Contact has now occurred. **b)** Your assistants can attend any function. The school must keep track of sport specific contact. Any football contact, with instruction is considered one day of contact. You can have three coaches with three different sets of students from the same school doing different things on the same day and that is one day of contact.
- Q6:** *In regard to "contact" and instruction, when does the summer period end?*
- A6:** For fall sports the last day of "summer" is July 31. For all other sports the last day of summer is the Sunday of week six of the standardized calendar.
- Q7:** *Our school's tennis coach also has a full-time position with our local parks and recreation department. During the summertime the parks department employees several of our high school students to help with youth instruction. Tennis is one of our activities that is taught during the summer. a) Will these days count as contact days? b) Will the students have to stop working during the "dead period"?*
- A7:** **a)** Yes, the days that the school tennis coach is providing instruction in tennis to enrolled students are contact days. **b)** During the dead period the school tennis coach cannot instruct students who are enrolled or will be enrolled in your school next year. The enrolled students may not assist the tennis coach with instructions during the dead period.
- Q8:** *Our YMCA sponsors a summertime volleyball league which they run in their facility. Enrolled students at our school play on various teams that participate in this league during the summer. This summer several of our coaches, including our volleyball coaches, are playing together on a team that is participating in this league. During the summer, a) Is it permissible for one of the student teams to play against a faculty team? b) Does this count as contact? c) What if both teams are playing, but not each other?*
- A8:** **a and b)** It is permissible for the teams to compete against one another and such activity will not count as contact **unless** the school coaches instruct the enrolled students. **c)** The teams may play on the same night on different courts and this will not count as a contact day, unless sport specific instruction is given.
- Q9:** *Our school's cross country and track coach is the same person. How much contact could he have with each team during the summer?*
- A9:** The coach may have 25 days of cross country contact and 25 days of track contact. Obviously, because of the similarities in the training for these two separate sports, tracking contact days for each may be difficult, but is required.
- Q10:** *Our school is going to attend a non-school football full-pad tackle camp in the southern part of the state. We will have to travel for one day to get to the camp. Do the two days to drive there and back count as contact days?*
- A10:** No, as long as these are purely travel days, they would not count as contact days. However, if you stop along the way and practice, or if coaches are instructing during the trip down or back, these would become contact days.
- Q11:** *What may take place during the fall sport dead period for the fall sports?*
- A11:** No instructional contact may take place for fall sports during the period between August 1 and the first day of practice – including camp/clinic and competition. Weight-training may take place and may be supervised by a fall sport coach, but no sport-specific instruction may take place.
- Q12:** *What may take place during the fall sport dead period for winter sports?*
- A12:** Winter sport coaches may provide sport-specific instruction and may continue to have sports contact during the fall sport dead period, **unless** the school has selected this week for the Summertime Dead Period, in which case no contact may take place at all.
- Q13:** *I am a coach at a school and my daughter is a student at my school, and she participates in the sport that I coach. I am coaching a summer league team that she plays on, but she is the only student from my school that plays on this team. All other players are from other area schools. Will my days of instructing this team count as contact days?*
- A13:** No. The only exemption to the contact rules is the coaching of a son/daughter, **as long as** there are **no other students** on the team that are enrolled at the same school.
- Q14:** *I am the boys and girls basketball coach at my high school. I am going to hold an open gym at school for enrolled boys and girls on July 15. How will this day count toward my contact days for the summer?*
- A14:** This day will count as one contact day against the boys total of 25 and as one day against the girls total of 25.
- Q15:** *On the four Tuesdays in July, our head soccer coach is going to be instructing our varsity players at the high school, while our assistant soccer coach is going to be instructing our junior varsity players at the middle school. How many contact days will we use?*

- A15:** Four. The same number of contact days would be used if all players and coaches were at the same location on these four Tuesdays.
- Q16:** *How many contact days do our junior high school coaches have?*
- A16:** The number of contact days for the junior high school level is to be determined by the local school administration.
- Q17:** *We have several girls from our school that wish to participate on a team in the Show-Me State Games. Do the Non-School Competition Standards contained in By-Laws 235, 236 and 237 apply?*
- A17:** Yes. All standards contained in By-Laws 235, 236 and 237 apply to participation in the Show- Me State Games the same as any other non-school competition.
- Q18:** *Our high school coaches each want the school to sponsor a youth-aged sport camp this summer for grades 4-8. We have two middle schools and several non-public parish schools going to grade 8. Are there restrictions on the students who may attend?*
- A18:** Yes. Any student may attend the camp who pays his or her own fees up to and including the summer **preceding** the 8th grade. Once a student enters the 8th grade, he/she may only attend a school sponsored sport camp at the high school where he/she is enrolled to attend classes as a freshman.
- Q19:** *The local Lions Club is sponsoring a basketball camp this summer and would like to use our high school gym. Can we allow them to hold a camp in our facilities, and who may attend the camp?*
- A19:** Your local school district policies would determine whether or not the Lions Club could use your facilities; however, the Lions Club must follow the same guidelines for rental, use, proof of insurance, etc. that any other outside group would be required to follow under your school district's policies. Under such camp sponsorship (non-school entity), no restrictions as to school enrollment of the participants would be in place. However, the sponsors should be careful **not** to represent the camp as a school camp (using school mascot, colors, etc. in flyers, on t-shirts, etc.)
- Q20:** *This fall, during the school volleyball season, our girls volleyball team would like to sponsor a youth age volleyball camp for students in grades 6 through 8. In our community we have two middle schools with each school feeding into a different high school. Are there any limitations on who may attend the volleyball camp which is being sponsored by only one of our two high schools?*
- A20:** Yes, there is a limitation. For the 8th graders only those students enrolled in the district's middle school which feeds directly into the sponsoring high school may attend the camp. If the school district were to sponsor the camp then those students attending the public school district's middle schools could attend the camp.
- Q21:** *Our team was scheduled to attend a team basketball camp during the first week of summer vacation. Due to severe weather this winter and the resulting snow days, our school year has been extended into this week. Due to our long-established plans to attend this camp, can our school receive an exception due to the late change in our school release date and attend the team camp?*
- A21:** No. While the Board of Directors has granted relief under similar circumstances for school-sponsored individual skills camps, team camps have not been granted an exception. Unlike a school-sponsored individual skills camp where only one school is affected, team camps involve various schools with varying release dates. Granting one school an exception could place another school in a quandary as schools should not miss class time.
- Q22:** *Public school A is hosting a summer volleyball camp, grades 9-12, for district students during July. There are residents within the school district who are attending a non-public school. Since they live within the school district, may they attend school A's volleyball camp?*
- A22:** No. By-Law 237.2-e provides that except for a team camp, only students enrolled in the sponsoring school or school district may attend. Students living in a particular school district but who do not attend the public school serving that district are not eligible to attend the public school's sponsored individual camp. Students may only attend school sponsored camps at the school in which they are officially enrolled.
- Q23:** *I am a high school coach and plan to take a group to a team summer sports camp. How can or should I determine the "team" that I take? (Hand-pick, promote it and take the first ten that turn in their information and payment, take all that want to go, etc.) What if 40 kids want to go? I obviously can't take that many. Since my team is not yet set, I want to be fair but I have to be realistic as well. What would be permissible?*
- A23:** You are correct that since you are outside of the interscholastic season, your team is not "set." Therefore, it is not appropriate to hand-pick the group that you take. It would be acceptable to distribute camp information to the underclass players from the past season's school team, given they have already shown an interest in the sport. The information should also be made publicly available to the students at school at the same time it is distributed to the players, prior to the release of school for the summer. You may set a due date for the information and payment to be turned in, and/or a maximum number that you plan to take (due to camp restrictions or logistics, etc.) with a first-come first-served approach to reach your maximum. If you have more interest than space available for one team, you could break the group into two teams and take all interested students (this may change the price per player since most team camps charge by the team) and they would likely get more playing time at the camp. It would not be appropriate to hold try-outs for selection of a team to attend the camp.

238.0 RESIDENCE AND TRANSFER REQUIREMENTS

238.1 DEFINITIONS: For the purpose of determining residency and the appropriate transfer exception, the following definitions are provided:

- a. **Parent** - The term parent shall mean the student's: 1) natural parent; 2) adoptive parent; 3) foster parent, designated by court order; or 4) legal guardian designated by court order.
- b. **Residence** - Residence shall be defined as the place where the student and his/her parents have established their permanent home. This means that the family regularly eats and sleeps in a specific place of lodging. It is a place where the student and his/her parents are habitually present and to which when departing, they intend to return. The permanent home of a student with parents who are divorced or separated shall be the dwelling place where a student has resided with one of his/her parents for a majority of the overnight periods during the 365 consecutive days immediately prior to enrollment.
- c. **Change of Residence** - A change of residence under this rule shall consist of the moving of all household properties to the new address and the parents and student actually living there; a second family residence shall not meet the requirements of this standard.
- d. **District** - All member schools, both public and non-public, shall establish defined geographical attendance districts for athletic eligibility purposes. The boundary for a non-public school attendance district shall be established by the school's governing board and shall include an area not to exceed a twenty-five mile radius measured from the school principal's office. A current map showing the non-public school's attendance district boundary shall be on file in the MSHSAA office. Any subsequent change in the non-public school's attendance boundary must be reported to the MSHSAA office no later than February 1 preceding the school year the change is to become effective since any change will be used in determining the eligibility of transfer students. The boundary for a Charter School attendance district is set by state law, but may be reduced at the school's discretion for athletic eligibility purposes only. If thus reduced, a current map showing the Charter School's attendance boundary shall be on file in the MSHSAA office and changes must be reported no later than February 1 preceding the school year the change is to become effective. The Missouri School for the Blind and the Missouri School of the Deaf shall be exempt from establishing a defined geographic attendance district for athletic eligibility purposes.
- e. **Restricted Eligibility** - A transfer student who is granted restricted eligibility may participate in designated sports only at the subvarsity level of competition until the student has been in continuous attendance at the new school for 365 days from the date of enrollment.

238.2 RESIDENCE REQUIREMENTS--A junior or senior high school student may be eligible at the public or non-public school located in the district in which the student's parents (as defined in By-Law 238.1-a above) reside. In the case of a public multiple school district, a student may be eligible at the school designated for the student to attend by the board of education. A student may also meet eligibility Residence Standards under the following provisions:

- a. A student who is enrolled in a special learning center or magnet school may be eligible to represent the public school serving the district or attendance area of the parents' residency in any sport not sponsored by the school he/she attends.
- b. The residence standards shall be waived 365 days from the date a student enrolls in a member school provided enrollment in that member school has been continuous.

238.3 TRANSFER OF ENROLLMENT REQUIREMENTS--The following standards are for the purpose of assuring fairness to all students.

- a. Students who transfer schools or do not meet the requirements of residency upon enrollment at the school as outlined above are ineligible for 365 days unless their cases meet the standards under the EXCEPTIONS THAT FOLLOW:
 1. **STANDARD TRANSFER: CORRESPONDING CHANGE OF RESIDENCE OF PARENTS--**If there is a corresponding change of residence of parents, from the attendance district of the school where a student has been enrolled **to** the new district, the student may be eligible as soon as the transfer of eligibility is approved by the MSHSAA office. For the purpose of this provision, if the districts served by the two schools overlap, the term "new district" shall mean a district in which the original residence was not located. The purpose of this section shall be to avoid any loss of eligibility when parents transfer residence to a new district for **other than athletic reasons**. **Note:** *If a student from a broken home moves from the residence of one parent to that of the other parent and transfers schools, eligibility may not be considered under this exception.*
 - (a) This change of residence must be **simultaneous** with the transfer of enrollment except when for educational reasons and awaiting occupancy of a new residence, a request is made to the MSHSAA office to permit the student to enroll at a new school at the beginning of a new year or semester and to become eligible as of the date the actual move takes place, such request shall be granted.
 - (b) If parents transfer to a new district, the student, to retain eligibility without establishing a 365 days period of attendance, must transfer his/her enrollment simultaneously with the transfer of residence of parents, or no later than the beginning of the next school year.
 - (c) If a student has lived with an individual other than a parent for 365 or more consecutive days, and then a

- change of residence as defined in By-Law 238.1-c takes place that necessitates a transfer of eligibility, this exception may be used to request eligibility.
- (d) In the case of a student whose parents are divorced or separated, this exception may only be used if the student has resided with the re-locating parent for a majority of the overnight periods during the 365 consecutive days immediately prior to enrollment.
2. **TRANSFER AT PROMOTION**--Provided the transfer does not involve undue influence and is not for athletic reasons, a student may be eligible immediately at the school of his/her choice upon first entering when:
- (a) The student is promoted from the sixth grade to the seventh grade.
- (b) The student is promoted from the eighth grade to the ninth grade, provided the student is eligible in all other respects.
- (c) The student completes the highest grade in an elementary school that is not a part of a system supporting a high school (K-8), provided the student is eligible in all other respects.
3. **TRANSFER FROM A NON-MEMBER SCHOOL**--A student is eligible upon his/her first transfer from a non-member school to a MSHSAA member school where he/she meets the Residence Standards contained in By-Law 238.2 provided the transfer does not involve undue influence and is not for athletic reasons. **Editor's Note:** *A non-member school is defined as one which is not a member of MSHSAA or, if it is located in another state, is not a member of that state's high school activities association.*
4. **TRANSFER FROM UNACCREDITED PUBLIC SCHOOL**--A student may be eligible upon his or her first transfer from an unaccredited public school to an accredited public school where the student's tuition is required by state law to be paid by the home district provided the transfer does not involve undue influence and is not for athletic reasons. Likewise, a student may be eligible upon his/her first transfer back to his/her home school if the school regains accreditation provided:
- (a) the student transfers within 365 days of accreditation being regained and
- (b) the transfer does not involve undue influence and is not for athletic reasons.
5. **SPECIAL TRANSFERS**--
- (a) Any transfer within any school system ordered by the board of education or governing body of a non-public school system, that is not for athletic reasons, shall be considered as meeting the standards of transfer of residence. An assignment by the Commissioner of Education in accord with provisions contained in RSMo 167.121 shall meet this requirement.
- (b) In case of reorganization, consolidation, or annexation of school districts, a student may be considered eligible at the designated school of the enlarged district immediately.
- (c) If a school is discontinued or closed to any group of students for reasons other than (b) above, its students may be eligible immediately in the school of their choice provided the standards of residence above are met.
- Editor's Note:** *Item 5-a is not referring to a situation in which a family makes a request to the school board for re-assignment which is granted, but rather a transfer that is mandated by the district due to special services, etc.*
6. **BOARDING SCHOOLS**--A student who transfers for the first time to a boarding school*, provided the school is not a specialized athletic/academy boarding school, and lives in the dormitory of the school may be eligible as soon as certified in accord with By-Law 234. Likewise, a student who has been attending a boarding school, provided it is not a specialized athletic/academy boarding school, and living in its dormitory under this provision may be eligible upon the student's first transfer to a school at which he/she meets the residence standards contained under By-Law 238.2 provided the transfer does not involve undue influence and is not for athletic reasons. **For purposes of this standard, a boarding school is defined as a school which provides a residential community setting for students in which a full range of boarding services are provided (dormitory counselors, 24 hours a day supervision, a social program, 3 meals a day, etc).*
7. **TRANSFER FROM APPROVED FOREIGN EXCHANGE PROGRAM** -- A student who transfers for the first time from a foreign exchange program that is listed on the Advisory List of International Educational Travel and Exchange Programs published by the Council on Standards for International Educational Travel shall have unrestricted eligibility under the following conditions.
- (a) The transfer shall occur at the semester.
- (b) The student shall return to the previous high school attended prior to participation in the exchange program.
- (c) The student must meet the residence requirement in By-Law 238.2.
- (d) The student shall meet all essential eligibility requirements.
- (e) The transfer shall not be a result of undue influence or for athletic reasons.
8. **HARDSHIP**--The Board of Directors may grant eligibility to a transfer student who does not meet the Transfer Standards when sufficient evidence is provided to show that it was **necessary** for the student to transfer because of unforeseen, unavoidable, or unusual circumstances provided the transfer was not for athletic reasons and there was no undue influence.
- (a) Hardship requests for students in the seventh and eighth grades will be granted if the Principals of both the sending and receiving schools approve the request and indicate that they do not believe that the transfer was made for athletic reasons or due to undue influence.
- (b) A military officer who is deemed by the Department of Defense as "mission essential" and who is further required to live within the boundaries of the military base, may upon arrival enroll his/her child(ren) in a school district that is contiguous to the school of residency (as defined in 238.2) and such child(ren) shall

be considered eligible under this exception. Once the child attends a school, he/she would then be eligible only at that school.

(c) A student who is granted eligibility under this provision shall be eligible upon notification by the Executive Director.

9. **WAIVER**--Even though a student transfers schools under circumstances which do not meet the terms of the Transfer of Enrollment Standards, he/she still may be granted eligibility to participate in interscholastic athletics as hereinafter restricted if the student qualifies under the following terms and conditions:

(a) A student whose name has been included on a school eligibility roster **at any level** (varsity, junior varsity, freshman, junior high, etc.) for a given sport during the 12 calendar months preceding the date of such transfer can be eligible only for sub-varsity competition in that sport(s) for 365 days from the date of transfer. A student may have unrestricted eligibility in all other sports in which his/her name has not appeared on a school eligibility roster (at any level).

(b) A student who has attended a school system that does not sponsor interscholastic athletics but who has participated in organized non-school competition, as defined in By-Law 235.1-a-2, during the 12 calendar months preceding the date of such transfer can be eligible only for sub-varsity competition in that sport(s) for 365 days from the date of transfer. A student may have unrestricted eligibility in all other sports in which he/she did not participate.

Eligibility can be granted provided the athletic eligibility is approved by the principals of both the sending and receiving schools and the Board of Directors and further provided there is no athletic purpose involved in the transfer. The student shall be ineligible for all sports for 365 days from the date of transfer in the event that either or both principals or the Board of Directors decline to approve athletic eligibility.

Editor's Note: A student transferring under the Waiver in grades 7-8 shall have restricted eligibility from the highest team in the junior high/middle school i.e. "A" Team restricted to "B" Team.

10. **FOREIGN EXCHANGE STUDENT:**

(a) A foreign exchange student is an international student who attends high school in the U.S. To be eligible for interscholastic athletics in a MSHSAA member school, such student must be under the auspices of and be placed with a Missouri host family by an international student exchange program that has been accepted for listing by the Council on Standards for International Educational Travel (CSIET) and be recognized by the U.S. Department of State. The foreign exchange program must assign students to host families by a method that ensures that no student, or his/her parents, school or other interested party may influence the assignment for athletic or other purposes. The foreign exchange student may not be selected or placed on any basis related to his/her athletic interests or abilities.

(b) A foreign exchange student is considered to be placed with a host family when written notice of placement is provided by the exchange organization to the student and his/her parents, and to the host family.

i. Neither the school the student attends nor any person associated with the school shall have input into the selection of the student.

ii. If a member of the school's coaching staff, paid or voluntary, serves as the host family, the foreign exchange student shall not be eligible to participate at any level in the sport(s) (by gender) for which the coach coaches.

(c) A senior foreign exchange student, in his/her 7th and 8th semesters, attending a member school may be considered eligible with no restrictions to participate in interscholastic athletics during his/her 7th and 8th semesters only, provided the following conditions are met.

i. The foreign exchange student must comply with all other eligibility requirements.

ii. The student has not previously attended any other American high school.

iii. The foreign exchange student is eligible at the public or non-public school(s) located in the district in which the foreign exchange student's host family resides, as defined in By-Law 238.1-b.

(d) Non-Senior Foreign Exchange Students: Any foreign exchange student in his/her first through sixth semester of school attendance (as defined in By-Law 214) will be considered eligible only under By-Law 238.3-a-9.

b. **General Regulations Applying to All Transfer Students:**

1. **ELIGIBLE AT TIME OF TRANSFER**--A transfer student must be eligible in all respects at the school from which he or she is transferring to be eligible at the school to which he or she is transferring. Competing against another school before participating students are certified as eligible shall be considered a violation.

2. **TRANSFER PROCESS**--A transfer request shall be expedited for any transfer student (one who was not enrolled in the school district or system the previous year) before a student may be considered eligible without establishing a 365 days period of attendance from the date of enrollment. The student shall not be permitted to compete until the principal receives the information from the school from which he or she transferred, verifying that the student meets the standards of eligibility to compete.

3. **FIFTH DAY OF ENROLLMENT**--No transfer student can become eligible until the fifth day of enrollment. **EXCEPTION:** If an interscholastic contest is played either before the formal opening of school or before the fifth day of the fall semester, a transfer student who is eligible in all other respects may be eligible to participate under this provision provided the student is properly enrolled in the school.

4. **TRANSFER AFTER START OF STATE TOURNAMENT SERIES**--A student who participates in a MSHSAA district or state tournament contest shall not be eligible during the state tournament series in the same sport in the same season at a second school, even if the student completes an otherwise legal transfer to the second school.

RELATED QUESTION(S) AND ANSWER(S) BELOW

- Q1:** *A parent is unhappy with a particular program in his local school district (School A). He moves with his son to an apartment located in another district (School B), leaving the other parent and the rest of the family in the first district (School A). Will that boy be eligible at the second school (School B)?*
- A1:** No. A student is eligible only in the district in which his/her parents physically reside. A second family residence shall not meet the requirements of this standard. Situations involving divorce, **legal** separation or other unusual circumstances could affect this ruling. If those circumstances exist the school (School B in this case) must document a request for eligibility with letters from both parents and the other school (School A in this case).
- Q2:** *We have a student who will be transferring to our school at the beginning of his junior year without a corresponding change of residence of his parents. He is transferring from a four-year public high school. When will he be eligible to a) practice as a member of a team and b) participate in interscholastic competition?*
- A2:** a) The student may practice as a member of a team provided proof of insurance and a physical form are on file with the school. b) The student is not eligible to participate in interscholastic competition until the receiving school has completed the transfer process by utilizing one of the ten transfer exceptions. Any student who transfers his/her enrollment is initially ineligible, and may request eligibility through the online transfer process.
- Q3:** *We have an eleventh grade student who transferred to our school in October. She has resided with her parents in our public district for several years; however, when she entered the ninth grade, she chose to attend a neighboring public school. When will she become eligible?*
- A3:** She will become eligible without restrictions next October after she has attended your school continuously for 365 days, as long as she is eligible in all other respects, per By-Laws 210-219.
- Q4:** *A student who has attended our school for a number of years withdrew during the first semester of his sophomore year and is presently being home schooled. Discussions with his parents indicate that the student will re-enroll here at our school at the beginning of the second semester of his sophomore year. When will this student be eligible for interscholastic activities?*
- A4:** The transfer from the home school to a MSHSAA member school is considered a transfer from a non-member school. Because this is the student's first transfer from a non-member school to a MSHSAA member school the student would become eligible as soon as the online transfer of eligibility request has been approved by MSHSAA, providing all other general essential eligibility requirements have been met. Should this same student follow this course of action again, the student would **not** be eligible under By-Law 238.3-a-3 and would need to review the other exceptions. In order to determine the student's **academic** progress, the school must follow the procedure outlined in the MSHSAA Policy for Determining Eligibility of Students Transferring to Member Schools From Home Schools or From ACE-Type Programs to place him in appropriate classes. In this particular case, this student would be a second semester sophomore for eligibility purposes, unless the member school determines that he should be placed as a junior or senior. If so, the student would only have semesters of eligibility remaining congruent with the academic placement by the school. If, however, placement is as a freshman for this student, the student would still be considered to be in his fourth semester of attendance (second semester sophomore) for eligibility purposes.
- Q5:** *A student moves from her parents' home to live with her grandparents. The change of residence results in a transfer of schools. If the grandparents are designated as the legal guardians of this student will the student be eligible to participate in athletics?*
- A5:** Due to the transfer, the student is initially ineligible following the transfer, but the receiving school may file a transfer of eligibility request for the student. Depending on the reasons for the move/transfer, the waiver or hardship transfer exceptions may be applicable. The student would become eligible as soon as the online transfer of eligibility request has been approved by MSHSAA, providing all other general essential eligibility requirements have been met. The receiving school should discuss the specifics of the move with the student, the parents, and the grandparents before filing a request with the MSHSAA office.
- Q6:** *We have an 11th grade student who has attended our school continuously for the past eight years. His parents are moving to a neighboring school district. May he continue to represent our school in athletics if he moves to the new district with his parents or if he remains in our district and lives with an uncle?*
- A6:** Yes in both cases. Item (e) of the Residence Standards (By-Law 238.2-b) provides that "the Residence Standards shall be waived 365 days from the date a student enrolls in a school provided enrollment in that school has been continuous." However, the student and his parents should be advised that under these conditions if he continues to attend your school beyond the beginning of the next school year and then subsequently transfers to the school in the district to which his parents are moving, he would have to attend the new school for a 365-day period before he would become eligible to represent that school in interscholastic athletics. See next question below for exception.
- Q7:** *We have a student who moved to our district with her parents in August. She has attended our school for two months and now her parents are moving to a neighboring school district. May she continue to represent our school in athletics with no restrictions now if she remains in our district and lives with her uncle?*
- A7:** No. In this situation the student would become ineligible at your school on the date her parents move from your district. She could subsequently become eligible at your school after she has attended there continuously for a 365-

day period. (By-Law 238.2-b) The school may apply for a Transfer Waiver exception in this situation (By-Law 238.3-a-9) If she moves with her parents, she would become eligible as soon as properly certified at the school in the district in which her parents take up residence provided she transfers her enrollment simultaneously with the transfer of residence of her parents.

- Q8:** *By-Law 238.1-b requires all MSHSAA member non-public schools to establish defined geographical attendance districts for athletic eligibility purposes. Also, By-Law 238.3-a-1 stipulates that a transfer student may be eligible at his/her new school providing there is a corresponding change of residence of parents from the attendance district of the school where the student has been enrolled to the new district. It further provides that if the districts served by the two schools (the school from which the student is transferring and the school to which the student is transferring) overlap, the term "new district" shall mean a district in which the original family residence was not located. How do these standards affect the athletic eligibility of a student who transfers to a MSHSAA non-public member school?*
- A8:** MSHSAA By-Law 238.3-a-2 indicates that a student may be eligible only at the school(s) (both public and non-public) located in the geographical attendance district(s) in which the student's parents reside. Thus, if a student transfers at any time to a school that is not located in the geographical attendance district(s) in which the student's parents reside, it would affect athletic eligibility. If such transfer occurs at the time of promotion from the highest level of junior high school (usually 8th to 9th) the student would be restricted to the J.V. level in all sports for 365 days from the date of promotion. If such transfer occurs after promotion from the highest level of junior high school, the student would initially be ineligible. In either case, the receiving school could apply for either the waiver or the hardship. The only exception to this provision is that a student is eligible unrestricted at the school of his/her choice at the time of promotion from the 6th grade to the 7th grade or from the 8th grade to the 9th grade.
- Q9:** *A student resides in a community that has three public high schools and two non-public high schools. The boundaries of the attendance districts for the two non-public schools (A and B) are the city limits. The attendance districts for the three public schools (1, 2 and 3) encompass three separate defined geographical segments of the city. The family residence was located in public school 2's attendance district when, upon entering the ninth grade, the student enrolled at non-public school A. Between his sophomore and junior years of school the family moves to a home in public school 3's attendance district. The student wishes to transfer to non-public school B to start his junior year. Will he be eligible under the Transfer of Enrollment Standards at non-public school B?*
- A9:** No. Both the original family residence (in public school 2's attendance district) and the new family residence (in public school 3's attendance district) are in non-public school B's attendance district. Thus, the change of residence in this case would not meet the criteria contained in By-Law 238.3-a-1 since the family did not move from one non-public school attendance district into a different non-public school attendance district. In this case the student could continue to attend non-public school A or transfer to public school 3 and be eligible on an unrestricted basis at either school. It should be noted that in any case where a transfer student is not eligible under the Transfer Standards, eligibility may be requested under the Transfer Waiver provision.
- Q10:** *A student enrolled in our school today who is an emancipated minor. He became 18 years of age in July preceding the opening of the school year. He previously lived with his parents in their family home located in a neighboring district and attended school there. However, he is now living in an apartment in our district. Based on the fact he is an emancipated minor and is residing in our school district, the law requires us to accept him as a student. Is he eligible to represent our school in interscholastic athletics?*
- A10:** No. MSHSAA By-Law 238.3-a-1 (Transfer of Enrollment Standards) stipulates that in order for a transfer student to be eligible, there must be a corresponding change of residence of the student's parents from the district where the student has been in attendance to the new district. The By-Law includes no exception to this requirement for an emancipated minor.
- Q11:** *As a result of a tax levy defeat, the Board of Education of our neighboring school district has determined they will eliminate all interscholastic athletics for junior and senior high school students next year. We have received inquiries from several parents about the possibility of their children transferring to our school either: a) as tuition students who would commute daily from their home; or b) as resident students who would live with a court appointed guardian in our district. Would these students be eligible to participate in our interscholastic athletic program?*
- A11:** No in both a) and b). Students transferring under such circumstances would not be eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics at your school for a 365 day period since their parents will not have completed a permanent change of residence to your district as is required in By-Law 238.3-a-1. A transfer of eligibility request may be filed with the MSHSAA office to seek some level of eligibility. MSHSAA By-Laws do not recognize differences in academic or extracurricular offerings between schools. Each school district is responsible for providing both academic and nonacademic programs to satisfy the needs of its students.
- Q12:** *Our school has hired a teacher who lives in a neighboring school district and who previously taught at the school which serves the district in which his residence is located. He has a son who will be a junior next year and has been playing on the neighboring school's basketball team. According to state law, a child attending a school in a district other than the district of residence, when the child's parent teaches in that non-residence district, if accepted as a non-tuition student, shall be counted in the average daily attendance as a resident pupil. Therefore, could this teacher's son transfer to our school and be eligible to participate on our varsity basketball team next year if the family does not move into our district?*

- A12:** No. MSHSAA By-Law 238.3-a-1 provides that a student who transfers to your school under the circumstances described above would not be eligible at your school to play on the varsity level since there would not be a corresponding change of residence of his parents to your district. The only exceptions to this would be contained in By-Law 238.3-a-2 which permits a student promoted from the 6th grade to the 7th grade or from the 8th grade to the 9th grade to be eligible at the school of his/her choice. There may be circumstances creating a necessity to change schools. These would be considered under By-Law 238.3-a-8, Hardship Transfer.
- Q13:** *We have a transfer student who comes from a broken home. He previously was living with his mother and step-father in a neighboring school district. However, he has now moved to live with his father and step-mother in our district. He used to live in our district and attended our school prior to his parent's divorce. At the time of the divorce some three years ago, he moved with his mother to the neighboring district. Since this student is now living with a parent in our district, can he be considered eligible immediately?*
- A13:** No. The MSHSAA Transfer of Enrollment Requirements contained in By-Law 238.3-a-1 provide that in order for a student to be eligible immediately at a new school, there must be a corresponding change of residence of the parent with whom he has been living to your district. This case would have to be considered under a different exception. The student would not initially be eligible.
- Q14:** *Do the restrictions included in the Transfer of Enrollment Requirements (By-Law 238) apply to students who wish to participate in interscholastic music, speech/debate/theatre, sideline cheer, scholar bowl or dance/pom and winter guard non-athletic activities?*
- A14:** No. Eligibility requirements for students participating in music, speech/debate/theatre, sideline cheer, scholar bowl and dance/pom and winter guard activities are included in By-Laws 210 through 219, and the activity specific by-laws contained in the Handbook. The Transfer of Enrollment Requirements included in By-Law 238 apply only to athletics activities. However, disciplinary ineligibility may carry over if the sending school provides the receiving school with complete information regarding the nature of the infraction and resulting disciplinary action.
- Q15:** *Does disciplinary ineligibility in one school carry over to the second school when a student transfers?*
- A15:** Yes. By-Law 238.3-b-1 provides that a transfer student must be eligible in all respects at the school from which he or she is transferring to be eligible at the school to which he or she is transferring. In cases involving non-athletic activities, the sending school should notify the receiving school of any disciplinary ineligibility so that the receiving school can make an informed decision regarding the student's eligibility.
- Q16:** *One of our basketball players was removed from our team for the remainder of the season due to violating several team rules. He has transferred to another school. Will he be eligible for athletics at the new school?*
- A16:** No. Discipline from the sending school moves forward. Therefore, he is not eligible at any level until the basketball season is completed. Then his eligibility must be considered under one of the transfer provisions. If for example, a student at School A lost eligibility for 60 days due to disciplinary infractions and transferred to School B, the disciplinary ineligibility would continue at School B until the 60-day suspension had been completed. This applies to both athletic and non-athletic activities.
- Q17:** *We have a female student whose parents moved to our school district because of a job change. All members of the family have moved and she has met all of the transfer standards. She is a basketball player and was a member of her previous school's varsity team that was defeated last week in district play. We are competing in the quarterfinals of the state tournament this Saturday. Will she be eligible to compete on our team after she has been in attendance at our school for five days?*
- A17:** No. By-Law 238.3-b-4 provides that a student who has participated in a MSHSAA district or state tournament contest at a sending school shall not be eligible during the state tournament series in the same sport during the same school year at a receiving school, even if the student completes an otherwise legal transfer to the receiving school. In addition, to be eligible for MSHSAA district or state competition at a given school, a student must compete in at least one regular season contest in that sport at that school.
- Q18:** *We have a foreign student attending our school through an unapproved foreign exchange program. A family within our community will serve as the host family for this student providing he switches to an approved program. If this occurs would the student have unrestricted eligibility?*
- A18:** No. A student's eligibility through a foreign exchange program is established based upon the original program. A shift in foreign exchange programs will not affect the eligibility status of the foreign student.
- Q19:** *We have a foreign exchange student from Germany enrolled in our school this year. She is here through an approved CSIET program and we have classified her as a senior this year. Will she be eligible to participate in a) interscholastic sports and b) interscholastic activities?*
- A19:** a) This student could become eligible under exception 10 of the transfer rules, but there are certain requirements which may affect her eligibility status. The athletic director will need to proceed through the online transfer request process to determine the eligibility level. b) The transfer rules do not apply to MSHSAA activities (music, sideline

cheer, speech/debate/theatre, scholar bowl or dance/pom and winter guard). However the student must meet the essential eligibility standards contained in by-laws 210-219.

Q20: *We have a foreign student enrolled in our school who is living with family friends in our district. He is not involved in a foreign student exchange program. Is he eligible to participate in our interscholastic athletic program?*

A20: The student is ineligible until the athletic director submits a transfer of enrollment request via the MSHSAA website to determine the eligibility level of the student. Eligibility must be determined under By-Law 238.3, Transfer of Enrollment Requirements. If the student meets one of the ten exceptions listed, he may have some level of eligibility granted for athletics. This student does not meet exception 10 as he is not here on through an approved CSIET program.

239.0 POST HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

A student shall not have graduated from a four-year high school or its equivalent. Any student graduating during the final week of a semester shall be eligible to participate in any game or games played during said week, the final week terminating at midnight on Saturday. However, a student may play in a MSHSAA tournament series although the student may have graduated any time in May preceding the tournament.

240.0 SPECIAL PROVISIONS FOR THE MISSOURI SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND AND THE MISSOURI SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF

The essential requirements of eligibility in By-Laws 210 through 242 may be waived by the Board of Directors for the Missouri School for the Blind when in competition only with other schools for the blind provided such competition is governed by the standards adopted by the North Central Association of Schools for the Blind. The standards contained in By-Laws 210 through 242 shall be applied in all other competition.

Except for the Age Standard, the MSHSAA Board of Directors is authorized to waive provisions of the By-Laws to accommodate programs of the Missouri School for the Deaf and the Missouri School for the Blind that are otherwise restricted because of the nature of the handicap of the students involved.

250. STUDENT ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR MUSIC

250.

250.1 Any student who represents his/her school in interscholastic competitive and/or evaluative music activities shall meet the standards contained in this section in addition to those in By-Laws 210 through 219.

RELATED QUESTION(S) AND ANSWER(S) BELOW

Q1: *Our school's concert choir is performing a joint concert with a neighboring school's band. Can a student who is academically ineligible participate with the choir?*

A1: Yes. MSHSAA student eligibility requirements only apply to competitive/evaluative music events. (By-Law 250.1)

251.0 ELIGIBILITY FOR ENSEMBLE AND SOLO EVENTS

- a. Students enrolled in grades seven through twelve are eligible for participation in ensemble events, provided they are enrolled in a member junior or senior high school. If the junior high school in which they are enrolled is not a member of MSHSAA, they shall not be eligible to represent the senior high school in district, state, or invitational music festivals, contests, or clinics. Students enrolled below the seventh grade are not eligible for interscholastic activities.
- b. A soloist must be a member of a school music performing organization except in the case of any instrument listed under those accepted for solos in the MSHSAA Evaluative Music Festival Manual that is not represented in the school's musical organizations, such student may be entered when certified by the school administration.

252.0 ENTRY REQUIREMENTS FOR DISTRICT AND STATE FESTIVALS

A student must be entered by a senior high school. Students enrolled in member junior high schools may be entered in music festivals by senior high schools as provided in the Music Evaluative Festival Manual, but may not be entered in such events by member junior high schools. All district and state events sponsored by MSHSAA at the present time are for senior high schools only.

RELATED QUESTION(S) AND ANSWER(S) BELOW

- Q1:** *We have a student who plays the piano and wishes to enter a piano solo in the district music festival. She has been in the school band in past years. However, due to scheduling conflicts she is unable to participate in band this year. She has refused to serve as an accompanist or to participate in any extra curricular school music groups. Is she eligible to enter a piano solo in the district music festival?*
- A1:** No. Since she is not a member of a school music performing organization, she would not be eligible to participate in the district music festival.

253.0 MISSING SCHOOL TIME

Any student who misses school time because of participating in an unapproved music event, or because of any travel involved, shall be ineligible to represent the school in interscholastic music for a period not to exceed 365 days from the date of violation unless the absence is approved in advance by the school administrator.

254.0 CERTIFICATION OF MUSIC ELIGIBILITY

- 254.1** Certification on the MSHSAA Online Membership System:
- Each student, prior to participating in an interscholastic contest, must be certified as eligible through the MSHSAA Online Membership System by an administrator of the junior or senior high school the student attends. Changes in eligibility at the beginning of second semester shall be made on the system by an administrator.
 - New additions shall be certified as eligible as described above prior to allowing the student to participate in an interscholastic contest.
 - If a participant is omitted from the eligibility certification process in error and is certified in writing by the principal to have been eligible at the time of the participation, the Board of Directors shall have discretionary authority to determine whether a penalty is appropriate and the nature and duration of such penalty. The principal shall submit a report to the executive director explaining the circumstances of the omission error.

255.0 REPRESENTING THE SCHOOL

Participants shall not represent the school (appearing in school uniform, school-named clothing, at school facilities, or with mascot/school colors) to endorse or promote a product/service, commercial venture, political venture, etc. without prior, written consent by a school administrator.

256.0 PENALTY FOR VIOLATION OF STANDARDS

A student that violates any of these standards (By-Laws, etc.) shall be ineligible from participation in any interscholastic event in the specified activity for a period not to exceed 365 days. It shall further be considered a violation for member schools to participate in an interscholastic event with a member school so suspended.

260. STUDENT ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR SPEECH

260.

260.1 Any student who represents his/her school in interscholastic speech activities shall meet the requirements contained in By-Laws 210 through 219, in addition to those under this article.

261.0 MISSING SCHOOL TIME

Any student who misses school time because of participating in an unapproved speech event, or because of any travel involved, shall be ineligible to represent the school in interscholastic speech for a period not to exceed 365 days from the date of violation unless the absence is approved in advance by the school administrator.

262.0 LIMITS ON PARTICIPATION

Students enrolled in grades nine-twelve shall participate in no more than eleven interscholastic speech and/or debate meets, festivals, and/or tournaments during the school year, inclusive of the Missouri NFL Tournament and exclusive of the MSHSAA district and state tournaments. Seventh and/or eighth grade students shall participate in no more than five interscholastic speech and/or debate meets, festivals, and/or tournaments during the school year.

A student shall give the same individual speech/selection in no more than eleven (11) tournaments, meets, or festivals during a school year exclusive of Missouri National Forensic League and MSHSAA District and State events. An individual speech/selection shall not be repeated by a student who gave that speech/selection in an interscholastic speech event in a previous school year (grades 9-12). This restriction applies to district and state events, as well as to the regular season.

RELATED QUESTION(S) AND ANSWER(S) BELOW

- Q1:** *Our duet acting team presented a cutting from a play in several interscholastic tournaments last year. May they present a different cutting from the same play this year or may one of the students present the same cutting in the dramatic interpretation event?*
- A1:** No. A student shall not give the same selection in any tournament, meet, or festival he or she gave in any previous year of high school competition. A selection is defined as the entire work from which a cutting is taken, including plays.
- Q2:** *Students at our school plan to compete in American Legion Oratorical Contest, the VFW Voice of America Contest and the Optimist International oratorical Contest. Would any of these contests court against the eleven allowable speech tournaments for a given student?*
- A2:** No. Students are not representing the school speech team in these contests.
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263.0 CERTIFICATION OF SPEECH ELIGIBILITY

- 263.1** Certification on the MSHSAA Online Membership System:
- Each student, prior to participating in an interscholastic contest, must be certified as eligible through the MSHSAA Online Membership System by an administrator of the junior or senior high school the student attends. Changes in eligibility at the beginning of second semester shall be made on the system by an administrator.
 - New additions shall be certified as eligible as described above prior to allowing the student to participate in an interscholastic contest.
 - If a participant is omitted from the eligibility certification process in error and is certified in writing by the principal to have been eligible at the time of the participation, the Board of Directors shall have discretionary authority to determine whether a penalty is appropriate and the nature and duration of such penalty. The principal shall submit a report to the executive director explaining the circumstances of the omission error.

264.0 REPRESENTING THE SCHOOL

Participants shall not represent the school (appearing in school uniform, school-named clothing, at school facilities, or with mascot/school colors) to endorse or promote a product/service, commercial venture, political venture, etc. without prior, written consent by a school administrator.

265.0 PENALTY FOR VIOLATION OF STANDARDS

A student that violates any of these standards (By-Laws, etc.) shall be ineligible from participation in any interscholastic event in the specified activity for a period not to exceed 365 days. It shall further be considered a violation for member schools to participate in an interscholastic event with a member school so suspended.

270. STUDENT ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR SIDELINE CHEERLEADERS 270.

- 270.1** Sideline Cheer - A sideline cheer squad is responsible for boosting school spirit, promoting good sportsmanship, developing positive crowd involvement and will help their school achieve the most worthwhile educational objectives in its interscholastic program.
- 270.2** All sideline cheerleaders shall meet the following requirements in addition to those in By-Laws 210 through 219.

RELATED QUESTION(S) AND ANSWER(S) BELOW

- Q1:** *Our school would like to sponsor a competitive cheer team to participate in various competitive events throughout the school year. There are members of our sideline cheer team who would like to participate on the competitive cheer team as well. Is this allowed?*
- A1:** MSHSAA has no jurisdiction over competitive cheer. Therefore it would be considered a "club activity" (much like ice hockey or bowling) with oversight of this activity administered through the local school administration. However, please be advised that participants are covered under the MSHSAA catastrophic insurance for **sideline cheer** only. Any injuries sustained while involved with competitive cheer are not covered under the MSHSAA insurance policy.
- Q2:** *One of our varsity football cheerleaders would like to compete during the high school football season with an independent cheering team. May she do so?*
- A2:** MSHSAA has no jurisdiction over competitive cheer. Whether a school sideline cheerleader may participate in competitive cheer with an independent team during the season she is cheering for the school is a local school administration decision.
- Q3:** *Our school has recently added competitive cheer as a club activity. Is it allowable for the competitive cheer team to wear the school cheer uniform when participating in competitive cheer events?*
- A3:** MSHSAA has no jurisdiction over competitive cheer. If a school sponsors a club competitive cheer team, the use of the school cheer uniforms and equipment is up to local administration.
- Q4:** *Our school will be conducting sideline cheer try-outs this spring for the next school year. We have been contacted by a family who will be moving into our school attendance area this summer and enrolling a child for classes during our fall registration period. The child would like to participate in the try-outs this spring; however the student is not currently an enrolled student at our school. Our school does not conduct fall try-outs for the sideline cheer team. Can the student participate in our spring try-outs?*
- A4:** This is a local school decision as the MSHSAA transfer rules do not apply to MSHSAA sponsored activities (music; dance; sideline cheer; speech/debate/theatre; or scholar bowl). Some schools have addressed this issue by holding a spot open for fall try-outs in case any student who was accepted to the team in the spring left the district and to also address any new students who moved into the district over the summer. A student shall not be permitted to practice or represent a school until a complete, signed certificate of an issued physical is on file with the school (this would include sideline cheer try-outs). Further, the school should note that the MSHSAA catastrophic insurance would not cover an injured student that is not enrolled at the time of try-outs.

271.0 CERTIFICATION OF SIDELINE CHEER ELIGIBILITY

271.1 Certification on the MSHSAA Online Membership System:

- a. Each student, prior to participating in an interscholastic contest, must be certified as eligible through the MSHSAA Online Membership System by an administrator of the junior or senior high school the student attends. Changes in eligibility at the beginning of second semester shall be made on the system by an administrator.
- b. New additions shall be certified as eligible as described above prior to allowing the student to participate in an interscholastic contest.
- c. If a participant is omitted from the eligibility certification process in error and is certified in writing by the principal to have been eligible at the time of the participation, the Board of Directors shall have discretionary authority to determine whether a penalty is appropriate and the nature and duration of such penalty. The principal shall submit a report to the executive director explaining the circumstances of the omission error.

272.0 REPRESENTING THE SCHOOL

272.1 One or more school cheerleaders may represent the school:

- a. At an event sponsored by a member school,
- b. At an event in which another group from the respective school is participating, and
- c. In a maximum of three non-competitive cheer events (e.g. Collegiate sporting event half-time performance, Run for the Cure event) excluding commercial and/or promotional ventures and endorsement events. Such events shall not cause a loss of class time.

272.2 Participants shall not represent the school (appearing in school uniform, school-named clothing, at school facilities, or with mascot/school colors) to endorse or promote a product/service, commercial venture, political venture, etc. without prior, written consent by a school administrator. If consent is given, the requirements of By-Law 275.0 must be met.

RELATED QUESTION(S) AND ANSWER(S) BELOW

Q1: *The local university has invited our high school sideline cheer team to perform during the men's basketball half-time this weekend. Is this allowable and can they wear the school uniform?*

A1: Yes and Yes. MSHSAA By-Law 272.1-c allows a maximum of three **non-competitive** cheer events per year. The uniform may be worn in accord with MSHSAA By-Law 274-c.

273.0 SIDELINE CHEER SEASON

273.1 A school cheerleader's season is defined as the period beginning with the date the student is selected as a school sideline cheerleader and shall end as of the last contest of the last sports season for which the cheerleader's squad is assigned to cheer.

274.0 SCHOOL INSIGNIA

A sideline cheerleader shall not wear the school uniform or insignia except for:

- a. School-sponsored cheer events
- b. Cheer camps when accompanied by a member of the school coaching staff
- c. Events allowed under By-Law 272, Representing the School

RELATED QUESTION(S) AND ANSWER(S) BELOW

Q1: *A local business has invited our high school cheer team to attend and participate in a ribbon cutting ceremony for a new supermarket. Would their presence be allowable under MSHSAA By-Laws?*

A1: No, they may neither attend nor participate, as this is a commercial/promotional/endorsement type event.

275.0 AWARDS

Any award received for sideline cheer shall be symbolic in nature or a merchandise award not to exceed a suggested manufacturer's retail price of \$100.00 as defined in By-Law 231.

Editor's Note: No cash or gift certificates shall be presented as awards.

276.0 PHYSICAL EXAMS AND INSURANCE

- a. The school shall require of each student participating in sideline cheer a certificate of an issued physical signed and authorized by a physician, advanced nurse practitioner in a written collaborative practice with a physician or a certified physician's assistant in collaboration with a sponsoring physician stating that the individual is physically able to participate in sideline cheer activities at her/his school. A student shall not be permitted to practice or represent a school until a complete, signed certificate is on file at the school. The medical certificate is valid for the purpose of this rule if issued on or after February 1 of the previous school year.
 - b. A student shall not be permitted to participate in any cheer activity for a school until it has verification that she/he has basic accident insurance coverage.
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277.0 SIDELINE CHEER CONDITIONING REQUIREMENTS

Each squad must have a minimum of 10 days of conditioning practice and each individual must have participated in a minimum of 10 school conditioning practices on 10 different days during the three consecutive weeks immediately preceding the first calendar date on which the first cheering activity is scheduled.

RELATED QUESTION(S) AND ANSWER(S) BELOW

Q1: *Does sideline cheer conditioning practice count toward the 14 days of practice required under By-Law 310?*

A1: No. Spirit conditioning practices (including sideline cheer, dance/pom, winter guard) will not count toward the athletic conditioning requirement.

Q2: *Is a student who is participating on an athletic team required to meet the conditioning standard again if the student will be participating in spirit (sideline cheer, dance/pom, winter guard) the next sports season?*

A2: No. Athletic conditioning practices will count toward the spirit conditioning requirement, as long as no more than seven days have elapsed between the last game or athletic practice and the first spirit practice.

Q3: *Do the sideline cheerleaders have to have their conditioning practices completed prior to the pre-season football scrimmage?*

A3: Yes, as the sideline cheer team will be representing the school.

278.0 PENALTY FOR VIOLATION OF STANDARDS

A student that violates any of these standards (By-Laws, etc.) shall be ineligible from participation in any interscholastic event in the specified activity for a period not to exceed 365 days. It shall further be considered a violation for member schools to participate in an interscholastic event with a member school so suspended.

280. STUDENT ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR DANCE TEAMS

280.

280.1 Dance teams shall be defined as dance groups, pom pon squads, winter guards, and any other school performing group that primarily involves dance. Members of all dance teams shall meet the following requirements in addition to those in By-Laws 210 through 219.

RELATED QUESTION(S) AND ANSWER(S) BELOW

- Q1:** *What groups are included as dance teams in the MSHSAA Dance Team Manual and how are these groups defined?*
- A1:** Dance teams shall be defined as dance groups, pom pon squads, winter guard and any other school performing group that primarily involves dance. A winter guard is a performing arts group that takes place in the winter which includes flags, is not a part of the band and has membership in the Mid-Continent Color Guard Association. Pom pons is a group which performs to choreographed music with or without the use of props. Dance teams are the same as pom pons but on a larger scale.

281.0 DANCE TEAM CONTESTS

Dance teams shall be allowed a maximum of four in-state or out-of-state contests (competitive events) during the school year (from the opening day of school to the official closing day at the end of the academic year).

These activities shall meet the following standards:

- a. The safety regulations contained in MSHSAA By-Law 105 or any which are more restrictive that are established by the event sponsor shall be followed.
- b. Any dance team event which involves students from more than one school sponsored by a non-school organization or a college or university or which will involve schools from other states shall have the approval of the Board of Directors. Application for approval shall be submitted no later than 30 days prior to the event. An interschool dance team event sponsored by a member school which involves only Missouri schools shall have the approval of the high school administrator.
- c. Events involving students from more than two schools approved for commercial or promotional purposes and which cause a loss of class time shall not be approved for schools outside their respective local communities.
- d. This section shall not be interpreted to prohibit a local board of education from adopting any higher standards that it considers appropriate for its school community.
- e. A student that violates any of these standards (By-Laws, etc.) shall be ineligible from participation in any interscholastic event in the specified activity for a period not to exceed 365 days. It shall further be considered a violation for member schools to participate in an interscholastic event with a member school so suspended.

282.0 AWARDS

- 282.1** Only symbolic awards and a **merchandise award with a manufacturer's suggested retail value not to exceed \$100.00** are permitted. No cash awards shall be offered. (See By-Law 231.2 a & c for definition of allowable awards.) All awards shall be made by the school or by the organization sponsoring a dance team contest as permitted in By-Law 281 above. (This standard does not prohibit a school from accepting expenses for transportation, meals for students, and other similar expenses.)

283.0 PHYSICAL EXAMS AND INSURANCE

- a. The school shall require of each student participating in dance team activities a certificate of an issued physical signed and authorized by a physician, advanced nurse practitioner in a written collaborative practice with a physician, or a certified physician's assistant in collaboration with a sponsoring physician stating that the individual is physically able to participate in dance team activities of the school. A student shall not be permitted to practice or compete for a school until a complete, signed certificate is on file at the school. The medical certificate is valid for the purpose of this rule if issued on or after February 1 of the previous school year.
- b. A student shall not be permitted to participate in any dance team activity for a school until it has verification that she has basic accident insurance coverage.

284.0 CERTIFICATION OF DANCE TEAM ELIGIBILITY

- 284.1** Certification on the MSHSAA Online Membership System:
- a. Each student, prior to participating in an interscholastic contest, must be certified as eligible through the MSHSAA Online Membership System by an administrator of the junior or senior high school the student attends. Changes in eligibility at the beginning of second semester shall be made on the system by an administrator.

- b. New additions shall be certified as eligible as described above prior to allowing the student to participate in an interscholastic contest.
- c. If a participant is omitted from the eligibility certification process in error and is certified in writing by the principal to have been eligible at the time of the participation, the Board of Directors shall have discretionary authority to determine whether a penalty is appropriate and the nature and duration of such penalty. The principal shall submit a report to the executive director explaining the circumstances of the omission error.

285.0 DANCE TEAM CONDITIONING REQUIREMENTS

Each squad must have a minimum of 10 days of conditioning practice and each individual must have participated in a minimum of 10 school conditioning practices on 10 different days during the three consecutive weeks immediately preceding the first calendar date on which the first dance team activity is scheduled.

- Q1:** *Our school dance team has been practicing and performing during the summer months. Does this satisfy 10-day conditioning requirement prior to the start of school?*
- A1:** No, unless the practices have occurred on or after Monday of standardized calendar week 6 (the opening day of conditioning practices). MSHSAA does not regulate spirit activities (sideline cheer, dance/pom, winter guard) during the summer, with the exception of the Summertime Dead Period. MSHSAA only regulates spirit activities during the school year (from the opening day of conditioning practices to the official closing day at the end of the academic year). Therefore the dance team would need to complete the 10 days of conditioning prior to the date of the first interscholastic contest.

286.0 REPRESENTING THE SCHOOL

Participants shall not represent the school (appearing in school uniform, school-named clothing, at school facilities, or with mascot/school colors) to endorse or promote a product/service, commercial venture, political venture, etc. without prior, written consent by a school administrator. If consent is given, the requirements of By-Law 282.0 must be met.

287.0 PENALTY FOR VIOLATION OF STANDARDS

A student that violates any of these standards (By-Laws, etc.) shall be ineligible from participation in any interscholastic event in the specified activity for a period not to exceed 365 days. It shall further be considered a violation for member schools to participate in an interscholastic event with a member school so suspended.

290. STUDENT ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR SCHOLAR BOWL

290.

- 290.1** Any student who represents his/her school in interscholastic scholar bowl shall meet the requirements contained in By-Laws 210 through 219, in addition to those under this article.

291.0 SCHOLAR BOWL DEFINED

Scholar Bowl: Shall be defined as competition between two or more schools which involves the answering of questions by team members "quiz bowl" style. The questions involved shall be eclectic in scope, involving all of the primary academic disciplines (math, science, literature, fine arts, social studies, etc.).

292.0 MISSING SCHOOL TIME

Any student who misses school time because of participating in an unapproved scholar bowl event, or because of any travel involved, shall be ineligible to represent the school in interscholastic scholar bowl events for a period not to exceed 365 days from the date of violation unless the absence is approved in advance by the school administrator.

293.0 LIMITS ON PARTICIPATION

- a. Students enrolled in grades nine through twelve shall participate in no more than fourteen interscholastic scholar bowl competitions during the school year, exclusive of MSHSAA district and state competition. Seventh and/or eighth grade students shall participate in no more than eleven interscholastic scholar bowl competitions during the school year. Ninth grade students if participating at the junior high level are eligible to participate on a higher level team (high school) and have a total of fourteen competitions in which they may participate.

294.0 CERTIFICATION OF SCHOLAR BOWL ELIGIBILITY

294.1 Certification on the MSHSAA Online Membership System:

- a. Each student, prior to participating in an interscholastic contest, must be certified as eligible through the MSHSAA Online Membership System by an administrator of the junior or senior high school the student attends. Changes in eligibility at the beginning of second semester shall be made on the system by an administrator.
- b. New additions shall be certified as eligible as described above prior to allowing the student to participate in an interscholastic contest.
- c. If a participant is omitted from the eligibility certification process in error and is certified in writing by the principal to have been eligible at the time of the participation, the Board of Directors shall have discretionary authority to determine whether a penalty is appropriate and the nature and duration of such penalty. The principal shall submit a report to the executive director explaining the circumstances of the omission error.

295.0 REPRESENTING THE SCHOOL

Participants shall not represent the school (appearing in school uniform, school-named clothing, at school facilities, or with mascot/school colors) to endorse or promote a product/service, commercial venture, political venture, etc. without prior, written consent by a school administrator.

296.0 PENALTY FOR VIOLATION OF STANDARDS

A student that violates any of these standards (By-Laws, etc.) shall be ineligible from participation in any interscholastic event in the specified activity for a period not to exceed 365 days. It shall further be considered a violation for member schools to participate in an interscholastic event with a member school so suspended.

BY-LAW 300 ATHLETIC REGULATIONS THAT APPLY TO ALL JUNIOR AND SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

301.0 DEFINITIONS

- a. **Practice**-- Any attempt of a coach at a given school to provide instruction in any phase of a game or athletic activity to any squad or part of a squad at that school or to have any squad or part of a squad engage in drills under the supervision of a coach, or from directions provided by the coach, involving what has already been taught. Try-outs, so-called "skull sessions," "chalk talks," "walk throughs," etc., are considered practices. "General Informational Meetings" where no attempt is made to teach any phase of a game or activity are permitted before the first allowable practice date of the specific sport season. Except as provided for in By-Laws 232.0-c, 238.2-a, 106 and 107, a junior or senior high school student shall be permitted to participate in school practices only with teams of the school where he/she is properly enrolled.
- b. **Conditioning Practice** -- Any attempt by the coach to engage the student in specific physical activity, drills, and/or instruction involving physical activity designed to elevate the student's level of physical condition for a specific sport.
- c. **Scrimmage** -- Practice of two teams of the same squad under partial game conditions.

- d. **Game** -- A game is any organized play between teams not of the same school. Whether or not officials are hired, admissions charged, etc., are not factors in determining whether the play constitutes a game. So-called "scrimmage games" cannot be played before the date of the first allowable game, must be counted as a game on the school's schedule, and only if the school has not scheduled the maximum number of games allowed.
- e. **Preseason Interschool Football Scrimmage** - A football practice event conducted on the Friday or Saturday of Week 8 [As per By-Law 355.0-i and as per a four-year trial, the scrimmage is currently being conducted during week 7] of the Standardized Calendar involving three or four teams. Play occurs only under partial game conditions as defined in By-Law 350.
- f. **Athletic Jamboree** -- An event in which each school competes 4 quarters or less. This shall be counted as a game on the school's schedule.

RELATED QUESTION(S) AND ANSWER(S) BELOW

- Q1:** *Our basketball coach wishes to "scrimmage" a neighboring school team. Is this permissible and will this count against our game limit?*
- A1:** Yes. However, anytime a so-called scrimmage involves students from more than one high school, it is viewed to be an interscholastic contest. An interschool scrimmage cannot be played before the date of the first allowable game for the season, must be counted as a game on the school's schedule, and may be played only if the school has not scheduled the maximum number of games allowed.
- Q2:** *Our school will have an open gym on Saturday afternoon following our boys basketball team practice. Our coach has advised our players they can stay and scrimmage against people in our community. Is this acceptable?*
- A2:** No. During the school sport season a team may only practice with the school's teams.

302.0 ALUMNI GAMES AND STUDENTS VERSUS FACULTY GAMES

302.1 Alumni Games: Alumni games may be played if they involve only former students playing against the school team, are held within the established season limits stated in the By-Laws, and are counted as one of the school's allowable number of contests in the activity concerned.

302.2 Student versus Faculty Contests: Student-Faculty contests may be played under the following conditions:

- a. Such contests may NOT take place within the school sport season.
- b. Such contests may be co-educational or gender-specific.
- c. One contest per sport per year is allowed. No such contest is allowable in the sport of football.
- d. The contest shall take place at the school, unless appropriate facilities are not owned by the school.
- e. Participation in such contests shall not jeopardize the eligibility of students for the applicable interscholastic sport.

303.0 RULE BOOKS

Rule books and interpretations in all sports shall be those recommended by the National Federation of State High School Associations, except when a change is adopted through the Board of Directors. Regulations adopted by the Board of Directors and contained in sports manuals are official.

304.0 CONTRACTS FOR CONTESTS

Arrangements for all contests between two schools shall be by contract except that for tournaments and invitational meets a written letter or statement will meet the requirements of this rule. A money guarantee shall be made for each contest. In case of a broken contract the offending party shall pay the offended party the sum of the guarantee. However, neither party shall be held to the terms of the contract when broken because of reasons beyond the control of the offending party or upon mutual consent of both parties.

- a. **Contracts To Be Renegotiated** -- Contracts for a game which conflicts with the MSHSAA Football Playoffs shall be renegotiated.

305.0 INITIATING AND PROMOTING CONTESTS

All athletic contests and tournaments in which member schools participate must be initiated and promoted by administrative officials of the participating schools with all profits of games going only to participating schools.

306.0 ALL-STAR CONTESTS

- a. **Definition** -- An "all-star" contest is defined as any contest involving players from two or more junior or senior high schools who are selected on the basis of their individual athletic accomplishments or reputations gained while competing in interscholastic competition.
- b. **Contests involving high school students with eligibility remaining in the sport concerned** -- No member school shall permit use of its school-owned facilities and equipment (i.e. net standards, wrestling mats, etc.), personal player uniforms and equipment (helmets, pads, jerseys, etc.), nor of its employees, directly or indirectly, in the management, coaching, officiating, supervision, promotion or player selection of any all-star team or contest involving undergraduate high school players, nor shall any person who officiates or coaches such game be permitted to register with MSHSAA.
- c. **Contests involving high school graduates or students with no eligibility remaining in the sport concerned** -- Provided the event occurs after the completion of the school sport season for the sport concerned and involves only students with no eligibility remaining in the sport concerned or graduates, a member school may permit the use of its school-owned facilities and equipment (i.e. net standards, wrestling mats, etc), personal player uniforms and equipment (helmets, pads, jerseys, etc.), or employees to be involved in **only one** all-star event, per sport, per year. Employees may be involved either directly or indirectly through coaching (including enrolled students), promoting, organizing, administering or player selection of any such all-star team or contest. MSHSAA registered officials may officiate all-star contests provided such event occurs after the completion of the school sport season for the sport concerned and involves only students with no eligibility remaining in the sport concerned or graduates. Provided, however, the organizer of the all-star contest must assume sole responsibility in writing for supervision and use of these facilities, uniforms, equipment and employees, during any practice for or during the all-star contest and provide the school with a certificate of liability insurance with limits and coverage for athletic participation satisfactory to the school. **Editor's Note:** No MSHSAA catastrophic insurance coverage is in place for such contests.

RELATED QUESTION(S) AND ANSWER(S) BELOW

- Q1:** *We have a junior golfer, who played in the high school state tournament, who received an invitation to participate in a non-school golf tournament this summer. The invitation was addressed "Dear State Place Finisher." Would this be considered an All-Star event?*
- A1:** Yes. The student has been identified and invited, it appears, based on the participation and accomplishment in the high school tournament. By-Law 235, under the definition of an All-Star event in By-Law 306, would indicate the student would lose high school golf eligibility if participating in this event.
- Q2:** *Can an official who is registered with MSHSAA officiate in an All-Star contest after completion of the interscholastic season in the sport concerned?*
- A2:** Yes, if the contest meets the requirements in By-Law 306-c.
- Q3:** *May athletes who have been selected to participate in all-star contests wear or otherwise use school-owned equipment and/or uniforms?*
- A3:** Yes, with the school's permission.
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307.0 SPECIAL PROVISIONS FOR GIRLS' PROGRAMS

Interscholastic athletic activities involving boys and girls competing with or against each other shall be governed by the following:

- a. Girls may not participate on a boys interscholastic athletic team in a sport if the school sponsors a girls team in that sport.
- b. Girls may participate on a boys interscholastic athletic team in a non- contact sport if the school does not sponsor a girls interscholastic athletic team in that sport. It shall be the responsibility of the local board of education to determine whether to allow teams in sports defined as contact sports in the Title IX Regulations.

- c. Boys may not participate on a girls interscholastic athletic team if the school's over-all boys athletic program equals or exceeds the over-all girls athletic program. If the boys over-all athletic program is not comparable in scope to the girls over-all athletic program, the principal may request an evaluation of his/her athletic program in order to assure equitable athletic programs for both boys and girls.
- d. Coed teams may compete against other coed teams or against boys teams but may not compete against girls teams.

RELATED QUESTION(S) AND ANSWER(S) BELOW

- Q1:** *Our school sponsors both a boys and girls golf team. The girls play during the fall sports season and the boys during the spring. We have a girl who wishes to tryout for the boys team rather than play on the girls team. Is this permissible?*
- A1:** No. Whenever a school offers both a boys and girls interscholastic program in a sport, girls may participate only on the girls team.
- Q2:** *Because of finances, it has become necessary for our school to combine its girls and boys tennis teams. Is it permissible to play coed tennis?*
- A2:** Yes. Coed teams may compete against other coed teams or against boys teams but not against girls teams. Coed teams are eligible to enter ONLY the MSHSAA Boys State Tournament Series in the spring season. Schools should be aware of maintaining a balance between boys and girls programs in relationship to Title IX.

308.0 PARENTAL PERMISSION

Prior to each year of interscholastic athletic participation, a student shall furnish a statement, signed by the student's parents or guardians, which grants permission for the student to participate in interscholastic athletics.

309.0 PHYSICAL EXAMS AND INSURANCE

- a. The school shall require of each student participating in athletics a certificate of an issued physical signed and authorized by a physician, advanced nurse practitioner in written collaborative practice with a physician, or a certified physician's assistant in collaboration with a sponsoring physician stating that the individual is physically able to participate in athletic practices and contests of his/her school. A student shall not be permitted to practice or compete for a school until a complete, signed certificate is on file at the school. The medical certificate is valid for the purpose of this rule if issued on or after February 1 of the previous school year.
- b. A student shall **not** be permitted to practice or compete for a school until it has verification that he or she has basic athletic insurance coverage.

RELATED QUESTION(S) AND ANSWER(S) BELOW

- Q1:** *May a physical for athletic participation be administered by a) a physician, b) a chiropractor, c) an advanced nurse practitioner in a written collaborative practice with a physician, d) a certified physicians assistant in collaboration with a sponsoring physician, e) a nurse?*
- A1:** a) Yes. b) Yes. c) Yes. d) Yes. e) No. In order for a nurse or physician's assistant to be allowed to certify an athletic physical he/she must be an advanced nurse practitioner or the physician's assistant in a written collaborative practice with a physician.
- Q2:** *Many of our students will be receiving their physicals by a certified physician's assistant in a written collaborative practice with a physician. The physician's assistant will have his/her signature on the physical form. Is it necessary for the physician to also have signed the physical form?*
- A2:** No. The physician is not required to sign each form. However, it is required that the physician's name must be listed in some manner on the physical form in order to be valid. This confirms the existence of the written collaborative practice of the physician and the certified physician's assistant. This same procedure is required for an advanced nurse practitioner in a similar collaborative practice.
- Q3:** *A junior in our school was issued a physical on January 22 of this school year. Will this physical still be valid for the spring sports season of her senior year?*
- A3:** No. Physicals issued prior to February 1 are valid only for the current school year. Physicals issued after February 1, of a given school year, are valid for the remainder of the current school year and all of the ensuing school year.

310.0 CONDITIONING REQUIREMENTS

Each squad must have 14 days of conditioning practice and each individual must have participated in 14 school conditioning practices on 14 different days prior to the date of the first interscholastic contest in all sports except fall baseball, golf, fall softball, and tennis. For fall baseball, golf, fall softball, and tennis each squad must have a minimum of 10 days of conditioning practice and each individual must have participated in 10 school conditioning practices on 10 different days prior to the date of the first interscholastic contest. This requirement shall be met if a student has been a member of another school sports squad immediately preceding the sport season, has been actively practicing with the sport squad, has had 14 days of physical conditioning and begins physical conditioning practice with the new sport squad with no more than seven calendar days having passed between the two sports before beginning practice.

RELATED QUESTION(S) AND ANSWER(S) BELOW

- Q1:** *We have two members of our school football team who will be attending a National Guard camp during the first week of our school's pre-season football practice. When they return, there will be only twelve practice days remaining prior to the date of our first game. If we schedule practice twice a day so they participate in at least fourteen practices during the twelve day period will they be eligible to participate in our first game?*
- A1:** No. The Conditioning Standards require that each individual squad member must participate in fourteen school practices on fourteen **different** days prior to the first game in which a student participates.
- Q2:** *MSHSAA By-Law 310 provides that each individual player must have participated in 14 school practices on 14 different days prior to the first game in which a student participates in an interscholastic athletic contest, except when a student has been a member of another school sports squad immediately preceding and has had the 14 days conditioning. What is meant by the term "immediately preceding?"*
- A2:** The Board of Directors has interpreted the term "immediately preceding" in this particular provision to mean that no more than 7 days elapse since a student last participated in a practice and/or contest as a member of another school sports squad. Thus, if a student plays in his school's last football game on November 13, he would have until November 21 to begin practicing with the basketball squad and be eligible immediately to participate interscholastically in the sport of basketball. If he waits until after November 21 to go out for the basketball squad, then he would have to meet the conditioning standards by participating in at least 14 school practices on 14 different days prior to being eligible to participate in an interscholastic basketball contest.
- Q3:** *Does cheer conditioning practice count toward the 14 days of practice required under By-Law 310?*
- A3:** No. Cheer conditioning practices will not count toward the athletic conditioning requirement.

NOTE: See By-Law 277 for Cheer Conditioning Requirements and By-Law 285 for Dance Team Conditioning Requirements.

311.0 TOURNAMENT, MEET, AND MULTIPLE-GAME EVENT SANCTION REGULATIONS

- 311.1** Invitational tournaments and meets sponsored by a member school are to be approved by the high school administrator and shall meet the following standards:
- a. All Sports --
 1. Only the following schools shall participate.
 - (a) MSHSAA member schools registered in the particular sport
 - (b) member schools of another state activities/athletic association which is a member of the NFHS
 - (c) member schools of a like-state association which is recognized for competition by another state activities/athletic association which is a member of the NFHS
 - (d) individual schools recognized for competition by another state activities/athletic association which is a member of the NFHS
 - (e) The Board of Directors may take action to disallow participation against one or more specific out-of-state schools which otherwise meet (a), (b), (c) or (d) above if circumstances deem it advisable, and/or in order to protect MSHSAA member schools or the philosophy of interscholastic activities in Missouri.
 2. Provisions contained in the MSHSAA By-Laws shall be adhered to by each school.
 3. No double elimination, except that a consolation bracket may be played.
 4. Round robin (one-pool) tournaments shall include no more than six schools, except basketball for which the limit is four schools. Multiple-pool tournaments allow a specific number of teams to move from pool play to a

final bracket. (See sport specific By-Laws below for maximum number of teams allowed in each pool.) For tournaments involving seven teams, the format may include both bracket play (four teams) and pool play (three teams) with each team playing two games and then one additional game is played between the top three teams in the bracket play and the three teams in pool play.

5. Cross-bracketed pool play (schools within one pool play only the schools in an opposite pool) is allowable; however, sport-specific tournament game/match limitations must be adhered to by each school.
- b. Basketball --
1. No basketball tournament shall include more than 8 school teams, except:
 - (a) The MSHSAA district and state tournament series;
 - (b) A conference tournament when only conference schools are participating;
 - (c) Pool play tournaments shall include no more than six total teams, three in each pool, with only one additional game permitted each team outside of pool play;
 - (d) A boys/girls tournament when it is necessary to invite more than 8 schools to complete an 8-team bracket for either the boys or girls division;
 - (1) No school shall host two 8-team boys or two 8-team girls tournaments of the same level during the same or consecutive weeks other than as provided in (e) and (f) below.
 - (e) A tournament held during the Christmas or Thanksgiving holidays that includes no more than 16 schools, that is scheduled so no school will compete on more than one school night preceding a school day, and that causes no loss of school time.
 - (f) A tournament held during the Christmas holidays that begins no earlier than the day following Christmas Day and ends before any school entered resumes classes following the holidays consisting of:
 - (1) Two divisions with no more than 16 teams in each division in which teams compete for divisional honors only; or
 - (2) Three divisions with no more than 8 teams in each division in which teams compete for divisional honors only.
 2. No team may compete in more than three games except in a holiday or conference tournament as specified above, where the limit is four games.
 3. No team shall participate in more than one game on a calendar date with the following exceptions.
 - (a) During an invitational tournament a school may play in no more than two games on a day when school is not in session.
 - (b) Two regular season contests against different opponents may be played on the same calendar date when school is not in session. (See By-Law 341-a, b and c for individual player limitations.)
 4. No team may participate in two basketball tournaments during the same calendar week except for tournaments conducted entirely during the winter break.
- c. Baseball and Softball --
1. For interscholastic baseball and softball tournaments which involve pool play, each pool shall be limited to four teams; no team in the tournament shall compete in more than five games; and all five games shall not be played on the same calendar day.
- d. Soccer --
1. For interscholastic soccer tournaments which involve pool play, each pool shall be limited to four teams; no team in the tournament shall compete in more than five games; and all five games shall not be played on the same calendar day.
- e. Volleyball --
1. For interscholastic volleyball tournaments which involve pool play, each pool shall be limited to five teams. Abbreviated play may only be utilized in pool play. Abbreviated pool play matches do not count toward the tournament match limitation listed in number 2 below.

Editor's Note: Per Board Policy, these are the Approved Formats of Abbreviated Tournament Pool Play:

- (a) Two sets rally scored (no third set) (choice of points, win by two)
 - (b) Two out of three sets rally scored (choice of points, third set must be abbreviated, win by two)
- NOTE: Point caps are allowable under any of the above forms of abbreviated pool play.

2. No team in the tournament shall compete in more than six regulation matches in the tournament.

f. Wrestling --

1. There is no limit on the number of teams participating in a tournament provided no team will compete on more than one school day, and competition on a school day does not begin prior to 4:00 p.m.
2. An individual student shall wrestle no more than the allowable matches on any one calendar day as permitted in the NFHS Wrestling Rules.

311.2 The following provisions must be met in multiple-game events conducted in Missouri organized by a college or university or a non-school entity co-sponsored by a MSHSAA member school **in order for MSHSAA member schools to participate:**

- a. In all games involving MSHSAA member schools (one or both opponents), the designated host school shall be a MSHSAA member school, or the event organizer can designate a MSHSAA member school as the host of the overall event. If a MSHSAA member school is designated as the overall host of the event (i.e. initiating contracts between schools for all games, contracting all game officials and other administrative responsibilities), this overall event host school shall file a detailed financial summary of the event with the participating schools and the

MSHSAA office.

- b. Game officials shall be approved by the participating schools, contracted directly by the host school administration, and registered with MSHSAA in accord with By-Law 162.
- c. All schools participating against MSHSAA member schools shall meet the provisions of 311.1-a-1. It is the responsibility of the MSHSAA member host school to confirm this status of the opposing school(s).
- d. Financial reimbursement to each MSHSAA member school participating in the event shall be made, at a minimum, in the amount equal to the average gate each individual MSHSAA member school would have received if the game were played at the school's facility plus any mileage expense actually incurred. "Local" MSHSAA member schools need not be paid travel expenses. When a high school contest is held "in conjunction" with an intercollegiate contest(s), the institution shall not provide the high school with any financial compensation, including transportation expenses or a guarantee or percentage of the income realized from the contest.
- e. The event organizer shall file a financial report with the MSHSAA office within 90 days following the event. This is the responsibility of the event organizer. When a high school contest is held "in conjunction" with an intercollegiate contest(s), a financial report is not necessary.
- f. Games that involve schools from other states may have state association requirements that are beyond those listed above. It is the responsibility of the MSHSAA member host school(s) and the event organizer to insure that these rules and all those previously mentioned are met.
- g. The event organizer shall insure that the multiple-game event conducted in Missouri is approved at least 90 days in advance by MSHSAA (and the NFHS, if necessary).

Editor's Note for d and e above: *A contest is "in conjunction" with an intercollegiate contest if the college and the high school events are conducted in the same sessions, tickets are sold as a single event, and the playing facility is not cleared between the contests. Items d and e reflect NCAA requirements."*

- 311.3** A tournament or meet sponsored by a college or university involving only Missouri schools, must adhere to the above standards and shall have the approval of the Board of Directors a minimum of 30 days prior to the first date of the event.

Editor's Note: *Such events are approved through the Non-School Sponsored Event Sanctioning Procedure*

- 311.4** Interstate tournaments or meets in which any member school participates shall have the approval of the Board of Directors. Interstate events shall meet the following conditions:

Editor's Note: *Such events are approved through the Interstate Event Sanctioning Procedure*

- a. Sanctioning requirements as set forth by the National Federation shall be followed as well as all MSHSAA sanctioning requirements. (See Appendix D for complete NFHS sanction requirements.)
- b. All interstate events held in Missouri require sponsorship or co-sponsorship by a MSHSAA member school in good standing.
- c. A school may travel to the site of one out of state tournament or invitational meet per year, per sport beyond 250 air miles from the perimeter (border) of the state of Missouri, with the date and location to be determined by the local school administration. All remaining tournaments and invitationals must fall within 250 air-miles from the state border.

Editor's Note: *The extent to which class time is missed due to participation or travel shall be at the discretion of the administration of the participating school.*

- 311.5** MSHSAA and NFHS do not sanction participation in meets, tournaments, or other contests to qualify for and/or determine a national high school championship.

RELATED QUESTION(S) AND ANSWER(S) BELOW

Q1: *Our school has been invited to participate in an event next season which is sponsored by an individual not associated with a member school of any state association. Schools from eight other states have been invited to this interscholastic athletic event. Can our school participate in this event?*

A1: No. MSHSAA By-Law 311 incorporates the requirements of the NFHS Interstate Sanctioning Procedures. All interstate athletic events must be sponsored or co-sponsored by a member school in addition to meeting all other applicable standards.

Q2: *Our school is hosting an invitational basketball tournament. Due to facility scheduling it is necessary to play two rounds of the tournament on Saturday. Is it possible for a team to play two games on that Saturday?*

A2: Yes. A school team may play two games in an invitational tournament on a day when school is not in session. Further, if a regular season contest is postponed due to severe inclement weather conditions, a team may play two regular season contests on the same calendar date when school is not in session.

Q3: *Our school has been asked to participate in a basketball "shoot-out" being sponsored by a neighboring school and a soft drink bottler. Is this event to be handled any differently than a regular season game?*

A3: Yes. Please refer to By-Law 311.2 for all specific requirements.

312.0 DISTRICT AND STATE TOURNAMENTS

- a. All district and state events sponsored by MSHSAA shall be for senior high schools only, or those planned for and evolving as senior high schools which include the tenth grade or higher grades in their enrollments.
- b. To be eligible to enter a team or individual in any preliminary or state event, a school must have competed in at least half of the number of contests permitted under the by-law pertaining to that particular sport. No individual student shall be entered who has not represented his or her school in interscholastic competition in that sport during the season.
- c. Regulations contained in the sports manuals shall be considered official under this By-Law.
- d. Member schools, as per Article III, Section 1, shall be divided into a maximum of six classes, based on the number of schools registered for districts in the activity, for competition in district and state athletic tournaments or meets in all sports except football. Affiliate Registered Schools are not eligible for districts or the state series. For safety purposes, schools shall be divided into six classes in 11-man football, regardless of the number of schools registered. In order for a district and state series to be sponsored by MSHSAA for an activity, a minimum of 50 schools must be registered for the activity for a period of two consecutive years. [See By-Law 700, Emerging Activities.] The procedure for grouping schools into classes for each sport shall be established by the Board of Directors. With the exception of items g and h below, the number of classes in each sport shall be based on the number of schools entering the state series in that sport as follows:
 1. One class -- 50 through 128 schools.
 2. Two classes -- 129 through 192 schools.
 3. Three classes -- 193 schools through 256 schools.
 4. Four classes -- 257 through 512 schools.
 5. Five classes -- 513 through 576 schools.
 6. Six classes -- 577 or more schools.
 - (a) Schools shall be classified on the basis of their coed enrollments in grades 9-12. The enrollment of any school that has the ability to limit its enrollment through selectivity and is exempt from the Missouri School Improvement Program (MSIP) guidelines shall be multiplied by a 1.35 adjustment factor for classification. The enrollment for a single gender school shall be doubled. For single gender schools that are also selective and MSIP exempt, an enrollment adjustment factor of 1.35 shall then be applied for classification.
 - (b) Except in case of annexation, reorganization, consolidation, or discontinuance of a school, the enrollment given on the school's membership form and verified by official enrollment count submitted to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education or approved accrediting agency, under Article III, shall be utilized for the adjustment calculation and sport classification. If verification is needed, the school shall be required to furnish such proof. In case of annexation, reorganization, consolidation, or discontinuance of a school, classification shall be determined by the combined enrollments. The classification for schools in all sports and activities will be as contained in the manuals published for each sport.
- e. Schools participating in the State 11-man Football Playoffs shall be reclassified every two years beginning with the 1988-89 school year and every two years thereafter. The Board of Directors shall be authorized to assign all schools entering the state 11-man football playoffs to districts and to require each school to play all other schools within the assigned district during the regular season to determine qualifiers for the state playoffs.
- f. MSHSAA shall sponsor an 8-man state football championship playoff:
 1. When at a minimum 16 schools are registered to play in the 8-man district and state series; and
 2. Enrollment of the participating school is 200 and below.

Editor's Note: A change in the state series for 8-man football would occur only at the beginning of a two year classification cycle.
- g. Schools participating in cross country, track and basketball shall be divided into classes based on the enrollment of the gender with the larger number of schools participating in the district and state series.
- h. Schools participating in wrestling shall be equally divided into four classes on the basis of enrollment (312-d) for competition in the state wrestling tournament series.

RELATED QUESTION(S) AND ANSWER(S) BELOW

- Q1:** *Our school may drop boys' cross country next year because of financial problems. We have one boy coming back who participated in the State Meet last year. We'd like to see him compete again next year. Will he be able to do so even though our school no longer will be sponsoring cross country?*
- A1:** No. In order for a team or individual to participate in the MSHSAA sponsored tournament program, the school must have an official program, coach and schedule. A school must have competed in at least half of the number of contests permitted under the By-Law pertaining to that particular sport. In cross country the school must participate in a minimum of five meets.

- Q2:** *Our school participates in both boys and girls cross country, which classifies the participating schools into four equally divided classes. Are the classes for boys cross country determined separately from those of the girls, thereby making it possible for our school's girls program to be placed into a different class than our boys program?*
- A2:** No. MSHSAA By-Law 312-g addresses this to insure that a school's boys program and girls program will be assigned to the same class. The four equally divided classes in cross country are based on the enrollment of the gender with the larger number of schools participating in the cross country district and state series.

313.0 SCHEDULING REGULATIONS FOR TEAMS AND PLAYERS

The number of games and tournaments for each team and individual shall be scheduled in accord with the limitations contained within the Sports Seasons in By-Laws 320 through 332 below, except that the participation of basketball and football players shall be governed by the number of quarters played as provided in By-Laws 341 and 351. (**Editor's Note:** *Baseball and Softball -- By-Law 345; Volleyball -- By-Law 370.*)

314.0 OPTIONAL SEASONS

Provided other regulations are met, a school may choose to play another season instead of the official season, but it shall not be permitted to enter the MSHSAA Tournament Series in that sport.

320. SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS SEASONS

320.

321.0 STANDARDIZED CALENDAR

The school year shall be divided into three distinct sports seasons -- fall, winter, and spring. Each sports season shall have established beginning and ending dates for practice and interscholastic contests which will be based on a standardized calendar of numbered weeks so the length of each season will be consistent from year to year. The length of the spring season may fluctuate since it will end on the last day of school except for MSHSAA tournament series contests. Week number one of the Standardized Calendar shall begin with the twenty-first Sunday preceding Thanksgiving and succeeding weeks thereafter shall be numbered consecutively. A calendar week shall begin with Sunday and end the following Saturday.

Editor's Note: *See By-Law 331 for junior high/middle school and freshmen calendar.*

322.0 FALL SPORTS SEASON

*Note: Effective July 1, 2008 for a 4-Year trial period only, as a result of the 2007 Annual Ballot, the first football contest shall be no earlier than the *Friday of Week Number Eight.

322.1 Fall Sports Season—Standardized Dates:

- a. The beginning practice date shall be no earlier than the Monday of Week Number Six of the Standardized Calendar.
- b. The first contest date for fall baseball, fall softball, girls tennis and girls golf shall be no earlier than the Monday of Week Number Eight.
- c. The first contest date for football*, cross country, boys soccer, boys swimming/diving and girls volleyball shall be no earlier than the Friday of Week Number Eight.
- d. The last practice or contest for boys swimming/diving shall be held no later than the Saturday of Week Number Nineteen.
- e. The last practice or contest for fall sports other than boys swimming shall be no later than the Sunday of Week Number Twenty-Two.

Diagram 322: FALL SPORTS SEASON

To follow are the projected beginning and ending dates for the Fall Sports Season. See Standardized Calendar on inside front cover.

BASEBALL (FALL) First Possible Practice First Possible Contest Last Possible Contest	2010-2011 August 9 August 23 November 28	2011-2012 August 8 August 22 November 27	2012-2013 August 6 August 20 November 25	2013-2014 August 12 August 26 December 1
CROSS COUNTRY First Possible Practice First Possible Contest Last Possible Contest	2010-2011 August 9 August 27 November 28	2011-2012 August 8 August 26 November 27	2012-2013 August 6 August 24 November 25	2013-2014 August 12 August 30 December 1
FOOTBALL First Possible Practice First Possible Contest Last Possible Contest	2010-2011 August 9 August 27* November 28	2011-2012 August 8 August 26* November 27	2012-2013 August 6 August 24* November 25	2013-2014 August 12 August 30* December 1
GOLF (GIRLS) First Possible Practice First Possible Contest Last Possible Contest	2010-2011 August 9 August 23 November 28	2011-2012 August 8 August 22 November 27	2012-2013 August 6 August 20 November 25	2013-2014 August 12 August 26 December 1
SOCCER (BOYS) First Possible Practice First Possible Contest Last Possible Contest	2010-2011 August 9 August 27 November 28	2011-2012 August 8 August 26 November 27	2012-2013 August 6 August 24 November 25	2013-2014 August 12 August 30 December 1
SOFTBALL (FALL) First Possible Practice First Possible Contest Last Possible Contest	2010-2011 August 9 August 23 November 28	2011-2012 August 8 August 22 November 27	2012-2013 August 6 August 20 November 25	2013-2014 August 12 August 26 December 1
SWIMMING (BOYS) First Possible Practice First Possible Contest Last Possible Contest	2010-2011 August 9 August 27 November 13	2011-2012 August 8 August 26 November 12	2012-2013 August 6 August 24 November 10	2013-2014 August 12 August 30 November 16
TENNIS (GIRLS) First Possible Practice First Possible Contest Last Possible Contest	2010-2011 August 9 August 23 November 28	2011-2012 August 8 August 22 November 27	2012-2013 August 6 August 20 November 25	2013-2014 August 12 August 26 December 1
VOLLEYBALL (GIRLS) First Possible Practice First Possible Contest Last Possible Contest	2010-2011 August 9 August 27 November 28	2011-2012 August 8 August 26 November 27	2012-2013 August 6 August 24 November 25	2013-2014 August 12 August 30 December 1

323.0 WINTER SPORTS SEASON

323.1 Winter Sports Season—Standardized Dates:

- a. **WRESTLING:** The beginning practice date shall be no earlier than the Monday of Week Number Eighteen of the Standardized Calendar; the first interscholastic contest shall be no earlier than the Monday preceding Thanksgiving (Week Number Twenty-One); and the last practice or contest shall be no later than the Saturday of Week Number Thirty-Seven.
- b. **BASKETBALL:** The beginning practice date shall be no earlier than the Monday of Week Number Nineteen of the Standardized Calendar; the first interscholastic contest shall be no earlier than the Monday preceding Thanksgiving (Week Number Twenty-One); and the last practice or contest shall be no later than the Saturday of Week Number Thirty-Seven.
- c. **SWIMMING (GIRLS):** The beginning practice date shall be no earlier than the Monday of Week Number Twenty of the Standardized Calendar; the first interscholastic contest shall be held no earlier than the Monday of Week number Twenty-Three; and the last practice or contest shall be held no later than the Saturday of Week Number Thirty-Three.

Diagram 323: WINTER SPORTS SEASON

To follow are the projected beginning and ending dates for the Winter Sports Season. See Standardized Calendar on inside front cover.

BASKETBALL	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014
First Possible Practice	November 8	November 7	November 5	November 11
First Possible Contest	November 22	November 21	November 19	November 25
Last Possible Contest	March 19	March 17	March 16	March 22
SWIMMING (GIRLS)	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014
First Possible Practice	November 15	November 14	November 12	November 18
First Possible Contest	December 6	December 5	December 3	December 9
Last Possible Contest	February 19	February 18	February 16	February 22
WRESTLING	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014
First Possible Practice	November 1	October 31	October 29	November 4
First Possible Contest	November 22	November 21	November 19	November 25
Last Possible Contest	March 19	March 17	March 16	March 22

325.0 SPRING SPORTS SEASON

- 325.1 Spring Sports Season—Standardized Dates:** The beginning practice date shall be no earlier than the Monday of Week Number Thirty-Five of the Standardized Calendar; the first interscholastic contest shall be no earlier than the Friday of Week Number Thirty-Seven; and the last contest shall be played no later than the last day of school except for MSHSAA tournament series contests.

Diagram 325: SPRING SPORTS SEASON

To follow are the projected beginning and ending dates for the Spring Sports Season. See Standardized Calendar on inside front cover.

	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014
BASEBALL (SPRING) First Possible Practice First Possible Contest Last Possible Contest	February 28 March 18 Last Day of School except MSHSAA Tournament Series	February 27 March 16 Last Day of School except MSHSAA Tournament Series	February 25 March 15 Last Day of School except MSHSAA Tournament Series	March 3 March 21 Last Day of School except MSHSAA Tournament Series
GOLF (BOYS) First Possible Practice First Possible Contest Last Possible Contest	February 28 March 18 Last Day of School except MSHSAA Tournament Series	February 27 March 16 Last Day of School except MSHSAA Tournament Series	February 25 March 15 Last Day of School except MSHSAA Tournament Series	March 3 March 21 Last Day of School except MSHSAA Tournament Series
SOFTBALL (SPRING) First Possible Practice First Possible Contest Last Possible Contest	February 28 March 18 Last Day of School except MSHSAA Tournament Series	February 27 March 16 Last Day of School except MSHSAA Tournament Series	February 25 March 15 Last Day of School except MSHSAA Tournament Series	March 3 March 21 Last Day of School except MSHSAA Tournament Series
SOCCER (GIRLS) First Possible Practice First Possible Contest Last Possible Contest	February 28 March 18 Last Day of School except MSHSAA Tournament Series	February 27 March 16 Last Day of School except MSHSAA Tournament Series	February 25 March 15 Last Day of School except MSHSAA Tournament Series	March 3 March 21 Last Day of School except MSHSAA Tournament Series
TENNIS (BOYS) First Possible Practice First Possible Contest Last Possible Contest	February 28 March 18 Last Day of School except MSHSAA Tournament Series	February 27 March 16 Last Day of School except MSHSAA Tournament Series	February 25 March 15 Last Day of School except MSHSAA Tournament Series	March 3 March 21 Last Day of School except MSHSAA Tournament Series
TRACK AND FIELD First Possible Practice First Possible Contest Last Possible Contest	February 28 March 18 Last Day of School except MSHSAA Tournament Series	February 27 March 16 Last Day of School except MSHSAA Tournament Series	February 25 March 15 Last Day of School except MSHSAA Tournament Series	March 3 March 21 Last Day of School except MSHSAA Tournament Series

326.0 ASSIGNMENT OF SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS TO SEASONS AND TEAM CONTEST LIMITATIONS

The following sections designate the official season and the number of contests allowed for each school team in each sport.

	Sport:	Scheduling Options / Contests Allowed:
a. FALL	1. Baseball (Fall)	Option 1: 14 games and 3 tournaments Option 2: 18 games and 2 tournaments Option 3: 20 games and 1 tournament
	2. Cross Country	10 meets
	3. Football	10 games
	4. Golf - Girls	Option 1: 11 (No more than 6 of which may include more than 4 schools) Option 2: 14 (No more than 4 of which may include more than 4 schools)
	5. Soccer - Boys	Option 1: 16 games and 3 tournaments Option 2: 18 games and 2 tournaments Option 3: 20 games and 1 tournament
	6. Softball - Girls (Fall)	Option 1: 14 games and 3 tournaments Option 2: 18 games and 2 tournaments
	7. Tennis - Girls	Option 1: 12 matches and 4 tournaments Option 2: 14 matches and 3 tournaments
	8. Volleyball - Girls	Option 1: 16 matches and 3 tournaments Option 2: 18 matches and 2 tournaments
	9. Swimming/Diving - Boys	16 meets
b. WINTER	1. Basketball	Option 1: 16 games and 3 tournaments Option 2: 18 games and 2 tournaments Option 3: 20 games and 1 tournament
	2. Swimming/Diving - Girls	16 meets
	3. Wrestling	15 (no more than 6 of which may be tournaments)
c. SPRING	1. Baseball (Spring)	Option 1: 14 games and 3 tournaments Option 2: 18 games and 2 tournaments Option 3: 20 games and 1 tournament
	2. Golf - Boys	Option 1: 11 (No more than 6 of which may include more than 4 schools) Option 2: 14 (No more than 4 of which may include more than 4 schools)
	3. Softball - Girls (Spring)	Option 1: 14 games and 3 tournaments Option 2: 18 games and 2 tournaments
	4. Soccer - Girls	Option 1: 16 games and 3 tournaments Option 2: 18 games and 2 tournaments Option 3: 20 games and 1 tournament
	5. Tennis - Boys	Option 1: 12 matches and 4 tournaments Option 2: 14 matches and 3 tournaments
	6. Track	13 meets

326.1 Should a school team exceed the allowable game or tournament limitations, the team would, at a minimum, be ineligible for the next game(s) or tournament(s), respectively, equal to the number of contests or tournaments involved in the violation.

NOTE 1: See By-Laws: 310 for required number of practices; 311 for tournament regulations; 313 for scheduling regulations for players and teams; and By-Laws 340 through 381 for player limitations.

NOTE 2: The contest and tournament limitations listed are exclusive of any MSHSAA sponsored tournament series.

RELATED QUESTION(S) AND ANSWER(S) BELOW

- Q1:** *School A has 16 swimming meets scheduled. Meet 15 is a swimming relay and sponsors no diving event. The divers are invited to a diving only meet. Would this be permissible and not exceed the team allowable contest limit?*
- A1:** Yes. A school team at a single level, i.e. varsity team, may schedule no more than 16 meets. An individual athlete may participate in no more than 16 meets at any level or combination of levels. Swimmers are entitled to participate in 16 meets and divers also may participate in 16 meets. If a meet **does not sponsor** diving that meet shall not count as a diver participating in one of his/her allowable 16 meets. In this situation, only the divers could participate in another meet since the event was not scheduled in the regular swimming meet. This is permissible because the divers did not have the opportunity to dive in meet 15 and second, the individual will not exceed 16 total meets. If the divers also swim, the divers may only swim in one individual event in "Swimming Meet 15," in order to dive in this "extra meet."

330. JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS SEASONS

330.

331.0 DEFINITION OF SPORT SEASON

Junior high school sports seasons shall be twelve consecutive calendar weeks in length beginning with the first organized practice with any part of a sports squad and ending with the last interscholastic contest in the sport concerned. The sports season may be extended to a maximum of fourteen consecutive calendar weeks in length whenever the Christmas Holiday period falls within the sports season. The sports season for the ninth grade team may be scheduled at any time during the period beginning with the first possible practice date for the senior high school fall season and ending with the last day of school. The sports season for the seventh and eighth grade teams shall begin no earlier than the Monday of Standardized Calendar Week Number Seven, and end with the last day of school in the spring.

If a ninth grade sports season is scheduled either concurrently with the senior high school season or so that it overlaps the beginning of the senior high school season in a given sport, individual ninth grade athletes may be moved up to play on a higher level team and either participate in a total number of games and tournaments equal to that played by the higher level team on which he/she plays or in a total number of weeks equal to that in the senior high school season whichever comes first.* If a ninth grade sports season is played separately from the senior high school season in a given sport, a ninth grade student shall be permitted to participate in the sport concerned during either season but not during both seasons.

**Editor's Note: In applying this provision, the length of the season in terms of consecutive weeks shall be the same as for the higher team on which the ninth grade student participates. The length of the basketball season (from the first practice to the last game) for senior high schools is 20 weeks.*

RELATED QUESTION(S) AND ANSWER(S) BELOW

- Q1:** *Because of limited facilities and small coaching staffs our conference would like to schedule the junior high school basketball season to begin October 1 and end before Christmas. Is this permissible? May a ninth-grade student participate in the junior high basketball season and then later move up to play on a senior high team?*
- A1:** The junior high school basketball season may be scheduled as noted above. In this case, the junior high season may be a maximum of twelve consecutive calendar weeks in length from the date of the first organized practice with any part of the basketball squad. Ninth grade students may move up to play with a senior high school team at the end of the junior high season and continue to play. However, their total consecutive weeks of participation on the two teams (from the first practice to the last contest) may not exceed the maximum number of weeks of participation allowed members of the senior high team (20 weeks) nor may they play in a total number of games and tournaments for the two teams which exceeds that scheduled by the senior high school team on which they play. **NOTE:** Ninth grade students who play on a school softball team at the start of the fall semester may count 14 days of softball participation as meeting the conditioning requirements for basketball and thus begin participating in basketball game competitions as of the date of the first contest scheduled for the junior high basketball team (By-Law 310). However, if the participation in softball is counted towards meeting the conditioning standards for basketball, it would also have to be counted as part of the 20 consecutive calendar weeks the student may participate in the basketball program.
- Q2:** *Our school holds a fourteen week 7th and 8th grade basketball season which ends January 21. May select members of the 7th and 8th grade team subsequently be moved up to practice with the high school team until the end of the high school season?*
- A2:** No. An individual 7th or 8th grade student may participate in a school basketball program (practice and games) for a maximum of 14 calendar weeks (12 weeks when the Christmas Holiday period does not fall within the sports season) beginning with his/her first practice with the school team. Since these students have used their 14 weeks, they are not eligible to practice with the high school team.

332.0 JUNIOR HIGH TEAM CONTESTS LIMITATIONS

332.1 The number of contests permitted for each school team in each sport are included in the following sections.

	Sport:	Scheduling Options / Contests Allowed:
a.	Baseball	Grade 9 — 12 games and 2 tournaments Grade 8 — 10 games and 2 tournaments Grade 7 — 8 games and 1 tournament
b.	Basketball	Grade 9 — 16 games and 1 tournament or 14 games and 2 tournaments Grade 8 — 12 games and 1 tournament or 10 games and 2 tournaments Grade 7 — 12 games and 1 tournament or 10 games and 2 tournaments
c.	Cross Country	Grade 9 — 9 meets Grade 8 — 8 meets Grade 7 — 7 meets
d.	Football	Grade 9 — 8 games Grade 8 — 6 games Grade 7 — 6 games
e.	Golf	Grade 9 — 12 matches and 2 tournaments Grade 8 — 10 matches and 2 tournaments Grade 7 — 8 matches and 1 tournament
f.	Soccer	Grade 9 — 12 games and 2 tournaments Grade 8 — 10 games and 2 tournaments Grade 7 — 8 games and 1 tournament
g.	Softball	Grade 9 — 12 games and 2 tournaments Grade 8 — 10 games and 2 tournaments Grade 7 — 8 games and 1 tournament
h.	Swimming	Grade 9 — 12 meets Grade 8 — 10 meets Grade 7 — 8 meets
i.	Volleyball	Grade 9 — 14 matches and 2 tournaments Grade 8 — 10 matches and 2 tournaments Grade 7 — 10 matches and 2 tournaments
j.	Tennis	Grade 9 — 12 matches and 2 tournaments Grade 8 — 10 matches and 2 tournaments Grade 7 — 8 matches and 1 tournament
k.	Track	Grade 9 — 12 meets Grade 8 — 10 meets Grade 7 — 10 meets
l.	Wrestling	Grade 9 — 12 meets and 2 tournaments Grade 8 — 10 meets and 2 tournaments Grade 7 — 8 meets and 1 tournament

332.2 Should a school team exceed to allowable game or tournament limitations, the team would, at a minimum, be ineligible for the next game(s) or tournament(s), respectively, equal to the number of contests or tournaments involved in the violation.

NOTE: 1. For mixed grades, the game (meet) limit for the lower grade shall apply and the tournament limit for the higher grade shall apply.

NOTE: 2. For junior high school interscholastic sports not listed above, the following game and tournament limit shall apply: Grade 9-12 games (meets) and 2 tournaments; Grade 8-10 games (meets) and 2 tournaments; and Grade 7-8 games (meets) and 1 tournament.

Editor's Note: See By-Laws 310 for required number of practices; 311 for tournament regulations; 313 for scheduling regulations for players and teams; and By-Laws 340 through 371 for baseball, basketball, football, softball, soccer, and volleyball participation regulations.

341.0 PLAYER LIMITATIONS

341.1 Individual Player Limits:

- a. In a season, a player is eligible to play in *no more than* the number of quarters that equal five times the number of games played by the higher team on which he/she plays. Also, no player may play in more than five (5) quarters on a calendar date except during an invitational tournament on a day when school is not in session when the limit shall be 8 quarters for a player and 2 games for a team on a calendar date. (See also By-Laws 325-b-1 and 332-b).

Note: *Players are limited by three factors in this rule: (1) to not more than five quarters on a calendar date, with the exception of an invitational tournament when the limit is 8 quarters on a calendar date when school is not in session. (In non-tournament, regular season contests a player may play on both a varsity and junior varsity team on the same day, but he/she is limited to a total of five quarters in the combined games that day - see editor's notes below); (2) to no more total quarters (exclusive of tournament) for a season than five times the number of regularly scheduled games played by the higher team on which he/she competes; (3) to the number of tournaments specified in the By-Laws.*

Example 1: *If the varsity team on which a player competes as a substitute plays fifteen regularly scheduled games, the player may play a total of seventy-five quarters during the season in regularly scheduled games of which no more than five may be on one calendar day. The number of games in which he or she plays on each the varsity and junior varsity team is not a factor, but he/she cannot exceed five quarters on one calendar date for regular season contests nor exceed the total number of quarters allowed for the season.*

Example 2: *A school schedules 18 games and 2 tournaments for its varsity but chooses to schedule 16 games and 3 tournaments for its junior varsity team. If a player divides time as a varsity substitute between the two teams, he/she may play in a maximum of 80 regular season game quarters if he/she plays in 3 tournaments or a maximum of 90 quarters if he/she plays in 2 tournaments.*

- b. When two regular season contests, against different opponents, are played on the same date (See By-Law 311.1-b-3) a player may participate in no more than eight quarters on a calendar date with no more than four quarters against an opposing school.
- c. No individual may participate in two basketball tournaments during the same calendar week except for tournaments conducted entirely during the winter break and school is not in session. All player limitations shall remain the same as addressed in items a, b and editor's notes.

Editor's Note 1: *This applies even though the individual might compete on different levels. For example, a player may not participate in a sophomore tournament on Monday night and a varsity tournament Tuesday of the same calendar week, unless on winter break when school is not in session.*

Editor's Note 2: *An overtime period is considered an extension of the fourth quarter.*

341.2 Should an individual player exceed the above listed player limitations, that student is ineligible as follows:

- a. If the player exceeds the maximum quarter limitation, he/she is ineligible, at a minimum, for the remainder of the regular season.
- b. If the player exceeds the tournament limitation, he/she is ineligible, at a minimum, for any remaining regular season tournaments and for the number of tournaments during the postseason, including the district tournament and state tournament, that corresponds to the number of tournaments by which the limit was exceeded.

RELATED QUESTION(S) AND ANSWER(S) BELOW

Q1: *Our basketball opponent last night violated the five-quarter rule by allowing a player to participate in three quarters of the varsity game after participating in four quarters of the preliminary junior varsity game. We protested to the game officials but they refused to assess a technical foul. What recourse do we have?*

A1: *It is not the responsibility of the game officials to enforce the five-quarter rule. The game officials have no authority to assess a penalty in this situation. This is an administrative regulation included in By-Law 341 which has been adopted by a vote of our member schools. Thus, it is the responsibility of the two coaches and the two school administrators to make sure the five-quarter rule is followed. Coaches and bench officials (scorers) should discuss the number of quarters each boy/girl may play in advance of the varsity contest and every effort should be made to prevent a violation from occurring. Using a player in a sixth quarter calls for automatic forfeiture of the contest in which the violation occurs. The school committing the violation is expected to report the violation to MSHSAA .*

Q2: *Our school normally hosts a holiday basketball tournament over the Winter Holiday Break. We begin the tournament after December 25th. Following our tournament we try to participate in one other tournament before going back to school. Because of the day of the week December 25th falls on, this schedule would have us in two tournaments in the same week. Is this possible?*

A2: Yes. By-Law 341 provides an exception that basketball tournaments conducted entirely during the winter break when school is not in session a school may participate in two tournaments in the same week. It should be noted all player limitations on quarters, games per day, etc. all apply and are not altered in any way.

342.0 TIE JUNIOR HIGH GAMES

Basketball games involving only junior high school students (students in grades 7, 8, and/or 9) that end in a tie score shall be continued for one or more extra periods two minutes in length. Otherwise National Federation Basketball Rule 5-7 will be applied.

343.0 TERMINAL DATE FOR SCHEDULING GAMES

No basketball game shall be scheduled for a team after it plays its first district tournament game, except postponed games may be played before the date of the last state tournament game.

344.0 LENGTH OF QUARTERS FOR JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

The length of the quarters in a junior high school basketball game shall not exceed:

- a. Ninth Graders only 7 minutes
- b. Eighth Graders only 6 minutes
- c. Seventh Graders only 6 minutes

For teams of mixed grades the limit for the lower grade shall apply.

345. BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL REGULATIONS

345.

346.0 PLAYER LIMITATIONS

346.1 Softball — No player may participate in a total number of innings for the season that exceeds nine times the number of games (exclusive of tournaments) played by the higher team on which she/he plays. For a game in which the score is tied at the end of seven innings, the extra innings shall be considered as an extension of the seventh inning.

Note: *Players are limited by two factors in this rule: 1) to no more total innings (exclusive of tournaments) for a season than nine times the number of regularly scheduled games played by the higher team on which she/he competes; and 2) to the number of tournaments specified in the By-Laws.*

346.2 Baseball — No player may participate in a total of innings for the season that exceeds nine times the number of games (exclusive of tournaments) played by the higher team on which she/he plays. For a game in which the score is tied at the end of seven innings, the extra innings shall be considered as an extension of the seventh inning.

Note: *Players are limited by two factors in this provision: 1) to no more total innings (exclusive of tournaments) for a season than nine times the number of regularly scheduled games played by the higher team on which she/he competes; and 2) to the number of tournaments specified in the By-Laws.*

346.3 Should an individual player exceed the above listed player limitations, that student is ineligible as follows:

- a. If the player exceeds the maximum inning limitation, he/she is ineligible, at a minimum, for the remainder of the regular season.
- b. If the player exceeds the tournament limitation, he/she is ineligible, at a minimum, for any remaining regular season tournaments and for the number of tournaments during the postseason, including the district tournament and state tournament, that corresponds to the number of tournaments by which the limit was exceeded.

350. FOOTBALL REGULATIONS

350.

351.0 PLAYER LIMITATIONS

- 351.1** No player may play in more than four quarters on one calendar date or in a total number of quarters for the season that exceeds five times the number of games played by the higher team on which the student plays. Participation in kicking downs only (downs in which one team initially lines up in either a scrimmage kick or a free kick formation as per NFHS Rules) during a game would count as a maximum of one quarter of participation. Participation in other downs would count as one quarter of participation for each quarter the player participates up to a maximum of four quarters per game. Each school shall be responsible for keeping a record of the participation of players of both teams utilizing the MSHSAA standardized "Football Player Participation Form."
- 351.2** Should an individual player exceed the above listed player limitations, that student is ineligible as follows:
- If the player exceeds the maximum quarter limitation, he/she is ineligible, at a minimum, for the remainder of the regular season.

352.0 SPRING PRACTICE PROHIBITED

Spring football practice shall be prohibited in the high schools of Missouri.

353.0 REQUIRED CONDITIONING

The first three days of practice for each football team and individual player shall be without player equipment, other than helmets, shoulder pads, jerseys and shoes. Hand-to-chest contact is allowed for training on hand placement and displacement of opponents only, and participants may not take other participants to the ground. No body to body contact is permitted during these three days.

354.0 JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL REGULATIONS

The length of the quarters in a junior high school football game shall not exceed:

- Ninth Grade only 9 minutes
- Eighth Grade only 8 minutes
- Seventh Grade only 8 minutes

For teams of mixed grades the limit for the lower grade shall apply.

355.0 PRESEASON INTER-SCHOOL SCRIMMAGE

***Note: Effective July 1, 2008 for a 4-Year trial period only, as a result of the 2007 Annual Ballot, each participant shall have at least nine (9) individual days of physical conditioning. The ninth day of conditioning practice must occur on a day preceding the day of the event. The scrimmage may only be conducted on the Friday or Saturday of Week 7 of the Standardized Calendar.**

- Senior high schools only may participate in the preseason inter-school scrimmage.
- The preseason inter-school scrimmage shall consist of 3 or 4 schools.
- The preseason inter-school scrimmage must be under contract with participating schools.
- The preseason inter-school scrimmage shall be officiated by MSHSAA registered officials.
- Each participant shall have at least nine (9) individual days of physical conditioning practice prior to participating in the preseason inter-school scrimmage. The 9th day of conditioning practice must occur on a day preceding the day of the event.
- No kicking game shall be permitted.

- g. When there are four schools participating, a maximum of three (3) quarters per team with a maximum of twelve (12) offensive plays per quarter shall be allowed. When there are three schools participating a maximum of two (2) quarters per team with a maximum of eighteen (18) offensive plays per quarter shall be allowed.
- h. All game rules shall apply with the exception that coaches may be on the field to provide instruction.
- i. The scrimmage may only be conducted on the Friday or Saturday of Week 7 of the Standardized Calendar.
- j. The admission charge shall be determined by the host school.

360. SOCCER REGULATIONS

360.

361.0 PLAYER LIMITATIONS

361.1 Individual Player Limits:

- a. A soccer player shall be limited to playing no more than three halves of soccer per day in a varsity/junior varsity doubleheader against the same school and no more halves than three times the number of games scheduled at the highest level of competition for the season (excluding tournaments).
- b. If a school schedules two varsity or two junior varsity soccer games against different schools on the same calendar date (excluding tournaments), a player could play no more than four halves on that date.

361.2 Should an individual player exceed the above listed player limitations, that student is ineligible as follows:

- a. If the player exceeds the maximum half limitation, he/she is ineligible, at a minimum, for the remainder of the regular season.
- b. If the player exceeds the tournament limitation, he/she is ineligible, at a minimum, for any remaining regular season tournaments and for the number of tournaments during the postseason, including the district tournament and state tournament, that corresponds to the number of tournaments by which the limit was exceeded.

370. VOLLEYBALL REGULATIONS

370.

371.0 PLAYER LIMITATIONS

371.1 Individual Player Limits:

- a. Except in tournament play, a team may participate in a maximum of three matches against three different schools (triple dual) on one calendar date.
- b. Daily Set Limitations for Dual Competition:
 - (1) All Levels Playing 2-out-of-3-Set Matches: During regular season dual competition, a player may participate in a maximum of three sets or one full match at a lower level plus one set in a second match at a higher level on one calendar date against the same school.
 - (2) High School Varsity Playing 3-out-of-5-Set Match: Players participating in a varsity 3-out-of-5 set match, may participate in a maximum of five sets on one calendar date against the same school in regular season dual competition. Such players may only participate in a combination of varsity and junior varsity play (i.e. not in a freshman match).
- c. No team or individual player may participate in more than one volleyball tournament on a calendar day.
- d. A player may participate in a maximum number of sets for the season that equals the number of sets played by the higher team on which he/she plays.

371.2 Should an individual player exceed the above listed player limitations, that student is ineligible as follows:

- a. If the player exceeds the maximum set limitation for the season, he/she is ineligible, at a minimum, for the remainder of the regular season.
- b. If the player exceeds the tournament limitation, he/she is ineligible, at a minimum, for any remaining regular season tournaments and for the number of tournaments during the postseason, including the district tournament and state tournament, that corresponds to the number of tournaments by which the limit was exceeded.

RELATED QUESTION(S) AND ANSWER(S) BELOW

Q1: *Our volleyball team has a player that plays some on both the junior varsity squad and the varsity squad. In regard to the limit on sets in a day for an individual player would any of the following be allowable: a) Two sets JV and one set varsity; b) Three sets JV and one set varsity; c) Two sets JV and two sets varsity; d) One set JV and three sets varsity; e) One set JV and two sets varsity?*

A1: a), b) and e) are allowable, but c) and d) would constitute violations of By-Law 371 regarding player limitations.

380. WRESTLING REGULATIONS

380.

381.0 WRESTLER LIMITATIONS

381.1 Wrestler Limitations:

- a. Prior to the district tournament, an individual wrestler shall represent his/her school in no more than a maximum of 50 matches, whether they are scoring or not, and in no more **events** than the number of events scheduled by the higher team on which he/she participates.

Editor's Note: *The event limits are listed in By-Law 325 (High School) and By-Law 332 (Junior High).*

- b. A wrestling tournament is defined as any event in which awards are given and/or a champion is determined by any means **or** any format that involves five (5) or more teams, at one site, on any given date. All other contests at one site, on any given date will count as one non-tournament event.

BY-LAW 400 MUSIC REGULATIONS

401.0 ACTIVITIES INCLUDED

Music activities as used in this Section shall include those interscholastic music activities that are outgrowths of the member schools' regular music programs and included in the festival manual. The term "evaluative festival" shall mean that the performance of an individual and/or group shall be rated according to achievement standards.

410.0 SCHOOL ELIGIBILITY TO ENTER MSHSAA EVENTS

Only those schools that are members in good standing with the Missouri State High School Activities Association offering for credit approved by the Missouri State Department of Education one or more of the following: Band, Orchestra, Men's Choir or Women's Choir, Mixed Chorus or Choir shall be eligible to participate in the MSHSAA sponsored music events.

420.0 ADVISORY COMMITTEE

There shall be a Music Advisory Committee appointed by the Board of Directors with the advice and counsel of the Missouri Music Educators Association, with this Committee to be responsible to the Board of Directors.

430.0 RULES REVIEW REQUIREMENT (MUSIC)

Each school shall be responsible for requiring **all** music directors (instrumental, vocal, and orchestral as defined in By-Laws 140 through 144) to complete a MSHSAA Rules Review. When a director does not complete the rules review, the school shall justify the deficiency in writing to the MSHSAA office.

440.0 DISTRICT AND STATE FESTIVALS

The state music festival shall consist of only those solos and small ensemble entries of not more than eight students qualified at a MSHSAA District Music Festival: however, there shall be a terminating state festival held in each district for large choral and instrumental ensembles. The Board of Directors shall have the authority to determine the music festival centers and the schools to be assigned to these festivals.

- a. There shall be an upgrading of adjudicating at both the district and state levels.

441.0 ENTRY REGULATIONS FOR DISTRICT AND STATE FESTIVALS

Only those schools that meet the requirements of this Article and pay the necessary fees are eligible for district and state evaluative festivals. Only those schools qualifying at a district festival shall be eligible to enter students in the state festival.

- a. Individual schools shall carefully screen entries for the district festivals.
- b. No school may participate in more than one district festival, which shall be the festival held at the center set for its district, to qualify for the state festival.
- c. No school which received the highest division rating in a district shall be compelled to enter the state festival.
- d. Only soloists and small ensembles earning a highest rating in one of the district evaluative festivals may be entered in the state evaluative festival.
- e. All entries must be certified by the principal or superintendent of the school they represent. Entries submitted by a private teacher will not be accepted.

442.0 FEES

The Board of Directors upon the advice and counsel of the Music Advisory Committee shall set the uniform fees to meet the needs of the district and state evaluative festivals. District and state festival directors shall submit a report to the MSHSAA office for each festival together with a check for the surplus from entry fees or statement of deficit to be reimbursed by MSHSAA.

443.0 ADMINISTRATION OF FESTIVALS

The administration of the district and state evaluative festivals shall be governed by the policies and regulations adopted by the Board of Directors upon the advice and recommendations of the Music Advisory Committee and published in the music festival manual.

- a. Recording of large group performances by outside recording agencies shall be coordinated by MSHSAA.

444.0 ADJUDICATORS

The Board of Directors shall approve judges for the district and state festivals. The judges shall be selected from the MSHSAA approved list and reported to the Executive Director as soon as contracted. The Board of Directors, by its own action or upon the recommendation of the Music Advisory Committee, may remove any judge's name from the approved list for what it may consider "just cause."

445.0 ADJUDICATORS' FEES

The Board of Directors shall set fees for judges of all MSHSAA festivals.

450.0 MUSIC EVENT SANCTION REGULATIONS

Any interscholastic competitive/evaluative music event or other interscholastic competitive/evaluative function involving music abilities in which member school music organizations or individual students participate during the school year (from the opening day of classes to the official closing day at the end of the academic year) shall meet the following standards:

- a. Only symbolic awards and a merchandise award with a manufacturer's suggested retail value not to exceed \$100.00 are permitted. No cash awards shall be offered (See By-Law 231.2 a & c for definition of allowable awards.) **Editor's Note:** *This standard does not prohibit a school from accepting expenses for actual transportation, meals for students and other similar expenses.*
- b. Any music event which involves students from more than one school sponsored by a non-school organization or a college or university shall have the approval of the Board of Directors and any interstate event shall have the approval of the Board of Directors and the state associations of all states invited. Application for approval shall be

submitted no later than 30 days prior to the first event. An interschool music event sponsored by a member school shall have the approval of the high school administrator and, for interstate events approval of the MSHSAA Board of Directors.

- c. Events involving music organizations or individual music students from more than two schools approved for commercial or promotional purposes and which cause a loss of class time shall not be approved for schools outside their respective local communities.
- d. This section shall not be interpreted to prohibit a local board of education from adopting any higher standards than it considers appropriate for its school community.
- e. A school that violates any of these standards shall be suspended from participation in any interscholastic music activity for a period not to exceed 365 days. It shall further be considered a violation for member schools to participate in an interscholastic music event with a member school so suspended.

RELATED QUESTION(S) AND ANSWER(S) BELOW

- Q1:** *Can our school's band attend: a) A marching band competition in Florida? b) An evaluative band festival in Texas? c) A parade in California that is not adjudicated (a performance only)?*
- A1:** a) and b) Yes, **provided** the event meets the specifications indicated in By-Law 450 and approval is granted by the MSHSAA Board of Directors. c) Yes. MSHSAA music sanction By-Laws apply only to competitive or evaluative events.
- Q2:** *Our marching band is going to march in a competitive parade but our band is marching in exhibition only (no ranking rating or comments will be provided and the band will not be judged in any way). We have a student who is academically ineligible. Can that student march with the band at the parade?*
- A2:** Yes. Since your band is not participating in the competition and no evaluation will be done (no ranking, rating or comments) the ineligible student could participate. Since the event is neither competitive or evaluative for your band, eligibility standards would not apply.
- Q3:** *Our school is hosting a junior high music festival this year. We have been contacted by a few schools who are not members of MSHSAA expressing an interest in entering some students in the festival. In addition, some of the member schools have asked if they could enter some 6th grade students? Is there a way that we can organize the festival to allow this?*
- A3:** Yes. It would be possible to organize the event so that there are really two separate events occurring simultaneously. All 6th grade participants and all students of non-member schools must be scheduled into rooms separate from member school students and would participate in a separate festival from the member school festival. Since students below the 7th grade and students of non-member schools cannot participate with or against students of member schools, this is the only way that this would be possible.
- Q4:** *Can our school's band compete in: a) a jazz band competition in Oklahoma? b) a marching band competition in Iowa? c) a competitive bowl game parade?*
- A4:** a) b) and c) Yes, provided the event meets the specification indicated in By-Law 450 and approval is granted by the MSHSAA Board of Directors and/or the MSHSAA office.
- Q5:** *Our school is hosting a jazz band competition and inviting Missouri schools only to participate do we need to complete a sanction application?*
- A5:** No. MSHSAA By-Law 450-b states that an interschool music event sponsored by a member school must have the approval of the high school administrator and, for interstate events approval of the MSHSAA Board of Directors and/or the MSHSAA office. It is the local school administrator's responsibility to ensure that all MSHSAA by-laws are being upheld.

BY-LAW 500 SPEECH REGULATIONS

501.0 SCHOOL ELIGIBILITY TO ENTER EVENTS

Any public or private high school of Missouri which is a member of Missouri State High School Activities Association is automatically eligible to enter contests and events in this area.

510.0 ADVISORY COMMITTEE

There shall be an Advisory Committee appointed by the Board of Directors with the advice and counsel of the Speech Association of Missouri with this Committee to be responsible to the Board of Directors.

520.0 BOARD OF DIRECTORS RESPONSIBILITY

The Board of Directors with the advice and counsel of the Advisory Committee shall set up such contests and events as it deems advisable, formulate policies and regulations for administering these events, determine the districts and sites for the contests, select local directors, and determine the entry fees.

530.0 SPEECH EVENT SANCTION REGULATIONS

- a. Any speech event which involves students from more than one school sponsored by a non-school organization or a college or university shall have the approval of the Board of Directors and interstate speech events shall have the approval of the Board of Directors and the state associations of all states invited. Application for approval shall be submitted no later than 30 days prior to the first date of the event.
- b. An interschool speech event sponsored by a member school shall have the approval of the high school administrator and, for interstate events approval of the MSHSAA Board of Directors.
- c. All events shall meet the following standards:
 1. Only symbolic awards and a merchandise award with a manufacturer's suggested retail value not to exceed \$100.00 are permitted. No cash awards shall be offered. (See By-Law 231.2-a, c, and d for definitions of allowable awards)
 2. No interscholastic speech event shall start before 4:00 p.m. on a school day, except that events may start as early as 2:00 p.m. on Friday. The MSHSAA District and State Tournaments shall be exempted from this regulation and a school may participate in one regular season contest (which may be the Missouri NFL Tournament) per school year that begins as early as 8:00 a.m. on a school day.
 3. Shall be in accord with all other provisions contained in the Speech By-Laws.
- d. A school may participate in any approved interscholastic speech event within the state. A school may travel to the site of one out of state tournament or invitational meet per year beyond 250 air miles from the perimeter (border) of the state of Missouri, with the date and location to be determined by the local school administration. All remaining tournaments and invitations must fall within 250 air-miles from the state border.
- e. A school that violates any of these standards shall be suspended from participation in any interscholastic speech activity for a period not to exceed 365 days. It shall be considered a violation for a member school to participate in interscholastic speech events with a member school so suspended.

540.0 SEASON LIMITS

No senior high school interscholastic debate, dramatics, or speech events shall be held before the second Friday in October or later than April 1, other than the allowances listed below:

- a. The MSHSAA state tournament.
- b. A school may participate in one interscholastic event after April 1 and prior to the Friday of Memorial Day weekend. Such an event shall count as one of the school's allowable regular season events as per By-Law 262.0 (Limits on Participation) and must meet the travel regulations per By-Law 530-d.
- c. Teams or individuals representing a school may participate in interstate, interscholastic events which may begin no earlier than the Friday of Memorial Day weekend, only if the school has advanced from a qualifying event that takes place during the aforementioned season or if the event's selection procedure has been approved by the MSHSAA Board of Directors.

A junior high school may participate in a maximum of five junior high interscholastic speech and/or debate meets, festivals, and/or tournaments in a school year. These events may be held at any time during the school year. No seventh or eighth grade student is eligible for competition on or against a senior high school team consisting of 10th graders or above.

RELATED QUESTION(S) AND ANSWER(S) BELOW

- Q1:** *Is it permissible for a member of our **speech** team to travel to a tournament in California and for a member of our **debate** team (a different student) to travel to Boston for tournament/competition during the same school year?*
- A1:** No. MSHSAA considers all students who compete in debate and/or speech and/or theatre for their school to be a member of the same squad. Each school's speech/debate/theatre squad is limited to participation in only **one** tournament/competitive event beyond 250 air miles from the Missouri border during each school year.
- Q2:** *Our squad plans to participate in the National Catholic Forensic League Grand National Tournament over Memorial Day weekend. a) Is it permissible for us to travel and/or compete on the Friday of Memorial Day weekend even if it would require class time to be missed? b) If the tournament is held more than 250 air miles beyond the Missouri border, would such participation count as our one allowable tournament beyond the 250 air mile limit?*
- A2:** a) Yes. MSHSAA defines the end of the school year as the end of the school day on the Thursday preceding Memorial Day. b) No. Because the NCFL tournament is considered by MSHSAA to take place outside of the school year, the 250 air mile restriction does not apply to an event held on Memorial Day weekend.

550.0 RULES REVIEW REQUIREMENT (SPEECH)

Each school shall be responsible for requiring all speech directors to complete a MSHSAA Rules Review. When a director does not complete the rules review, the school shall justify the deficiency in writing to the MSHSAA office.

**BY-LAW 600
SCHOLAR BOWL REGULATIONS**

601.0 SCHOOL ELIGIBILITY TO ENTER EVENTS

Any high school in Missouri which is a member of the Missouri State High School Activities Association is automatically eligible to enter contests and events in this area.

610.0 ADVISORY COMMITTEE

There shall be an Advisory Committee appointed by the Board of Directors with this committee to be responsible to the Board of Directors.

620.0 BOARD OF DIRECTORS RESPONSIBILITY

The Board of Directors, with the advice and counsel of the Scholar Bowl Advisory Committee, shall set-up such contests and events as it deems advisable, formulate policies and regulations for administering these events, determine the districts and sites for the contests, select local directors, and determine school classification based on MSHSAA By-Law 312, and set entry fees.

630.0 SCHOLAR BOWL EVENT SANCTION REGULATIONS

- a. Any scholar bowl event which involves students from more than one school sponsored by a non-school organization or a college or university shall have the approval of the Board of Directors and interstate scholar bowl events shall have the approval of the Board of Directors and the state associations of all states invited. Application for approval shall be submitted no later than 30 days prior to the first date of the event.
- b. An interschool scholar bowl event sponsored by a member school shall have the approval of the high school administrator and, for interstate events, approval of the MSHSAA Board of Directors.
- c. All events shall meet the following standards:
 1. Awards presented shall be symbolic in nature or a merchandise item not to exceed a suggested manufacturer's retail price of \$100.00 as defined in By-Law 231. No cash award shall be offered.

2. All interscholastic scholar bowl events shall be in accord with all other provisions contained in the Scholar Bowl By-Laws 290 and 600.
- d. A school may participate in any approved interscholastic scholar bowl event within the state during the interscholastic season. During the season, a school may travel to the site of one out of state tournament or invitational meet per year beyond 250 air-miles from the perimeter (border) of the state of Missouri, with the date and location to be determined by the local school administration. All remaining tournaments and invitationals must fall within 250 air-miles from the state border.
- e. A school that violates any of these standards shall be suspended from participation in any interscholastic scholar bowl standards for a period not to exceed 365 days. It shall be considered a violation for a member school to participate in interscholastic scholar bowl events with a member school so suspended.

640.0 SEASON LIMITS

No senior high school or junior high school shall participate in an interscholastic scholar bowl before the second Friday in October nor later than the date of the MSHSAA District Competition, exclusive of the MSHSAA state competition, other than the following allowances:

- a. A school may participate in an interstate, interscholastic scholar bowl event which may begin no earlier than the Friday of Memorial Day weekend, only if the school has advanced from a qualifying event that takes place during the aforementioned season.
- b. A school may participate in one interscholastic event following districts and prior to the Friday of Memorial Day weekend. Such an event shall count as one of the school's allowable regular season events as per By-Law 293.0 (Limits on Participation) and must meet the travel regulations per By-Law 630-d.

650.0 RULES REVIEW REQUIREMENT (SCHOLAR BOWL)

Each school shall be responsible for requiring all scholar bowl coaches to complete a MSHSAA Rules Review. When a coach does not complete the rules review, the school shall justify the deficiency in writing to the MSHSAA office.

BY-LAW 700 **EMERGING ACTIVITIES**

701.0 REGULATIONS

a. Definitions:

1. **Emerging Activity:** Emerging activities are those athletic or non-athletic activities that have been approved by the membership for inclusion within the by-laws and are in their first year or do not have 50 schools registered representing at least three of the eight Board Districts.
2. **Provisionally Interscholastic Activity:** Upon the registration of 50 or more schools representing at least three Board Districts during a given year, the activity will be considered "provisionally interscholastic" the following year and would be moved from By-Law 700.0-f to g.
3. **MSHSAA Interscholastic Activity:** Upon registration of 50 or more schools representing at least three Board Districts for a second consecutive year and upon passage of the necessary by-laws to fully integrate the activity into the interscholastic offerings by the membership, the activity would be considered a "MSHSAA interscholastic activity" the following year and would fall under By-Law 312 for sponsorship of a MSHSAA District and State Series.

- b. Request to Become An Emerging Activity:** Requests for activities to be listed in this section shall be made to the Board of Directors no later than December 15, and must be approved by the membership on the Annual Ballot. If approved by the membership, the activity would be listed as an emerging activity in the following year's Handbook, and registration in the activity would be offered.

- c. Limited Services:** Emerging and provisionally interscholastic activities will be limited in the services they receive until they become "MSHSAA interscholastic activity" activities as defined above. The following MSHSAA administrative services will **not** be offered to emerging activities or provisionally interscholastic activities:

1. Rules meetings or online rules reviews
2. Assigned rules interpreters
3. Activity area provided on the MSHSAA website
4. District and State Series administered by MSHSAA
5. MSHSAA Activity Manual published

6. MSHSAA Advisory Committee
- d. **By-Law Requirements:** Emerging activities and provisionally interscholastic activities must abide by the requirements listed and referenced in this section only.
1. Catastrophic Insurance Fees, as per Article V, Section 1
 2. Use of registered officials (when applicable), as per By-Law 160
 3. Student Eligibility Requirements outlined in By-Laws 210 to 219
 4. Essential Age Requirement, as per By-Law 232
 5. Physical Exams and Insurance, as per By-Law 309
 6. Conditioning Requirements, as per By-Law 310
 7. National Federation of State High School Association game rules or game rule codes specified by MSHSAA for member school competition shall be utilized.
 8. Schools that meet the requirements listed in By-Laws 106 or 107 may form cooperative sponsorships.
 9. Contest limitations, individual player limitations and the applicable season of participation will be determined by mutual consent and specified in the game contract. Adherence to by-laws other than those listed in this section are optional and/or to be determined in the game contract.
- e. **Registration:** If no schools register for an activity in a given year, the activity will be removed from this section and/or any other applicable sections of the by-laws.
- f. **Current High School Emerging Activities:** To follow are the activities that currently fall within this definition.
1. Boys Volleyball
 2. Girls Gymnastics
 3. Boys Softball
 4. Girls Field Hockey
 5. Girls Lacrosse
 6. Boys Water Polo
- g. **Current Provisionally Interscholastic Activities:** None currently.

RELATED QUESTION(S) AND ANSWER(S) BELOW

- Q1:** *Does our school still need to register for our sport (which is now classified as an 'emerging sport') with MSHSAA?*
- A1:** Yes, schools must register for all sports – both interscholastic and emerging. First, this is the only way you will be able to 1) complete an eligibility roster for the activity, 2) register and approve your coaches, and 3) be covered with catastrophic insurance. Further, registration is the way the MSHSAA office will track the growth of emerging sports. If schools do not register for these sports and the numbers decrease, the membership will be asked to consider eliminating them from By-Law 700.
- Q2:** *Will eligibility rosters be entered into the MSHSAA website for emerging sports?*
- A2:** Yes, eligibility rosters must be entered on the MSHSAA website. The roster numbers are used for calculating the catastrophic insurance coverage, among other things. By placing a student on the eligibility roster the school is stating that he/she meets the essential eligibility requirements.
- Q3:** *Will emerging sport athletes still have to meet the academic eligibility requirements?*
- A3:** Yes, all of the student eligibility requirements in By-Laws 210 through 219 must be met.
- Q4:** *Are emerging sport athletes affected by the transfer rules?*
- A4:** Possibly, in that the athlete may elect to play an interscholastic sport other than an emerging sport; therefore, he/she should be listed on the master student list and treated as a transfer student if transferring schools. However, no transfer restrictions would be in place for the emerging sport(s).
- Q5:** *Do the coaches of emerging sports have to be listed and approved on the MSHSAA website?*
- A5:** Yes, head and assistant coaches for emerging sports will need to be entered on the MSHSAA website's coaches roster, and approved as per the coaching standards. The coaching standards, which require a background check, help to insure proper personnel are working with our young people and that the school administration is aware of the necessary credentialing for coaches.
- Q6:** *Do the emerging sports revert to club status if they do not achieve the 50 school requirement within 5 years?*
- A6:** No. Once the membership votes a sport or activity into By-Law 700, it may 1) grow and become an interscholastic activity at some point, or it may 2) continue to be an emerging activity indefinitely, or 3) the membership may decide to vote to eliminate the activity from the by-laws.
- Q7:** *Are emerging activities classified into a certain season?*
- A7:** No, the schools participating in an emerging activity will mutually determine the season, contest limitations, and many other aspects of the activity.

- Q8:** *If our school registers for an emerging sport, such as water polo, may our team compete against the following? a) a club water polo team in Missouri comprised of high school-aged individuals from various schools, b) an interscholastic water polo team from another state, c) MSHSAA member school team that is registered in water polo?*
- A8:** a) Yes, b) Yes, and c) Yes. As an emerging sport (low participation and geographically isolated), there is a great deal of flexibility for competition under By-Law 700. When and if the sport grows to the level to become provisionally interscholastic or interscholastic, the sport would have to adhere to different and more restrictive guidelines.

BY-LAW 800 OFFICIALS REQUIREMENTS

801.0 OFFICIALS REQUIREMENTS

Eligibility to register as an athletic official with MSHSAA and to officiate interscholastic athletic contests is a privilege to be attained by meeting the standards cooperatively set by member schools through this Association and the policies adopted by the Board of Directors.

810.0 ELIGIBILITY TO OFFICIATE

Persons must meet the following standards to be eligible to register and/or maintain their registration with the MSHSAA office to officiate interscholastic athletic contests:

- a. An official shall be a credible citizen. The official's conduct on and off the field shall be of such manner as to be a worthy example for the participants.
- b. An official shall comply with all standards and regulations pertaining to officials in the MSHSAA Athletic By-Laws and the policies adopted by the Board of Directors.

820.0 REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS

Officials shall be required to register annually. The registration year shall be from July 1 to June 30. Completed registration is acknowledged by a registration card issued by the MSHSAA office.

821.0 RENEWAL DEADLINE

The deadlines for renewal of an official's registration shall be July 1 for fall sports, September 1 for winter sports and January 1 for spring sports. Officials renewing their registration after the deadline date shall pay a late penalty as established by the Board of Directors. A person applying for registration for the first time may do so without paying the late registration penalty. Except as is provided for in By-Law 163, officials shall not be registered for fall sports after October 1, for winter sports after January 15, and for spring sports after April 15.

822.0 FAILURE TO RENEW REGISTRATION

Any person previously registered who officiates a contest in violation of By-Laws 820 and 821 by not being currently registered may be barred from officiating for the rest of that year and the following year. However, the Board of Directors is authorized to substitute a fine when a violation is considered inadvertent. If a person officiates a contest in violation of this rule, he or she shall be permitted to register under the emergency policy in By-Law 163. If such person does not complete his or her registration, he or she shall be barred for one complete year. Each official shall give the contest manager or host school the number on his or her official's card before the beginning of the contest he or she is to officiate.

830.0 HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT OFFICIAL

High school students may register with MSHSAA to officiate junior high school contests but may not officiate senior high school games.

840.0 COLLEGE OFFICIATING COURSES

Persons successfully completing a MSHSAA approved college sports officiating course may be issued a student official permit (in the sport or sports included in the course) by the course instructor. The student official may officiate interscholastic contests in the sport(s) concerned below the senior high school first team level for the remainder of that school year provided: (1) he/she works with a registered official and (2) compensation received as a student official shall be limited to expenses only.

850.0 AUTHORITY OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors shall have the authority to suspend or to bar an official who has violated any standard of MSHSAA.

860.0 APPEAL PROCEDURES FOR OFFICIALS

If reports are received by the MSHSAA office that an official or prospective official who is applying for registration has violated one of these standards, he or she will be informed of this in writing by the MSHSAA office. The official will be given the opportunity to present facts to the Executive Director in writing in response to the charges or will be granted a hearing if requested. Based on the information received, the Executive Director may then give an opinion whether or not the official shall be permitted to register or continue as a registered official. The official may appeal the Executive Director's opinion to the Board of Directors at a hearing and review of his or her case at the first regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors.

BY-LAW 900 PROTESTS, FORFEITURES AND SUSPENSIONS

910.0 UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT

The Board of Directors is vested with the power to suspend schools from membership for the unsportsmanlike conduct of teams, coaches, students or fans. Each school is responsible for the conduct of its teams, coaches, students and fans at games both at home and away.

- a. The Board may delegate to the Executive Director power to take immediate action when a situation demands such. The party or parties concerned shall have the privilege of requesting a hearing before the Board of Directors at its next regularly scheduled meeting for a review of the case and the action taken by the MSHSAA office.
- b. The Board of Directors may, at its discretion, substitute a fine not to exceed the sum of \$25.00 for each offense in lieu of suspension from the Association or to take any action that it deems advisable that does not exceed the maximum penalty of 365 days suspension from the association.
- c. A player who is ejected from a contest for unsportsmanlike conduct shall at a minimum be prohibited from playing in the next interscholastic contest at that same level.
- d. A coach who is ejected during a contest for unsportsmanlike conduct shall at a minimum be prohibited from coaching and attending the next interscholastic contest for that team.

RELATED QUESTION(S) AND ANSWER(S) BELOW

Q1: *We had an underclassman player ejected from our last football contest this season. a) How should I address withholding him for a contest next season? b) If we are participating in a pre-season interschool scrimmage, does that come into play?*

- A1:** MSHSAA By-Law 910 requires an ejected athlete/coach to be withheld at a minimum the next contest at the same level. a) Because the next contest is the following year, the school should withhold the athlete from the contest at the level at which the athlete will be participating. Example: A freshman ejected from a freshman contest should not be withheld from a freshman game the following season as he would not be participating at that level. He should be withheld from either a JV or varsity contest (the school must determine the appropriate level). b) The pre-season interschool scrimmage is considered “practice” therefore it is not considered a contest and would not meet the criteria of By-Law 910. The student would need to be withheld from the first interscholastic contest. The school could, however, be more restrictive and withhold the player from the scrimmage should administration deem it advisable.
- Q2:** *One of our wrestlers was ejected for unsportsmanlike conduct in our first of two scheduled matches last night and we have a tournament scheduled as our next event. What must we do to be in compliance with MSHSAA By-Law 910?*
- A2:** Wrestling contests are scheduled as events. When you are ejected from an event, you are ineligible for the remainder of that event and the next scheduled event. The wrestler was ineligible to compete the rest of last night’s event and must be withheld from the next scheduled event, which in this situation is the entire upcoming tournament.
- Q3:** *In last night’s volleyball match we had a player ejected during the first game for using profanity. She was withheld from further play in that match. Is it necessary for her to be withheld from the next match?*
- A3:** Yes. By-Law 910 requires that an athlete who has been ejected shall be required to be withheld from the next contest at that same level. In the sport of volleyball the entire match is considered as “the contest.” The athlete in this situation is not eligible for the next contest.
- Q4:** *One of our basketball players fouled out in last night’s contest. Is he required to sit out the next game as listed in By-Law 910?*
- A4:** No. By-Law 910 applies only if a player is ejected for unsportsmanlike conduct. This player was disqualified and not ejected.
- Q5:** *Our school had a boys basketball player ejected for unsportsmanlike conduct in our final game of the season (a loss in the district tournament). This player is a) a senior that plays no other sports in the spring, b) a senior who runs track in the spring, or c) an underclassman who will play basketball next year and may or may not participate in a spring sport. Under By-Law 910, what is the school’s responsibility in regards to withholding this individual from future interscholastic contests?*
- A5:** In situation (a), the school would be required to take other punitive action as this senior would not be participating in further interscholastic contests. In situation (b), By-Law 910 would prohibit him from participating in the first interscholastic track meet of the spring season. In situation (c), By-Law 910 would prohibit him from participating in the first interscholastic basketball contest next year at the level he will be participating. A coach ejected for unsportsmanlike conduct in the final game of the season would be prohibited from coaching and attending the first contest for that team the following year.

911.0 REMOVAL OF TEAM FROM GAME

Any school whose coach removes a team from play in protest may be required to appear before the Board at its next meeting to show reason why the school shall not be suspended.

920.0 FILING CHARGES

Any school shall have the right to file charges against any other school to be taken up at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors. However, such school shall file its charges in writing and accompany them with a certified check of \$15.00, which will be returned when it appears before the Board of Directors to press the charges.

930.0 FORFEITS

- a. Forfeited and contested games shall be considered at one of the regularly scheduled meetings of the Board of Directors.

- b. Games in which an ineligible player plays shall be forfeited. In a tournament, all games in which the ineligible player has participated shall be forfeited, but only the team defeated that is most advanced in tournament play shall be advanced on the bracket to continue tournament play.
- c. In situations involving ineligibility under By-Law 212, Citizenship Requirements, the Board of Directors will review a school's compliance with By-Law 212-b-7. If the Board determines that the school meets the provisions of this section of the Citizenship Requirements, the Board may consider rendering a penalty less than forfeiture of the contests in which the ineligible student participated prior to discovery. Further, the student would be penalized as described in By-Law 212-c.

BY-LAW 1000 INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEE PROCEDURES

1010.0 INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEE

The MSHSAA member schools shall elect district investigative committees to investigate reported alleged violations of MSHSAA By-Laws regarding transfers of students that involve undue influence and reported alleged violations that involve financial assistance awarded to students for athletic reasons. These committees shall investigate such officially reported alleged violations and report their findings to the MSHSAA staff along with recommendations for further investigation.

1020.0 INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

There shall be eight investigative committees, one from each of the eight Board Districts, and each committee shall consist of three elected members, and up to two part-time investigators appointed by the Board of Directors. The member schools in each of the eight Board Districts shall elect one public school administrator, one non-public school administrator and one at large member each to serve a three year term. To be eligible for service on an investigative committee a person must be actively serving a member school as a superintendent, assistant superintendent, principal, assistant principal, or athletic director.

- a. Elected members of the investigative committees shall be eligible to serve no more than two consecutive three year terms each. Any part of an unexpired term shall not be considered as one of the two consecutive three year terms permitted.
- b. The committee shall be nominated and elected by ballot. Final ballots shall be received at the MSHSAA office no later than May 1. Each newly elected member shall take office on the next succeeding July 1.
- c. In case a committee member resigns or is no longer eligible to serve for any reason, the Board of Directors shall appoint a replacement to serve for the remainder of that school year, if necessary, and a new committee member shall be elected to serve the remainder of that term at the time of the next election.
- d. Any investigators appointed by the Board of Directors will work in conjunction with the elected members of the committee to assist in the investigation and advise the committee on proper procedures, timeline, the compilation and structure of the final report, etc.

1030.0 NON-SCHOOL INVESTIGATOR

The MSHSAA Executive Director, with authority granted by the Board of Directors, may hire a non-school investigator for the purpose of assisting MSHSAA in the investigation of reported violations of transfers of students involving undue influence and reported violations involving financial assistance awarded to students for athletic reasons. The non-school investigator shall be used as necessary at the discretion of the MSHSAA Board of Directors.

BY-LAW 1100 APPEAL PROVISIONS

1110. APPEAL FOR LESSER PENALTY

1110.

A school may appeal to the Board of Directors to assess a lesser penalty than any provided for in the Constitution or By-Laws when the violation was inadvertent.

1120. APPEAL PROVISIONS AND PROCEDURES

1120.

1121.0 APPEALS COMMITTEE

The Board of Directors shall appoint an Appeals Committee to hear and render decisions on appeals of alleged violations of the Constitution, By-Laws and Rules of the Missouri State High School Activities Association. Decisions of the Appeals Committee are subject to review by the MSHSAA Board of Directors.

1122.0 APPEALS COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

The Committee shall be appointed by the Board of Directors and shall consist of ten members, one from each Association membership district and one appointed by each of the two At-Large Board Members. Each of the two individuals appointed by the At-Large Board Members shall represent either the under-represented gender of the current Committee, or an under-represented ethnicity. To be eligible for service on the Appeals Committee, a person must be actively serving a member school in the capacity of a board of education member, superintendent, assistant superintendent, principal, assistant principal, athletic/activities director, or an approved coach or director (coach, music director, speech director, or spirit sponsor). No member of the Board of Directors may be appointed.

- a. Members of the Appeals Committee shall not be eligible to serve more than two consecutive terms of four years each. Any part of an unexpired term shall not be considered as one of the two consecutive four-year terms permitted.
- b. In case of death, resignation, removal from the district or withdrawal from a qualifying position, the Board of Directors shall declare a vacancy and shall appoint a qualified person from the membership district to fill the unexpired term.
- c. The Appeals Committee shall elect from its membership a chairperson and vice-chairperson to serve one year. The vice-chairperson shall be vested with authority of the chairperson in the absence or unavailability of the chairperson. The election shall take place at the March meeting.

1123.0 APPEALS COMMITTEE ACTION

- a. No member of the Appeals Committee shall participate in the hearing of any appeal which involves or will affect any school with which such member is associated by reason of employment or the holding of the position of board of education member.
- b. Except action taken by an emergency panel designated by the chairperson under By-Law 1125-c, a quorum of five (5) members of the Appeals Committee shall be required for the purpose of considering any appeal and a majority vote of the members present shall be required for any action of the committee.

1124.0 APPEALS COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Appeals Committee shall schedule three (3) regular meetings during the school year during the months of August, November, and March, to consider appeals. A special meeting of the Appeals Committee may be called by the chairperson of the Appeals Committee or the Executive Director.

1125.0 APPEAL PROCEDURE

All disputes or controversies relating to student eligibility, member schools, event officials or other matters arising under the Constitution, By-Laws, Rules or Regulations of the Missouri State High School Activities Association shall on request be reviewed by the Executive Director, provided, however, the initial rulings on student eligibility arising under the Constitution, By-Laws, Rules or Regulations of the Missouri State High School Activities Association shall be made by the local school authorities in accord with appeal procedures established by the Board of Education or governing board of the school.

Each request for review shall contain full information including charges, all evidence available, and in the case of student eligibility, the school's ruling. The Executive Director shall issue an opinion on the dispute or controversy within seven (7) days after receiving the request, and shall inform the school or other interested party thereof.

In the case of student eligibility, the student shall be notified through his or her school administrator. The Official Handbook of the Missouri State High School Activities Association is the instrument for informing schools of the regulations they have adopted and are committed to uphold. In a case of a school violation, the opinion of the Executive Director shall be advisory only.

The Executive Director is authorized to take immediate action on sportsmanship cases as provided under MSHSAA By-Law 910-a and to rule on disputes involving the application of game rules or disputes involving the provisions established by the Board of Directors to administer district and state tournaments or festivals sponsored by the Association.

- a. If any interested party is aggrieved by an opinion or decision of the Executive Director, then such party may appeal through the Executive Director in writing for a review by or a hearing before the Appeals Committee. The request for such a review or hearing shall be submitted within ten (10) days following the Executive Director's opinion or decision.
 1. The Appeals Committee will schedule a review or hearing as requested, no later than its first regularly scheduled meeting after receiving the written appeal.
 2. In the event of a hearing, any interested party will be given the opportunity to testify and present evidence, and the school(s) shall be represented by an administrative officer.
 3. The Appeals Committee shall render a written decision not later than seven (7) days after the receipt of all requested information and closure of the hearing or review setting forth the reasons for the decision.
- b. An appeal may be made by any interested party to the Board of Directors of any decision rendered by the Appeals Committee. A written request for an appeal must be filed through the Executive Director with the Board of Directors within ten (10) days following the ruling by the Appeals Committee.
 1. The Board of Directors will schedule a hearing no later than its first regularly scheduled meeting after receiving the written request.
 2. Any interested party will be given the opportunity to testify and present evidence, and the school shall be represented by an administrative officer.
 3. The Board of Directors shall render a written decision not later than seven (7) days after the receipt of all requested information and closure of the hearing, setting forth the reasons for the decision.
- c. In emergency cases which are appealed to either the Appeals Committee or the Board of Directors the following definition and procedure shall apply:
 1. Emergency cases shall be those in which the time and circumstances do not reasonably allow for the convening of a quorum of the Appeals Committee or the Board of Directors as determined in the sole discretion of the chairperson of the Appeals Committee or President of the Board of Directors respectively.
 2. In such cases, the chairperson or President may appoint a panel of at least three members of the Committee or Board, respectively, to hear and rule on appeals that arise between regular meetings.
 3. A majority vote of the members participating shall be required for any action of the respective panels. A decision of such panel shall be considered a decision of the Appeals Committee or of the Board of Directors, respectively.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS POLICIES

1. BOARD POLICY ON ADMINISTRATIVE GUIDELINES FOR ASSESSING PENALTIES FOR ASSOCIATION RULE VIOLATIONS

Article IV, Section 6-h of the MSHSAA Constitution authorizes the Board of Directors to assess penalties for violations of any of the provisions of the Constitution and By-Laws. It provides that the **maximum** penalty for any one offense shall not exceed one year's suspension from the Association. In order to provide consistency in the administration of penalties and to provide a clear definition of the penalties, the following guidelines have been adopted by the Board of Directors.

1. **Reprimand or Censure:** Usually directed toward an individual who has been negligent in carrying out responsibilities expected of him or her. A reprimand places the individual(s) on notice the shortcoming is expected to be corrected.
2. **Forfeiture:** To forfeit is to give up something because of error, mistake or rule violation through intent, neglect or oversight. Forfeiture always takes away a win and denotes a loss as a forfeiture. Forfeiture may be used in conjunction with other penalties.
3. **Fine:** This is a monetary dollar amount assessed the school for a by-law or policy violation.
4. **Warning:** A warning is notification in advance that a member school is in danger of additional penalties. Action of a warning will: (a) Become a matter of record and is published in the Association Journal. (b) Indicates that a like or similar violation within a school year could be basis for probation and/or withholding of playoff privileges. This places a school on notice.
5. **Probation:** Probation is a testing or trial period for a school or team. Probation is tantamount to a larger penalty should the conditions of the probation not be carried out in good faith and with due respect to all concerned. (a) The action becomes a matter of record and is published in the Association Journal. (b) This condition may carry one or more requirements for action and reports. (c) This condition may be used in conjunction with other penalties *including, but not limited to:* (1) Prohibition from hosting one or more MSHSAA tournaments for one or more years. (2) Prohibition from MSHSAA tournament revenue sharing, if any, for one or more years. (3) Prohibition from reimbursement of expenses for participation in one or more MSHSAA tournaments for one or more years. (4) Prohibition from participation in one or more MSHSAA tournaments for one or more years.
6. **Suspension:** Suspension from the Association not to exceed 365 calendar days. A school or school team may be suspended from all interscholastic participation as well as district or state activity in one or more activities. This action bans or stops a school program for good reason, i.e., a serious flagrant violation of the by-laws.

(Article IV)

2. BOARD POLICY ON ADVISORY COMMITTEES

1. The president of the statewide coaches/directors association (if one exists) shall be an ex-officio, non-voting member of each corresponding advisory committee provided that person is an active high school coach/director. If the president is not an active high school coach/director, an active high school coach/director shall be appointed to serve in this capacity by the president of the association.
2. Advisory committee members shall be eligible to serve only one four-year term which shall coincide with the MSHSAA Board of Directors four-year term for each district. Should an advisory committee appointment be vacated prior to the completion of the four-year term, that vacancy shall be filled for the remainder of that term and that same person may be appointed for the next four-year term. No committee member can serve two consecutive terms on an advisory committee but could be appointed to serve alternating terms (4 years on, 4 years off, 4 years on, etc.).

3. BOARD POLICY ON ANONYMOUS CALLS, LETTERS, AND E-MAILS

Anonymous letters and e-mails sent to MSHSAA shall be forwarded to the school administrator of the school in question by the MSHSAA executive director with no further action to be taken unless a violation is reported and anonymous callers shall be informed that the MSHSAA staff has no authority to act upon anonymous calls. (September 2006)

4. BOARD POLICY ON APPLICATION OF BY-LAW 312

As per By-Law 312, no individual student shall be entered who has not represented his/her school in interscholastic competition in that sport during the season. For all sports except football the MSHSAA district tournaments are conducted following the regular season schedule. Football districts are now a part of the regular season schedule. By-Law 312 shall apply at the beginning of sectional play for football as this is the first competition beyond the regular season. In all other sports By-Law 312 shall apply beginning with district competition. (By-Law 312)

5. BOARD POLICY ON BASKETBALL PERFORMING GROUPS

At the discretion of the district manager, pep bands, dance teams, etc. from participating schools may be invited to perform for district basketball tournaments. Should the manager choose to do so, the following procedure shall be followed.

Bands--The district manager may invite, through the school principal, bands to perform for specific evenings of the tournament. The band will perform at specified times which may include time-outs (except injury time-outs), half-time, and before and after each game of the session. Bands may **not** come to perform only for the games in which their team plays. The participating band for the evening must remain neutral for their performance. The purpose of their performance is to provide entertainment and not to provide a competitive advantage for any team.

Dance Teams, etc.--The district manager may also invite, through the school principal, school performing groups to perform at half-time of each game. If so, groups will be invited to perform for the half-time of the game in which their school is participating. If both schools involved in the game have a group performing, each group will be allowed a maximum of 3 minutes (including entrance to and exit from the floor) performance time. If only one school accepts the invitation to perform, that group will be allowed up to 6 minutes performance time (including entry to and exit from the floor).

Admission for bands and performing groups shall be free for actual participants and directors/sponsors for the evenings that they perform as supplied on a written list submitted by the school principal to the event manager. If the district manager does not invite performing groups and bands, schools may not contact the manager and request permission to bring a performing group and/or band. If the manager does not invite all schools involved in the tournament, there shall be no performing groups and/or bands at the tournament (including groups from the host site). Due to the fact that many of the regional, sectional and quarterfinal games are played at college or university facilities, bands and other performing groups will not be allowed to perform at these games. The logistical problems involved would preclude this from being a possibility. Performing groups and bands will perform at the final site (semi-finals and finals) and these groups will be selected by the MSHSAA staff. The groups at the final site will be neutral (not from a school whose team is participating in their assigned game[s]).

6. BOARD POLICY ON CITIZENSHIP AND ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS FOR TRANSFER STUDENTS

If a student transfers schools with the status of ineligible for disciplinary reasons, the student shall retain such status at the new school for the same period as decreed by the former school. In all other cases, if the student is eligible in all respects under the **receiving** school's standards, the student shall be considered eligible at the new school. A student transferring and meeting the Academic Standard at the receiving school, which has a less restrictive standard than the sending school, shall be considered to be academically eligible at the new school provided the **minimum standards** of By-Law 213 (3.0/80%, whichever is greater) are met. (By-Law 213)

7. BOARD POLICY ON COURT ASSIGNED PROBATION AND CITIZENSHIP REQUIREMENTS

A student who has been found guilty of a violation of the law shall not be permitted to represent his/her school until he/she has satisfied the court imposed fine or penalty. However, if a student is on probation (only) as a result of said violation, his/her eligibility shall be determined by local school authorities. (By-Law 212)

8. BOARD POLICY ON CRITERIA FOR DISTRICT ASSIGNMENTS

Schools are assigned per each activity to districts for a two-year cycle. The assignment criteria utilized for the assignment of schools to districts are 1) geographic proximity and 2) approximate numerical balance. If a school perceives that a mistake has been made in its district assignment (the school's location has been inaccurately located on the map for the activity) and reports it to the MSHSAA office within seven days of the district assignment release date, the MSHSAA staff shall consider the reported information and make changes to district assignments as it deems appropriate. After the seven day period, only the MSHSAA Board of Directors shall consider and make changes in district assignments. If a school's physical location is moved during a two-year assignment cycle, the school shall remain in the assigned district until the two-year cycle has been completed. If a school adds an activity or a new school opens in the middle of a two-year cycle, the district assignment of the school (or changes in the district assignments of any related schools) shall be determined by the MSHSAA staff based on the stated assignment criteria of geographic proximity and approximate numerical balance. No adjustment shall be made in district assignments if a school drops an activity during a two-year cycle as long as an approximate numerical balance of assigned teams is maintained. (June, 2004) (By-Law 312)

9. BOARD POLICY ON DELINQUENT SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS FOR COACHES BY SCHOOLS

The MSHSAA Board of Directors adopted, at its June 15, 2007 meeting, the following policy regarding the delinquent submission on the MSHSAA Website (www.mshsaa.org) of faculty, non-faculty, and non-certified athletic and activities coaches, directors, and sponsors (**head and assistant**) by member schools. Besides sports, this policy is applicable to music, academic competition, sideline cheerleading, dance team, and speech, debate, and drama. The policy provides that the school administrator shall enter the required information on all staff members associated with the sport/activity no later than the day prior to the first permissible contest for that sport/activity. Failure of a school to submit information on coaches/directors/sponsors by the established deadline shall result in the school being sent a letter of reprimand. A school shall receive a warning for a second occurrence during the same school year. If a third incidence should occur during the same school year, the school shall be placed on probation for 365 days. (Revised June, 2007) (By-Law 125)

10. BOARD POLICY ON DETERMINING ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY UNDER A TRIMESTER SCHEDULE

A student attending a school on a trimester schedule must earn the following credits in order to earn and maintain his/her academic eligibility. The student must be enrolled in and regularly attending classes which will allow 2 units of credit or 80% of maximum allowable credits to be earned. The student shall be eligible or ineligible based upon achievement in each trimester. This same academic requirement must be met during the grading period preceding participation. An incoming freshman need only be promoted from the 8th grade to the 9th grade for eligibility in his/her first trimester of the 9th grade. (March 2004) (By-Law 213)

11. BOARD POLICY ON DETERMINING ELIGIBILITY OF STUDENTS TRANSFERRING TO MEMBER SCHOOLS FROM HOME SCHOOLS OR FROM ACE TYPE PROGRAMS

The following criteria shall be applied in determining the eligibility of a student who transfers to a MSHSAA member junior or senior high school from a home school or from an ACE type program:

1. The student must be accepted by the member school and placed in a grade level that will classify the individual as a junior or senior high school student (grades 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, or 12).
2. If the student enters a member school as a 7th or 8th grade student, he/she shall have failed no more than one course the previous grading period, or its equivalent, and must have been promoted to a higher grade at the close of the previous year. A student entering the 9th grade for the first time must have been determined to have been promoted from the 8th grade to the 9th grade by the receiving school administration. If the student enters a member school as a 10th, 11th, or 12th grade student, he/she shall have received, or be granted, a minimum of 3.0 units of credit for the preceding semester of attendance or its equivalent. The 3.0 units of credit must be accepted and entered on the records of the student as partial fulfillment of the school's graduation requirements. (By-Law 213)

3. Students who were enrolled in grades 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, or 12 at a home school or in an ACE type program shall be credited with the number of semesters of attendance in which they were a member of the home school or ACE program. The student shall not exceed two semesters in 7th grade and two semesters in 8th grade beginning with their initial enrollment in grade 7 or the equivalent of grade 7. Likewise, they shall not exceed 8 consecutive semesters of attendance beginning with the initial enrollment in grade 9 or the equivalent of grade 9. (By-Law 214)
4. In addition to the academic standards that must be met, a student transferring from a home school or an ACE type program to a MSHSAA member school for the **first** time may be eligible under the transfer of enrollment standards (By-Law 238.3-a-3) provided he/she meets the residence standards contained in By-Law 238.2. If this is **not** the first transfer from a non-member school to a MSHSAA member school the student would not be eligible under the Transfer of Enrollment Standards unless he/she meets one of the other exceptions listed in By-Law 238.3-a. **(By-Laws 213, 214 & 238)**

12. BOARD POLICY ON DETERMINING THE ENROLLMENT OF A NEW HIGH SCHOOL FOR THE PURPOSE OF CLASSIFICATION

ENROLLMENT OF A NEW HIGH SCHOOL: The enrollment number for a new high school includes the number of district students whose parents' residences are located within the planned geographical attendance district for the new high school and who will be attending the high school the year it opens. If necessary due to the timing within the classification cycle, the enrollment used for classifications shall be adjusted upward in proportion to the maximum number of grades the school will attain within that two-year cycle. Enrollments shall not be adjusted between Year 1 and Year 2 of a classification cycle. The enrollment number(s) for any previously existing high school(s) within the district that is (are) governed by the same local Board of Education shall be reduced by the number of students reassigned to the new school in its first year. This total reduction in enrollment shall equal the enrollment of the new school in its first year. For schools of choice (non-public, charter, magnet, etc.) no corresponding enrollment reduction shall be made.

Process: School opens in 2nd yr. of cycle

Year 1 of new school: New School Enrollment Policy will determine the new school's enrollment. The enrollment(s) of any other high school(s) within the district that has students being reassigned would be reduced by the number of students reassigned to the new school. This total reduction shall equal the enrollment of the new school.

Year 2 of new school: DESE enrollment of the new school from Yr. 1 is used, and is divided by the number of grades in Year 1. The quotient is then multiplied by the maximum number of grades the school will have during the classification cycle to determine the enrollment to be used for classification. The previously existing school(s)'s enrollment shall not be adjusted; the DESE enrollment from the previous year shall be used.

Process: School opens in 1st yr. of cycle

Year 1 of new school: New School Enrollment Policy will determine the new school's base enrollment; this number will then be divided by the number of grades in Year 1. The quotient is then multiplied by the maximum number of grades the school will have during the classification cycle to determine the enrollment to be used for classification. The enrollment(s) of any other high school(s) within the district that has students being reassigned would be reduced by the number of students reassigned to the new school. This total reduction shall equal the enrollment of the new school. **(By-Law 312)**

13. BOARD POLICY ON ENROLLMENT AND CLASSIFICATION

The Missouri State High School Activities Association (MSHSAA) uses senior high school enrollment figures (grades 9-12) for classification purposes. These enrollments are used for classifications during the two-year classification cycles. MSHSAA utilizes the enrollment data submitted to the State Department of Elementary and Secondary Education for our public school members, and data submitted to the respective accrediting organizations for our non-public members. In accord with By-Law 312 as adopted by the membership in May, 2002, all non-public school enrollments have been increased by 35% for classification purposes.

NUMBER OF CLASSES PER SPORT - The number of classes a sport qualifies for is based on the number of schools that have registered for that sport. For example, the sport of swimming has approximately 100 schools registered; therefore, there is only one class and all swimming schools compete against one another. MSHSAA does not sponsor state championships in sports that have less than 50 schools participating; therefore, those sports are not classified.

- One class: 50 through 128 schools
- Two classes: 129 through 192 schools
- Three classes: 193 through 256 schools
- Four classes: 257 through 512 schools
- Five classes: 513 through 576 schools
- Six classes: 577 or more schools

SCHEDULE FOR SCHOOLS RECLASSIFICATION - MSHSAA member schools are classified every two years based on updated school enrollment figures. New enrollments are released in February of even years and are used to classify schools for the next two-year cycle. The schools in each classification, or class, will compete against one another in MSHSAA-sponsored district and/or state competition.

DETERMINATION OF THE "LINES" BETWEEN CLASSES - The activities sponsored by MSHSAA (that have more than 129 schools registered) are broken into classes in three different ways. The advisory committee for each sport/activity recommends to the Board of Directors which enrollment break system should be used.

1. Standard Enrollment Breaks
2. Equal Enrollment Breaks
3. Modified Enrollment Breaks

STANDARD ENROLLMENT BREAKS - The standard enrollment breaks are set by the MSHSAA Board of Directors every two years in an effort to create classes that are comprised of schools of equitable size for district and state tournament competition. Unlike the other two enrollment break systems, the standard enrollment breaks are set without regard to sport registration. Rather, this formula takes into account the **total number of MSHSAA member high schools** and creates enrollment breaks between five groupings of schools. The formula places the largest 96 schools in the first group and the next largest 96 schools in the second group. Then, starting from the bottom, the formula places the smallest 128 schools in a group, and the next smallest 128 schools in another group. The schools in the middle make up a fifth group. Using the enrollment of the smallest school in four of those five groups, the standard enrollment breaks are set. If there are enrollment ties between schools that are on opposite sides of a planned break, all tied schools are moved **down** into the lower class.

ACTIVITIES USING STANDARD ENROLLMENT BREAKS - The activities of Basketball, Music, Soccer and Tennis utilize the standard enrollment breaks. The breaks for these activities are listed below:

STANDARD ENROLLMENT BREAKS (2010-11 and 2011-12)

FIVE CLASSES: Boys Basketball, Girls Basketball, Music:	TWO CLASSES: Girls Tennis, Boys Tennis:	THREE CLASSES: Boys Soccer, Girls Soccer:
Class 1: 119 & below Class 2: 120 – 227 Class 3: 228 – 568 Class 4: 569 – 1174 Class 5: 1175 & above	Class 1: 1174 & below Class 2: 1175 & above	Class 1: 568 & below Class 2: 569 – 1174 Class 3: 1175 & above

EQUAL ENROLLMENT BREAKS - Equal breaks take into account only the schools that have registered for a particular activity, and then divide those schools equally among the number of classes for which the activity qualifies. The schools participating in that particular activity are arranged in enrollment order and the total number is divided by the number of classes allowed. There will be approximately the same number of schools in each class. The breaks are then determined based on the enrollment of the largest school in each class. For example, if a sport has 400 schools registered, the sport would be divided into four classes. The number of schools divided by classes (400/4) would place 100 schools in each class. Ties move **down** into the lower class.

ACTIVITIES USING EQUAL ENROLLMENT BREAKS - Baseball (four classes), boys and girls cross country (four classes), boys golf (four classes), girls golf (two classes), scholar bowl (four classes), girls softball (four classes), girls volleyball (four classes), and wrestling (four classes) utilize equal enrollment breaks. Classifications and district assignments for these activities are released during the respective activity's interscholastic season.

MODIFIED ENROLLMENT BREAKS - This enrollment break system combines concepts of both the standard enrollment breaks and the equal enrollment breaks, and is generally used for activities with four classes. The modified system utilizes the top break from the standard enrollment break system (the largest 96 member schools) and then equally divides the remaining schools participating in that activity.

ACTIVITIES USING MODIFIED ENROLLMENT BREAKS - Boys and girls track & field (four classes) utilize the modified breaking system. Classifications and district assignments for this activity are released during the activity's interscholastic season. **(Revised 2008) (By-Law 312)**

14. BOARD POLICY ON ENROLLMENT VERIFICATION & RELEASE AND SHARED STUDENTS

MSHSAA gathers the official enrollments of member high schools every two years in order to set activity classifications for a two-year cycle. Once MSHSAA has received enrollments from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and the associations that accredit our non-public school members, the enrollment numbers will be placed on the MSHSAA web site (www.mshsaa.org) for verification by member high schools. These enrollments shall remain on the MSHSAA web site for the purpose of enrollment verification for ONE WEEK. (Typically, this will take place in January or February of even years, 2004, 2006, etc.)

Public Schools Enrollments: The DESE figure that MSHSAA utilizes for classification is the “enrollment” number, not the “membership” number. The “enrollment” number is defined as the “head count” that is taken on the last Wednesday in September of all resident and non-resident students. The numbers provided by the school district to DESE are the numbers that will be seen on the MSHSAA web site.

Non-Public Schools Enrollments: The enrollment figures for non-public schools are gathered from schools’ self-reports. These are the figures that will be seen on the MSHSAA web site. The enrollment figures to be verified will be the unadjusted enrollment figures – the actual enrollment figures prior to doubling for all-boy and all-girl schools and prior to use of the multiplier.

VERIFICATION PROCESS:

1. A school administrator shall review the school’s enrollment figure on the MSHSAA web site.
2. If the administrator cannot confirm the enrollment figure, he/she should contact the school district’s central office to verify the enrollment figure as the correct “enrollment head count” for the high school (grades 9-12). **NOTE:** Corrections should only be made if the number submitted as the head count on the last Wednesday in September was **INACCURATE** on that date; a change should **NOT** be made or requested if the head count has **CHANGED** since the last Wednesday in September.
3. If an inaccurate enrollment number is detected, the school must complete the following steps by the published closing time for enrollment verification listed on the web site in order for MSHSAA to update the number.
 - a. **Public schools** - Re-enter your enrollment data in the DESE Web Site on Screen 16 prior to the published closing time for enrollment verification.
 - Non-public schools** – Contact your accrediting association and submit the correction in writing prior to the published closing time for enrollment verification.
 - b. **Fax a letter** to the MSHSAA office (fax: 573-875-1450) noting the enrollment error and listing both the original and corrected enrollment numbers, prior to the published closing time for enrollment verification.
 - c. **Fax a list of Shared Students** – See number 4 below if applicable.
4. **Shared Students:** MSHSAA Board policy permits schools which have “shared” students (those enrolled in a non-public school but take one or more classes at a public school) the opportunity to remove these students from the respective public school enrollment. In order to have “shared” students removed from your public school’s enrollment figures used for classification, your school’s principal or superintendent must submit a list of only those non-public school students enrolled and attending classes when the current year’s September enrollment was taken. The students shall be listed by name and non-public school they attend. *Example Only: Jane Smith, Bishop DuBourg.* This list must be received at the MSHSAA office prior to the published closing time for enrollment verification period on the MSHSAA web site.
5. In accord with the policy adopted by the MSHSAA Board of Directors, no further changes shall be accepted.

After the enrollment numbers are final, they will be published on the MSHSAA web site and in the February issue of the MSHSAA Journal, and used for classification purposes during the two-year classification cycle. **(Adopted April, 2003)**

15. BOARD POLICY ON FANS AT SIDELINES

There have been instances where fans have been permitted to gather and stand along the sidelines or endlines of playing fields and courts during athletic contests, and a number of instances have been reported in which fans have approached the sidelines near the end of the game. Generally, this is for the purpose of rushing onto the field or court to express jubilation over winning. In other instances, fans have cast disparaging remarks toward opposing players and officials. In either case, it creates a situation conducive to crowd control problems. Under these conditions, the Board of Directors has adopted a policy authorizing and urging game officials to stop the game when this occurs, send the teams to the benches, and request the host school administration (or tournament manager) to have the fans return to their seats or leave the gymnasium or field before play is continued. The game shall not continue until the fans comply. The primary responsibility for compliance with the game officials request falls on the host school, or tournament manager, but the visiting school (both schools in a tournament) is also responsible for seeing that their fans remain in their seats. All schools should take steps to

educate their students and fans to refrain from moving onto the court or playing field following games. The practice of entering these areas following games does not contribute anything toward the most worthwhile objectives of interscholastics and can contribute toward misconduct. In a related note, tournament managers should suspend the sale of tickets and close the doors when necessary to prevent overcrowding of gymnasiums.

16. BOARD POLICY ON HALFTIME SHOOTOUTS

When a student is **selected by chance** to participate in a 'carnival type' contest involving a skill of a sport, he or she may receive cash or merchandise awards as a result of that participation without jeopardizing his or her eligibility under the MSHSAA Amateur and Awards Standards. An example of this would be where a student is selected to participate in a halftime promotion at a University basketball game on the basis of a chance drawing of a number on a program which he/she purchased at the game. In cases where such activities are scheduled and a student is required to **enter** for the purpose of competing for a cash or merchandise award, such activity would come under the restrictions of the amateur and awards standard and a student would jeopardize his/her eligibility in the sport concerned by competing for or accepting such awards.

(By-Law 231)

17. BOARD POLICY ON HANDLING CONTESTS DURING HAZARDOUS WEATHER DISTURBANCES

The MSHSAA Board of Directors has adopted the position statement of the National Athletic Trainers' Association regarding lightning safety (Journal of Athletic Training 2000; 35(4):471-477).

The procedures are listed below:

1. Formalize and implement a comprehensive, proactive lightning-safety policy or emergency action plan specific to lightning safety. The components of this policy should include the following:
 - a. An established chain of command that identifies who is to make the call to remove individuals from the field or an activity.
 - b. A designated weather watcher (i.e., a person who actively looks for the signs of threatening weather and notifies the chain of command if severe weather becomes dangerous).
 - c. A means of monitoring local weather forecasts and warnings.
 - d. A listing of specific safe locations (for each field or site) from the lightning hazard.
 - e. The use of specific criteria for suspension and resumption of activities (refer to recommendations 4, 5, and 6).
 - f. The use of the recommended lightning-safety strategies (refer to recommendations 7, 8, and 9).
2. The primary choice for a safe location from the lightning hazard is any substantial, frequently inhabited building. The electric and telephone wiring and plumbing pathways aid in grounding a building, which is why buildings are safer than remaining outdoors during thunderstorms. It is important not to be connected to these pathways while inside the structure during ongoing thunderstorms.
3. The secondary choice for a safer location from the lightning hazard is a fully enclosed vehicle with a metal roof and the windows closed. Convertible cars and golf carts do not provide protection from lightning danger. It is important not to touch any part of the metal framework of the vehicle while inside it during ongoing thunderstorms.
4. Seeking a safe structure or location at the first sign of lightning (**cloud-to-ground**) or thunder activity is highly recommended. By the time the flash-to-bang count approaches 30 seconds (or is less than 30 seconds), all individuals should already be inside or should immediately seek a safe structure or location. To use the flash-to-bang method, the observer begins counting when a lightning flash is sighted. Counting is stopped when the associated bang (thunder) is heard. Divide this count by 5 to determine the distance to the lightning flash (in miles). For example, a flash-to-bang count of 30 seconds equates to a distance of 6 miles (9.66 km).
5. Postpone or suspend activity if a thunderstorm appears imminent before or during an activity or contest (regardless of whether **cloud-to-ground** lightning is seen or thunder heard) until the hazard has passed. Signs of imminent thunderstorm activity are darkening clouds, high winds, and thunder or lightning activity.
6. Once activities have been suspended, wait at least 30 minutes after the last sound of thunder or lightning flash before resuming an activity or returning outdoors. A message should be read over the public address system and lightning-safety tips should be placed in game programs alerting spectators and competitors about what to do and where to go to find a safer location during thunderstorm activity.
7. Extremely large athletic events are of particular concern with regard to lightning safety. Consider using a multidisciplinary approach to lessen lightning danger, such as integrating weather forecasts, real-time thunderstorm data, a weather watcher, and the flash-to-bang count to aid in decision making.
8. Avoid being in contact with, or in proximity to, the highest point of an open field or on the open water. Do not take shelter under or near trees, flag poles, or light poles.
9. Avoid taking showers and using plumbing facilities (including indoor and outdoor pools) and land-line telephones during thunderstorm activity. Cordless or cellular telephones are safer to use when emergency help is needed.

10. Individuals who feel their hair stand on end or skin tingle or hear crackling noises should assume the lightning-safe position (i.e., crouched on the ground, weight on the balls of the feet, feet together, head lowered, and ears covered). Do not lie flat on the ground.
11. Observe the following basic first-aid procedures, in order, to manage victims of lightning strike:
 - a. Survey the scene for safety. Ongoing thunderstorms may still pose a threat to emergency personnel responding to the situation.
 - b. Activate the local emergency management system.
 - c. Move the victim carefully to a safer location, if needed.
 - d. Evaluate and treat for apnea and a systole.
 - e. Evaluate and treat for hypothermia and shock.
 - f. Evaluate and treat for fractures.
 - g. Evaluate and treat for burns.
12. All persons should maintain current cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and first-aid certification.
13. All individuals should have the right to leave an athletic site or activity, without fear of repercussion or penalty, in order to seek a safe structure or location if they feel they are in danger from impending lightning activity. **(Revised 2010)**

18. BOARD POLICY ON HAZING AND HARASSMENT

It is the policy of the MSHSAA Board of Directors that hazing and harassment have no place in school-sponsored activity programs and pose a significant risk to the physical and mental welfare of students. Coaches, directors, sponsors and administrators must take an active role in the prevention of all forms of hazing and harassment. Students directly or indirectly involved in hazing incidents, on or off school grounds, could be considered ineligible by the school administration under the MSHSAA citizenship standard, By-Law 212.

Hazing: Willful conduct directed at a student that is intended to physically or emotionally intimidate, punish, embarrass, humiliate, ridicule, or place any student in a disconcerting position for the purpose of initiation, affiliation, inclusion or membership in any team or organization.

Harassment: Unwelcome conduct by a person that is sufficiently serious, persistent or pervasive, so that it affects another person's ability to participate in or benefit from the school program or activity by creating an intimidating, threatening or abusive environment.

19. BOARD POLICY ON INVASIVE MEDICAL PROCEDURES ON THE DAY OF COMPETITION

The NFHS SMAC was formed in 1996 to assist the NFHS in ensuring the safety of high school athletes across the nation. The SMAC investigates numerous issues, rules, and situations and considers their potential risks to athletes. Recently, the SMAC has reviewed the issue of invasive medical procedures such as intravenous (IV) rehydration and the use of injectable anesthetic/analgesic drugs during or before athletic contests and events.

While we believe these practices are not widespread at the high school level, a handful of such incidents have been reported to the SMAC over the past year. It is reported that these procedures are carried out at the college and professional levels. The SMAC is very concerned that occurrence of, or the desire for, such medical procedures will continue to "trickle down" to high school athletics.

The SMAC encourages a philosophy that high school athletics serve the purpose of providing young men and women the opportunity for personal growth in a controlled environment. The pursuit of victory is not, by itself, justification for medical intervention. We believe that invasive procedures such as the administration of IV fluids and the use of injectable anesthetic/analgesic drugs performed on the day of competition with the sole purpose of enabling a student athlete to participate are inconsistent with the philosophy of high school sports.

This position applies to any athlete requiring a local (example: lidocaine) or systemic (example: Toradol) pain-killing medication to enable him or her to play. This practice increases the risk of further injury to the affected body part. The use of prescription medication that is administered by injection for chronic medical conditions (such as insulin for diabetes or Imitrex for migraine headaches) is appropriate, and will not be affected.

Second, performing medical procedures in a locker room, training room, or other facility is fraught with the potential for infection and other complications. The placement of an intravenous catheter or the administration of an intramuscular or subcutaneous injection is a medical procedure and should be treated as such. Thus, a medical facility is the proper venue for any such invasive procedures to be carried out.

Finally, while our primary concern is with protecting the health of the young athlete, we believe this is also a matter of participation equity. Due to a variety of factors, few high school sports programs have team physicians attending their competitions and in many instances these volunteers do not have special training in sports medicine. Thus, teams and individuals who have a physician or other medical provider willing and able to provide such services will have a significant competitive advantage over their opponents who may not have such a specialist available.

After a review of the potential risks, consequences, and limited medical benefits of these invasive procedures, the NFHS Sports Medicine Advisory Committee takes the position that there is no proper role for these procedures in high school athletics. We strongly recommend to coaches, school administrators, athletic trainers, and team physicians that athletes should not be allowed to participate in athletic contests or events if they have received IV hydration or been injected with an anesthetic or analgesic medication on that same day. **(September 2009)**

20. BOARD POLICY FOR MINIMIZING INFECTIOUS DISEASE TRANSMISSION

The MSHSAA Board of Directors has adopted the following policy in an effort to minimize the possibility of any transmission of any blood borne pathogen diseases (i.e. Hepatitis B, HIV virus and the resulting Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome). Although the policy was originally written with the sport of wrestling in mind, it is applicable to all sports. The MSHSAA Board of Directors strongly recommends that each school adopt a similar policy to apply to any situation where an injury which results in bleeding might occur. Such injuries are most likely to occur in physical education classes, athletic practice sessions, and contests. Therefore, it is extremely important that teachers, coaches, and referees follow the procedures outlined in this policy and be prepared any time there is blood present to treat it in a manner that respects its ability to transmit infectious diseases.

Health-care workers, including doctors and athletics trainers, who care for student-athletes should employ the universal precautions currently recommended by Centers for Disease Control in the care of all athletes, since medical history and examination cannot reliably identify patients infected with HIV. The universal precautions include:

1. Routine use of barrier precautions to prevent skin and mucous-membrane exposure when contact with blood or other body fluids is anticipated. Gloves should be worn for touching blood, body fluids, mucous membranes or nonintact skin (e.g., abrasions, dermatitis) of all athletes and for handling items or surfaces soiled with blood or body fluids, and for performing venipuncture. Gloves should be changed after contact with each student-athlete. Masks and protective eye wear or face shields should be worn during procedures that are likely to generate droplets of blood or other body fluids, to prevent exposure of mucous membranes of the mouth, nose, and eyes.
2. Hands and other skin surfaces should be washed immediately and thoroughly if contaminated with blood or other body fluids. Hands should be washed immediately after gloves are removed.
3. Surfaces contaminated with blood should be cleaned with a solution made from a one-to-one hundred (1:100) dilution of household bleach.
4. Precautions should be taken to prevent injuries caused by needles, scalpels and other sharp instruments or devices. To prevent needle stick injuries, needles should not be recapped, purposely bent or broken by hand, removed from disposable syringes, or otherwise manipulated by hand.
5. Although saliva has not been implicated in HIV transmission, to minimize the need for emergency mouth-to-mouth resuscitation, mouthpieces, resuscitation bags or other ventilation devices should be available for use.
6. Health-care workers who have bleeding or oozing skin should refrain from all direct patient care until the condition resolves.
7. Soiled linens should be bagged and washed in hot water with detergent.
8. In the athletics environment, universal guidelines should be considered for the immediate control of bleeding and for handling bloody dressings, mouth guards and other articles containing bodily fluids.

Member institutions should ensure that policies exist for the orientation and education of all health-care workers on the prevention of transmission of blood borne pathogen diseases and the need for routine use of the above universal precautions. Additionally, provision of equipment and supplies necessary to minimize the risk of infection, as well as the monitoring of adherence to recommended protective measures, needs to be guaranteed.

In the area of interscholastic activities, some alarm has been expressed regarding the presence of the HIV virus in sweat, saliva and blood from minor injuries. Some important things to remember are:

1. At this time, it is uncertain that the HIV virus is transmitted by either saliva or sweat. Therefore, efforts need to be concentrated in the area of the minor injuries that result in bleeding.
2. Proper handling of these situations by coaches, officials and competitors will greatly reduce the possibility of any transmission of HIV, if indeed the athlete who is bleeding is infected by the disease.
3. The possibility of transmitting HIV in this manner is much less than the possibility of transmitting other very dangerous blood-borne viral infections such as Hepatitis B.
4. However, the chance of transmitting the HIV virus is not zero. Therefore, precautions should be taken to insure that no transmission can occur.
5. If an athlete sustains a minor bleeding problem - and most bleeding problems in sports result from minor injuries in the nose area - the contest should be stopped, the bleeding stemmed, and any blood on the playing surface

should be wiped off using a disinfectant such as Clorox, in a 100 to 1 solution (100 parts water and one part disinfectant). This same solution should be used to wipe any blood off the opponent's skin. However, the area should then be rinsed with water to avoid either participant getting the disinfectant in his eyes. It should be noted that there are also many other disinfectants that are very successful in combating the HIV virus such as isopropol alcohol.

If any of the blood has gotten on the opponent's uniform, unless the opponent has an open cut or unskinned area on his body, it is not necessary to clean the uniform at this point. If there is an open cut or unskinned areas then the uniform should be wiped with the disinfectant solution and then thoroughly rinsed with water to avoid either participant getting the disinfectant in his/her eyes.

If an official should get blood on himself/herself, he or she should do the same as the competitors - use the disinfectant solution to wipe the bloodied area.

NOTE: Disposable towels should be used in all clean up and then placed in a sealed container and disposed of properly. Also, extreme care should be used in disposing of cotton used to stem bleeding.

The Communicable Disease Precaution Policy is listed in the front of each National Federation Rule Book and in the MSHSAA Sports Medicine Manual. Please refer to that policy for further information.

21. BOARD POLICY ON MSHSAA PROGRAM PRINTING

The Missouri State High School Activities Association strives to publish errorless Championship programs for all of its events. Since a majority of the information contained in Championship programs is submitted by coaches of qualifying schools, it is imperative that the MSHSAA office receive correctly-spelled names, accurate classifications and complete records, results and statistics of participants and teams from the coaches.

Effective as of September 1996, the MSHSAA Board of Directors has approved a fine process for all late, incomplete or illegible submissions for MSHSAA Championship programs. Schools that do not submit their forms to the MSHSAA in a timely, legible, complete and accurate manner will be fined \$25 per offense. In activities that require the electronic submission of program information, faxed or mailed copies of this information will not be accepted. Electronic reports must be submitted by the appropriate due date in the format and style included with the report instructions. It is the responsibility of the school to verify that the MSHSAA has received its program information, team photo and any other required information by the appropriate deadline.

22. BOARD POLICY ON NON-SCHOOL COMPETITION

(NOTE: This policy was deleted in 2010 due to by-law changes.)

23. BOARD POLICY ON OFFICIALS MEMORIAL INSIGNIA

An optional designed memorial patch is allowed on the official's shirt to honor a deceased official under the following conditions:

1. Must be requested in writing to the MSHSAA office for approval with the design of the patch included,
2. The request shall list the sports to be included,
3. The patch, if worn, shall be placed on the right sleeve of the shirt below any other optional patches (American Flag/NFOA patch) worn there,
4. The patch shall be sewn or attached by Velcro to the sleeve,
5. The patch may be worn for one school year during the regular season only in the sports approved, and
6. The size of the patch shall not exceed one and one-half inches in any dimension (diameter, width, or length).

The National Federation has confirmed that the placing of a memorial patch on the official's shirt would not violate any officials' uniform regulations. **(June 2003)**

24. BOARD POLICY FOR ON-SITE PROTESTS OF ATHLETIC CONTESTS

The Board of Directors adopted the following Policy, March, 1997, to address protests. The Board acknowledges that mistakes are made by officials in judgment and even sometimes in misapplication of game rules. However, the decisions rendered by officials at the contest site are to be final and any further process other than the one outlined below would not truly serve a useful purpose in the overall scope of high school athletics.

1. Within the procedures established within each individual sport rule code, the head coach must request a review of an official's application of a rule through appropriate channels.
2. If, after the review is complete, the coach still believes there has been a misapplication of a rule by a contest official(s), the coach shall then file a formal verbal protest with the game officials who will then notify the opposing coach immediately of the protest. A coach shall not protest a decision of judgment.
3. Following this notification of protest, the head coach shall be allowed approximately ten minutes to use his/her National Federation Rules Book, National Federation Case Book, MSHSAA Rules Meeting Announcements and/or MSHSAA Sport Manual to locate and show the game official(s) the appropriate rule reference which clarifies a misapplication of the game rule. If the head coach does not have personal copies of the above mentioned materials at the game site or the specific rule reference(s) or case book play(s) cannot be located within the maximum allowable ten minutes, the protest shall automatically be disallowed and the game shall continue from the point of interruption. If a rule reference(s) or case book play(s) is found that indicates a misapplication of a rule has occurred, the official's decision shall be corrected at that time before any further action occurs, and the contest shall be resumed from the point of interruption after the correction as provided in the contest rules. When appropriate, the game officials may assist the head coach in locating appropriate rule and case book references.
4. All protests shall be resolved at the contest site before any further game action occurs.
5. Protests that are not filed in a timely manner by that sport rule code shall be automatically disallowed.
6. The MSHSAA Board of Directors and/or Staff shall not review contest protests.

APPLICATION OF PROTEST PROCEDURE

A. **Introduction:** Protests rarely occur and the new protest procedure policy is not intended to increase the frequency of protests. It is however, intended to resolve the protest on site. For this to occur the following must take place:

1. Coaches and Officials must be professional with each other. This should be a non-confrontational conference.
2. As stated above, protests involve application of rules only -- **not judgment calls**. (Examples of items which could be protested: Football -- penalizing 5 yards instead of 15 yards; Wrestling -- allowing 1 minute for injury time instead of 2 minutes; Softball -- allowing only two charged defensive conferences instead of three.) (Examples of items that could not be protested: Football -- pass interference; Wrestling -- stalling; Softball -- out or safe calls.)
3. **GET IT RIGHT!** If the official has made a mistake; admit it, correct it and move on. Contest officials and the head coach filing the official protest shall notify the MSHSAA office in writing of any contest in which an official protest has occurred and the resolution of that protest. The MSHSAA Special Report Forms shall be used for this purpose.

B. **Process.**

1. Once a head coach has filed a formal verbal protest with the game officials, they shall then notify the opposing head coach of the protest and the playing field, court, mat, etc. shall be cleared of all participants and they shall report to their respective team bench areas.
2. The head coach shall then be allowed approximately ten minutes to locate specific rule references from the National Federation Rules Book, National Federation Case Book, MSHSAA Rules Meeting Announcements and/or MSHSAA Sport Manual to substantiate the claim that a misapplication of a game rule has occurred. The game officials shall also confer among themselves during the period to address the claim of the coach as to the potential rule misapplication.
3. If the head coach is able to produce rule evidence from the above mentioned sources to support the claim of a misapplication of a game rule, the officials shall correct the error as provided in the contest rules and the contest shall proceed from the point of interruption. If the head coach cannot produce the evidence, the protest shall be disallowed and the contest shall continue from the point of interruption. The previously mentioned materials must be immediately available for review at the playing field sideline, court-side, mat-side etc. (Time shall not be provided to go to a locker room, team bus, coach's office, etc.)
4. Once the final decision regarding the protest has been rendered, the game officials shall provide the participants sufficient opportunity to warm-up before the contest is resumed.

25. BOARD POLICY FOR ON-SITE PROTESTS OF SPEECH, DEBATE AND THEATRE CONTESTS

The Board of Directors acknowledges that occasionally tournament officials at speech, debate and drama contests make mistakes. The following addresses protests at interscholastic speech debate, and drama events and contests.

Protest Procedure

1. The coach must request a review of an official's/judge's application of a rule through appropriate channels (only misapplications of MSHSAA By-Laws and event rules may be protested, not decisions of judgment).
2. All protests shall be resolved at the contest site by the jury of appeals before any further competition occurs in the event(s) affected.
3. Protests that are not filed within the appropriate time frame shall be automatically disallowed.
4. The MSHSAA Board of Directors and/or staff shall not review contest protests.

Application of Protest Procedure

1. The tournament manager shall appoint a grievance committee of three speech coaches from participating schools. The grievance committee shall serve with the tournament manager as a jury of appeals to rule on questions/protests arising at the tournament.
 - a. The committee shall include the MSHSAA Speech Advisory Committee member from the district when available and at least one coach from one of the smaller schools participating in the tournament.
 - b. Should a member of the committee's school be involved in the grievance, the committee member shall be replaced with a committee alternate and if the alternate is not available someone may be appointed to serve in this capacity by the tournament manager.
2. All protests shall be directed to the tournament manager by the school coach in writing via tournament protest forms as soon as infractions to the rules are discovered, but within 20 minutes of the results of the protested event(s) becoming final. The written protest shall cite the rule(s) or By-Law(s) being protested.
3. Posting to finalize results: All results for the tournament will be posted/distributed in advance following the schedule in (a) and (b) below. Any error must be corrected at the appropriate time listed.
 - a. Following the end of preliminaries and before the elimination rounds all grids and ballots are to be available to the coaches to verify the accuracy of the results in each event during an allowed twenty (20) minute time period and that a five (5) minute time period be allowed for the purpose of verifying results between elimination rounds in debate with **all results being final once the next round begins**.
 - b. Results will be final 20 minutes after the posting/distribution of results.
4. Depending on the nature of a protest, the outcome to uphold or deny shall be determined by:
 - a. the tournament manager (or);
 - b. the grievance committee (or);
 - c. the jury of appeals (the tournament manager and grievance committee together).
5. The decision made at the tournament site by the appropriate party listed above shall be final. **(June 2000)**

26. BOARD POLICY ON OPEN FACILITIES

School administrators may open the school's gymnasiums or other facilities designated for free play recreational activities without being in violation of MSHSAA By-Laws pertaining to school sport seasons and non-school competition when conducted under the following conditions.

1. When "open facilities" are to be open to any officially enrolled students of the school, the following requirements shall apply.
 - a. All "open facility" activities **shall** be posted or announced publicly, for example in the daily bulletin, school newspaper, etc. at least two days prior to the activity. The "open facility" will be supervised from beginning to end by the school personnel who has scheduled the activity with advanced approval from the appropriate school administrator.
 - b. The facility is open for participation to all officially enrolled students of the school.
 - c. A variety of activities may be available to these students and are not limited to one sport or activity on a given date.
 - d. A facility may be open for a single sport and be gender specific (i.e. girls volleyball). Schools should provide equal open facility opportunities if being specific by gender to ensure comparable opportunities for both genders.
 - e. Attendance at an open facility **shall not** be mandatory for any student. All attendance must be voluntary. Any effort either directly or indirectly to require a student to attend the open facility is a school violation.
 - f. Attendance at an open facility may not be related to team membership.
 - g. Within the open facility only, any member of the school coaching staff may supervise the "free play" activity and may provide individual sport specific skill instruction. This may only occur at the open facility and skill

- instruction if occurring shall be offered to any student attending the open facility. Organized scrimmages are not considered free play.
- h. The individual school administration assumes the responsibilities of making certain that there is full compliance to this policy. The local school administrator(s) shall determine the appropriate activities for recreational free play and the school equipment to be made available and their location. It is the responsibility of the school administration to be certain the activities and equipment are safe and appropriate for the facility and for **any** student to participate in and use without special supervision and/or training.
2. When "open facilities" are to be used by anyone in the local community, the following requirements shall apply.
 - a. There should be enough time between a school athletic practice and when an "open facility" is scheduled to allow for the clearing of school athletic team participants and those attending the "open facility." (Thirty minutes is suggested.) A school team shall not play against nonteam members.
 - b. The "open facility" is open to anyone in the local community for participation.
 - c. A variety of activities may be available to all and are not limited to one sport or activity on a given date.
 - d. A facility may be open for a single sport and be gender specific (i.e. girls volleyball). Schools should provide equal open facility opportunities if being specific by gender to ensure comparable opportunities for both genders.
 - e. Attendance at an open facility **shall not** be mandatory for any student. All attendance must be voluntary. Any effort either directly or indirectly to require a student to attend the open facility is a school violation.
 - f. Attendance at an open facility may not be related to team membership.
 - g. Within the open facility only, any member of the school coaching staff may supervise the "free play" activity and may provide individual sport specific skill instruction. This may only occur at the open facility and skill instruction if occurring shall be offered to any student attending the open facility. Organized scrimmages are not considered free play.
 - h. The individual school administration assumes the responsibilities of making certain that there is full compliance to this policy. The local school administrator(s) shall determine the appropriate activities for recreational free play and the school equipment to be made available and their location. It is the responsibility of the school administration to be certain the activities and equipment are safe and appropriate for the facility and for **any** person to participate in and use without special supervision and/or training.

(2005)

27. BOARD POLICY ON OUT-OF-SEASON SPORTS CONDITIONING PROGRAMS

Numerous questions have been raised by coaches and administrators about what players and coaches can and cannot do in the way of out-of-season sports conditioning programs.

Coverage in the MSHSAA By-Laws applying to this subject are included in By-Law 301, which defines practice, and By-Laws 320 and 330 which spell out the sports seasons in which practice and interscholastic competition is permitted. Since there is no specific reference in the By-Laws to conditioning programs, other than implied restrictions in those cited above, the Board of Directors has prepared the following policy statement for schools to follow in administering off-season conditioning programs.

1. Participation in the program must be open to all students enrolled in the school.
2. Participation is voluntary and is not required directly or indirectly for membership on a high school squad.
3. Participants will furnish their own clothing (sweat suits, shorts, shoes, etc.).
4. Activities shall be limited to running, weight training, and calisthenics. Agility drills that do not involve specific skills of a given sport are also permitted.
5. Specific equipment pertaining to a given sport may **not** be used. This includes, but not limited to, such items as footballs, basketballs, volleyballs, wrestling mats, hurdles, shot put, discus, high jump or pole vault standards or landing pits, batting cages, blocking or tackling dummies, charging sleds, and other similar equipment.
6. In those cases where schools schedule all athletes into the last period of the school day, the guidelines outlined in items 3, 4, and 5 above shall apply. If this class is a part of the school physical education program *and credit is given*, those athletes whose sport is not in season may receive instruction in a given sport as long as the different periods in the daily schedule include the same instruction. The teaching units in the physical education program in such situations shall be scheduled so sports that are in season or sports not included in the school's interscholastic program are taught.

NOTE: It is strongly recommended that "last hour" athletics class not be used as a substitute for the regular physical education requirement.

SUMMER MONTHS: Items 1 through 5 above shall apply to the *SUMMER VACATION PERIOD* when school is not in session. They are interpreted as permitting voluntary, individual types of activity. It must be clear that no organized drills or practices are permitted prior to the first permissible pre-season practice session. A coach can outline recommended individual workout schedules and may be present to supervise the activities for safety purposes but may not conduct, direct others to conduct, or permit to be conducted (e.g. captains, player representatives, alumni, assistant coaches, etc.), organized group calisthenics or agility drills.

(By-Law 301)

28. BOARD POLICY ON PROFESSIONAL TEACHER'S CERTIFICATE

In accord with provisions of By-Law 125, persons who possess a valid Professional Teacher's Certificate are eligible to be approved to serve as a non-faculty **head coach** at a MSHSAA member school. Due to the fact persons completing a B.S. degree in education are no longer issued lifetime Teacher's Certificates in Missouri but instead are issued renewable Professional Teacher's Certificates, it is necessary to adopt an interpretation defining the term "Valid Professional Teacher's Certificate." A person who is issued a Lifetime or Professional Teacher's Certificate shall be considered as meeting the requirements contained in By-Law 125 for that person to be approved to serve as a nonfaculty head coach. A professional certificate shall continue to be considered valid under the terms of this By-Law even though it might subsequently expire due to the failure of the person to meet the teaching experience or continuing education requirements of DESE or other State Departments of Education. A person whose Teacher's Certificate is revoked shall not be considered as holding a valid certificate and thus will not be eligible to be approved to serve as a nonfaculty head coach at a MSHSAA member school. **(By-Law 125)**

29. BOARD POLICY ON PROHIBITING USE OF CELL PHONES IN LOCKER ROOMS AT MSHSAA DISTRICT AND STATE SERIES EVENTS

The MSHSAA Board of Directors adopted a policy to prohibit the **use** of cell phones in locker rooms at MSHSAA events as a preventative measure and concern for an individual's privacy. Modern technology now permits a "picture phone" to distribute a picture to the internet with uncontrolled distribution. To be proactive and prevent perhaps an indiscriminate use of the cell phone and be possible to monitor by the coaching staff a "no use" policy is now in place for the locker room area only at all MSHSAA events. During all district, sectional, quarterfinal games and semifinal games in football, the local tournament manager shall be responsible to post signs outside and inside of each locker room indicating "Cell Phone Use is Prohibited in the Locker Room at all MSHSAA Events." The MSHSAA staff shall be responsible to post signs in the same locations at all final site locker rooms. It is the responsibility of the school administration to ensure that all students and coaches have been informed of this policy prior to the event and to monitor the policy within the school's assigned locker room at MSHSAA events. **(Dec. 2003)**

30. BOARD POLICY ON RECORD RETENTION

The MSHSAA shall maintain accurate records of Association business. Official records shall be maintained in the MSHSAA office with the Executive Director to serve as the Custodian of Records according to the schedule set forth by the Board of Directors. **(November/December 2005)**

31. BOARD POLICY ON REPORTED VIOLATIONS

Who may report a violation of the MSHSAA Constitution, By-Laws or Board Policies?

1. Authorized personnel on behalf of a member school may report a violation in writing to the MSHSAA office pursuant to MSHSAA By-Law 920.
2. Any Individual may report a violation in writing to the MSHSAA office. Such reports must first be reviewed by the Board of Directors. If the reported violation appears to be supported by sufficiently credible information, the Board of Directors will authorize an official investigation of the reported violation pursuant to Article IV, Section 6-f of the MSHSAA Constitution.

Does the report of the violation have to be in writing?

Yes, the complaint must be submitted in writing (i.e. fax, email, or letter) with the individual or school's name sufficiently identified so that it may be verified by the MSHSAA office. Any reports that are anonymous will only be forwarded to the school administrator of the school in question with no further action to be taken unless a violation is self reported by the receiving school pursuant to the published Board Policy on Anonymous Calls, Letters, and E-mails.

Will the school know who reported the violation?

Yes. The school will be notified of the reported violation before any investigation is authorized by the Board of Directors. This notification would include the identity of the individual or school reporting the violation.

Will the school be allowed to conduct its own investigation?

Yes, the school should conduct its own investigation. However, the school's investigation will not supersede nor delay any authorized investigation by MSHSAA. The school will be given an opportunity to provide information concerning the alleged violation.

When will the school receive the opinion of the Executive Director on the report of violations?

Once the MSHSAA investigation has been concluded, the Executive Director will contact the school administrator to verify if they have any additional information to present before an official opinion is issued by the Executive Director. If other violations are discovered during the investigative process, then the school will be made aware of those violations and given an opportunity to respond. The school will be given a time line to submit such information. At the conclusion of that time line, the Executive Director will issue an opinion on any violations.

What can the school do once the opinion of the Executive Director has been rendered?

If any interested party is aggrieved by an opinion of the Executive Director, then such party may appeal through the appeal procedure established in By-Law 1125 to the MSHSAA Appeal's Committee. If any such party is aggrieved by a decision of the Appeal's Committee, then such party may appeal through the appeal procedure established in By-Law 1125 to the MSHSAA Board of Directors. **(June 2008)**

**32. BOARD POLICY ON REQUIRED
SUBMITTAL OF OFFICIALS' RATINGS BY SCHOOLS**

1. Schools shall file the required officials ratings by the established deadline. Fall Ratings by November 15, Winter Ratings by March 15, and Spring Ratings by May 15. These ratings shall include regular season contests only.
2. Schools that fail to submit the required officials ratings by the established deadline shall be issued a **\$25.00** late penalty fee and sent a reminder letter to the principal, giving the school until November 30 for Fall ratings, March 31 for Winter ratings, and May 31 for Spring ratings..
3. Schools that fail to submit the required officials ratings by the extended deadline shall be placed on probation in the sport concerned by the MSHSAA Board of Directors and assessed an additional penalty fee of **\$100.00**. (**\$125** total fine)
4. A certified letter shall be sent to the superintendent indicating the consequences if the ratings are not submitted for a second consecutive year and that probation is automatically extended for one year.
5. If a school does not submit the required ratings in the same sport for a second consecutive year by the established deadline, the MSHSAA shall send a reminder letter to the principal indicating the school has been assessed a **\$25.00** late penalty fee and the school has until the extended deadline to complete the ratings. A letter shall also be sent to the board president of the school district notifying the board of the situation.
6. If the MSHSAA does not receive the required officials ratings by the extended deadline the school will have probation extended and be assessed an additional penalty of **\$200.00** by the MSHSAA Board of Directors and the school administrator and person responsible for not submitting the required officials ratings shall appear before the MSHSAA Board of Directors to show cause why the school should not be considered to be suspended from the district and state tournament series in the sport concerned. **(Revised April 2010)**

**33. BOARD POLICY ON SCHOOL COMMUNICATION THROUGH ELECTRONIC
AND HARD-COPY MEANS**

The Board of Directors has approved the following policy regarding communication with the membership. The Annual Questionnaire and the Annual Ballot will be available for completion by schools on the MSHSAA Online Membership System in an electronic format. The Annual Ballot Proposal Background Booklet will be mailed to member school principals and will also be available on the MSHSAA Online Membership System. All surveys (both electronic and hard-copy), unless otherwise specified, shall be forwarded to the school principal. Rule book mailings for the fall, winter and spring shall be shipped UPS to the athletic administrator. Various email communications may be forwarded to either the athletic administrator, the principal or in some cases, sport coaches/activity directors, depending upon the topic. Please advise your staff of this MSHSAA policy. **(Revised June 2009)**

34. BOARD POLICY ON SPECIALIZED SPORT CAMP FEES

The Board of Directors resolved at its November 1, 1995 meeting that provisions contained in the MSHSAA By-Laws which stipulate that fees (tuition) for summer athletic camps shall be provided by the student or the student's parents precludes a school from being involved in any group projects to raise money to pay these fees. This restriction applies to a booster club as well as to school coaches. As far as the restriction on athletes are concerned, it would be permissible for several members of a school team to assemble themselves for the purpose of collectively undertaking work projects such as a car wash, a bake sale or other similar type of activities to earn money which **could** be applied toward camp fees. Under such circumstances all **money earned shall go directly to the student** to be used at his or her discretion. If students are working collectively, they cannot be organized to do so through coordination of the school, booster club, or coach.

(By-Laws 235 and 236)

35. NFHS AND BOARD POLICY ON STEROIDS

EXISTING POLICIES/STANDS

The NFHS strongly opposes the use of anabolic steroids and other performance-enhancing substances by high school student-athletes. Such use violates legal, ethical and competitive equity standards, and imposes unreasonable long-term health risks. The NFHS supports prohibitions by educational institutions, amateur and professional organizations and governmental regulators on the use of anabolic steroids and other controlled substances, except as specifically prescribed by physicians for therapeutic purposes.

BACKGROUND

Anabolic, androgenic steroids (AAS) are synthetic derivatives of the male hormone testosterone. Natural testosterone regulates, promotes and maintains physical and sexual development, primarily in the male, but with effects in the female as well. Like testosterone, AAS have both an anabolic effect (increase in muscle tissue) and an androgenic effect (masculinizing effects that boys experience during puberty). No AAS is purely anabolic. As a result, the use of AAS won't lead to muscle growth without also leading to other unintended, undesirable side effects.

According to national surveys, the use of AAS among high school students has been decreasing since about 2001. There are no national studies that measure the extent of AAS use by high school student-athletes, although some states publish statewide prevalence data. Nearly one-third of high-school age steroid users do not participate in organized athletics and are taking AAS primarily to modify their physical appearance. Athletes who use AAS do so for two main reasons: 1) to gain strength and 2) to recover more quickly from injury.

AAS are controlled substances and are illegal to use or possess without a prescription from a physician for a legitimate medical diagnosis. Some AAS are used by veterinarians to treat pigs, horses and cows. In humans, medical uses of AAS include weight gain in wasting diseases such as HIV-infection or muscular dystrophy, absent gonadal function in males, and metastatic breast cancer in women. AAS should not be confused with corticosteroids, which are steroids that doctors prescribe for medical conditions such as asthma and inflammation. AAS are prohibited by all sports governing organizations.

(Revised September 2009)

36. BOARD POLICY ON STUDENTS TRANSFERRING TO CHARTER SCHOOLS

Provided the student's parents' residence is located within the designated charter school geographic attendance area, any student shall be eligible, with no restrictions on eligibility, during the initial year of the **opening** of the charter school provided all essential eligibility requirements are met. Any transfers into the charter school during the initial year of operation shall be considered under the requirements of By-Law 238 and the student may have restricted eligibility. All transfers into the charter school after the inaugural year shall fall under By-Law 238. Any student transferring from a charter school shall be covered under the provisions in By-Law 238. There are no exceptions for students transferring to or from a charter school other than those provided for in By-Law 238 which all students must meet. **(2001) (By-Law 238)**

37. BOARD POLICY ON SUBMISSION OF ELECTRONIC ATHLETIC AND ACTIVITY ELIGIBILITY ROSTER

By-Law 234 establishes a Board Policy to determine the submission dates for athletic and activity eligibility rosters. The window for submitting an eligibility roster for all **activities and junior high athletics** will open with the first allowable fall practice date and will remain open throughout the year. The junior high athletics eligibility rosters are **due** one day before the first contest for the team.

High school athletic eligibility rosters will be **due** one day prior to the first allowable contest for that sport. The windows will be open to allow submission to coincide with the first allowable day of practice. Winter sports will have to recertify by the fourth day of the second semester that all students are eligible to participate. The chart below provides the dates for submissions:

HIGH SCHOOL SPORT	SUBMISSION OPENS	ROSTERS DUE	RECERTIFY
FALL SPORTS:			
Baseball	August 9, 2010	August 22, 2010	Not Applicable
Cross Country	August 9, 2010	August 26, 2010	Not Applicable
Football	August 9, 2010	August 26, 2010	Not Applicable
Golf (Girls)	August 9, 2010	August 22, 2010	Not Applicable
Soccer (Boys)	August 9, 2010	August 26, 2010	Not Applicable
Softball (Girls)	August 9, 2010	August 22, 2010	Not Applicable
Swimming/Diving (Boys)	August 9, 2010	August 26, 2010	Not Applicable
Tennis (Girls)	August 9, 2010	August 22, 2010	Not Applicable
Volleyball (Girls)	August 9, 2010	August 26, 2010	Not Applicable
WINTER SPORTS:			
Basketball	November 8, 2010	November 21, 2010	Fourth day of second semester
Swimming/Diving (Girls)	November 15, 2010	December 5, 2010	Fourth day of second semester
Wrestling	November 1, 2010	November 21, 2010	Fourth day of second semester
SPRING SPORTS:			
Baseball	February 28, 2011	March 17, 2011	Not Applicable
Golf (Boys)	February 28, 2011	March 17, 2011	Not Applicable
Soccer (Girls)	February 28, 2011	March 17, 2011	Not Applicable
Softball (Girls)	February 28, 2011	March 17, 2011	Not Applicable
Tennis (Boys)	February 28, 2011	March 17, 2011	Not Applicable
Track and Field	February 28, 2011	March 17, 2011	Not Applicable

(By-Law 234)

38. BOARD POLICY ON SUBSTANCE ABUSE

MODEL TO SET STANDARDS FOR MOOD-ALTERING CHEMICALS

STATEMENT OF PHILOSOPHY It is the philosophy of the MSHSAA and its member schools that students should be encouraged and supported in their efforts to develop and maintain a chemical-free lifestyle.

The MSHSAA and its member schools recognize the use of mood-altering chemicals as a significant health problem for many students, resulting in negative effects on behavior, learning and the total development of each individual.

The MSHSAA and its member schools believe the close contact of coaches, advisors and students in the classroom or activities provides a unique opportunity to observe, confront and assist one another.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE The purpose of the chemical awareness program of TARGET:Missouri is to:

1. Emphasize concerns for the health of students in areas of safety while participating in activities and the long-term physical and emotional effects of chemical use on their health.
2. Promote a sense of order and discipline among students.
3. Confirm and support existing state laws which restrict the use of such mood-altering chemicals.
4. Establish standards of conduct for those students who are leaders and standard-bearers among their peers.
5. Assist students who desire to resist peer pressure which directs them toward the use of mood-altering chemicals.
6. Assist students who should be referred for assistance or evaluation regarding their use of mood-altering chemicals.

A Code of Conduct Recognizing the diversity of its member schools, the MSHSAA recommends that a Code of Conduct incorporate the following:

1. Philosophy: Specify the philosophy and basis for recommending a code of conduct.
2. Purpose for Establishing Rules: State the reasons for setting standards and the educational rationale for assisting students through such standards.
3. Defining the Rule: Incorporate the mood-altering chemicals to be included; the time during which the students are responsible for the rules.
4. Specifying the Consequences for Violations of the Rule: Define the activities for which the student is ineligible, the length of time and events which apply to each violation, and the responsibilities of the student during those periods.
5. Develop the Procedures for Review and Appeal: Specify the procedures by which the school officials will investigate reported violations of the rules and apply the consequences for confirmed violations.
6. A Code of Conduct would define the time during which the rule is in effect, include the parameters of use, possession, intent to buy or sell, transmit, etc., and the consequences of a violation.

SAMPLE CODE & RULE

SAMPLE RULE FOR A MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT. A sample of a rule which incorporates the standards cited above could read:

“Regardless of the quantity, a student shall not: (1) use a beverage containing alcohol, (2) use tobacco; or (3) use or consume, have in possession, buy, sell or give away any other controlled substance.”

SAMPLE OF CONSEQUENCES FOR VIOLATIONS OF THE RULE Consequences for rule violations should incorporate the following standards:

1. A Standard of Certainty: An expectation by those to be affected by the rule that it will be applied with a measure of consistency and uniformity to all involved.
2. A Standard of Severity: An expectation that the consequences for the violation are fair for the act committed and that those affected will be encouraged to follow through with the consequences, including coaches, students, and parents.
3. A Standard of Promptness: An expectation that the review and appeal procedures will promptly be applied following an alleged violation.

39. BOARD POLICY ON THE NATIONAL ANTHEM AT MSHSAA SPONSORED EVENTS

The MSHSAA Board of Directors adopted, at its March 20, 1997 meeting, the following policy regarding the playing of the National Anthem at MSHSAA sponsored events (district and state series): “The National Anthem shall be played before the first MSHSAA contest of the day and/or session at each site. If it is not possible to have the National Anthem played before the first contest the Anthem should not be performed later in the session.” **(March 1997)**

40. BOARD POLICY ON TIES IN FOOTBALL CONTESTS

TIE GAMES: For ALL varsity high school games (regular and play off contests) which end in a tie at the end of regulation play shall follow a "25-yard Overtime Procedure" to determine a winner. The procedure, as outlined in the National Federation Football Rules Book, will be followed with the following exceptions:

- a. The ball will be placed on the 25-yard line instead of the 10-yard line.
- b. First and tens may be obtained to maintain possession. Once the line-to-gain has not been achieved the ball will be turned over to the defense.

Lower Level Contests: Games contested below the senior high school varsity level (Junior Varsity, Freshman) that end in a tie at the end of regulation play, **may** utilize one (1) overtime period to break the tie. If a tie remains at the end of the "25 yard" overtime period, the contest shall remain a tie. Combined 8th and 9th grade contests which end in a tie shall remain a tie.

NOTE: The tie breaking procedure for the lower level contests is optional and shall be mutually agreed upon by both schools in advance of the contest.

41. BOARD POLICY ON UNCLAIMED CHECKS

The MSHSAA shall, for any issued check of \$50.00 or greater which remains uncashed, exercise due diligence in locating the payee, canceling the original check and issuing a replacement payment to the payee. For payees which cannot be reasonably located and for all other stale checks or other liabilities, the MSHSAA shall report such liabilities to the Office of the State Treasurer as required by the Missouri Uniform Disposition of Unclaimed Property Act, Chapter 447, RSMo.

42. BOARD POLICY ON UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT

MSHSAA By-Law 910 provides that each school is responsible for the conduct of its teams, coaches, students, and fans at games both at home and away. (A fan is considered a non-school student or follower of the school team.) These by-laws further make it clear that the Board of Directors has the responsibility to take action when the school does not, or cannot, adequately control the conduct of its players, coaches, students and fans. The game rules for each sport contain the standards of sportsmanship to be enforced by athletic game officials.

Unsportsmanlike conduct or misconduct of an athlete, coach, student, or fan, whether before, during, or after a contest is of concern to the Board of Directors if the incident can be directly related to an athletic event under the jurisdiction of the MSHSAA.

After reviewing recommendations regarding procedures to be applied by a school, the Board of Directors at its June 26, 1992, meeting adopted the following policies to guide member schools and the MSHSAA office in coping with acts of unsportsmanlike conduct. (See also MSHSAA manual entitled, *"Improving the Educational Values of Interscholastic Athletics by Providing for Better Sportsmanship and Conduct"*.)

PROCEDURES FOR REPORTING--It shall be the responsibility of the game officials, as well as school administrators and other staff members present when such unsportsmanlike conduct or misconduct occurs to file reports as follows:

1. Game officials shall be required to file a special report with the high school principal and the superintendent with a copy to the MSHSAA office no later than 48 hours after penalties have been assessed for such conduct observed before, during, or following an athletic game. Action shall be taken against officials who fail to file a report.
2. Incidents noted by representatives of either of the participating schools, but not observed by the game officials, shall be reported by the observer to the principal(s) of the school(s) involved with a copy to the MSHSAA office.
3. Local managers of MSHSAA sponsored events shall be required to file reports immediately by telephone to the MSHSAA office followed immediately by a letter to the MSHSAA office with copies to the school(s) involved.

DUTY OF SCHOOL--When unsportsmanlike conduct or misconduct occurs, the school shall immediately take appropriate action to correct or resolve the matter. Such action shall be communicated in writing to the MSHSAA office within ten (10) days. (The school need not communicate to the MSHSAA office such inadvertent actions as failure to report to the scorer when substituting, wearing a wrong number and other technical infractions which do not involve flagrant, abusive, or unsportsmanlike conduct.)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS POLICIES--The following policies are established to serve as guidelines for action to be taken by the school:

1. **PLAYERS**--When a player is assessed a penalty by a game official for unsportsmanlike conduct, the coach

- should remove the player from the game. If there are extenuating circumstances making the athlete's conduct more serious, the penalty imposed by the school shall be more severe. **For player ejection refer to By-Law 910.**
2. **COACHES**--Cases involving unsportsmanlike conduct of a coach shall result in action commensurate with the act committed. It may range from a reprimand by the high school administration to conditions set by the board of education that the coach must meet. **For ejection of a coach refer to By-Law 910.**
 3. **STUDENTS/FANS**--Action regarding the misconduct of a student or fan shall range from a warning to being required to appear before the board of education to show reason why that person should not be prohibited from attending future games. Violent acts shall result in charges being brought against the individual or information being provided the prosecuting attorney, who may bring charges under Missouri law.
 4. Action regarding all other acts of poor sportsmanship/misconduct should be appropriate to the offense committed.

AUTHORITY DELEGATED TO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR--The Board of Directors has delegated to and instructed the MSHSAA Executive Director to assume the following authority:

1. Certain incidents constituting unsportsmanlike conduct or misconduct require immediate action because of the seriousness of the circumstances, the timeliness of the imposition of a penalty, and/or other circumstances. If such an incident takes place in the judgment of the Executive Director, he/she is authorized to take immediate action under the provisions of By-Law 910-a. In his/her discretion and if time permits, the Executive Director may require the school administrator(s) and the offender(s) to appear before him/her.
2. The Executive Director shall issue a warning to a school under the following circumstances:
 - a. When action taken by a school in response to an incident of unsportsmanlike conduct or misconduct is not considered satisfactory;
 - b. When a school fails to inform the MSHSAA office in writing of the action taken by the school within ten (10) days of the receipt by the MSHSAA of a report of unsportsmanlike conduct or misconduct.The warning will be dissolved as of the date the MSHSAA office receives a reply unless the action taken is not considered satisfactory.
3. If a school receives a report during the same sport season of unsportsmanlike conduct or misconduct after having received a warning, the high school administrator and the offender (if applicable) shall be required to appear before the Executive Director to show cause why action should not be taken under provisions of By-Law 910-a.
4. These guidelines shall not be interpreted to limit the action of the Executive Director in any case in which, in his/her opinion, immediate or additional action is necessary.
5. A school shall have the right to appeal any action taken by the Executive Director to the Appeals Committee.

SPECIFIC EXAMPLES OF EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES--

1. In any situation in which a player becomes involved in a fight or in which a substitute leaves the bench to go onto the floor/field when a fight breaks out among players, the MSHSAA Board **expects as a minimum penalty** that the coach suspend the individual for the remainder of that contest and for the next contest in which the team plays.
2. If members of a team engage in a fight during an interscholastic contest and this is later repeated in a subsequent game during the season, the Executive Director shall be instructed to take firm action in accord with provisions contained in By-Law 910-a including the possible exclusion of the team from the state tournament series in the sport concerned.

RECOMMENDATION OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS--It is strongly recommended that all coaches and students be thoroughly informed of these policies adopted by the Board of Directors. It should be made clear that the primary purpose of these policies is to improve the educational and recreational values which interscholastic athletic games can have for our high school youth. If these values are lost, interscholastic competition can no longer be justified in the school program.

(By-Law 910)

43. BOARD POLICY ON USE OF DRUGS, MEDICINE AND FOOD SUPPLEMENTS IN INTERSCHOLASTIC SPORTS

The NFHS Sports Medicine Advisory Committee (SMAC) strongly opposes the use of dietary supplements for the purpose of athletic advantage. Research data shows widespread use of dietary supplements by adolescent and high school athletes, despite considerable safety concerns. Dietary supplements are marketed as an easy way to enhance athletic performance, increase energy levels, lose weight, and feel better. It is proven that adolescents are more susceptible to advertising messages and peer pressure, increasing the risk of dietary supplement usage. This can create a culture more concerned about short term performance rather than overall long term health.

The Dietary Supplement Health and Education Act of 1994 removed dietary supplements from pre-market regulation by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). Thus, many of the substances that can be obtained from nutrition stores and the internet are not subject to the same strict tests and regulations as "over the counter" and prescription medications. The companies that produce dietary supplements do not need to test their safety or effectiveness before they are available to consumers. In fact, dietary supplements cannot be removed from the marketplace unless they present a significant or unreasonable risk of illness or injury.

(Revised September 2009)

44. BOARD POLICY ON USE OF INTERNET MESSAGE BOARDS

Recently, the MSHSAA has been made aware of several incidents involving internet message boards that have been used to intimidate, taunt or demean the character of student participants, school personnel and officials. These unsportsmanlike actions are generally carried out anonymously with little accountability or consideration for their lasting effects.

As a result, the Missouri State High School Activities Association strongly encourages its coaches, administrators and officials to take an active role in the prevention of unsportsmanlike materials on internet message boards. School administrators should discourage student participants and coaches from posting objectionable or unsportsmanlike material on internet web sites; however communication of a positive nature is always encouraged. By being proactive in this matter, schools can help address this evolving trend in a manner that is consistent with the educational mission of Missouri's interscholastic programs. (June 2002)

45. BOARD POLICY ON USE OF TOBACCO AND ALCOHOL PRODUCTS BY COACHES AND OFFICIALS

It is important that all adults involved in the interscholastic activities program set the proper example for our participants with regards to the use of tobacco products and alcoholic beverages. We cannot let actions teach a philosophy of double-standards. Therefore, the Board of Directors has adopted the following policy statement to apply to all interscholastic athletic, music, speech, cheer, scholar bowl, and dance team events.

Coaches, directors, sponsors, and contest officials are prohibited from using tobacco products or alcoholic beverages while directly involved in interscholastic activities. Involvement is defined in this policy as being in public view and when students are actually participating under the jurisdiction of the coach, director, and official. Proper enforcement is expected. Violations shall be reported to the school's administration and the MSHSAA.

46. BOARD POLICY ON USE OF TOBACCO AND ALCOHOL PRODUCTS BY PARTICIPANTS

Use of any tobacco, alcohol, or controlled substance (other than prescription) by any participant while at a MSHSAA event on any event building/grounds is prohibited. Violation shall result in disqualification from the event.

47. BOARD POLICY ON VIDEOTAPING

A. Videotaping/Filming **by spectators:**

1. Videotaping/filming shall be limited to personal use and shall **not** be used for scouting, coaching or commercial purposes.
2. Spectators videotaping/filming shall not interfere with the view of the contest by other spectators.
3. The contest and/or tournament site shall not permit the use of more than the seating space for which the spectator has paid (when seating is needed.)
4. The contest and/or tournament site accepts no liability for damage or theft of spectator equipment nor any injury as a result of the privately owned equipment.
5. Spectators may use equipment only in the spectator seating area.
6. Spectators shall supply their own sources of power. The site management will not be expected to provide sources of power.
7. Violation of any of these standards may result in the removal of the offender(s) from the premises.

B. Videotaping/Filming **by School Representatives**

1. A school representative may videotape/film a regular season contest in which the school team is participating. Such videotape/film may not be used for coaching purposes until after the contest is completed and in accordance with specific NFHS Rule Book restrictions for each sport.
2. A school or school representative may videotape/film a regular season tournament or contest between other school teams, provided prior arrangements have been made with the event manager and provided it is done at the expense of the school. The official school representative should check in with the event manager upon arrival to the site to arrange the setup location for the video equipment and to review any site-specific requirements.

3. Videotaping/filming of a MSHSAA-sponsored contest and/or tournament by personnel from one or more of the actual participating schools is permitted, provided prior arrangements have been made with the event manager and provided it is done at the expense of the school. A maximum of one individual per school is permitted to videotape/film, unless the contest manager determines space is available for additional cameras. The official school representative should check in with the event manager upon arrival to the site to arrange the setup location for the video equipment and to review any site-specific requirements.
4. An official school representative may videotape a district or state playoff series event involving other school teams, provided prior arrangements have been made with the event manager and provided it is done at the expense of the school. A maximum of one individual is permitted to videotape and should expect to use a battery pack as his or her sole power source. The official school representative should check in with the event manager upon arrival to the site to arrange the setup location for the video equipment and to review any site-specific requirements. The host facility is not required to provide a power source or other accommodations for videotaping.

C. Videotape/film shall **not** be used for the purpose of protesting a contest.

48. BOARD POLICY ON VOLLEYBALL PLAYER LIMITATIONS

THREE-OUT-OF-FIVE FORMAT OPTIONAL: Missouri schools may utilize the 3/5 format or the 2/3 format for varsity level dual matches only (not in triangulars, quads or tournaments). In the 3/5 format, the first school to win three sets wins the match and the fifth set, if needed, is played to 15 points rather than 25 points (win by two). Schools and/or conferences may utilize the 3/5 format for one or more of their varsity dual matches, as agreed upon by both schools and officials in advance. The format for the match must be clearly specified on the game contract and the officials' contracts prior to the contest. Lower level contests (junior high, freshmen, junior varsity) will continue to be played in the 2/3 format only. The 2/3 format will continue to be used in the district and state series until a majority of volleyball playing schools support moving the district and state series to the 3/5 format.

TWO-OUT-OF-THREE FORMAT:

When a team is participating in dual competition on one calendar date against the same school during regular season, and the varsity squad is playing the **2-out-of-3** format, the following player limitations will be in effect on that date:

1. A player may participate in a maximum of three sets, or one full match at a lower level plus one set in a second match at a higher level.

THREE-OUT-OF-FIVE FORMAT:

When a team is participating in dual competition on one calendar date against the same school during regular season, and the varsity squad (only) is playing the **3-out-of-5** format, the following player limitations will be in effect on that date:

1. A player that will be playing exclusively on the varsity squad may participate in up to 5 sets on that date.
2. A player that is splitting time between the junior varsity match and the varsity match may participate in 4 or 5 sets on that date only in a combination that would prevent the student from participating in two complete matches (see table below for specific legal combinations).
3. A player that is participating on three different levels may participate in a maximum of three sets.
4. A player that is playing exclusively on the junior varsity squad, or splitting between the junior varsity match and a freshman match may participate in any legal combination that is outlined for the 2-out-of-3 set format.

(June 2007)

Example Grid for Volleyball Player Limitations:

(For dual competition on one calendar date against the same school during regular season)

LEGAL COMBINATIONS for matches and nights that ALL levels are playing **2-out-of-3**:

Number of JV sets played	Number of Varsity sets played	Legal?
2	0	Yes
0	2	Yes
3	0	Yes
0	3	Yes
2	1	Yes
1	2	Yes
1 FR and 1 JV	1	Yes
3	1	Yes

ILLEGAL / NOT ALLOWABLE for matches and nights that ALL levels are playing **2-out-of-3**:

Number of JV sets played	Number of Varsity sets played	Legal?
1	3	NO
2	2	NO

LEGAL COMBINATIONS for matches and nights when the VARSITY LEVEL ONLY is playing **3-out-of-5**:

Number of JV sets played 2 of 3 format	Number of Varsity sets played 3 of 5 format	Legal?
Any 2 of 3 legal combination is still legal for 3 of 5.		Yes
2 (full match)	2 (partial match)	Yes
3 (full match)	2 (partial match)	Yes
1 (partial match)	3 (full match)	Yes
1 (partial match)	4 (full match)	Yes
0	4 (full match)	Yes
0	5 (full match)	Yes

ILLEGAL / NOT ALLOWABLE for matches and nights when the VARSITY LEVEL ONLY is playing **3-out-of-5**:

Number of JV sets played 2 of 3 format	Number of Varsity sets played 3 of 5 format	Legal?
1 FR and 1 JV	3 (too many levels)	NO
1 FR and 1 JV	2 (too many levels)	NO
2 (full match)	3 (full match)	NO

49. BOARD POLICY ON VTS TRANSFER STUDENTS

The following Board Policy outlines the circumstances whereby a student participating under the overall operations of the Voluntary Transfer Student program may have eligibility or restrictions under the Residence and Transfer Requirements in By-Law 238.

- A. The following are the four transfers where a VTS Program student would be eligible without restrictions (as per By-Law 238.1-e) **provided** the student transfers at the beginning of a semester and the student is eligible in all other respects. A student's high school enrollment history (grades 9 through 12) must be documented and reviewed by the receiving school prior to any confirmation of eligibility under these provisions. The on-line transfer process shall be initiated by the receiving school and completed by the sending school prior to placement of a student on the receiving school's eligibility roster.
1. Transferring from a home zone school to a magnet school or county school one time.
 2. Transferring from a magnet school to a county school one time.
 3. Transferring from a magnet school to the home zone school one time.
 4. Transferring from a county school to a magnet school or home zone school one time.
- B. The following are examples of **transfers that do NOT fall within the exceptions** allowed for the VTS program, and such students would be held to the requirements under the Residence and Transfer Requirements in By-Law 238.
1. Transferring after the first of the semester.
 2. Transferring from a magnet school to a magnet school.
 3. Transferring from a home zone school to a magnet or county school more than one time.
 4. Transferring from a county to a magnet school or home zone school more than one time.
 5. Transferring from a magnet to a county school more than one time.
 6. Transferring to a full-time vocational school from a home zone school, magnet school or county school.
 7. Transferring from a vocational school to a home zone school, magnet or city school.
 8. Transferring to or from a member Charter School.
- C. The schools in the St. Louis Public High League are defined as follows:
1. Neighborhood Schools: Beaumont, Roosevelt, Sumner, Vashon
 2. Magnet Schools: Central VPA, Gateway, Metro, NJROTC, Soldan
 3. Vocational/Technical Schools: Miller Career Academy

For definition of areas see included map on the next page.

(Revised January 2007)

Attendance Areas – St. Louis Student Transfer Program

with optional overflow areas indicated for Area 1

Area 1

paired with Clayton, Parkway

(Central & North High feeder patterns),

Rockwood (Marquette High feeder pattern)

and Rockwood (Eureka High feeder pattern)
for Area A and B only

Area One Boundaries -- Starting at the northwest corner of the city boundary (near the intersection of Riverview Drive and Coal Bank Road); east along the city boundary to the Mississippi River; south along the river to E. Carrie Ave.; west on E. Carrie Ave. to N. Broadway; south on N. Broadway to Interstate 70, west on Interstate 70 to Union Blvd.; south on Union Blvd. to Forest Park Parkway; southeast on Forest Park Parkway to S. Kingshighway Blvd.; south on S. Kingshighway Blvd. to Interstate 64 (Hwy 40); west on Interstate 64 to the city boundary; north on the city boundary to the northwest corner of the boundary.

Area B

Beginning at the furthestmost western point of the city on Forest Park Parkway; travel east to Union Blvd.; follow Union Blvd. north to Natural Bridge Ave.; follow Natural Bridge Ave. west to the most western point of the city.

Area 4

paired with Mehlville (Oakville High feeder pattern), Rockwood

(Eureka High feeder pattern) and Webster Groves

Area Four Boundaries -- Starting at the intersection of Interstate 64 (Hwy. 40) and the west city boundary; east on Interstate 64 to S. Kingshighway; south on S. Kingshighway to Gravois; south on Gravois to the south city boundary; north on the city west boundary to the starting point at Interstate 64.

Area A

Beginning at the furthestmost western point of the city on I-70; travel east to W. Florissant Ave.; follow W. Florissant Ave. west and north to Calvary Ave.; follow Calvary north and east to Broadway; travel north and west on Broadway to the city boundary.

Area 2

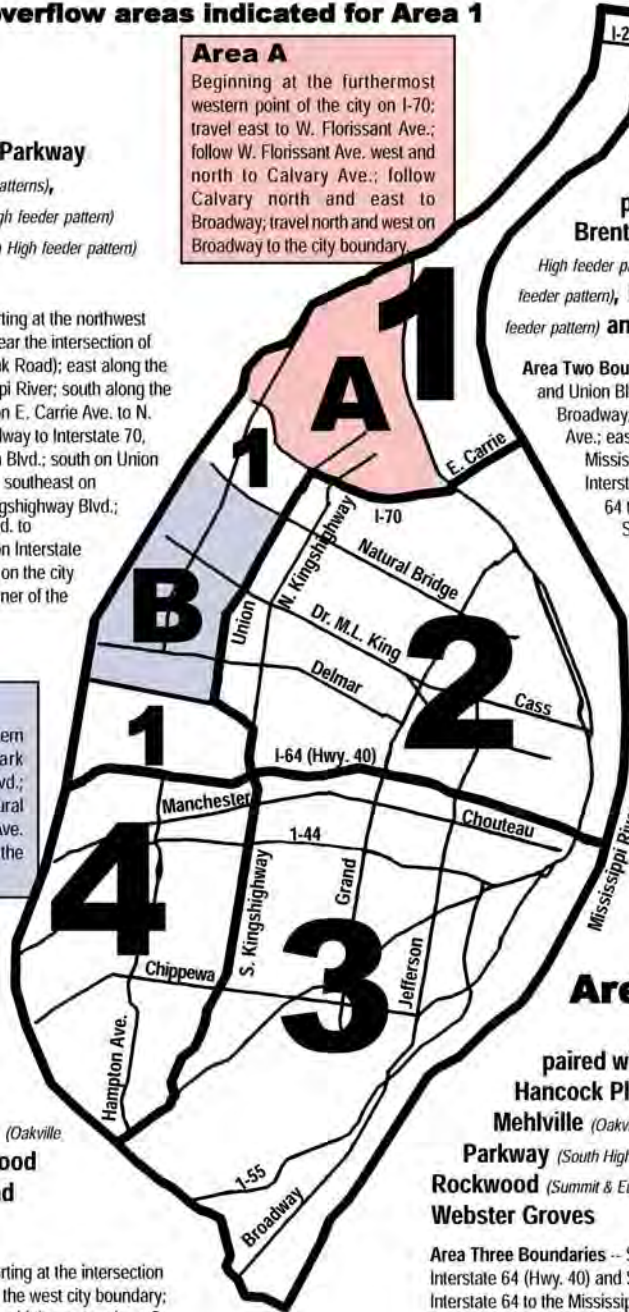
paired with Brentwood, Mehlville (Mehlville High feeder pattern), Parkway (West High feeder pattern), Rockwood (Lafayette High feeder pattern) and Valley Park

Area Two Boundaries -- Starting at Interstate 70 and Union Blvd.; east on Interstate 70 to N. Broadway; north on N. Broadway to E. Carrie Ave.; east on E. Carrie Ave. to the Mississippi River; south along the river to Interstate 64 (Hwy 40); west on Interstate 64 to S. Kingshighway Blvd.; north on S. Kingshighway Blvd. to Forest Park Parkway; northwest on Forest Park Parkway to Union Blvd.; north on Union Blvd. to the starting point at Interstate 70.

Area 3

paired with Affton, Bayless, Hancock Place, Kirkwood, Mehlville (Oakville High feeder pattern), Parkway (South High feeder pattern), Rockwood (Summit & Eureka High feeder patterns) and Webster Groves

Area Three Boundaries -- Starting at the intersection of Interstate 64 (Hwy. 40) and S. Kingshighway Blvd.; east on Interstate 64 to the Mississippi River; south along the river to the south boundary of the city; northwest on the city boundary to Gravois; north on Gravois to S. Kingshighway Blvd.; north on S. Kingshighway Blvd. to the starting point at Interstate 64 and S. Kingshighway.



For more information, call the VICC, 314.721.8422.
www.choicecorp.org

APPENDIX A

2009-10 MSHSAA PARTICIPATION SUMMARY (Figures as of February 1, 2010)

	JUNIOR HIGHS										SENIOR HIGHS								GRAND TOTAL
	SOUTH EAST	SOUTH WEST	NORTH EAST	NORTH WEST	CENTRAL	SOUTH CENTRAL	ST LOUIS	KANSAS CITY	JR HIGH TOTAL	SOUTH EAST	SOUTH WEST	NORTH EAST	NORTH WEST	CENTRAL	SOUTH CENTRAL	ST LOUIS	KANSAS CITY	SR HIGH TOTAL	
Number of Member Schools	33*	42*	43*	13*	22*	17*	0*	34*	204*	85	104	72	65	72	31	109	57	595	799
Baseball	41	17	0	0	0	1	0	1	60	83	99	64	22	67	30	89	46	500	560
Basketball (Boys)	84	107	88	67	74	35	4	41	500	85	104	72	65	72	31	93	52	574	1074
Basketball (Girls)	63	105	87	67	74	35	4	41	476	67	104	70	65	72	31	96	52	557	1033
Cheerleaders	77	84	71	58	49	24	4	18	385	84	95	67	64	67	27	84	51	539	924
Cross Country (Boys)	29	51	25	6	19	24	3	34	191	39	76	31	17	30	26	78	48	345	536
Cross Country (Girls)	28	51	23	6	18	24	3	34	187	39	76	30	17	28	25	81	49	345	532
Dance/Pom Pon	3	1	2	3	1	1	2	1	14	29	32	21	23	17	14	61	38	235	249
Football (11-Man)	31	59	49	28	47	4	0	34	252	36	57	42	30	48	14	77	45	349	601
Football (8-Man)	0	0	0	21	1	0	0	0	22	0	0	1	21	3	0	0	0	25	47
Golf (Boys)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	41	67	49	35	38	24	60	38	352	353
Golf (Girls)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	5	27	23	26	15	6	40	31	173	174
Music	53	85	62	61	52	25	1	26	365	77	101	70	63	69	31	79	46	536	901
Scholar Bowl	22	53	48	45	37	10	0	16	231	53	88	67	60	60	27	40	37	432	663
Soccer (Boys)	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	4	11	19	27	15	8	21	16	78	44	228	239
Soccer (Girls)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	4	20	23	13	8	12	15	89	44	224	228
Softball (Girls)	4	10	46	24	3	2	0	0	89	41	74	68	53	41	30	76	35	418	507
Speech & Debate	2	16	1	0	4	4	0	6	33	30	64	33	13	34	19	52	45	290	323
Swimming (Boys)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	4	12	4	2	3	0	43	27	95	98
Swimming (Girls)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	7	14	3	2	4	0	56	31	117	120
Tennis (Boys)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	32	10	11	15	6	70	32	190	190
Tennis (Girls)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	31	10	11	13	5	72	34	189	189
Track (Boys)	30	79	86	66	58	27	2	38	386	42	80	71	64	55	29	86	51	478	864
Track (Girls)	30	79	85	66	58	27	2	38	385	42	79	70	64	55	29	88	52	479	864
Volleyball (Girls)	70	84	16	29	52	24	0	38	313	76	87	16	28	58	23	92	52	432	745
Winter Guard	0	6	1	1	3	0	0	0	11	8	20	6	9	10	8	29	24	114	125
Wrestling	12	25	10	18	17	2	0	22	106	18	26	15	26	23	11	65	38	222	328

*These figures indicate the total number of junior high schools holding separate memberships. The junior high school participation figures include all junior high schools holding separate memberships plus all junior high schools holding combined memberships with the senior high school from the district.

APPENDIX B

2009-2010 LISTING OF MEMBER SCHOOLS BY DISTRICTS

2009-2010 CENTRAL DISTRICT MEMBER SCHOOLS BOARD MEMBER: MARK BEEM, SKYLINE

HIGH SCHOOLS

Adrian*
 Appleton City*
 Archie*

 Ballard*
 Blair Oaks*
 Boonville
 Bunceton*
 Butler*

 Calhoun*
 California*
 Calvary Lutheran
 Chilhowee*
 Clinton
 Cole Camp*
 Concordia*
 Crest Ridge

 Drexel*

 Eldon*
 Eugene*

 Green Ridge*

 Harrisonville
 Heartland*
 Helias Catholic
 Hermitage*
 Holden
 Hume*

 Iberia*

 Jamestown*
 Jefferson City

 Kingsville*
 Knob Noster

 Lafayette County
 Lakeland*
 LaMonte*
 Leeton*
 Lexington
 Lincoln*

Malta Bend*
 Marshall*
 Miami*
 Midway*
 Montrose

 Northwest (Hughesville) *

 Odessa
 Osage
 Osceola*
 Otterville*

 Pilot Grove*
 Pleasant Hill*
 Prairie Home*

 Rich Hill*
 Russellville*

 Sacred Heart*
 Santa Fe*
 Sherwood*
 Skyline*
 Slater
 Smith-Cotton*
 Smithton*
 St. Paul Lutheran
 Stover*
 Sweet Springs*

 Tipton*
 Tuscumbia*

 Versailles*

 Warrensburg
 Warsaw*
 Weaubleau*
 Wellington-Napoleon*
 Wentworth Military Academy
 Wheatland*
 Windsor*

JUNIOR HIGH MEMBERSHIPS

Alexander

 Clinton
 Crest Ridge

 East Lynne

 Harrisonville
 Holden
 Hudson

 Knob Noster

 Lafayette County
 Laura Speed Elliott
 Lewis and Clark
 Lexington

 McCartan Memorial

 Odessa
 Osage

 Roscoe

 Shawnee
 SS Peter & Paul (Boonville)
 St. Peter (Marshall)
 Strasburg

 Thomas Jefferson

 Warrensburg

Indicates seventh and eighth grade membership is included with high school.

**2009-2010 KANSAS CITY DISTRICT MEMBER SCHOOLS
BOARD MEMBER: PAUL KINDER, BLUE SPRINGS SCHOOL DISTRICT**

HIGH SCHOOLS

ACE at Southeast*
Alta Vista Charter

Barstow
Belton
Blue Springs
Blue Springs South

Center
Central (Kansas City)

Don Bosco Charter

East (Kansas City)
Excelsior Springs*

Fort Osage

Grain Valley*
Grandview

Hickman Mills
Hogan Prep Charter

Imagine Renaissance Acad. Charter

Kearney*

Lee's Summit
Lee's Summit Community Christian
Lee's Summit North
Lee's Summit West
Liberty
Lincoln College Prep
Lone Jack*
Lutheran (Kansas City)

North Kansas City
Northeast Law & Pub. Service
Notre Dame de Sion

O'Hara
Oak Grove
Oak Park

Park Hill
Park Hill South
Paseo Academy
Pembroke Hill*
Platte County
Raymore-Peculiar

Raytown
Raytown South
Rockhurst
Ruskin

Smithville*
Southeast at Manual
Southwest Early College Campus
St. Mary's (Independence)
St. Pius X (Kansas City)
St. Teresa's Academy
Staley

Tolbert Preparatory Charter Academy
Truman

University Academy Charter*

Van Horn (Independence)

West Platte*
Westport
William Chrisman
Winnetonka

JUNIOR HIGH MEMBERSHIPS

Antioch

Bernard C. Campbell
Bingham
Bridger
Brittany Hill

Center
Congress

Delta Woods

Eastgate
Ervin

Grandview

Lakeview
Liberty

Maple Park
Martin City
Moreland Ridge

New Mark
Northgate
Nowlin

Oak Grove
Osage Trail

Pioneer Ridge
Platte City
Pleasant Lee

Raymore-Peculiar
Raytown
Raytown Central
Raytown South

Smith-Hale
South Valley
Summit Lakes
Sunny Vale

Urban Community Leadership Acad.
Charter

Yeokum

* Indicates seventh and eighth grade membership is included with high school.

**2009-2010 NORTHEAST DISTRICT MEMBER SCHOOLS
BOARD MEMBER: PAUL SULSER, NORTH SHELBY**

HIGH SCHOOLS

Atlanta*
Bevier*
Bowling Green
Brashear*
Brookfield*
Brunswick*
Bucklin*

Canton*
Centralia
Clark County*
Clopton*
Columbia Independent*
Community*

Elsberry

Fayette*
Frederick Douglass
Fulton

Glasgow*
Green City*

Hallsville*
Hannibal
Harrisburg*
Hickman
Higbee*
Highland*

Keytesville*
Kirksville
Knox County*

LaPlata*
Linn County*
Louisiana

Macon
Macon County*
Madison*
Marceline*
Marion County*
Mark Twain*
Meadville*
Mexico
Milan*
MO Military Academy*
MO School for the Deaf*
Moberly
Monroe City
Montgomery County*

New Bloomfield*
New Franklin*
Newtown-Harris*
North Callaway
North Shelby*
Northeast (Cairo)*
Northwestern*
Novinger*

Palmyra
Paris
Putnam County

Rock Bridge

Salisbury*
Scotland County*
Schuyler County
Silex*
South Callaway
South Shelby*
Southern Boone
Sturgeon*

Troy Buchanan

Van Far*

Warrenton*
Wellsville*
Westran
Winfield*
Wright City*

JUNIOR HIGH MEMBERSHIPS

Auxvasse

Boncl
Bowling Green

Callao
Chester Boren
Columbia Catholic

Fulton

Gentry

Hannibal
Hatton McCredie
Holliday
Holy Family
Holy Rosary

Ida Cannon
Immaculate Conception

Jefferson (Columbia)
John B. Lange

Kirksville

Louisiana

Macon
Mary Immaculate
Mexico
Moberly
Monroe City

Oakland

Palmyra
Paris
Putnam County

Renick

Schuyler County
Smithton (Columbia)
South Callaway
Southern Boone County
St. Alphonsus
St. Brendan
St. Joseph (Martinsburg)
St. Joseph (Salisbury)
St. Mary's
St. Pius X

Troy

West (Columbia)
Westran
Williamsburg

**2009-2010 NORTHWEST DISTRICT MEMBER SCHOOLS
BOARD MEMBER: KEN EATON, MOUND CITY**

HIGH SCHOOLS

A bany*

Benton
Bishop LeBlond
Bosworth*
Braymer*
Breckenridge*

Cainsville*
Cameron*
Carrollton
Central (St. Joseph)
Chillicothe
Craig*

DeKalb*

East Buchanan

Fairfax*

Gallatin*
Gilman City*
Grundy County*

Hale*
Hardin-Central*
Jefferson (Conception Jct.)*

King City*

Lafayette (St. Joseph)
Lathrop*
Lawson

Maryville
Maysville*
Mercer*
Mid Buchanan*
Mound City*

Nodaway-Holt*
Norborne*
North Andrew*
North Daviess*
North Harrison*
North Nodaway*
North Platte*
Northeast Nodaway*

Orrick*
Osborn*

Pattonsburg*
Penney*
Plattsburg*
Polo*
Princeton*

Richmond**
Ridgeway*
Rock Port*

Savannah
South Harrison*
South Holt*
South Nodaway*
Southwest (Livingston Co.)*
St. Joseph Christian*
Stanberry*
Stet*
Stewartsville*

Tarkio*
Tina-Avalon*
Trenton
Tri-County*

Union Star*

West Nodaway*
Winston*
Worth County*

**JUNIOR HIGH
MEMBERSHIPS**

Avenue City

Bode

Carrollton
Chillicothe

East Buchanan

Lawson

Maryville

Robidoux

Savannah
Spring Garden
St. Gregory Barbarigo

Trenton
Truman

* Indicates seventh and eighth grade membership is included with high school.
** Indicates eighth grade membership is included with high school.

**2009-2010 ST. LOUIS DISTRICT MEMBER SCHOOLS
BOARD MEMBER: DON MAURER, MICDS**

HIGH SCHOOLS

Affton	Imagine College Prep Charter Incarnate Word Academy	Soldan International Studies Southview St. Charles St. Charles West St. Dominic St. Elizabeth Academy St. Joseph's Academy St. Louis University High St. Mary's (St. Louis) Sumner
Barat Academy Bayless Beaumont Big Picture Alt. Bishop DuBourg Block Yeshiva Brentwood Bridges Program	Jennings John Burroughs John F. Kennedy	
Cardinal Ritter Carnahan Central Visual & Perf. Arts Chaminade Christian Christian Brothers College Clayton Cleveland NJROTC Confluence Prep Academy Charter Construction Career Charter Cor Jesu Academy Crossroads College Preparatory	Kirkwood Ladue Horton Watkins Lafayette (Wildwood) Lift for Life Academy Charter Lindbergh Logos Lutheran (St. Peters) Lutheran North Lutheran South	The Fulton (St. Albans) Timberland** Transportation and Law Trinity Catholic
DeSmet Duchesne	Maplewood-Richmond Heights Marquette McCluer McCluer North McCluer South-Berkeley McKinley Classical Leadership Mehlville Metro MICDS Miller Career Academy MO School for the Blind	University City Ursuline Academy
E.H. Lyle Charter Eskridge Eureka	Nerinx Hall Normandy Normandy Technical North County Tech Northview Notre Dame (St. Louis)	Valley Park* Vashon Vianney Villa Duchesne Visitation Academy
Francis Howell Francis Howell Central Francis Howell North Ft. Zumwalt East Ft. Zumwalt North Ft. Zumwalt South Ft. Zumwalt West	Oakville Orchard Farm*	Webster Groves Westminster Christian Acad. Whitfield
Gateway Gateway Academy	Parkway Central Parkway North Parkway South Parkway West Pattonville Principia Priory	
Hancock Hazelwood Central Hazelwood East Hazelwood West Hiram Neuwoehner Holt**	Ritenour Riverview Gardens Rockwood Summit Roosevelt Rosati-Kain	

**JUNIOR HIGH
MEMBERSHIPS**

None

* Indicates seventh and eighth grade membership is included with high school.

** Indicates eighth grade membership is included with high school.

**2009-2010 SOUTH CENTRAL DISTRICT MEMBER SCHOOLS
BOARD MEMBER: DENNIS LOTTMANN, UNION**

HIGH SCHOOLS

Belle*
Bourbon*

Camdenton
Chamois*
Climax Springs*
Crocker*
Cuba*

Dixon*

Fatima*

Hermann

Laquey*
Linn*

Macks Creek*

New Haven*
Newburg*

Owensville

Pacific*

Richland
Rolla

Salem
St. Clair
St. Elizabeth*
St. Francis Borgia
St. James
Steelville
Stoutland*
Sullivan

Union

Vienna*

Washington*
Waynesville

**JUNIOR HIGH
MEMBERSHIPS**

Camdenton

Dent-Phelps

Green Forest

Hermann

North Wood

Oak Hill
Owensville

Phelps County

Richland
Rolla

Salem
St. Clair
St. James
Steelville
Sullivan

Union

Waynesville

* Indicates seventh and eighth grade membership is included with high school.

**2009-2010 SOUTHEAST DISTRICT MEMBER SCHOOLS
BOARD MEMBER: BLANE KEEL, CLEARWATER**

HIGH SCHOOLS

Advance*
Arcadia Valley*

Bell City*
Bernie*
Bismarck*
Bloomfield*
Bunker*

Campbell*
Caruthersville
Central (Cape Girardeau)
Central (New Madrid County)
Central (Park Hills)*
Chaffee*
Charleston*
Clarkton*
Clearwater*
Cooter*
Crystal City

Delta-Deering*
Delta*
DeSoto
Dexter
Doniphan

East Carter*
East Prairie
Eminence*

Farmington
Festus
Fox
Fredericktown

Gideon*
Grandview (Hillsboro)
Greenville*

Hayti*
Herculaneum*
Hillsboro
Holcomb*

Jackson
Jefferson (Festus)

Kelly
Kennett
Kingston*

Leopold*
Lesterville*

Malden*
Marquand-Zion*
Meadow Heights*

Naylor*
Neelyville*
North County
North Pemiscot*
Northwest (Cedar Hill)
Notre Dame (Cape Girardeau)

Oak Ridge*
Oran*

Perryville*
Poplar Bluff
Portageville*
Potosi
Puxico*

Richland (Essex)*
Risco*

Saxony Lutheran
Scott City*
Scott County Central*
Seckman
Senath-Hornersville
Sikeston
South iron*
South Pemiscot*
Southern*
Southland*
St. Pius X (Festus)
St. Vincent
Ste. Genevieve*

Twin Rivers

Valle Catholic
Valley (Caledonia)*
Van Buren*
Viburnum*

West County*
Windsor (Imperial)*
Winona*
Woodland*

Zalma*

**JUNIOR HIGH
MEMBERSHIPS**

Belleview

Caruthersville
Centerville
Central (Cape Girardeau)
Central (New Madrid County)
Crystal City

Danby Rush Tower
DeSoto
Doniphan

East Prairie

Farmington
Festus
Fisk
Fox
Fredericktown

Grandview (Hillsboro)

Hawkins
Hillsboro
Hornersville

John A. Evans

Kelly
Kennett

North County

Pemiscot County R-III
Poplar Bluff

Quilin

Richwoods
Ridgewood
Ripley County

Seckman
Sikeston
Sunrise

T.S. Hill

* Indicates seventh and eighth grade membership is included with high school.

**2009-2010 SOUTHWEST DISTRICT MEMBER SCHOOLS
BOARD MEMBER: DENNIS CORNISH, LOCKWOOD**

HIGH SCHOOLS

Alton*
Ash Grove*
Aurora*
Ava

Bakersfield
Billings*
Blue Eye*
Bolivar*
Bradleyville*
Branson
Bronaugh*
Buffalo

Cabool
Carl Junction
Carthage
Cassville
Central (Springfield)
Chadwick*
Clever*
College Heights Christian*
Conway*
Couch*
Crane*

Dadeville*
Diamond*
Dora

East Newton
El Dorado Springs*
Everton*
Exeter*

Fair Grove*
Fair Play*
Fordland*
Forsyth*

Gainesville*
Galena*
Glendale
Golden City*
Greenfield*
Greenwood*

Halfway*
Hartville*
Hillcrest
Hollister
Houston*
Humansville*
Hurley*

Jasper*
Joplin

Kickapoo
Koshkonong

Lamar
Lebanon
L ernal*
L berty (Mountain View)*
Licking*
Lockwood
Logan-Rogersville
Lutie

Mansfield*
Marion C. Early*
Marionville*
Marshfield
McAuley Catholic*
McDonald County
Miller*
Monett
Mountain Grove*
Mt. Vernon

Neosho**
Nevada
New Covenant Academy*
Niangua*
Nixa*
Northeast Vernon County*
Norwood*

Ozark

Parkview
Pierce City*
Plato*
Pleasant Hope*
Purdy

Reeds Spring
Republic

Sarcoxie*
Seneca
Seymour*
Sheldon*
Southwest (Washburn)*
Sparta*
Spokane*
Springfield Catholic*
Stockton*
Strafford*
Summersville*

Thayer*
Thomas Jefferson Independent

Verona*

Walnut Grove*
Webb City
West Plains
Wheaton*
Willard
Willow Springs*

**JUNIOR HIGH
MEMBERSHIPS**

Anderson
Ava

Branson
Buffalo

Cabool
Carl Junction
Carthage
Cassville

East (Joplin)

Gasconade
Granby

Hollister

Immanuel Lutheran
Iva E. Wells

Joel E. Barber

Kirbyville

Lamar
Lebanon
Lockwood
Logan-Rogersville

Marshfield
Monett
Mt. Vernon

Neosho (7th Grade Only)
Nevada
Noel
North (Joplin)

Ozark

Pineville
Purdy

Reeds Spring
Republic
Rocky Comfort

Shell Knob
South (Joplin)
Southwest City
St. Mary's (Pierce City)

Triway

Webb City
West Plains
White Rock
Willard

* Indicates seventh and eighth grade membership is included with high school.

** Indicates eighth grade membership is included with high school.

APPENDIX C

2010-2011 ADVISORY LIST OF INTERNATIONAL EDUCATIONAL TRAVEL AND EXCHANGE PROGRAMS

of the Council on Standards of the International Educational Travel (CSIET)

Academic Year Programs: The following programs have each been evaluated as academic year programs. Some, however, may also offer short term or other type programs. **Each school administrator must be certain that the program is the academic year program before certifying a student eligible to participate in interscholastic activities under the jurisdiction of the MSHSAA.**

<p>*Academic & Cultural Exchange (ACE) Academic Foundation for Int'l Cultural Exchange (AFICE) AFS-USA AIFS Foundation-Academic Year in America American Academic and Cultural Exchange, Inc. American Councils for Int'l Education: ACTR/ACCELS American Cultural Exchange Service American Intercultural Student Exchange Amicus International Student Exchange **ASPECT Foundation ASSE International Student Exchange Programs American Sec. Sch. For Int'l Students & Teachers (ASSIST) Association for Teen-Age Diplomats (ATAD) AYUSA International Azumano International Center for Cultural Interchange (CCI) Council for Educational Travel, USA Council on Int'l Educational Exchange (CIEE) Cultural Academic Student Exchange, Inc. (CASE) Cultural Homestay International (CHI) Education Travel and Culture (ETC) Educational and Cultural Interactions Educational Resource Development Trust--ERDT/SHARE! EF Foundation for Foreign Study Face The World Foundation F.L.A.G. Forte International Exchange Association Foundation for Academic Cultural Exchange Foundation for Worldwide Int'l Student Exchange (WISE) *German American Partnership Program, Inc. (GAPP) Global Insights International Cultural Exchange Services International Experience USA</p>	<p>International Fellowship International Student Exchange Laurasian Institution Nacel Open Door NorthWest Student Exchange (NWSE) NW Services PEACE Program Organ. for Cultural Exchange Among Nations (OCEAN) Pacific Intercultural Exchange (PIE) PAX - Program of Academic Exchange Peace4Kids, Inc. Quest International Reflections International Individual Rotary Districts/Multidistricts: **Rotary California-Nevada District 5190 Rotary Districts 5950/5960 Youth Exchange Foundation **Rotary District 7120 Youth Exchange Program Rotary District 7150 Youth Exchange Program Rotary - Central States Rotary Youth Exch. Prog. Rotary - Eastern States Exchange (ESSEX) Rotary - Ohio-Erie Rotary Youth Exchange Program Rotary - South Central Rotary Youth Exchange Rotary YES/SCANEX Rotary - Youth Rotary Exchange Florida, Inc. STS Foundation States' 4-H International Exchange Programs Student American International (SAI) Terra Lingua USA The Traveling School United Studies Student Exchange (USSE) World Experience World Heritage World Link Youth for Understanding USA (YFU-USA)</p>
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* Provisional listing is granted to newly listed organizations in their first and second year listed in the Advisory List.

** Conditional listing is granted to organizations which are substantially in compliance with the Standards but which need improvement in one or more areas.

APPENDIX D

NFHS APPLICATION FOR SANCTION OF INTERSTATE AND INTERNATIONAL ATHLETIC EVENTS

NOTE: The interscholastic community urges event sponsors to schedule interstate competition in a manner that minimizes the amount of time student participants will be absent from the regular school day.

SANCTIONING PROCEDURES

1. **Events that Require NFHS Sanctioning:**
 - a) Any interstate event involving two (2) or more schools which is co-sponsored by or titled in the name of an organization outside the high school community (e.g., a university, a theme park, an athletic shoe/apparel company).[^]
 - b) Non-bordering events if five (5) or more states are involved.
 - c) Non-bordering events if eight (8) or more schools are involved. (Effective 8/1/02)
 - d) Any event involving two (2) or more schools that involves a team from a foreign country. The host school should complete the international sanction request via the NFHS website at www.nfhs.org. (The exceptions to this rule are Canada and Mexico which are considered "bordering states.") *
2. **Request for Sanction:** Only a member school of an NFHS member state association, or a school approved by such an association, or such an association itself, is eligible to request sanctioning through the NFHS Interstate Sanctioning Program. *Any event seeking NFHS sanction must be sponsored by a member high school, approved high school or state association.*
3. **Interstate Competition:** Interstate competition occurs when either teams or individuals who represent their schools travel across state lines to participate in competitive sports events, including but not limited to such events as "shoot-outs," "showcases," "round-robin tournaments," etc. Subject to Paragraph 3, no sanction is required from the NFHS office if all competing schools, regardless of the number of competing schools, are from states that border the host state **unless** the event is co-sponsored by or titled in the name of an organization outside the high school community.
4. **Timelines/Fees:** The application for sanction should be submitted online via the NFHS website at www.nfhs.org by the host school ninety (90) calendar days or more prior to the event. Directions on how to submit a sanction request can be found on the NFHS website by selecting the "Sanctioning" link.
 - a) **Events sponsored by state association member school:** The host school must submit a processing fee of **\$100** (electronic check or credit card), per application, via the website to the NFHS. **(Do not send cash.)** The sanction must be submitted to the NFHS office sixty (60) calendar days or more prior to the event. The late fee for any application that arrives in the NFHS office 15-59 calendar days prior to the event will be an additional **\$100** for a total of **\$200**. If the application is submitted to the NFHS less than 15 calendar days prior to the event, the late fee will be **\$200** plus a **\$100** penalty for not supplying the final list of actual entries for a total application fee of **\$300**. If the NFHS does not receive the sanction application within five (5) calendar days prior to the event, the event will not be sanctioned.
 - b) **Events co-sponsored or titled by a non-school organization:** The event sponsor must submit a processing fee of **\$200** (electronic check or credit card), per application, via the website, made payable to the NFHS. **(Do not send cash.)** The sanction must be submitted to the NFHS office sixty (60) calendar days or more prior to the event. The late fee for any application that arrives in the NFHS office 15-59 calendar days prior to the event will be an additional **\$100** for a total of **\$300**. If the application is submitted to the NFHS less than 15 calendar days prior to the event, the late fee will be **\$200** plus a **\$100** penalty for not supplying the final list of actual entries for a total application fee of **\$600**. If the NFHS does not receive the sanction application within five (5) calendar days prior to the event, the event will not be sanctioned.
5. **Names and Addresses of Invited/Participating Schools:** All sanction requests submitted to the NFHS website must be accompanied by the names and addresses of all invited/participating schools. In the case of cross country, golf and track and field events, the host school will complete the sanction application online 60 days or more prior to the event. The final list of actual entries will be due to the NFHS website twenty (20) days prior to the event. If the list is not received five (5) days prior to the event, the application for sanction will be disapproved, and the meet director will be notified that they are running a non-sanctioned event.
6. **Equal Treatment:** Schools participating in interstate competition, as well as the schools' employees and agents, shall be treated equally. Examples of such shall include, but not limited to, the following:
 - a) reduction or waiver of entry fee for one school must result in reduction or waiver of entry fee for all schools;
 - b) appearance fee paid to one school must result in equal amount of appearance fee paid to all participating schools;
 - c) expense reimbursements, if any, must result in equivalent payments to all participating schools, subject to reasonable adjustments for differing distances traveled;
 - d) share of proceeds/live gate paid to one school must result in equal share of proceeds/live gate paid to all participating schools.
7. **NFHS Website:** Information regarding the status of an event that has requested NFHS Sanctioning will be posted at www.nfhs.org. If you have any questions regarding the status of your event, please contact the NFHS Sanctioning Department at 371-972-6900 Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Eastern Standard Time.
8. **Financial Report:** A financial report about an event will be provided to the NFHS upon request by the NFHS. NFHS Financial Report Form found at www.nfhs.org.

[^] Competition involving border states, and all other configurations of interstate competition not requiring the sanction of the NFHS office, shall be sanctioned by the state associations involved according to their own procedures.

* NFHS Bylaw 17 provided that each member state associations shall approve and receive NFHS approval for competition by a member school against a school from a foreign country, except for two (2) school and three (3) school competition with a school for schools from Canada or Mexico which necessitates a round trip of less than 600 miles.

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Notes

PROJECTED CALENDAR

	Day	Week No.	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Labor Day	Mon.		Sept. 6	Sept. 5	Sept. 3	Sept. 2
SOFTBALL						
District championships	Wed.-Sat.	14	Oct. 6-9	Oct. 5-8	Oct. 3-6	Oct. 9-12
Sectional games	Wed.	15	Oct. 13	Oct. 12	Oct. 10	Oct. 16
Quarterfinal games	Sat.	15	Oct. 16	Oct. 15	Oct. 13	Oct. 19
MSHSAA Championships	Fri.-Sat.	16	Oct. 22-23	Oct. 21-22	Oct. 19-20	Oct. 25-26
GIRLS GOLF						
District championships	Wed.-Fri.	13	Sept. 29-Oct. 1	Sept. 28-30	Sept. 26-28	Oct. 2-4
Sectionals	Wed.-Fri.	14	Oct. 6-8	Oct. 5-7	Oct. 3-5	Oct. 9-11
MSHSAA Championships	Mon.-Tues.	16	Oct. 18-19	Oct. 17-18	Oct. 15-16	Oct. 21-22
GIRLS TENNIS						
Team Districts	Mon.-Fri.	14	Oct. 4-8	Oct. 3-7	Oct. 1-5	Oct. 7-11
Close of Individual Districts	Sat.	14	Oct. 9	Oct. 8	Oct. 6	Oct. 12
Individual Regionals	Mon.-Wed.	15	Oct. 11-13	Oct. 10-12	Oct. 8-10	Oct. 14-16
Team Sectionals	Sat.	15	Oct. 16	Oct. 15	Oct. 13	Oct. 19
MSHSAA Team Championships	Thurs.	16	Oct. 21	Oct. 20	Oct. 18	Oct. 24
MSHSAA Individual Championships	Fri.-Sat.	16	Oct. 22-23	Oct. 21-22	Oct. 19-20	Oct. 25-26
CROSS COUNTRY						
Class 4 Districts	Sat.	16	Oct. 23	Oct. 22	Oct. 20	Oct. 26
Classes 1, 2, 3 Districts	Sat.	17	Oct. 30	Oct. 29	Oct. 27	Nov. 2
Class 4 Sectionals	Sat.	17	Oct. 30	Oct. 29	Oct. 27	Nov. 2
MSHSAA Championships	Sat.	18	Nov. 6	Nov. 5	Nov. 3	Nov. 9
VOLLEYBALL						
District championships	Mon.-Thurs.	17	Oct. 25-28	Oct. 24-27	Oct. 22-25	Oct. 28-31
Sectionals	Sat.	17	Oct. 30	Oct. 29	Oct. 27	Nov. 2
MSHSAA Championships	Fri.-Sat.	18	Nov. 5-6	Nov. 4-5	Nov. 2-3	Nov. 8-9
BOYS SOCCER						
Classes 1, 2, 3 Districts	Sat.-Sat.	17-18	Oct. 30-Nov. 6	Oct. 29-Nov. 5	Oct. 27-Nov. 3	Nov. 2-9
Classes 1, 2, 3 Sectionals	Tues.	19	Nov. 9	Nov. 8	Nov. 6	Nov. 12
Classes 1, 2, 3 Quarterfinals	Sat.	19	Nov. 13	Nov. 12	Nov. 10	Nov. 16
Classes 1-3 MSHSAA Championships	Fri.-Sat.	20	Nov. 19-20	Nov. 18-19	Nov. 16-17	Nov. 22-23
BOYS SWIMMING & DIVING						
MSHSAA Championships	Fri.-Sat.	19	Nov. 12-13	Nov. 11-12	Nov. 9-10	Nov. 15-16
FOOTBALL						
Classes 1-5 Regionals	Wed.	18	Nov. 3	Nov. 2	Oct. 31	Nov. 6
Class 6 Sectionals	Fri.	18	Nov. 5	Nov. 4	Nov. 2	Nov. 8
8-Man Quarterfinals	Sat.	18	Nov. 6	Nov. 5	Nov. 3	Nov. 9
Classes 1-5 Sectionals	Mon.	19	Nov. 8	Nov. 7	Nov. 5	Nov. 11
Class 6 Quarterfinals	Fri.	19	Nov. 12	Nov. 11	Nov. 9	Nov. 15
Classes 1-5 Quarterfinals	Sat.	19	Nov. 13	Nov. 12	Nov. 10	Nov. 16
8-Man Semifinals	Sat.	19	Nov. 13	Nov. 12	Nov. 10	Nov. 16
Class 6 Semifinals	Fri.	20	Nov. 19	Nov. 18	Nov. 16	Nov. 22
Classes 1-5 Semifinals	Sat.	20	Nov. 20	Nov. 19	Nov. 17	Nov. 23
8-Man Show-Me Bowl	Fri.	21	Nov. 26	Nov. 25	Nov. 23	Nov. 29
Classes 1-6 Show-Me Bowl	Fri.-Sat.	21	Nov. 26-27	Nov. 25-26	Nov. 23-24	Nov. 29-30
Thanksgiving	Thurs.	21	Nov. 25	Nov. 24	Nov. 22	Nov. 28
WRESTLING						
District Championships	Fri.-Sat.	32	Feb. 11-12	Feb. 10-11	Feb. 8-9	Feb. 14-15
MSHSAA Championships	Thurs.-Sat.	33	Feb. 17-19	Feb. 16-18	Feb. 14-16	Feb. 20-22
GIRLS SWIMMING & DIVING						
MSHSAA Championships	Fri.-Sat.	33	Feb. 18-19	Feb. 17-18	Feb. 15-16	Feb. 21-22
BASKETBALL						
Classes 4, 5 Districts	Sat.-Sat.	33-34	Feb. 19-26	Feb. 18-25	Feb. 16-23	Feb. 22-March 1
Classes 4, 5 Sectionals	Wed.	35	March 2	Feb. 29	Feb. 27	March 5
Classes 4, 5 Quarterfinals	Sat.	35	March 5	March 3	March 2	March 8
Show-Me Showdown I	Thurs.-Sat.	36	March 10-12	March 8-10	March 7-9	March 13-15
Classes 1, 2, 3 Districts	Sat.-Sat.	34-35	Feb. 26-March 5	Feb. 25-March 3	Feb. 23-March 2	March 1-8
Class 1 Sectionals	Tues.	36	March 8	March 6	March 5	March 11
Classes 2, 3 Sectionals	Wed.	36	March 9	March 7	March 6	March 12
Classes 1, 2, 3 Quarterfinals	Sat.	36	March 12	March 10	March 9	March 15
Show-Me Showdown II	Thurs.-Sat.	37	March 17-19	March 15-17	March 14-16	March 20-22

(PROJECTED CALENDAR CONTINUED)

	Day	Week No.	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
SPEECH & DEBATE						
Close of District meets.....	Fri.-Sat.	37	March 18-19	March 16-17	March 15-16	March 21-22
MSHSAA State Meet	Fri.-Sat.	42	*April 15-16	April 20-21	April 19-20	April 25-26
MUSIC						
Close of District Festivals	Fri.-Sat.	39	April 1-2	March 30-31	*March 22-23	April 4-5
MSHSAA State Festival.....	Thurs.-Sat.	43	April 28-30	April 26-28	April 25-27	May 1-3
SCHOLAR BOWL						
District championships.....	Sat.	41	*April 9	April 14	April 13	*April 12
Sectionals	Thurs.	42	*April 14	April 19	April 18	April 24
Classes 1, 2 MSHSAA Championships.	Fri.	44	May 6	May 4	May 3	May 9
Classes 3, 4 MSHSAA Championships.	Sat.	44	May 7	May 5	May 4	May 10
TRACK						
Class 1, 2 Districts	Sat.	44	May 7	May 5	May 4	May 10
Class 3, 4 Districts	Sat.	45	May 14	May 12	May 11	May 17
Class 1, 2 Sectionals	Sat.	45	May 14	May 12	May 11	May 17
Classes 1, 2 MSHSAA Championships.	Fri.-Sat.	46	May 20-21	May 18-19	May 17-18	May 23-24
Classes 3, 4 Sectionals.....	Sat.	46	May 21	May 19	May 18	May 24
Classes 3, 4 MSHSAA Championships.	Fri.-Sat.	47	May 27-28	May 25-26	May 24-25	May 30-31
BOYS TENNIS						
Team Districts	Mon.-Fri.	45	May 9-13	May 7-11	May 6-10	May 12-16
Close of Individual Districts.....	Sat.	45	May 14	May 12	May 11	May 17
Individual Regionals	Mon.-Wed.	46	May 16-18	May 14-16	May 13-15	May 19-21
Team Sectionals	Sat.	46	May 21	May 19	May 18	May 24
MSHSAA Team Championships	Thurs.	47	May 26	May 24	May 23	May 29
MSHSAA Individual Championships.....	Fri.-Sat.	47	May 27-28	May 25-26	May 24-25	May 30-31
BOYS GOLF						
District championships.....	Wed.-Fri.	43	April 27-29	April 25-27	April 24-26	April 30-May 2
Sectionals	Wed.-Fri.	44	May 4-6	May 2-4	May 1-3	May 7-9
MSHSAA Championships	Mon.-Tues.	46	May 16-17	May 14-15	May 13-14	May 19-20
BASEBALL						
District Championships	Sat.-Sat.	45-46	May 14-21	May 12-19	May 11-18	May 17-24
Classes 1, 2 Sectional games	Mon.	47	May 23	May 21	May 20	May 26
Classes 3, 4 Sectional games	Tues.	47	May 24	May 22	May 21	May 27
Classes 1, 2 Quarterfinal games	Wed.	47	May 25	May 23	May 22	May 28
Classes 3, 4 Quarterfinal games	Thurs.	47	May 26	May 24	May 23	May 29
Classes 1, 2 MSHSAA Championships.	Wed.-Thurs.	48	June 1-2	May 30-31	May 29-30	June 4-5
Classes 3, 4 MSHSAA Championships.	Fri.-Sat.	48	June 3-4	June 1-2	May 31-June 1	June 6-7
GIRLS SOCCER						
District championships.....	Sat.-Sat.	45-46	May 14-21	May 12-19	May 11-18	May 17-24
Classes 1, 2, 3 Sectional games	Tues..	47	May 24	May 22	May 21	May 27
Classes 1, 2, 3 Quarterfinal games	Sat.	47	May 28	May 26	May 25	May 31
Classes 1-3 MSHSAA Championships ..	Fri.-Sat.	48	June 3-4	June 1-2	May 31-June 1	June 6-7
Memorial Day	Mon.		May 30	May 28	May 27	May 26
CHEERLEADER CLINICS						
One-day clinics	Mon.-Thurs.	50	June 13-16	June 11-14	June 10-13	June 16-19

*Not held on regular standardized calendar week.



MSHSAA promotes the value of participation, sportsmanship, team play and personal excellence to develop citizens who make positive contributions to their community and support the democratic principles of our state and nation.